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PUBLIC EYE

Coming together
is a beginning.
Keeping together
is progress.
Working together
is success.

NEWSLETTER OF NEPEAN SEA ROAD CITIZENS' FORUM: ISSUE No. 29

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ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SCHEMES OF THE GOVERNMENT. GET YOUR UNIQUE IDENTITY

Have you applied for your Unique Identification card yet? If not, its time that you got one. An all encompassing card, similar to photo identity cards that are issued abroad, the UID is easy to obtain and will become the de facto card needed, whether for opening a bank account or getting a new mobile phone or applying for a passport – and more.

AADHAAR, the Unique ID project, aims to give each Indian a 12-digit unique number. The project spearheaded by Nandan Nilekani – former CEO of Infosys -- links a person's Passport Number, Driving License, PAN card, Bank Accounts, Address, Voter ID, etc. in one centralized database. Collating an individual's demographic and biometric data, **the UID is envisioned to become the one card that will be needed across all purposes** – whether you want to start a new business or get a gas connection or just about anything!. The UID is meant for every citizen of India between the ages of 5 and 108.

Public Eye went to the Center set up to give Nepean Sea Road residents their UIDs – located at the end of Dongersi Road, near Banganga, in a small municipal school called Kawale Math. You have to venture into the basement of this municipal school to obtain your UID.

To make life easier for you....

we list the procedure and papers that are needed so that you don't make innumerable futile trips to the centre. We urge everyone to complete the procedure and obtain the UID as this card will be an absolute essential in the coming years. The centre which started on 26th January, 2011 will issue UIDs until March 2012. But hurry. Don't

wait for the last minuite rush.

Documents needed:

An original and photocopy version of a document from each section A and B (see below) is needed. The original is required for them to verify the photocopy and will be returned to you immediately.

A: Documents for proof of identity(any one):

- Passport
- PAN card
- Voter ID
- Driving License
- A government issued photo ID card
- Bank photo credit or debit card





Getting the eye scan done

B: Documents for proof of address (any one):

- i. Passport
- ii. Bank statement / Passbook
- iii. Ration Card
- iv. Voter ID
- v. Driving License
- vi. Electricity / water / telephone landline bill (not older than 3 months)
- vii. Credit card statement (not older than 3 months)
- viii. Insurance Policy

Documents needed for Children:

- i. Birth Certificate
- ii. SSLC Book / Certificate
- iii. Passport

And what's the procedure?

1. Collect the enrolment forms from the center between 4 and 5pm. You need to show proof of identity and address to receive the enrolment forms. There are two pages of forms -- in English and Marathi. Each individual above the age of 5 fills in a form with his or her details.

The officer in charge has suggested that you can make photocopies of a blank form and circulate it to friends and family members so each individual doesn't need to go to the center to collect the form. Alternately you may also download and print the form from www.aadhaar.maharashtra.gov.in

2. Submit the form at the centre between 10 and 11am and get a token for a time and date that is convenient for you to come and complete the procedure. Once you get the token you are automatically enrolled for the UID and will have to come in on the date and time chosen by you.
3. Reach the center on the date and time on your token and complete the demographic and biometric information needed to process the UID. You can choose any time between Monday and Sunday between 10am and 5pm. The entire process doesn't take more than 10 to 15 minutes per individual. *However make sure that you don't have any mehendi or aren't wearing contact lenses!*

The procedure they will then follow at the Center:

- a. Verify documents – photocopies against originals for proof of identity and address
- b. Fill in demographic data and banking information into the center's computer
- c. Take a photo
- d. Complete eye scan and biometric fingers scan (See pics)
- e. Review with you the information given to make sure it has been entered into the centralized system correctly
- f. Get a receipt as proof that you have completed the process. Your UID will be delivered to your home after 3 months.

For more information please contact Mr. Vivek Ambetkar on 97735 32249 or email him at vivek.ambetkar95@gmail.com

High tech is here for every citizen!
Encourage your staff also to register!



The biometric fingers scan

BMC REVISITS 2001

When BMC started its waste management programme in a big way, it was ten years back. Rungta Lane Residents' Association was the first ALM to achieve the desired level in segregating wet waste from dry waste, and its efforts were recognised at the D Ward Annual Meeting. In fact, at that time NSRCF also pioneered its inform-educate-remind campaign and soon our area's efforts were recognised and appreciated.

So why the circular (AED / SWM / 2011) to all buildings?

Public Eye inquired the D Ward office and learnt that over the years, many buildings have lapsed and are today not segregating the waste. Also, a number of new buildings have come up on NSRoad and need to be brought into the city's waste management programme.

Is your building segregating the wet waste from the dry waste?

This is a wake up call. Please follow the guidelines given by BMC in its circular. Use different colour plastic bags and different colour bins. These bins which can be got from BMC are designed for auto-lifting by the BMC vans.

Every residence should also have the different coloured plastic bags for wet waste and dry waste.

Inform-Educate-Assist

The Forum once again initiates the drive for waste management because we citizens must play our role in managing and keeping our city and environment clean and healthy. Public Eye is reproducing the poster of 2001. It explains in the simplest terms what is "wet" and "dry" waste (**Cut out page 8 and keep in the kitchen for all to see**).

