

Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

34th Edition | | March 2025 Roundup

ABOUT BNP

BNP MANIFESTO

CITIZENS' PORTAL

BBMP WEBSITE

Message from the Founder

Initial response to the BBMP Budget for FY 2025-26

Dear Bengalurigas,

The BBMP budget for the year 2025-26 has been pegged at ₹19,927 Cr as opposed to ₹12,371 Cr that was approved for 2024-25. This represents a whopping 60% increase, which is definitely a very happy situation for all Bengalurigas.



SRIKANTH NARASIMHAN
BNP Founder & General Secretary

Public works gets the biggest allocation at ₹12,952 Cr as opposed to ₹7,280 Cr last year. Solid Waste Management (SWM) gets the next biggest allocation at ₹1,400 Cr as opposed to ₹1,952 Cr last year. Given that these 2 items constitute about \sim 75% of the total expenses, let's delve a little bit deeper into these.

SWM has been in the news in the recent past for 2 different reasons – 1) BBMP wants to levy a User Fee for SWM on citizens & 2) Garbage Workers have gone on a strike demanding proper payments. Despite ₹1,500 - 2,000 Cr being spent on SWM, BBMP still wants to impose an SWM User Fee and the garbage workers are not being paid properly. Why is it so?

With regard to public works, does our city or any of our wards look like ~₹10,000 Cr is being spent every year for the maintenance & management of roads, drains & other civic infrastructure? Where is all this money going and why are our civic amenities in such pathetic shape despite so much of money going in?

The real problem that we need to address is transparency, citizen participation & accountability. The details of all projects being approved every year must be put out in the public domain. A lot of these projects are devolved to the ward and citizens of various wards must be involved in deciding & overseeing these projects. Tendering process for each project must be available to the public to ensure that the contractors are doing a good job of the same. It is not so much about how much money is allocated for each function as much as it is about how it is spent with Citizen Participation, Accountability & Transparency.

Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) pulled out information from BBMP for 63,629 ward-level projects worth ₹21,653 Cr during the 2015-2020 tenure of the BBMP Council, and has displayed it on its website, project by project and year by year. Can BBMP do the same?

As always, I am happy to receive inputs and feedback from you at srikanth.narasimhan1975@gmail.com

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BENGALURIGAS RALLY FOR A BETTER BENGALURU

The Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) Rally for a Better Bengaluru at the Freedom Park in Bengaluru on 16th March 2025 sent a strong message — We outright reject the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB) in its current form!

The Rally started with **BNP Founder and General Secretary, Srikanth Narasimhan** formally calling for a **start to the Fast**.

The programme then commenced with the singing of the Karnataka Nada Geethe, followed by the playing of the newly launched BNP Anthem.





As BNP Founder & General Secretary Srikanth Narasimhan and his motivated Team settled into the Fast, two videos of Srikanth Narasimhan led the audience into the event and its purpose. In the longer video 'Let's Rebuild Bengaluru!', Srikanth Narasimhan starts with explaining how the BBMP is the Government (including Corporators, a Municipal Council and a Mayor) that is elected, by us Bengalurigas, to govern Bengaluru, and how, the GBGB is the Bill that will govern how that BBMP is to be administered. From thus establishing how the GBGB is crucial to how Bengaluru will shape up in the near future, Srikanth moves to list BNP's 10 fundamental demands,

in the form of changes in the GBGB, that the BNP has asked for, to make Bengaluru Governance more effective and accountable. He ends that video urging everyone to sign <u>BNP's Petition to the Honorable Chief Minister of Karnataka to implement Key Reforms in the GBGB</u>. The shorter '<u>Let's Rally for a Better Bengaluru!</u>' video encapsulated 3 Key Demands that, **Srikanth Narasimhan** reiterates, only if met by changes and reforms in the GBGB will help 'Rebuild Bengaluru'.

In order to help the audience understand the pitfalls of the proposed GBGB Bill and BNP's stance on the matter, a **Q & A Session** was held next, with **BNP Founder & General Secretary Srikanth Narasimhan** and other BNP Leaders on stage answering questions raised by audience members.





11 a.m. to 1 p.m. was scheduled as 'all-together-for-a-better-Bengaluru' in the Program agenda. It was heartening to see Bengalurigas pouring in around that time. As they came in, they were urged to take part in the BNP Slogan Competition for a Better Bengaluru. They were also directed to use the BNP Photo Booth to take photos with BNP signage that they could then share on their social media to show their support and increase visibility for the event.





