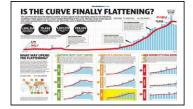


Bangalore Apartments' Federation Newsletter

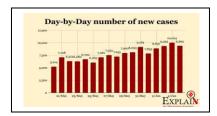


Volume 4, Issue 2, May 2020

Dear Apartment Resident,

April & May 2020 was a month of serial Lockdowns due to COVID19 Pandemic We do hope all members and their communities navigated the Lock down 2, 3 and 4 during the 2 months, doing new things as well through BAF initiatives & platforms. As we look further to relaxations of Lockdown- we caution members to stay safe and adhere to all preventive measures.

We also hope all RWA MCs have made best use of BAF bulletins to interpret and implement Lockdown advisories from the government. A quick look at the statistics below – show the alarming rate of increase of covid cases despite all our best efforts of prevention. And we should continue to exercise caution & do follow advisories to contain the covid spread.



AT End of Phase	Covid Cases India
LockDown1 (By April 14 th)	11,485
LockDown1 (By May 3 rd)	42,778
LockDown1 (By May 17 th)	95,698
LockDown1 (By May 31 st)	1,82,143



We do hope all members have visited our microsite for updates on various matters affected by COVID19 – be it guidelines, government notifications, BESCOM payments, virtual meeting advisories, e-filings and so on.

The following activities highlight the crucial role played by BAF to navigate members through this Lockdown base and also provide support to GoK in these crucial times

- 1. BAF ki BAAT gained momentum in the viewership. All sessions were virtual sessions on a technology platform
- 2. **BAF bulletins** deciphered the MoFW & GoK advisories, making it simple for RWAs to understand and implement the government guidelines during COVIS.
- 3. There was **continuous engagement with BBMP** and other officials on covid advisory and other support. The role played by BAF was acknowledged & appreciated by all departments.
- 4. BAF Essentials Supply Exchange BESFEX program continued further with partnerships with HOPCOMS, State Mango Board, Direct farmers, as also supporting various distressed corporate. BAF directory listings continued to be used by members and non members alike.
- 5. Covid Microsite also captured member stories on how they engaged and supported their own as well as the less previliged in their neighborhood
- 6. **Highlight of the month was a BAF partnership with a GoK supported pilot program on Covid Fever Clinic** (with ICMR & NABL accredited labs) which brought health camps to member doorstep. Objective was to screen on covid symptoms in community & provide health consultation under the safe environment of member premises. This initiative saw all more than 30 member communities conduct health camps & bring consultation and health check-ups in apartment premises. We hope to continue the program under favorable BESFEX terms.
- 7. BAF also partnered with NIMHANs with a survey tool to enable community risk assessment from COVID 19.
- 8. BAF GC & other members were invited and attended various Video conferences with Mayor, DY CM, MPs etc on various citizen related topics , as well as industry webinars on RWA interest topics (STP/fire safety/RERA/Facility management etc)
- 9. **BAF team also visited KSPCB** on issue of Rs 5 lakh penalty notices & hearings called by the new KSPCB chairman & Member secretary. The hearings were urged to be deferred in lieu of covid.
- 10. Regular **EC & GC meetings were conducted virtually** with **great participation.** New cluster leadership teams were formed for all clusters for better engagement, learnings, sharings, support & networkings across all members

STAY HOME-STAY SAFE-STEP OUT ONLY WHEN REQUIRED

Cheers!

Team BAF! Newsletter Also @ https://baf.org.in/newsletters,

Volume 4, Issue 2, May 2020













BAF IN THE NEWS.....



Housejoy, in partnership with 5 major firms, sets up COVID Testing Camps

May 11, 2020

In a first of its kind partnership, leading private players including tech-driven construction, renovation, interiors, and home maintenance company Housejoy, home healthcare brand Portea Medical, diagnostics provider SRL Diagnostics, apartment management, security solutions provider ApnaComplex, Bangalore Apartment's Federation (BAF), and ICMR accredited national clinical reference lab Biognosys Technologies have come together to set up COVID-19 Testing Camps across Bengaluru.

Read Full Story

SRL Diagnostics Joins Hand with Housejoy to Launch Mobile Health Clinic Vans in Bengaluru

Mar 13, 2020

Housejoy has also partnered with healthcare brands like Portea Medical, ApnaComplex, Bangalore Apartment's Federation (BAF) and ICMR accredited national clinical reference lab Biognosys Technologies to set up COVID-19 Testing Camps across Bengaluru. This initiative has been launched in association with the Government of Karnataka and Action COVID Team (ACT) Grants and was inaugurated by Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa.

Read Full Story







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BAF IN THE NEWS.....

Bengaluru to use remodelled KSRTC buses as mobile fever clinics

May 12, 2020

Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Monday launched mobile fever clinics built from remodelled KSRTC buses for Covid-19 tests in the city. Developed by Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya's team, the mobile fever clinic or mobile health checkup camp, can also conduct blood and protein count tests out of the same facility, said a press release.

Read Full Story

What Lockdown 4.0 relaxations mean for Bengaluru

May 21, 2020

Based on orders by the Centre's Ministry of Home Affairs on May 17, Karnataka government <u>issued an order</u> on lockdown measures applicable in the state till May 31. Here are the key highlights, as summarised by the Bangalore Apartments' Federation (BAF).



House help resume work in apartments amid strict safety protocols.

May 25, 2020

Among the many relaxations listed out for lockdown 4.0, is that of allowing domestic help to resume work at homes. The BBMP has asked Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) to allow them, but provided certain protocols are in place, such as verifying whether they reside in a green, orange or red zone, in addition to regular lockdown protocol like mandatory temperature checks and the use of masks, gloves and sanitizer.

Read Full Story

Role of RWAs to increase in containing the spread of COVID-19

Jun 03, 2020

But there are fears among residents about unnecessary and restrictive rules

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Commissioner B. H. Anil Kumar and senior civic officials held a video conference with representatives of various RWAs on Wednesdays to discuss their continued involvement in containing the spread of COVID-19 and ensuring that people follow home quarantine rules.

Vikram Rai of Bangalore Apartments' Federation (BAF) said that to avoid such incidents and unnecessary panic, the federation has been issuing advisories to their member apartments based on the guidelines of the Union and State governments.

Read Full Story



RWAs causing animal cruelty during COVID-19: PIL

Jun 09, 2020

Angry over the alleged interference in animal ownership, animal activists have moved the high court against the Residents' Welfare Associations (RWAs). Compassion Unlimited Plus Action (CUPA), an animal welfare group, has filed a public interest litigation petition in the high court in this regard. The petitioner stated that it had been receiving many complaints from apartment dwellers about the RWAs imposing ban on keeping pets, preventing pets from using common amenities, animal animal feeders being harassed and abused, that the feeding of strays had been banned.

However, that there had been animal cruelty at apartments over COVID-19 concerns was news to Vikram Rai, General Council member, Bangalore Apartments Federation (BAF), who nevertheless added that human-animal conflicts had been persistent for several years now. "The BAF has existing guidelines about pet ownership," Rai said, clarifying it was illegal for the RWAs or AOAs to ban the keeping of pet dogs, even if done by consensus.







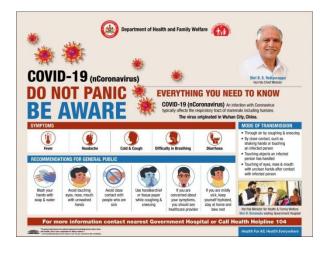






FOR LATEST COVID ADVISORY:



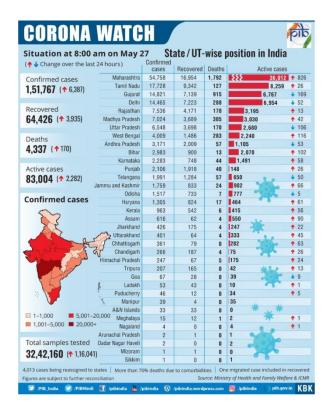


All India Advisory & Dashboards:

https://www.mohfw.gov.in/

Karnataka Advisory & Dashboards:

https://karnataka.gov.in/english https://covid19.karnataka.gov.in/english http://covid19dashboard.karnataka.gov.in/ http://bbmp.gov.in/en/web/guest/covid-19 https://www.who.int/





BAF digital touch-points as below:

- Covid-19 microsite: https://baf.org.in/covid-19/baf-guidelines
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/bafblr
- FB Page: https://www.facebook.com/BangaloreA partmentsFederation/
- YouTube Channel: BAF Ki BAAT http://youtube.com/c/bafbangalore



covid19@baf.org.in













REST OF THE NEWS....

Two years, one lakh wells: Can 'Million Wells' movement help solve Bengaluru's water crisis?

May 12, 2020

In 2018, Raghuram C G, a software program manager at Adobe, got a recharge well dug in his plot in Vidyaranyapura. "Rainwater falling in the plot gets channelised into the recharge well. The 15-ft well is now filled up to 10-11 ft, and has around 2000 litres of water. I've been building a house in the plot, and water from the well is used for all construction needs." Raghuram built the well after being inspired by 'A Million Wells for Bengaluru' movement.

Read Full Story

Karnataka: Peenya industries behind Bengaluru's poor air, say experts

May 12, 2020

Established in the late 1970s by the Karnataka Small Industries Development Corporation, Bengaluru's Peenya industrial area is one of the oldest and largest industrial areas in south-east Asia. However, the concentration of industrial establishments has contributed to high air pollution in the area. With over 2,000 industries in the area, the Peenya industrial cluster is declared as severely polluted area and stands at 32nd position with a Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) overall score of 65.11 (50-70 means severely polluted) and air pollution score of 56.

Read Full Story

REST OF THE NEWS....



Karnataka cabinet approves ordinance to regularise illegal BDA properties

May 14, 2020

The Karnataka cabinet on Thursday approved an ordinance aimed at regularising an estimated 75,000 unauthorized properties on the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) land, by levying a penalty. According to an estimate, these unauthorized properties are located on about 6000 acres of BDA land, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J C Madhuswamy said.

Read Full Story

Coordination must to carry forward reduced pollution: Mayor Goutham Kumar.

May 20, 2020

The BBMP is putting in place a mechanism to maintain a significant reduction in air and water pollution across the city during the COVID-19 lockdown. Mayor Goutham Kumar held a meeting with officials of the KSPCB, BDA, BWSSB and BBMP, where he called for greater coordination among the agencies.













Ministry of corporate affairs rolls out relief measures

May 20, 2020

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has sought to ease the compliance burden of companies and limited liability partnerships (LLPs) facing challenges posed by COVID-19, with general circular No 11, dated 24 March 2020, addressing and relaxing certain routine compliance rules and requirements under the Companies Act, 2013.

Read Full Story



High court to KSPCB: How will you keep lakes clean?

May 21, 2020

The high court on Wednesday directed Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to submit a statement on the steps it will take to keep Bellandur, Varthur lakes and Vrishabhavathi river as clean as they have been during the lockdown period.

"Pollution appears to be be nearly zero due to the lockdown. It is a proof that poll ution was due to effluents. Perhaps the only benefit from coronavirus is to have an environment like this," a division bench head ed by chief justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka observed.

Read Full Story

BBMP receives 150 tree fall complaints after rains lash Bengaluru

May 25, 2020

Heavy rains accompanied by gusty winds toppled trees and left several areas waterlogged on Sunday evening. More than 150 complaints of tree fall or falling of branches were received from the south and west divisions. Officials said there were no casualties.