Your building also needs to cut out the poster and put it up on its notice board. And, ideally, hold two meetings – one, of the ladies of the building, so that the domestics can be instructed; and, two, of the domestics, because if they are better informed, they will ensure that wet / kitchen waste is not mixed at source with the dry waste of the house.

The polite circular from BMC has a sting in its tail: "Action will be initiated if you fail to---"

For further information and guidance, contact Asst Engineer (SWM) at D Ward.

How can BMC make the SWM system work better this time?

- The Collection Vans must frequently check if separation of wet and dry waste has taken place at each building
- BMC should give 3 warnings if there is no proper segregation and....
- After that impose the fine

If BMC doesn't take it seriously this time, no one will take the segregation drive seriously

This issue of "Public Eye" is

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IN CONVERSATION WITH OUR CORPORATORS

As we near election season next year, Public Eye decided take a peep into what our Corporators have been up to. What are the improvements they have made and have they really helped the citizens of NSRoad? In the previous issue of Public Eye, we published the Corporators' use of their special funds, via PRAJA; this time we asked them some hard hitting questions to discern if they've really helped improve NSRoad.

PE: What are the five major things that you have changed / improved on NSRoad during your tenure?



Yogita Singh (in charge of north NSRoad):

1. Replacement of old main water pipelines on Nepean Sea Road & Internal Roads.
2. Resurfacing of all the internal roads, the road to Simla House from Matru Ashish, Setalwad Road, Darabsha Road.
3. Enlargement of the storm water line, resulting in the resolution of water logging at Kashinath Compound.
4. Widening of Nepean Sea Road.
5. To raise citizens concerns with civic authorities about the reservation of a plot for a fire station, and to start a new bus ring route from Simla house via Nepean Sea Road to Grant Road station

Pramod Mandrekar (in charge of south NSRoad):

1. Improvement of storm water drains from Mont Blanc to Gulmarg by laying 12 inch metal pipelines.
2. Converting the open drain nullah to a closed pipe drain at the junction of Nepean Sea Road and Narayan Dabholkar Road, near Shivner .

3. Laying 750mm diameter drain pipe from Dariya Mahal to Narayan Dabholkar Junction on Nepean Sea Road.
4. Laying of two separate 1200 mm diameter pipe lines from Nepean Sea Road to the sea shore through Priyadarshini Park.
5. Widening and resurfacing of Rungta Lane.

PE: What were the key issues in your constituency earlier? How did you find out about these?

Yogita Singh: Many parts of Nepean Sea Road had sewerage problems.

Pramod Mandrekar: Earlier there used to be heavy water logging during the monsoons. Being a heavy traffic road, this used to create a lot of chaos. I was constantly in touch with the people in the locality as there used to be numerous complaints from them.

PE: What was the time frame and the funds needed for such activities?

Yogita Singh: Funds needed were huge and the timeframe could not be judged, so possibly it will take me my entire term as your municipal councilor.

Pramod Mandrekar: Keeping the monsoon in mind, I had a very short deadline to implement and complete the work. The time of various other projects depended on the nature of the task and the distance and quantum that had to be covered.



PE: Where did the funds come from?

Yogita Singh: BMC budgetary funds and Councilor funds.

Pramod Mandrekar: Most of the funds were arranged by the Capital Budget of the BMC and the major allocation was funded by JNNURM Brimstowad Project

PE: Are your constituents satisfied with the work? How has it improved/changed their lives?

Yogita Singh: The widening of northern NSRoad has improved the traffic flow to a great extent; the enlargement of the storm water line laid through Kashinath Compound has almost stopped the water logging. The two way cleaning process of the drainage chambers of Simla Nagar slums has reduced the frequent choking on Nepean Sea Road.

Public Eye campaigns for greater inter-action and better monitoring. Here's how:

- A walk-inspection once a month by the corporator and the Governing Council – and interested residents, to identify area needs
- A six-monthly report by each corporator on work initiated, work in progress and work completed, and money spent on each. (Public Eye could even publish the reports ... and these could also be on the Forum's website for all to see!

Setalvad Lane : Before ? After ? Guess !



I think many of my constituents are satisfied.

Pramod Mandrekar: They are satisfied. Complaints on these issues are virtually nil now.

PE: What else can be improved?

Yogita Singh: The public-civic authorities partnership can be developed more not only to make good development plans but also to execute and maintain the same.

Pramod Mandrekar: The newly sanctioned mastic asphaltting for Nepean Sea Road, from St Stephen's Church right upto Gold's Gym at the J. Mehta Road junction is yet to commence, but I have managed to get the sanction for the entire amount needed for the project – being a member of the Standing Committee.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY AGM !

Nepean Sea Road Citizen's Forum held its 10th Annual General Meeting – YES, 10TH! -- on the 24th of July, 2011, at the club house of Tahnee Heights. Nearly 80 concerned citizens filled the room. Chaired by Ms. Gita Mirchandani, NSRCF Chairperson, the members confirmed the minutes of the last AGM held on 25th July, 2010, passed the report of the Governing Council for 2011 and approved the Forum's budget and reappointed the auditors for 2011-12.

