

DECENTRALISED MANAGEMENT OF THE COVID 19 CRISIS



Ward and Booth level citizen teams will monitor the pandemic in BBMP limits.

To effectively tackle rising numbers of CoVid19 cases, BBMP is launching a decentralised campaign with active citizen participation. The 198 ward committees of BBMP are being empowered to function as Ward Committees for Disaster Management.

As the wards are quite large with populations between 50,000 - 100,000 each, the pandemic will be managed at the next level of governance - The Polling Booths.

Each ward typically has 50-70 booths, representing around 1500 people and 400 homes each. Booth Level Committees are being formed with citizens and officials. These are small on-ground operational units providing information and support to citizens on COVID 19.

The main objective of ward and booth level management is to reduce fatalities with active citizen participation.

A quick look at the organisation structure follows.



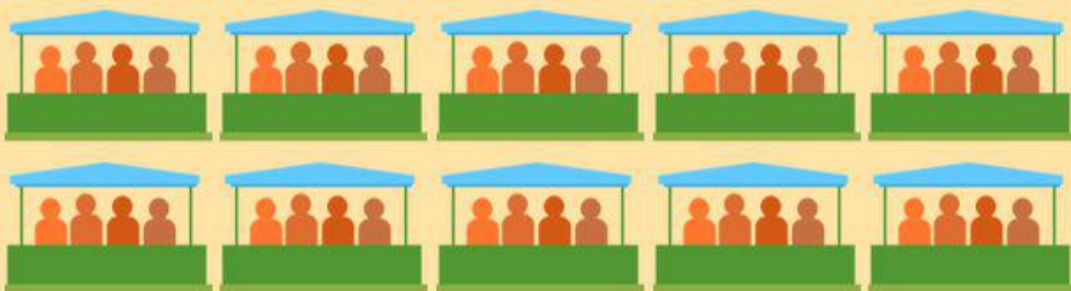
**BRUHAT
BENGALURU
MAHANAGARA
PALIKE**



198 WARDS



**WARD COMMITTEE
[10 MEMBERS]**



BOOTHS

40-50 PER WARD



BOOTH LEVEL COMMITTEE

10 MEMBERS EACH BOOTH



BOOTH LEVEL COMMITTEE

EACH BOOTH IS HEADED BY A
BOOTH LEVEL OFFICER [BLO]

C-RANK OFFICERS

TOTAL : 4

1 - Junior female health aide / Asha worker / Anganwadi worker

3 - Booth presiding officer (PRO), Assistant booth presiding officer (APRO), Polling officers (PO)

(Resident in the vicinity of the booth)

VOLUNTEERS

TOTAL : 10

3 - Local community representatives

3 - Local government, retired, private health volunteers (Doctors/ Semi-medical)

4 - Other volunteers



FUNCTIONS OF THE BOOTH LEVEL COMMITTEE

1. Create awareness in ward about COVID-19 pandemic

3. Help de-stigmatise those affected by the disease & help people in need of care and support

5. Monitor the health of those with Influenza-like illness (ILI) by collating the house-to-house survey data on the health of households

7. Coordinate and maintain the booth-wise house-to-house survey of people with vulnerabilities, such as pregnant women and elderly

9. Monitor the health of people suffering from SARI and ensure that they get treatment in the Fever Clinics on an emergent basis

2. Prevent the spread of fake news, rumours, & panic

4. Promote the use of mask/face cover, physical distancing, cleanliness & hygiene in the ward

6. Help them access health care through PHCs, Fever Clinics and COVID Care Centers

8. Note and monitor those with co-morbidities like diabetes, hypertension, cardiac, urinary & other life-threatening diseases

10. Ensure home quarantine of COVID positive patients within the jurisdiction of the Ward Committee



FUNCTIONS OF THE BOOTH LEVEL COMMITTEE

11. Make sure CCC / COVID hospital/telemedicine is easily accessible to asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic patients

13. Collaborate and work with any civil society or non-governmental org that is willing to support the Ward Committees

12. Work with the teams and conduct contact tracing in identifying primary and secondary contacts. Ensure home quarantine of the primary and secondary connections. Correctly test the primary contacts.