Complaints of tree fall were received from Jayanagar, Basavanagudi, HSR Layout, BTM Layout, Kengeri, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Shantinagar, HAL, Koramangala, Bommanahalli, Begur, Singasandra and other areas, while similar complaints also came in from Yeshwantpur, Yelahanka, Rajajinagar and Basaveshwaranagar.

Read Full Story

Amid coronavirus pandemic, BBMP nets Rs 1,028 property tax.

May 27, 2020

The BMMP has collected Rs 1,028 crore property tax, reaching 42 per cent of its target for this financial year, in the last two months characterised by the fear over COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown.

The BBMP had previously extended the last date for availing 5 per cent rebate on property tax from end of April to May. Property owners have the last four days to avail the benefit.













Torrential rain uproots 50 trees and 40 electricity poles, cuts power supply in Bengaluru.

May 27, 2020

Heavy rains, coupled with thunder, lightning and gusty winds, lashed Bengaluru and the surrounding districts on Tuesday, bringing down dozens of trees, electricity poles and flooding low-lying streets. While several parts of Karnataka received light to moderate rainfall, Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Ramanagara and Tumakuru received heavy showers towards the evening. Bengaluru city alone received 29 mm of rainfall until 9 pm, according the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Read Full Story

Online AGMs: A one-time affair, or a new beginning?

May 28, 2020

Ashalata Maheshwari has been attending annual general meetings of companies as an investor for over six decades and is known for her 'shayaris'. But this year, for the first time in her life, the octogenarian may have to recite her shayaris on webcam as many large companies plan to hold their AGMs through videoconferencing.

The corporate affairs ministry had last month allowed companies to hold their AGMs and extraordinary general meetings (EGMs) through videoconference or other audio visual means due to Covid-19 outbreak. As per the Companies Act, 2013, companies must hold AGM within six months from the closure of the previous financial year and not beyond 15 month of the last AGM.

Read Full Story



The Corona busters: Meet these 4 BBMP officers who are keeping Covid-19 at bay.

May 28, 2020

Centre finds 'Bengaluru' model worth emulating; these four officers of the BBMP are the ones keeping Covid-19 at bay So far, over 27,680 people have taken the Covid-19 test in the City, and only about 0.1% have tested positive for the infection. Many metropolitan cities including Mumbai, New Delhi and Chennai have outnumbered Bengaluru in terms of Covid-19 positive patients. At least two districts in Karnataka have more active cases than the state's most populated district. So, what is the reason behind Bengaluru's sustained low numbers?

Read Full Story

HC to KSPCB: Place on record pollution measurements of Bellandur and Varthur lakes.

May 29, 2020

The Karnataka high court on Friday directed the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to place on record by next Tuesday the report on the level of pollution measured in Bellandur and Varthur lakes.

A division bench headed by Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka also directed BDA to state whether roads are being constructed within the buffer zone of these lakes.













Coronavirus: How Bengaluru kept its case count under check

Jun 02, 2020

When Bengaluru's civic body, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), decided to seal two large localities in early April, it was met with criticism and resistance.

The decision to seal Padarayanapura and Bapuji Nagar--with around 40,000 people--on 10 April may have set a template that saved the city from the rapid spread of the coronavirus, compared to Mumbai, Chennai, New Delhi or even New York, among others, said municipal authorities in Bengaluru.

Read Full Story

Bengaluru man saves 1 lakh litres of water every year, Offers his services for free

Jun 04, 2020

Centuries ago, when the city of Bengaluru was founded by Kempegowda, it was a crown jewel of the state of Karnataka, endowed with beautiful lakes and gardens. But, the present reality cannot be farther from the past.

After years of urbanization, poor water management, pollution and an accelerated population, Bengaluru has become a city of traffic and concrete, languishing in falling groundwater levels, toxic frothing lakes and dry taps.

Read Full Story

Coronavirus: for a population of 12-crore, why bengaluru has only 300 covid cases. Jun 04, 2020

For a population of approximately 1.2 crores, Bengaluru city has had just 385 reported cases of COVID-19 infections as of 1st Jun, way less than what cities like Chennai and Mumbai report in a single day. In comparison, Chennai has 15770 cases, Mumbai has 40,877 cases and New Delhi has 20,834 cases.