While citizens had many complaints ranging from the shoddy state of the road to radiation from mobile towers, and hawkers and traffic congestion at choke points, the underlying message that citizens agreed to is that most of the problems that exist on Nepean Sea Road exist because of us – the citizens who live on Nepean Sea Road. Often we need to point the finger at ourselves to see what we are doing.

Citizens agreed that hawkers came back because we were buying from them, the number of mobile towers increased because buildings were enjoying the additional revenue, our roads were shoddy because we didn't take an active interest in the materials used or the quality of work done. Citizens realized it's time for them to stand up, take charge and participate in improving our area.

In a bid to mobilize citizens further, the NSRCF Governing Council urged those present to take a more active role in what was happening in the area. While we are all busy with our jobs, it is also important for us to give, say an hour a week only, to engage with the Police, BMC and

elected representatives, to take up a particular project that interests us and follow it through for the good of our neighborhood. The Governing Council therefore requested more people to volunteer their time and talent, become members of NSRCF and actively participate. Come join "The Citizens' Movement".

In relation to inducting fresh people into the Governing Council, the Hon. Secretary stated that there had been a delay in sending out notices to members seeking nominations for election to the Governing Council for the period 2011 to 2014. Notices however had been sent out on July 4th and nominations could be submitted to the Forum not later than August 10, 2012 after which elections can be held any time within 30 days. It was then unanimously approved that this item on the agenda be deferred till September. After all other matters, the meeting was adjourned to be reconvened in September at a date to be decided by the existing Governing Council.

Post the AGM, was a special session where citizens could interact with their elected representatives, air their problems and suggest ideas for improvements.

Mr. Ashish Shelar a lawyer by profession and a corporator for a ward in North Mumbai was the Chief Guest. Mr. Shelar, besides being a member on various committees such as Maharashtra Metropolitan Regional Development Authority (MMRDA), Mumbai .



Regional Planning Committee, the Heritage Committee, the Improvements Committee of the BMC, BEST, Tree Authority, Bandra Consumer Association etc has also been instrumental in gaining the Rs. 21.5 crore sanction from the BMC to widen and redevelop NSRoad. The area's MLA Mr. Mangal Prabhat Lodha, both the Corporators, Mr. Mandrekar and Ms. Singh as well as prominent citizens such as Mr. B. A. Desai were also present.

A major concern for citizens was the shoddy quality of the road. Impatient, frustrated and holding the BMC accountable, many citizens aired their views, suggestions and comments on the potholed road. Mr. Shelar promised that since the money had been sanctioned, work would start on the road, once the monsoon was over. Public Eye has in the previous issue, given details of BMC's technology and time plan for the completion of the road work.

The Forum will also look into the supplemental decoration of the road by way of trees and street furniture as suggested in the BMC handbook. NSRCF will collaborate with engineers, city planners and ordinary citizens to construct a development plan, which will be submitted to the government for review. Public Eye in its earlier issue has also carried suggestions for improvements in the new proposed Development Plan, for the next 10 years.

On a larger issue, there was a sense that the city lacked planning and as it had grown exponentially, each ward was too large to manage. To this Mr. Shelar went on to say that there were demands from citizen groups for having a greater say in allocation of funds to what they consider priorities for their areas. Therefore, we as citizens should push for the implementation of the new law which gives albeit "suggestive powers" for us to be heard in the planning process.

Other issues on traffic congestion and double-parking at various points on Nepean Sea Road were also raised by citizens towards which Mr. Lodha said he would immediately act on the trucks outside Priyadarshini Park.

The meeting then ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and was followed by lunch hosted by some of the members of the Governing Council.

NSRCF

NEPEAN SEA ROAD CITIZENS' FORUM

Registered office : c/o society office of "Urvashi"
C H Society, 66 Nepean Sea Road, Mumbai 400 006

MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR INDIVIDUALS

Name _____
(Surname) (First Name)

Residential address _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

Enclosed cheque

No. _____ dated _____ drawn
on _____ (Bank)

for Rs. 250 as Individual Membership for the year
April 2011 to March 2012

Signature _____

MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR INSTITUTIONS / BUILDINGS

Name of Building _____

Address _____

Office Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Enclosed Cheque

No. _____ dated _____ drawn
on _____ (Bank)

for Rs3000 as Institutional Membership for
April 2011 to March 2012

Signature and
stamp _____



STOP



AVOID CREATING A GARBAGE MONSTER

DO NOT MIX YOUR WASTE

NATURAL



COCONUT SHELLS



VEGETABLE WASTE



FRUIT WASTE



WOOD



EGG SHELLS



NAILS



HAIR



LEAVES



TEA BAGS OR LEAVES



SOILED COTTON OR TOILET PAPER



COOKED FOOD WASTE



DUST



BONES



MAN-MADE

PAPER



THERMOCOL



METAL



MEDICINE PACKS



PLASTIC



CLOTH



GLASS



RUBBER



BATTERY



MOSQUITO MATS



CITY CRISIS

SOS

AN ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY SQUAD