14. Build ward-based appropriate support systems for the COVID pandemic in all or any of its aspects or dimensions.



WORK PROCESS OF WARD COMMITTEES FOR COVID CARE/MANAGEMENT

- 1.** The Ward Committees will meet at least once a week on Monday and as often as the situation demands.
- 2.** During the meeting, they will wear masks and maintain physical distance.
- 3.** The meetings will
 - review the work of the BLCs,
 - take stock of any positive patients in the ward
 - monitor primary and secondary contacts of positive patients and ensure they are correctly quarantined & cared for as per current protocol
- 4.** Updated ward committee & BLC activity report, the BLCs along with pictures, short videos, etc. will be sent to the Joint Commissioners of the respective zones. Appropriate technology platforms will be created and shared with the ward committees for this purpose.
- 5.** Volunteers / civil society partners, SHG / NULM members will operate a help desk with a landline phone in the Ward office. The help desk will:
 - record data of people under Home Quarantine and other vulnerable categories (elderly, co-morbidities, pregnant women etc.)
 - will ensure their health symptoms are tracked daily in the prescribed formats for both COVID symptoms as well as any other health issue.
 - regular phone checks on vulnerable categories will help in better watch on non-communicable diseases.



WORK PROCESS OF WARD COMMITTEES FOR COVID CARE/MANAGEMENT

6. Appointed volunteers will be in charge of 30-40 households in the ward, monitored by BLCs. Their contact numbers will be made known to all the homes attached to each of them. The appointed volunteers will help the people in need of assistance, or any other essential medical/other services (rations, medical supplies, Anganwadi services, etc.)

7. Corona Volunteers: They will be responsible for scientific dissemination of information about COVID 19. They will ensure physical distancing and wearing of masks in public places. Volunteers will report violations to the Ward Committees via the help desk and if necessary, will file a complaint in the nearby police station.

NOTE - To avoid work duplication and on-ground confusion, the volunteers currently working as Corona Warriors will dove-tail the work of BLCs and ward committees.

8. To ensure good immunity, provision of Anganwadi rations for children below six years, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, and midday meal rations for schoolchildren is assured. The BLC should oversee this doorstep delivery of rations under the overall supervision of the Ward Committees. Authorised volunteers will collect and deliver rations to any elderly / otherwise critically ill person unable to draw their rations



WORK PROCESS OF WARD COMMITTEES FOR COVID CARE/MANAGEMENT

- 9.** Volunteers will take responsibility for assisting with the essential needs of residents in a containment street/area. In containment areas, it is all the more necessary to keep in telephonic contact with vulnerable households daily and share contact numbers of volunteers with them in the event of any emergency.
- 10.** A possibility of introducing reverse quarantine among vulnerable persons (elderly, etc.) exists so that the identified vulnerable people are motivated to go into quarantine within their houses. To reduce their chances of infection, recommendations such as maintaining physical distance from the other family members, usage of separate utensils, separate room with attached toilet etc. if possible will be shared.
- 11.** In case primary or secondary contacts are unable to self-isolate within their homes, the BLC will arrange for a separate space for self-isolation, such as local schools or community halls managed by the local community. In such cases, the person will have to arrange for food and bedding etc.
- 12.** If anyone under monitoring develop symptoms, they may be taken to the nearest fever clinic for testing and asked to be in isolation within their houses until the result comes.
- 13.** The severity of the symptoms as per the circular from the health dept, dated, 4/7/2020 will discern home isolation or hospitalisation.



WORK PROCESS OF WARD COMMITTEES FOR COVID CARE/MANAGEMENT

14. For sanitisation of houses under Home Quarantine, teams of SHG group members may be formed at ward level and trained to take up the task on payment basis. Ward committees will provide free services for economically vulnerable households.

15. Ward Committees will provide free masks and soaps (for washing and bathing) to all economically weak. Donors, voluntary contributors, BBMP funds for Ward Committees will help raise funds in this matter.

16. Public handwashing facilities may be set up near market areas, commercial areas having banks, ATM centres, shopping centres etc. where there is frequent people movement. A bucket of soapy water will be organised in dense or congested and water-scarce areas.

17. Biomedical waste management from quarantine homes will be carried out as per the SOP issued by Health department.

