

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Defence
Member of Consultative Committee on Defence
Member of Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps
Co-Chairman, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee, Bangalore Urban District
Vice Chairman, National Military Memorial Management Trust, Bangalore

23rd April, 2015

Dear Shri Naik,

I am writing to you with reference to a representation from the Namma Bengaluru Foundation (NBF) and the Bengaluru Residents' Associations' Confederation Ensemble (BRACE) about commercial licenses issued by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in residential areas of Bengaluru, in violation of the Revised Master Plan (RMP) 2015.

The letter dated February 27th 2015, addressed to the Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka and a copy marked to me (enclosed herewith), has highlighted several instances of illegal commercial developments in residential areas. It alleges that despite amendments to the RMP 2015, basis a Public Interest Litigation filed by citizen groups, that stated that no fresh commercial activity will be allowed in residential main and residential mixed zones if abutting roads are forty feet or less in width, and an affidavit to this effect being filed by the Commissioner of the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) before the High Court, the BBMP continued to permit the establishment of commercial concerns in certain residential areas in Bengaluru, in violation of the amended RMP 2015 and the affidavit of the BDA.

The letter details addresses of several of these illegal commercial developments constructed in violation of the RMP 2015. It further alleges that the BBMP has failed to initiate meaningful action against these illegalities despite several attempts by citizens to bring it to their notice. These allegations point out that the BBMP, in permitting and indeed encouraging such illegal commercial establishments, has clearly acted against the interests of citizens. These actions of the BBMP convey a clear intention to allow such violations with a view to benefit private commercial and construction interests, without any regard for the welfare of the citizens of Bengaluru.

As you take over as the new Commissioner of the BBMP, you will be aware that the misuse of official information, abuse of office, conflict of interest and the misuse of public resources (including fraud and misappropriation) are robbing citizens of Bengaluru of basic city

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services. Considering this, the facts and circumstances presented indicate that it is a matter of utmost importance that the issue of these violations be investigated thoroughly. As the new Commissioner of the BBMP, I urge you to ensure immediate and urgent investigation on the matter. I further urge you to institute an enquiry into the reasons why the Revised Master Plan was violated to accommodate commercial interests over public interests in each of the stated illegalities and request your immediate intervention in cancelling the licenses of these commercial concerns which are violative of the RMP-2015.

I look forward to your response on this issue.

Yours sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri G. Kumar Naik, IAS

Commissioner Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Bengaluru

CC: Shri T M Vijay Bhasakar, IAS, Administrator, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru