

OORVANI

Foundation

Community-funded media for the new India

Annual Report 2015-16





1038
articles published

15.46 Lakhs
Funds raised

144K
citizens reached
each month

256
Donors

From the team

We are happy to share with you our third Annual Report.

It has been an eventful year. Even as we started sharing more of our stories with other media houses, through our Open Media initiative, we also started some new initiatives.

We used the opportunity of the TN assembly elections to launch the Chennai edition of Citizen Matters. Meenakshi Ramesh who has been a long time volunteer for city issues is anchoring the edition. Other cities are also showing interested in getting on board!

We partnered with our friends at Data Meet to do more work on public data and this resulted in the Open City urban data platform.

All of the above would not have been possible without the support of donors and well-wishers like you. Thank you.

Best Regds, Meera

The organisation



Oorvani Foundation is a nonprofit that develops and promotes deep-diving journalism on governance, citizenship and society. Our award-winning reportage is published on [Citizen Matters](#) and [India Together](#), as well as shared with other partners. Our goals include:

- Produce public interest digital journalism of the highest quality
- Identify top journalism talent and award fellowships, and create an independent journalist collective
- Maximise impact by leveraging existing channels and partnering with external organisations and media outlets; by sharing content (under Open Media initiative) and co-development of content
- Support research, surveys and data collection on public interest topics
- Offer capacity and skill development through specialised journalism courses (long term) and workshops

Oorvani Foundation is one of India's first public-funded trusts for public affairs journalism. For media to remain independent, unbiased and non-partisan, the community needs to have stake in it, rather than parties with vested interests. Our funding comes from our readers who believe in us and the work that we do.



Open Media Initiative

Expanding reach and impact

Open Media Initiative is Oorvani Foundation's content sharing plan. Through the initiative, we share select stories with other media, in addition to publishing them on Citizen Matters and India Together. This allows the best of journalism to reach wider audiences, and in turn benefit more citizens.

Partners include both local newsweeklies to national mainstream media. Prajavani, Hindustan Times, HSR Residents Watch came on board this year. More information at: oorvani.org.in/openmediainitiative

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THE
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INDIA

FRAZER
TIMES

HSR
Residents
Watch



BBMP Elections, 2015

The local elections for BBMP Council, in August 2015 saw intense coverage. We covered the overall developments as well as went in depth, analysis almost 50 wards.

- [Citizen Matters: BBMP Election 2015 stories](#)
- [BBMP Wards - Bengaluru](#)

We identified the areas with a pre-poll survey. Contestants could pitch to their electorate. Two such women candidates won the elections. We shared demographic data, information on candidates, and how budgets were spent on the ward for Tenders, job codes, bills. Live tweeting was on on the day of results.

- All set to vote in the BBMP Elections 2015? Here's a quick guide for you
 - Wardwise list of voters in Bengaluru - BBMP election 2015
 - BBMP election 2015 - full list of candidates
 - BBMP corporators and their contact numbers - 2015
-

Data Journalism

In addition to elections data analysis, we also crowdsourced data and published a number of data journalism stories, including:

- Stories based on traffic accidents - top 10 accident spots, Hosur Road.
- We analysed the data from wards, including budgets, expenses and the list of issues raised by residents of that ward.
- Collated the list of 54 skywalks proposed in the city, and analysed the issue.
- How much water is your ward in Bengaluru consuming each month?
- Survey: How many Dengue cases in Bengaluru?

Investigative Journalism

- Continued coverage on building violation and SEZs coming up on lake beds.
 - Another garbage scam - burnt garbage soot being sold as vermicompost, with KCDC seal on it. Based on citizen intelligence and professional journalistic crosscheck, the story forced KCDC to come on record that they'll review ties with Terra Firma, the offender.
 - We went back to check: What happened to the Vibgyor rape, Frazer Town and Ravindranath cases?
 - 100s of water tankers in Bengaluru, but none with licences!
 - Overcharging of private LPG gas - many consumers were getting cheated till date.
 - Govt's plans for handling dangling cables and piped gas supply plans for the city
 - Two lakh B khatas in Bengaluru only 37 Akrama Sakrama submissions!
-

Analysis and Insights

Sathya Sankaran, a sustainable transport advocate from Bengaluru, wrote passionately on how people can support NammaRailu - suburban railway for Bengaluru. The article had the option to email the Railway Ministry expressing support. More than 80 emails went to the ministry as part of this. In 2016 Railway Ministry and state government firmed up the plans on Suburban rail.

