



**RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR**  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
RAJYA SABHA

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Member of Consultative Committee on Finance  
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Co-Chairman, District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee, Bengaluru Urban District

27<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

Dear Bengalurean,

**Subject: Uniting for a Swachha Bengaluru**

**Reference: My open letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2016**

I am writing to thank you for making United Bengaluru- Citizen participation to Reclaim and Protect Bengaluru a success. In my previous letter to you, dated December 24, 2016, I had appealed to you to come together and reclaim your position as key stakeholders in the city's development. I earlier stressed that the Government of Karnataka and administration must ensure:

- a. Citizen Participation through Public Consultation on projects/decisions impacting neighbourhoods, wards and city before approving plans.
- b. Statutory Multi-Year Development Plan for Bengaluru region - which should cover all aspects of the city's development including sustainability.
- c. Government must serve Citizens and the City and the Government must be held accountable for all Public Money, Assets and Contracts.

You have supported urban experts, citizen activists and resident welfare organisations under the banner of United Bengaluru in addressing the shortcomings of the Government of Karnataka that has resulted in the decline and death of the city.

Over the last few months, United Bengaluru Lakes Chapter has successfully inspected 31 Lakes across the city and highlighted rampant encroachment, and dumping of domestic and industrial effluents into Lakes. The team along with the perseverance of citizens also successfully ensured



that the Government of Karnataka recalled its proposal to denotify 20 lakes- claiming they were dead and no longer of use, this move would have invariably helped their builder friends.

Similarly, owing to the spirit of volunteerism that is the hallmark of Namma Bengaluru, many citizens have been vocal in exhibiting their discontent with Government of Karnataka's draft rules that promote commercialisation of residential areas with the popular social media hashtag **#HosaZoningBeda**.

Additionally, vigilant citizens have been crucial in identifying deviations and unaccounted changes in project/infrastructure plans that take place without Public Consultation. Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited's (BMRCL) move to shift the Cantonment Metro Station from the proposed place opposite the Cantonment Railway Station to Bamboo Bazar in Shivajinagar has been opposed by residents in the area. The shifting of the station without proper explanation goes against the principle of having an integrated transport system with inter-modality for Bengaluru.

While we have been successful in ensuring that the Government and administration takes heed to the demands of us, citizens, it is essential we continue our fight in reclaiming and protecting Bengaluru. Therefore, in continuation of our efforts I **urge you all to come together to commemorate Gandhi Jayanti on October 02, 2017 by taking part in the #SwachhaBengaluru** campaign to keep our proud city clean. Mahatma Gandhi strongly believed that our attitude to cleanliness reflects our attitude to society and believed that cleanliness can be achieved through community participation.

While many of us have different political views, ideologies and solutions for the city, it is essential we come together and eradicate rampant corruption and rid the city from the clutches of vested interests. I am confident that a sustained and persistent effort will not only be a fitting tribute to Bapu but also help reclaim our beloved Namma Bengaluru for our future generations.

Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR