



Bangalore Apartments' Federation News Letter

Volume 1, Issue 8, December 31, 2017

Dear Apartment Resident,

The Governing Council of BAF would like to wish you a very happy and prosperous new year 2018! Surely the year did end successfully for BAF and we hope to sustain the same momentum in 2018!

You would by now be aware of the huge victory that we were able to achieve with regard to the retrospective STP rule in older apartments. On the back of the BAF Apartment Rally held on 2nd December 2017, in which more than 10,000 apartment residents came out on to the streets, including member and non-member associations, the Government of Karnataka (GoK) invited BAF to make a presentation on STPs on 14th December 2017.

The BAF Governing Council made a presentation to Hon'ble Ministers Mr. K.J. George (Bengaluru Development Minister), Mr. Ramalinga Reddy (Home Minister) and Mayor Mr. Sampath Raj. **GoK ordered an immediate suspension and subsequent reversal of the retrospective STP notification** based on the facts & logic presented by BAF. In addition, KSPCB withdrew notices threatening disconnection of power & water, issued to apartments with properly functional STPs.

This happened primarily because of people power and unity shown by apartment residents to collectively fight against an unreasonable & unjust rule. **PEOPLE POWER & OUR UNITY WON!** The strength of an organization is in its numbers as was seen in the Apartment Rally as well as the retrospective STP rule withdrawal. BAF team is working to further ensure the relevant order is passed officially, for which further meetings with BWSSB, KSPCB and GoK will continue.

BAF would like to thank all its members as also the non-members for their full support to Apartment Rally!

We now have over 200 apartment associations across Bangalore as members. To make BAF stronger in its mission and help achieve its objectives – let us all put some effort into reaching our neighboring apartments starting with those who supported us in the Apartment Rally & others and encourage them to "Come, join BAF"! Do pass on any contacts to our team for ensuring smooth transition to BAF membership or guide them to BAF GC members for doubts and queries.

BAF held its GC meeting on 23/12/2017, in which the GC recognized the need for formation of apartment Clusters – based on ward and constituency demarcations. As BAF membership increases, these clusters will help create a manageable organization structure to address local and common issues effectively. You may all have received the mail about this Cluster formation and also inviting nominations for Cluster Leadership team roles. We look forward to more members joining in the Cluster Leadership teams.

In the GC meeting, it was decided to hold a Unity Meet of all BAF members and supporters, to celebrate our unity as well as to lay a strong foundation for future initiatives. BAF GC would like to invite you all for a get-together on Saturday, 20th January 2018. It will be an occasion for all of us to meet each other, celebrate our successes so far and further strengthen our relationships. The BAF GC will also announce the formation of local area clusters with leaders for the respective clusters, during this get-together.

Meanwhile during the month, BAF has updated members on their meet with the Chief Electoral Officer and Chief Electrical Inspectorate. On any further developments, members will be kept posted. That's all for the month!

Best Regards,

Team BAF



Bengaluru's daily garbage generation will touch 13,911 tonnes by 2031

Dec 01, 2017

Bengaluru Masterplan 2031, a provisional version of which was released by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) recently, points to an uphill challenge when it comes to handling solid waste. Going by the plan, in the next 14 years, the amount of waste generated per day will go up to 13,911 tonnes

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Waste weir near Varthur Lake breaches again

Dec 01, 2017

For the second time in two months, the waste weir near Varthur Lake in east Bengaluru has breached, causing a fall in the water level of the highly polluted waterbody.

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To avoid Delhi smog like situation, every 2nd Sunday to be a less traffic day

Dec 01, 2017

The state government, in its efforts to minimise the likelihood of "smog engulfed" Bengaluru has decided to launch a campaign to ease the private vehicles plying on city streets. The move has been considered after the disastrous effect of smog in the national capital of Delhi

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21% of Bengaluru's parks and playgrounds inaccessible: Survey

Dec 02, 2017

A survey of 1,115 parks and 192 playgrounds in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits has found that 21% of them are inaccessible to the public. This means potential

users can't enter the spaces as they are locked up.

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Over 10,000 apartment residents protest against mandatory STP

Dec 02, 2017

The Bangalore Apartments' Federation (BAF), which represents hundreds of apartment complexes in the city, held "Apartment rally" across the city.

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Bengaluru steps out to push back BWSSB'S STP plan

Dec 03, 2017

Perhaps for first time ever, the city witnessed a series of protests wherein residents, under the aegis of Bangalore Apartments' Federation (BAF), hit the streets to protest the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board's (BWSSB) directive to install Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in apartments with more than 50 flats.

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Can Bengaluru improve Swachh ranking this time?

Dec 03, 2017

With the Centre gearing up to conduct final tests under Swachh Survekshan 2018 to rank cities and towns across the country based on sanitation and cleanliness, the BBMP is hoping to improve its ranking this time.

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HSR residents walk seeking better amenities

Dec 04, 2017

Residents of HSR Layout dread the rains. For every time there is a downpour, the drains here overflow and homes get flooded. Also, sewage often gets mixed with drinking water supplied to the area. Tired of their complaints falling on deaf ears, hundreds of residents took out a walkathon on Sunday demanding better civic amenities in the area.

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Won't adjust, give us our footpaths: pedestrians

Dec 06, 2017

Missing and damaged footpaths, only 17 operational skywalks, lack of street crossings, Bengaluru has very little to offer its pedestrians. But residents of Sanjay Nagar in north Bengaluru have decided to do something about it

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Little focus on waterbodies that are upstream of Bellandur, Varthur lakes

Dec 06, 2017

While all the focus has been on the highly polluted Bellandur and Varthur lakes, little attention is being paid to what is happening upstream of these lakes that make up for the chain of waterbodies leading to Bellandur lake. With untreated sewage flowing unabatedly into Kaggadasapura lake, and eventually into Doddanekundi lake, the likelihood of Varthur and Bellandur lakes getting a chance at rejuvenation is not looking bright.

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New STP at Kundalahalli lake

Dec 07, 2017

A new sewage treatment plant (STP) has been installed near Kundalahalli Lake in Whitefield under a joint venture between General Electric (GE) and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

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HC gives temporary relief from STP rule

Dec 11, 2017

The Karnataka High Court on Monday stayed the regulations making installation of modular Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) and providing dual piping system mandatory even for existing apartment complexes with more than 50 flats.

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East Bengaluru demands a honk-free city, mayor agrees

Dec 11, 2017

Can Bengaluru become honk-free to put an end to vehicular noise pollution? The East zonal event of Bengaluru Forward campaign became a forum to discuss the issue and find a solution for it.

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Use app to resolve your civic woes

Dec 12, 2017

Mayor R Sampath Raj launched the much-touted BBMP Fix My Street app on Monday, which empowers citizens to report issues related to potholes, garbage and streetlights, among others.

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BWSSB will spare most apartments from fine for not possessing OC

Dec 13, 2017

The BWSSB would ask for Occupancy Certificate to residences with five kitchens and commercial areas with more than 300 square metres, sparing a large number of flats from penalty.

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Bengaluru's RR Nagar's trees are losing out of its business complexes

Dec 13, 2017

Rajarajeshwari Nagar residents have started noticing a curious way of trees being eliminated in their area for a while now.

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Government junks STP rule for apartments

Dec 15, 2017

The Karnataka government has suspended its notification making sewage treatment plants (STP) mandatory in apartment complexes...

We received many complaints, and the BBMP council, too, discussed it," George said of the notification. **"Bengaluru Apartments' Federation wanted the order to take effect prospectively. Due to these reasons, we have suspended the order.**

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STP: government to suspend penalty clause for existing apartments

Dec 15, 2017

After months of petitions, meetings with officials, court cases and even major protests, apartment dwellers have finally secured relief, with the State government on Thursday agreeing to suspend a rule that would have imposed penalties on existing apartment

complexes that have not installed sewage treatment plants (STPs).

The decision came on Thursday evening **after a meeting of Bangalore Apartments' Federation (BAF), Bengaluru Development Minister K.J. George, Home Minister Ramalinga Reddy, and civic officials.**

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Huge relief for flat owners in Bengaluru, government budges on Sewage Treatment plants

Dec 15, 2017

The state government has finally yielded to the consistent pressure brought upon it by apartment owners across the city and announced some relaxations on Thursday.

Briefing newspersons on Thursday **after a detailed presentation made by Bengaluru Apartments Federation,** on the impracticality of installing STPs in old apartments, Bengaluru Development Minister K J George said **apartment complexes connected to the sewage network of the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board do not have to install them retrospectively.**

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Apartment dwellers take up unity march

Dec 16, 2017

What was originally planned as a protest march turned out to be a unity march in here on Saturday, when members of Federations of Apartment Associations-Bengaluru (FAAB) gathered near Mysore Bank Circle.

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Indira Nagar residents question rampant commercialization in their area

Dec 16, 2017

Members of "I Change Indira Nagar" (ICIN), a federation of eight resident welfare associations, met BBMP authorities on Saturday and demanded action against illegal commercialisation in residential areas.

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No funds shortage: SC on solid waste management

Dec 18, 2017

Terming solid waste management as a "huge problem" for the country, the Supreme Court has said that there was no shortage of funds under 'Swachh Bharat Mission' but there was "lack" of willingness on the part of states to take positive steps in this regard

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Now, BDA wants pollution board to fund Bellandur Sluice gates

Dec 21, 2017

The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), already strapped for funds, had raised eyebrows by announcing a plan to install automatic sluice gates to prevent frothing of the Bellandur and Varthur lake waters.

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BBMP mulls levying Rs 5 lakh fine for dumping of waste in lake, rajakaluves

Dec 23, 2017

Those dumping building/construction waste at public places will soon have to cough up hefty fines soon. The BBMP will soon discuss the proposal to levy penalty, ranging from Rs 5 lakh, if the same is dumped in lakes and rajakaluves and Rs 1 lakh for dumping in other places.

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No Government funds, BDA pins hopes on private investors to revive lakes

Dec 24, 2017

It calls for concerted efforts to mobilize funds to clean up the highly polluted Bellandur and Vartur lakes, but stakeholders seem to be groping in the dark.

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RERA, GST likely to make co-operative society sites costlier

Dec 26, 2017

Buying a site in a co-operative housing society may soon become more transparent and more expensive. This is because housing societies now need to register under the Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority and Goods and Services Tax (GST).

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App receives 4,973 complaints in 15 days, but BBMP fixes just 1,788

Dec 27, 2017

Fix my street', the much-hyped BBMP app that promises quick solutions to garbage, pothole and streetlight-related woes via a digital platform, has managed to address just 1,788 of the 4,973 complaints it received in the 15 days since its launch.

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Particulate matter in Bengaluru air much higher than permissible limits

Dec 28, 2017

If the findings by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board(KSPCB) is any indication, there's much to worry about the quality of air in Bengaluru.

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