- Analysis of BBMP restructuring plan
 - Insight series on neglected night shelters in Bengaluru
 - Series on flood vulnerability and possible solutions by an expert
 - Mobility issues - transport department crackdown on ZipGo and other aggregators.
 - View and counter view on Tendersure roads.
 - Coverage and perspectives from vision group members and artists, on tourism vision group's plans of privatising Venkatappa Art Gallery
-

Fundraiser Campaigns

Enable Change - Nov-Dec 2015

Since 2008, Citizen Matters has been featuring the work of those Bengalureans who have been working hard to make a difference to the city and the community at large. It is to ensure that we continue to enable these changemakers that we launched our #EnableChange fundraiser campaign. Here is [what some of the changemakers had to say](#) about what they do, and how Citizen Matters through our coverage of citizen initiatives, is catalysing change in the city. We raised around 4.5 lakhs from this campaign

TCS 10K Run - Mar-Apr 2016

We registered as a CSO with India Cares; 5 runners ran in the TCS10K with the Citizen Matters bib. This along with a fundraiser workshop helped us raise almost 5 lakhs.

Top articles

Citizen Matters

Total article #: 851

- Crackdown on non-KA registered vehicles to begin soon?
- BJP retains Bengaluru with 100 seats
- All about filing FIRs in Bengaluru
- BESCOM shares updated schedule of power cuts in Bengaluru
- How Bengaluru is helping Chennai during floods
- This is what you need to do when you get fake notes from ATM!
- Here is why bandh is being observed on Sep 2 in Bengaluru
- Will BBMP reservation list spark yet another court battle?
- What documents to check while buying a property in Bengaluru?
- Traffic on ORR is likely to worsen. Here's why!
- From Mysore Maharajas to Mantri Developers: A fascinating tale of land transaction
- All you need to know about Bellandur Lake and its problems

India Together

Total article #: 187

- How prepared are we to tackle a human crisis?
- When an honest doctor chose to give up medical practice
- A doctor who cures without a word!
- Girls get the power to refuse child marriage
- Why relief packages and loan waivers won't be enough to stem farm suicides
- Why rural girls need more than just sanitary napkins
- The skills journey: A long history but no destination in sight
- The seeds of revolution
- The real challenges to sustainable development