A **Welcome Address** and an **Introduction to BNP** was given by BNP Campaign Coordinator Ms. Varshini, who was also the Emcee for the rest of the event. This was followed by a surprise element — **a stunning impersonation of Mahatma Gandhi by senior BNP Leader Kesari Prasad!** BNP's 'Mahatma Gandhi' talked about his notion of Good Grassroot Governance and Citizen Participation and how far away we are from it at the moment. He made an impassioned appeal to Bengalurigas to come together and establish Good Governance in Bengaluru.

The next surprise was BNP's own 'Nadaprabhu Kempe Gowda' who asked Bengalurigas to restore the greatness of Bengaluru by bringing good governance to it.



The next segment in the program was **BNP Walks the Talk**. BNP Leaders presented the work that BNP has done in the areas of Citizen participation, Accountability and Transparency (the C.A.T. pillars that BNP stands by).



BNP Zonal Leader (Bommanahalli) Lalithamba B V spoke about how BNP has been effecting positive change through citizen participation. She explained how BNP's Area Sabhas have been resolving civic issues.

Next, BNP Leader (Varthur) Venkatachalam Subramaniam took the audience through the different Camps (Voter ID, Health Card, eKhata, among others) that BNP has conducted over the past three years, to help Bengalurigas across various communities in Bengaluru.

This was followed by the screening of a Video that highlighted the impact of BNP and its Area Sabhas in resolving Civic Issues.







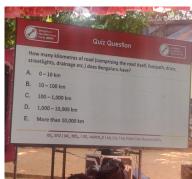
A few **In-person Testimonials from citizens** came next. These citizens had resolved long-standing civic issues in their respective areas, all thanks to BNP's guidance and support.



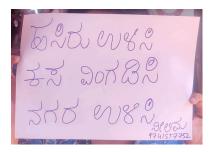
BNP Zonal Leader (Mahadevapura) Vishnu Reddy then spoke passionately about the importance of Accountability and Transparency in Bengaluru's governance. He rued the complete lack of either in the present Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP)'s financial accounting and tendering processes. Vishnu Reddy highlighted how BNP not only shares its own audited accounts in the public domain, but also shares the data of BBMP's projects across Bengaluru, something which the BBMP doesn't!

speaker was **BNP** Founder Srikanth Narasimhan. He explained the Vision behind BNP and the purpose of the GBGB Rally and the accompanying Fast by members — to demand that the C.A.T. pillars are implemented at this crucial time when Bengaluru's governance for the next few years is taking shape. Peppered with interesting Quiz Questions that threw up amazing information about our City, his talk served to drive home the message that the purpose of the Rally was to ignite change, entreat Bengalurigas to reclaim our city, and remind those in power that Bengaluru belongs to its citizens!

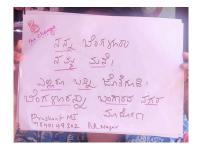




The **Open Forum Exchange** came next, with Q & As, as well as some thoughts and experiences shared by the audience members. Winners of the Slogan Competition were announced and attendees were asked to share a single line to state what their 'Dream for a Better Bengaluru' was...









Post the all-in session, BNP Leaders continued with the Fast and the Rally, in a relaxed **Leaders' Exchange of Information Session** about their personal reasons to be with BNP in this quest for a Better Bengaluru, the Ward they came from, the Civic Issues they had there, how they had resolved them and their plans to expand citizen participation to ensure governance was more accountable. It was heartwarming and inspiring to hear their personal journeys and understand the whys and hows of their passion to bring about change in our Bengaluru. During the session, **Vasu Dixit, Vocalist from the Band Swarathma**, dropped in and boosted morale with his rendition of 'Topiwale'.



The Rally wound down with **Varshini** delivering a resounding **Thank You! on behalf of the BNP**, to all the participants.

Srikanth Narasimhan then led the BNP Leaders in taking the **BNP Pledge**, breaking the Fast and concluding the Rally with all **singing the National Anthem**, standing united for our country and for our Bengaluru.



BNP thanks each and every BNP Leader, Member and Supporter who showed up to make the event a resounding success. Special Thank You to the Volunteers who came together to help with the different aspects of the planning and execution of the Rally. Many thanks also to Aparna and Sreejitha from Synergos, BNP's Social Media Partners and Prashanth from K2 Communications, BNP's PR Consultants, for their active support before, through and post the Rally. And, last but not the least, we at BNP thank Saranya Chandrasekaran, Advocate and Strategic Consultant for BNP, who was the main driving force behind the event.

As of 26th March 2025, BNP's relentless fight for a better Bengaluru had once again proven its impact. The Governor had returned it to the State Cabinet, stating the very concerns raised by BNP. He acknowledged key objections raised in various representations, highlighting that the GBGB violates the 74th Constitutional Amendment, undermines the Metropolitan Planning Committee, and weakens citizen participation.

This gives us hope that Bengaluru could be a step closer to good governance. BNP will continue its fight for

This gives us hope that Bengaluru could be a step closer to good governance. BNP will continue its fight for Bengaluru, because Our City deserves nothing but the best!

MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE BNP RALLY

Many Members of the Press accepted BNP's invitation to attend the BNP Rally for a Better Bengaluru — BNP's Day-Long Fast and Rally held at Freedom Park, Bengaluru, on 16th March 2025, seeking amendments to the GBGB. BNP Founder and General Secretary Srikanth Narasimhan, BNP Zonal Leader (Mahadevapura) Vishnu Reddy, BNP Leader (Varthur) Venkatachalam Subramaniam and BNP Campaign Coordinator BNP Varshini spoke to the Press, answering their Queries about the BNP, the GBGB and its drawbacks, BNP's demands for change in the GBGB, and future plans.







How impressed they were with the BNP (the first City-centric Political Party), the support it garnered, and the clarity of the BNP Leaders and the amendments the BNP sought in the GBGB, showed in the extensive coverage of the event in Newspapers and on Television.

Links to the articles are given below: CITY HUB NEWS - 17th March 2025

THE TIMES OF INDIA - 17th March 2025

DECCAN HERALD - 17th March 2025

THE HINDU - 16th March 2025

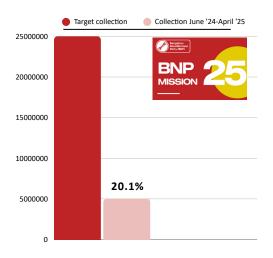
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS - MARCH 17 2025

SANJE VANI - MARCH 16 2025

CONTRIBUTORS TO MISSION 25

In the build-up to the BNP Rally for a Better Bengaluru demanding reforms in the GBGB, the BNP reached out to many Donors to contribute to the cause of the BNP.

BNP is grateful to all the BNP Mithras for their donations. A special Thank You to Ittira Davis, Anna Ittira Davis, Manoj Kumar Sahoo and Hema Ashok for their generous contributions in February 2025.



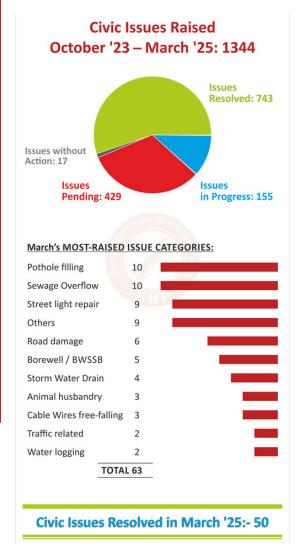
Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party



To Donate, click **HERE** or scan / click the QR Code



If you want to learn about the BNP Mithra Initiative and get involved, please message us at +91 83106 89931



To view updates of other issues resolved by followup by the BNP, please visit the 'Civic Issues Resolved' page under the 'Work & Progress' tab on the BNP Website.

BNP thanks the active citizens who turned Civic Warriors by reporting the issue, and the relevant BBMP officials and staff who worked to close these issues.

YOU too can become a Civic Warrior by reporting the civic issues in your area.

The best way to become part of the solution to our civic woes is to join the BNP Area Sabha in your neighbourhood. These Area Sabhas meet regularly to take up, discuss and address civic issues in the local area.

To join, Whatsapp +91 83106 89931 today!

In March 2025, 63 issues were brought to the BNP for resolution.

Potholes, Sewage Overflow and Non-functional Street Lights were the main Civic Issues reported in March 2025. Other majorly reported issues were Damaged Roads, Borewell / Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage (BWSSB) related, and Storm Water Drains related issues.

BNP resolved 50 civic issues in March 2025.

Pictures of a few of the resolved issues are given below.













Reach Out Programs (Meetings & Activities to Engage with Local Communities)

eKHATA CAMPS

Varthur Ward

eKhata Online Drive at Mulberry Woods

Date: 23rd March 2025

The BNP eKhata Camp for Mulberry Woods in Varthur Ward had 25 attendees. BNP Leader Venkatachalam Subramaniam provided an overview of BNP, its objectives, and the purpose of the BNP's eKhata camps. BNP Leader H L N Prasad then explained the eKhata process in detail and conducted a live demo for one participant. During the session, four individuals submitted their applications.



eKHATA OVERVIEW ONLINE SESSIONS

Varthur Ward

Dates: 27th & 28th and 31st April 2025

Seeing the growing need among Bengalurigas for more information on how to procure an eKhata, by the attendance at the various BNP eKhata Camps, BNP decided to start a series of online preliminary 'eKhata Procurement Overview Sessions'. These sessions typically start with an introduction to the BNP and the reason BNP is conducting the camp. This is followed by an explanation of what the eKhata is, its features, the mandatory requirements for the same, list of documents required and directions on how to find the Electronic Property Identification Number (ePID). The session is then concluded with attendees being urged to try and apply on their own for their eKhatas or, to coordinate with the BNP, form groups and get started together.