Read Full Story



Is your neighbourhood at risk of flooding this monsoon?

Jun 05, 2020

While providing much-needed relief from the heat, the monsoon also cripples Bengaluru with a whole lot of problems every year. Top among them are flooding of roads and clogging of stormwater drains.

On June 1, the state government published a list of eight teams - one for each of the eight BBMP zones – to prepare for and respond to this year's monsoon. The teams have members from six departments - Forest, BESCOM, Fire and Emergency Services, BWSSB, BBMP and Traffic Police.













Better lake than ever?

Jun 06, 2020

Frothing for years that seemed like eternity, the city's Bellandur and Varthur lakes had zoomed to notoriety hitting global headlines. But postlockdown, as a much-delayed de-silting drive is on, a probing query remains disturbingly raw: What stops the original polluters from repeating it once the costly clean-up ends?

Spot visits by a DH team showed the de-silting operation accelerating after the lockdown. Over 15 earth-movers were inside the Varthur lake, scooping out mounds of silt accumulated over decades. Pulled up for inaction by the National Greens Tribunal (NGT), the operation had to pick up pace.

Read Full Story

Fix lakes through transparent, multistakeholder collaborations.

Jun 06, 2020

One more World Environment Day has come and gone. But we are still lagging far behind in addressing the actual causes of the pollution problem, manifested so starkly in our lakes.

The Covid-19 lockdown did show lakes in a less polluted avatar at least from the exterior, and Bellandur and Varthur lakes were no different. Apartment residents who were levied hefty penalties for not setting up Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) points this out to contend that the pollution is mainly caused by industrial effluents.

Read Full Story

21 Notable Judgments/Orders Delivered By **Courts During COVID-19 Lockdown**

Jun 07, 2020

The outbreak of COVID 19 pandemic has resulted in lockdown across the country in all spheres of activities. However, even during such challenging times, the judiciary has continued its function by evolving to a virtual system of adjudication. The present articles summarizes some of the orders passed by the supreme court and various high courts during the first phase of lockdown

Read Full Story



India's rapid approval of projects that cut through protected forests amid lockdown sparks concerns

Jun 08, 2020

BANGALORE - India's Environment Ministry has been taking momentous decisions about largescale industrial projects over short video calls as officials take their work online amid the country's lockdown. The sweeping changes have alarmed climate change experts.

Official expert panels that advise the government on whether to clear industrial projects based on their potential harm to the environment, forests and wildlife have been doing their work online since the lockdown to prevent the spread of the coronavirus began on March 25.













Pay garbage tax now: Rs 200/house

Jun 10, 2020

The covid-19 pandemic has led to job losses, salary cuts and a grim economic outlook. And the BBMP has chosen such a scenario to impose Rs 200 per month as cess to pick up waste from your doorstep. The BBMP is all set to implement bye-laws on solid waste management (SWM) (SWM), which will entail asking house owners to pay money to hand over garbage to conservancy workers.

"The bye-laws on solid waste management have been notified. The BBMP will collect a service charge from property owners to give segregated garbage to conservancy workers," said BBMP Commissioner BH Anil Kumar.

Read Full Story



Access To Justice In Supreme Court Ensured By VC Hearings, Writes Sr Adv Sidharth Luthra

Jun 11, 2020

About two months after the lockdown began, the Supreme Court which started Virtual Courts almost immediately to overcome the restrictions on movement, has now taken a decision to continue with virtual hearings and not to reopen Court for hearings with physical presence of lawyers/litigants.

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), Supreme Court Advocate on Record Association (SCAORA) and the Chairman, Bar Council of India, who represent the legal community, had been pressing the court to reopen for physical hearings. But in the absence of a cure for COVID-19 and with no vaccine in sight, the Supreme Court took the difficult but pragmatic decision to continue only with Virtual Court hearings for the present.