Citizen Journalists, 2015-16

Citizen Contributions: 146, Citizen Writers: 113

A.S. Kodanda Pani, Aakriti Gupta, Aarthi Gunnupuri, Abhijit Sinha, Achitra Borgohain, Adhip Amin and Devika Kher, Ajit Nagesh Naik, Alok Dash, Aman Mujawar, Ammu Joseph, Anuradha, Arvind Keerthi, Ashika Shetty, Ashok Kumar S, Bavandar Gupha, Benjamin Mathews John, Bharathy Jayaprakash, Bijoy Venugopal, Deepa Mahesh, Deepa Ravi, Deepa Vijay, Deepak Nair, Deepak Shenoy, Dr Ajaya S Bharadwaja, Dr Radhakrishnan, Elixir Nahar, Gadadhar Prem Kumar, Ganesh V, Govind Nandakumar, Harini Srinivasan, Indira PC, Jayeeta Bose, Josephine Joseph, Kabir Khan, Karishma Khanna, Kathyayini Chamaraj, Kavitha Reddy, Khader B Syed, Lakshmi Menon, Lekha Adavi, Madhuri Subbarao, Malini Ranganathan, Marianne de Nazareth, Meena Artwani, Miriam Chohan, Mukund Kumar, N S Mukunda, Navaratna R Sudheer, Nidhi Gupta, Nihareekaa Kaur, Nikhil Jois, Nimit Shah, Nisha Walvekar, Nitin Seshadri, Odette Katrak, Pallavi Ravishankar, PG Bhat, Pinky Chandran, Pinky Chandran and Sandya Narayanan, Pranietha, Praveen S, Pravir B, Preeti Mudliar, Purna Sarkar, Pushpamala N , Raajesh S, Rajesh Kallaje, Rajeshwari B, Rakesh HP, Rakesh Prasad, Ramesh Sreekantan, Rekha Chari, Renuka Mani, Renuka Viswanathan, Reshma Krishnamurthy Sharma, Sakuntala Narasimhan, Sanchayan Nath, Sangeeth Varghese, Sanjay Vijayaraghavan, Sapna Prabhu, Satheesh, Sathya Sankaran, Sharath SR, Sheeja Cassius, Smitha Jacob, Sreedhar, Sridevi Rao, Sridhar, Sriram SN, Sudha Narasimhachar, Sugandhi G, Sumit Pandharikar, Sunil Abraham, Sunita Iyer, Surabhi Shastry, Swati Simha, Syed Yakoob, Teju Nageshwari, Thejaswi Udupa, Uday Vijayan, Usha , V K Srivatsa, V Ravichandar, Vaidya R, Vasanthkumar Mysoremath, Vasupradha Sampathkumar, Vijay Krishna, Vijay Kundaji, Vishwanath Srikantaiah, Vivek Vaidyanathan, Waseem Memon, Yagna Shan, Yoginder Sikand

** We had 115 citizen articles & 86 citizen writers in 2014-15.*

Testimonials for Citizen Matters

Citizen Matters' work in evaluating the performance of local elected representatives and creating a communication channel between the elected representatives and the citizens is pioneering work and needs to be supported in any manner whatsoever.

*Harish Narasappa
Co-founder, Daksh*

Citizen Matters' (articles) is helping more and more nature lovers join us and plant saplings. This is a big help in making Bangalore greener. Big thanks to Citizen Matters for the efforts they are putting to bring forward issues that matter.

Kapil Sharma, Founder, Saytrees

Citizen Matters , by publishing information about various lake groups and citizen initiatives, has brought information to us that we didn't know about. We have developed a more dynamic and robust system of looking after lakes in Bengaluru. And that's all because a local newspaper cared enough to talk about local issues.

*Priya Ramasubban
Lake activist and filmmaker*

Org Updates & Recognition

Staff

Associate Editor: Shree DN | Staff Reporter: Akshatha M | Staff Reporter- Community Manager: Ganga Madappa | Editorial Coordinator (IT) - Sapana Rawat

Oorvani Foundation Leadership

Meera K, Managing Trustee | Subramaniam Vincent, Trustee | Ashwin Mahesh, Trustee

Citizen Matters shortlisted for **World Summit Awards 2015**

Citizen Matters a finalist in the first ever **#innovationforgood award**, instituted by the Centre for Work, Technology and Social Change in collaboration with SASNET at Lund University, Sweden. Received the honorary prize at the Media and Innovation Days Conference on December 9th, 2015 at New Delhi.

Subramaniam (Subbu) Vincent won the **John S Knight (JSK) Journalism Fellowship at Stanford University** for 2015-16. He is working on ways to let civic activists and urban experts systematically help newsrooms like Citizen Matters track what is happening in the city -- when journalists start to report on a topic, they are fully informed and armed with the collective wisdom of the community.