Varthur Ward

Dates: 27th & 28th and 31st April 2025

BNP Leader Venkatachalam Subramaniam conducted multiple sessions for Varthur Ward. In two separate sessions held online on 27th and 28th March 2025, he conducted the eKhata Procurement Overview Session for about 20 participants from Salarpuria Sanctity, Mulberry Woods and Trinity Acres and Woods apartments. The session on 31st March 2025 was for 28 participants from Golden Enclave, DivyaSree 77° Place, Prestige Lakeside Habitat and SRK Gardens communities.

At the same time, **BNP Zonal Leader (Mahadevapura) Vishnu Reddy** also conducted an eKhata Procurement Overview Session for the residents of the DSR Ultima Apartments. 22 participants joined the session thanks to Anand from DSR Ultima.

BNP thanks all the hard-working volunteers who have been enthusiastically supporting the BNP eKhata team at various camp venues for their efforts and their reach.

BESCOM NAME TRANSFER PROCEDURE SESSION



On 23rd March 2025, BNP Leader Madhusudhan Reddy and Varthur Area Sabha Members conducted a session to share the process of Name Change in the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) records. The session was for the residents of BM. Greenwoods apartments in Carmelaram. 9 people attended by this very informative and useful session. Mr. Sarath Darsi from BM. Greenwoods had taken the lead to organise this session.



BNP WHATSAPP GROUP JOINING CAMPAIGN

Seeing the growing need among Bengalurigas for more information on how to procure an eKhata, by the attendance at the various BNP eKhata Camps, BNP decided to start a series of online preliminary 'eKhata Procurement Overview Sessions'. These sessions typically start with an introduction to the BNP and the reason BNP is conducting the camp. This is followed by an explanation of what the eKhata is, its features, the mandatory requirements for the same, list of documents required and directions on how to find the Electronic Property Identification Number (ePID). The session is then concluded with attendees being urged to try and apply on their own for their eKhatas or, to coordinate with the BNP, form groups and get started together.



We invite other Leaders to share details of their Reachout programs so we can report the same here.



PRESS RELEASES

BNP released three Press Releases (PRs) in the month of March 2025. The first PR dated 11th March 2025 called for a Rally Condemning the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB) approved by the Legislative Assembly. It spoke about how BNP has rejected multiple provisions of the GBGB stating that they are not in line with Constitutional provisions and has called upon citizens to join a Rally and day-long Fast at Freedom Park on 16th March 2025 seeking alterations to the model of governance. It quoted BNP Founder and General Secretary Srikanth Narasimhan "BNP has already submitted a detailed list of demands to 23 key decision-makers and has launched an Online Petition calling for immediate action against the Bill. The GBGB does nothing to empower local governance; it denies citizen participation and shields the government from accountability. It fails to grant the Mayor the decision-making authority required to lead the city, allowing MLAs to overreach and interfere in city governance. It does not hold the government accountable to the people and actively prevents meaningful public participation in decision-making." calling for immediate action against the Bill. The GBGB does nothing to empower local governance; it denies citizen participation and shields the government from accountability. It fails to grant the Mayor the decision-making authority required to lead the city, allowing MLAs to overreach and interfere in city governance. It does not hold the government accountable to the people and actively prevents meaningful public participation in decision-making." BNP Zonal Leader (Bengaluru South) Poongothai Paramasivam is also quoted speaking about how there is no accountability, with only 32% of the Ward Committee Meetings (WCMs) having been conducted. She spoke of the importance of WCMs, urging that "Ward Committees must be empowered to develop these (Ward Development) plans based on inputs from Area Sabhas rather than solely relying on the Bengaluru Metropolitan Committee and the City Corporation. They should also have the authority to audit ward works at any time."

