

## **Bangalore Apartments' Federation News Letter**

**Volume 1, Issue 5, September 30, 2017**

Dear Apartment Resident,

Team BAF wishes all its readers a very Happy VijayaDashmi! Let us hope we do win all our battles by working passionately for our causes! A key thing that evolves in all such 'battles' is- the participation of Citizens – you and me, actively in identifying issues, engaging in dialogue with community & responsible authorities and active participation in the solution process.

BAF held its quarterly member meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017 for a progress update on AARAMB. Many Champions & Super champions spoke about progress of AARAMB in their apartments. BPAC representatives provided clarifications. However it was felt that many member Apartments have not taken this up fervently. With Apartment community being targeted for various inefficiencies of civic agencies – our voting in large numbers will make a huge impact and send a strong message to the GoK. So let us not take this issue lightly. LET US HENCE TARGET AND ENSURE THAT 100% OF BAF MEMBERS HAVE AT LEAST 90-100% OF THEIR COMMUNITY ENROLLED IN ELECTORAL LIST BY END OCTOBER.

On legal matters, BAF has impleaded itself in the NGT case (New Delhi) on Bellandur Lake pollution and notices served to our members thereof. During the month a BAF team travelled to New Delhi for the NGT case filing & pleading for the benefit of all members. BAF also made representations to various civic agencies involved in the case and served objections / arguments on the GoK action taken report. Various updates have been shared with members in chat forums / emails. Above has culminated in BAF releasing a 'Standard Response' letter to be submitted to respective agencies by members. BAF will represent again in the next hearing on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

BAF also announced another key initiative, involving a series of KAOA Panel discussions planned for the next Member meets. Members will be kept updated on the same as it evolves.

BAF was invited and participated successfully in following events :

1. Seminar on Green Residential Societies by Indian Green Building Council (IGBC-CII). BAF was represented in Speaker panel for "Role of apartments in conservation of all resources" & also on a panel discussion on improving "Power Reliability". Rooftop solar, 'Green' paint, water conservation, waste management, ESCOs were other relevant topics. The overall message was of Apartment communities becoming self contained in a decentralized set-up.
2. Greenovation Seminar (By BPAC) to exchange ideas between US and India.
3. Supporting RERA Activist group in making representation to various GoK departments on desired KAOA amendments, to align with RERA.

BAF will also participate in the Bengaluru-Citizens-Festival (Beku / Beda Santhe), being organized by CFB on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 2017, along with other citizen groups. Again we urge all members to take part in various such networking events to gain awareness of issues, and engage in community dialogue as way forward for better living.

Hope members enjoy reading the compiled news items affecting them. Until the next edition it is bye from us!  
With Warm Regards,

Team BAF!



## **BBMP yet to remove bulk of SWD encroachments**

*Sep 04, 2017*

Over a year has passed since the July 2016 flash floods woke up the civic agencies to start adopting corrective measures. But the encroachment clearance drive that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike soon began has all but been abandoned.

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## **City has received excess rain, IMD forecasts more showers**

*Sep 7, 2017*

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast heavy rainfall across Karnataka for the next two days. The weathermen say that monsoon has been vigorous over south interior Karnataka and active over north interior Karnataka.

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## **Opportunity wasted to generate power at STPs**

*Sep 7, 2017*

For more than two decades, digesters in the city's three main Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) have been left utterly unused. This is a shocking lapse that has robbed Bengaluru of a genuine model to generate power and cooking gas from millions of liters of sewage that now pollutes the city's lakes.

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## **Bellandur Lake was last de-silted 20yrs ago: KLCDA**

*Sep 07, 2017*

One of the steps to prevent flooding of homes and breaching of Bellandur Lake is de-silting. But the city's largest waterbody hasn't been de-

silted in the past two decades, the Karnataka Lake Conservation and Development Authority (KLCDA) says.

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## **Bescom to notify apartments to elevate transformers from basement**

*Sep 7, 2017*

If your apartment's transformer is on the basement, you might have to shift it to a higher level soon. On Thursday, energy minister D K Shiva Kumar said that apartments and houses in Bengaluru will be issued notices to shift the transformers from basement to a higher floor, to avoid damage and power cuts due to water logging.

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## **Bengaluru ranks second in new apartments launches**

*Sep 09, 2017*

Bengaluru ranked second in India in the number of new residential units launched in the first half of the year.

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## **Timely response to our complaints could have prevented floods: residents**

*Sep 10, 2017*

Incessant rains over the past few weeks have exposed the poor condition of the city's storm water drains. Due to reduction in their carrying capacity, storm water has been spilling out, flooding roads and low-lying areas. DH spoke to residents of these areas to understand their plight.

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## **Rains give new life to long-lost river Arkavathi**

*Sep 12, 2017*

For close to two decades, Chandrashekar B, a techie, has been using the dirt road below a railway track (Bengaluru-Tumkur railway line near Tarabanahalli, off Hesaraghatta Road) to get to work. It's his favourite route because it cuts short the distance to reach Huskur road by 15 km

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## **7 reasons why Bengaluru got flooded**

*Sep 12, 2017*

Apart from the havoc created by the rain gods, with downpour of as much as 124.5 mm in a span of four hours earlier last week, which hurt citizens in large parts of Bengaluru, city development minister K J George outlined the basic assessment of why the city was inundated.