Immediately after the Rally, BNP's 2nd PR on the Rally was released on 16th March 2025. A report on the Rally, it talked about the extensive participation from concerned citizens, activists, intellectuals, doctors, industry honchos and members of BNP, all uniting against the Bill, which BNP has strongly opposed for violating Bengaluru's right to self-governance. The PR picked up on Srikanth Narasimhan, BNP Founder and General Secretary's interest in working together to find an effective solution to the governance of Bengaluru. "The GBGB Bill doesn't have clarity on the structure, daily operations and model of decentralization though the intent is there. Can you have 3, 5, 7 mayors for a city? Or will you have 2 or 1? No one is clear. If you have too many, how will you coordinate? And if you have only 1, how will you decentralise? This is why citizen voice is crucial where we need to avoid over centralisation and an unworkable decentralisation. The Bill should work towards this and BNP is willing to sit with the authorities to help them find the best solution to govern an expanding Bangalore."

BNP's 3rd PR for March released on 20th March 2025 took on the newly announced SWM User Fee that is being levied on Bengalurigas by the BBMP. It conveyed BNP's stance — "How is the ₹1000 cr annual SWM Fund and ₹463 cr allocation for garbage collection being utilized? Plugging leakages will preempt the need to levy any additional fee" BNP Zonal Leader (Bengaluru South) Poongothai Paramasivam again brought up the lack of transparency in accounting. "BBMP has abundant funds. Before considering imposing a user fee, it must justify why the existing budget is inadequate.disclosure of SWM expenditures? Where is the money going? Why is there no audit or public disclosure of SWM expenditures?" she asks.

You can access all the BNP Press Releases on our Namma BNP website HERE

BNP IN THE NEWS

For coverage of the BNP Rally please refer to the earlier links posted under 'MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE BNP RALLY' following the write-up about the Rally in the 'Campaign Updates' Section.

You can also click **HERE** to see how different Media organisations have supported BNP over the years by publishing articles on our endeavours to resolve civic issues in Bengaluru.



Rapid Response Teams

To ensure traffic movement remains unaffected by tree falls, BBMP has deployed Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) across its eight zones. The teams work in coordination with BESCOM and traffic police during clearing operations. With strong winds and pre-summer showers lashing the city this April 2025, the BBMP forest wing has already reported several instances of uprooted trees and fallen branches so far. Each RRT is stationed at the respective Zonal Office and is equipped to respond swiftly to clear the affected spots and restore normalcy.

What a Waste

A study based on the waste collection and processing by the BBMP reveals that 62-65% of the solid waste collected is bio-degradable and could be converted to vermicompost. Yet, the BBMP converts less than 30% of its total solid waste using vermicomposting and bio-methanation, while more than 70% is still reaching landfills. Experts say that vermicomposting is not just cost-effective but also highly lucrative, wherein every rupee invested could yield ₹2.05 of returns. Effective use of vermicomposting would also reduce the burden on landfills substantially and avoid the use of harmful chemicals being used to manage the landfills.

BBMP's Big Bet on Outdoor Advertising

Despite eyeing ₹500 crore from advertisement rights in its 2024–25 budget, the civic body ended the financial year with a grand total of zero. Reason — the new advertisement policy, designed to open up the sector, is still caught up in a 2017 case pending before the High Court of Karnataka.

The new policy (drafted in November 2023) sought to bring transparency, end monopoly, and generate fresh revenue for the fund-starved BBMP. The civic body even upped its target to ₹750 crore in the latest budget, hoping advertising would become a reliable second stream of income alongside Property Tax. With the policy still under judicial scrutiny, revenue hopes are in limbo. BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue) Shri. Munish Moudgil said that the civic body was planning to request the high court to delink the new policy from the judiciary case. "Until it's notified, we will be losing crores in revenue," he added.

BBMP seals kitchens of 100 PGs

In a sweeping move, health officers from BBMP Mahadevapura Zone sealed kitchens of 100 Paying Guest (PG) accommodations, citing violations of Town Planning and licensing rules. The crackdown has left PG associations high and dry, and occupants in shock. BBMP Health Commissioner Shri. Suralkar Vikas Kishore stated that the PG operators were violating building bylaws, which prohibit commercial activity in residential areas with road width under 40 feet. He also noted that several PGs lacked necessary licences to operate. Following the sealing drive, PG associations approached the Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department (UDD), urging his intervention. The associations claimed that UDD directed BBMP to look into the matter, acknowledging that the action could severely impact the daily lives of PG occupants. "We will meet the BBMP health commissioner on Monday to explain our situation and present rules that permit PGs in residential areas," said Arjun Bellam, joint secretary of the Paying Guests Hostels Welfare Association, Bengaluru.

That's it for now. Thank you for reading. Next one, next month.

Your support helps BNP go from strength to strength!

Not yet a member of the BNP? Become a BNP Member today!

Or Volunteer and join hands with the BNP —

India's first and only city-centric Political Party!

Stay updated on BNP's activities. Follow us on











To know more, visit our BNP Website nammabnp.org