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## **Reality bites over 100 taken ill a fever envelops posh enclave**

*Sep 15, 2017*

At least BBMP's apathy shows no bias. Whether you are in a posh area or a not-so well-off one, you will have to go through the trials that everybody in a poorly-managed city has to go through.

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## **BBMP to translocate 112 trees for widening Jayamahal Road**

*Sep 15, 2017*

Bowing to public pressure over the cutting of 112 trees for widening Jayamahal Road, the BBMP tree officer said all will be safely translocated to the pedestrian walkway

adjacent to the boundary wall of Palace Grounds.

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## **Potholed-B'luru leaves motorists with compression fractures**

*Sep 15, 2017*

Bengaluru's potholes are becoming infamous for increased compression fractures among daily commuters.

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## **Solid waste management sector reforms fail to take off in city**

*Sep 16, 2017*

It is unlikely that garbage woes in the city will be resolved at the earliest as every effort intended towards introducing transparency and reforms in the solid waste management sector - be it introduction of biometric attendance for pourakarmikas or mechanical sweepers - is yet to take off.

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## **Poor policing could turn Hebbal into a crime den, say residents**

*Sep 17, 2017*

Lack of proper policing threatens to turn the localities in the Hebbal Assembly segment into hubs of crime, residents chorused in unison on Saturday.

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**With most Bengaluru lakes polluted, birders head to the outskirts for better sighting**

*Sep 18, 2017*

The area around the Valley School & Bannerghatta are traditionally the major birding hotspots of Bangalore, with highest numbers of birds of various species being sighted there. However, Muthanallur lake, Thailur tank and Gulakamale lake, all in outskirts of the city, are becoming the new avian hotspots. With birds of many rare species making these lakes their temporary homes during the migratory season, more & more birdwatchers are travelling the extra mile to see the winged visitors

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**Its' raining, potholes not going away anytime soon**

*Sep 18, 2017*

Potholes across the city have not only multiplied but become bigger and deeper in the wake of heavy rain in the city over the past few weeks. The potholes have rendered several roads unmotorable, leaving motorists and pedestrians vulnerable.

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**Showers bring Hesaraghatta Lake to life**

*Sep 18, 2017*

It's a picturesque setting -clear sky, still water and vast swathes of green. Parched till a fortnight ago, the massive Hesaraghatta Lake is partially filled with rainwater today. Back to its former glory, it's drawing visitors in droves. Over 30km from the heart of Bengaluru, the waterbody spans more than 1,110 acres.

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**Residents' efforts bring water back to Halanayakanahalli Lake**

*Sep 19, 2017*

Nearly 80 acres of land near Doddakannelli lay barren for over a decade. It was used mainly to dump gravel and other waste, and as a playground. In 2014, a group of 6-7 residents got together to find out what exactly that stretch of land was, and they were surprised to find that it was actually a lake.

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**Pollutant Levels dip but Bengaluru's air is still foul**

*Sep 19, 2017*

You may feel choked on Bengaluru roads, thanks to smoke-spewing vehicles and dust. But some monitoring stations of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board have recorded a decrease in the level of air pollutants.

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**Over 900 apartments yet to install STP: BWSSB**

*Sep 20, 2017*

Despite multiple agencies pushing apartment complexes with over 50 flats to install Sewage Treatment Plants (STP), it has met with little success with apartments arguing that no norm can be implemented retrospectively. In a recent survey, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) found that over 900 large apartments are yet to install STPs on their premises.

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### **Two lakes in KR Puram cry for attention**

*Sep 20, 2017*

Just 5km apart, two lakes in east Bengaluru's KR Puram are crying for attention. While the abandoned Hoodi Lake has its dry bed full of weeds and garbage, Saradamangala Lake has been battling a constant onslaught of sewage, effluents and encroachment

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### **319 apartments dubbed 'polluters' despite linking sewage to UGD**

*Sep 25, 2017*

In a report submitted to the National Green Tribunal (NGT), the state government has classified 319 apartments in the lake's catchment area as 'polluters' although all of them let out sewage to BWSSB's underground drainage.

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### **Old apartments in Bengaluru seek exemption from mandatory STPs**

*Sep 23, 2017*

Residents have come together to protest the government's policy of mandatory sewage treatment plants (STPs) at apartment buildings and demanded that old ones be exempted

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### **Karnataka RERA gets 80 complaints in 62 days**

*Sep 25, 2017*

Ever since the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) came into force in Karnataka, it has been getting complaints from homebuyers against builders almost every day.

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### **BWSSB is real culprit, not us: Apartment dwellers**

*Sep 25, 2017*

Apartment dwellers, who are up in arms against the authorities mandating them to install sewage treatment plants (STPs), said the BWSSB is primarily responsible for the pollution of Bellandur Lake as sewage water released by the buildings is only 2.8% of the total sewage entering it.

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