Donors, 2015-16

A Anjan, A. Giridhar Rao, Abhijeet Sharma, Aishwarya Mishra, Ajay K Gupta, Ajit Nagesh Naik, Ajitsen Surendran, Alok Sharma, Ambar Nag, Ameer Badami, Amit Kumar Saha, Anupama M, Anuradha Rao, Arpit Rajpurohit, Arun Anantharaman, Arun Kumar, Arun Pingaley, Aruna Green Ventures Pvt. Ltd, Arvind Keerthi, Ashok Sreenivas, Ashwin Mahesh, Ashwin Raghu, Ashwin Subramanian, Ashwinikumar Maslekar, AV Kulkarni, Ayesha Aleem, Aziza Halim, B Pranesh, Badarinath Ambati, Badhrinath Jagannathan, Balakrishna Rao, Bharath K S, Bharathi Athinarayanan, Bhaskar, Bhupesh Gupta, Biju Achuthankutty Nair, Brinda Sastry, C Shambu Prasad, Chidanand B Hatti, Chitrang Srivastava, Chitresh Kakwani, Danyal A Kazi, Deepa Buvaraghan, Deepak Thammaiah, Delara, Dhyan Appachu, Diana Bharucha, Dijo John Mananvalan, Dr MM Nirmala, Dr. Dhananjay Pathak, Dr. K M. Srinivasa Gowda, Dr. Vijaya Chandru, Dr. Vispi H. Jokhi, DV Jagadish, DV Sridharan, Dwijendra nath guru, Father Albert, Bhakti Niwas, G N Mohan, Ganapathy, Gangamma KM, George Francis, George Tom, Girish Badrinarayanan, Gogula Neetika, Gopal M Sukumarapillai, Gopal MS, Goutam Choradia, Govindaswamy Chandrashekar, Harish Somayaji, Harsha Sagar, Hemavathy Lakshmikanthan, Himanshu Sahani & Shivani Kakkar, Indira Chowdhury, Jaideep, Jaiganesh Muthunalla, Jayaraman Parameswaran, K.G.Shashidhar, Kamal Govindraj, Karthick Gururaj, Karthigeyan V, Karthik Ranganathan, Kavesseri Krishnan Subramaniam, KG Shashidhar, Kiran Kumar Tunuguntla ... Contd

Donors, 2015-16 (Contd)

Kiran Nikhil, Krishnaraj Venkataraman, KTG Nambiar, Kumuda Narayan, Lalana Zaveri, Lalitha Mondreti, Lina Vincent, Lingaraj Dinni, Madhav Pai, Mahesh Herle, Mahesh Shantaram, Manoj Jhanji, Mapunity, Meenakshi Sundaram, Meera K, Mohammed Arif Vakil, Mohana HS, Mukunda NS, Muraleedhara Navada, Murlidhar Bhat, Murugan Subbiah, Nagaraju Gajula, Nagesh Hegde, Nanda kumari, Nanda Ramesh, Nandita Sengupta, Naresh Sadasivan, Neeraj Kanal, Nikhil Sheth, Nirdesh Kumar, Nithyanand Yeswanth, Nitin Jagtap, Nitin narang, Palahalli Vishwanath, Pallavi Patil, Parag Thakur, Parul Gupta, Pavan Srinath, Perceival Monteiro, PG Bhat, Pooja Uthappa, Prabha Mohan, Prasad Deepak, Preethi Shivanand, Prithvi Srihari, Priyanka Mathai, Pulak Bose, Puran P Narwani, R Chanchal Kumar, Radha Chanchani, Radhakrishnan V, Raghuraman Mariappan, Rahul Bedi, Rajaseelan Manavalan, Rajatha, Rajesh Kallaje, Rajesh Krishnan, Rajesh Rao, Ram Ramdas, Rama Mohana Turaga, Ramachandran Rangan Mohan, Ramakrishnan K, Ramakrishnan V, Ramanathan Chellappan, Ramanujan Valmiki, Ramesh Aithal, Ramesh Mangaleshwaran, Ramesh Sreekantan, Ramkumar Sankar, Ramya Subramani, Rathindra Narayan Bhattacharya, Ravinder Mandayam, Rebecca Jean Poston, Rekha Gupta Menon, Revathi Siva Kumar, Rishi Shankar, Ritu George, Rohin Dharmakumar, Rohit Chatterjee, S Prahladrao Guttikar, S R Lakshminarasimhan, S Shivakumar Swamy, S.Gurudas, S.R.Ayyangar, Sambit Sengupta, Samyuktha Varma, Sandeep Pendharkar, Sandeep Ravula, Sandeep S, Sandhya Mendonca, Sanjay K R...

Contd

Donors, 2015-16 (Contd)

Sanjay Vijayaraghavan, Sanjiv Singhal, Santhosh Kumar, Santosh Jewargi, Santosh Rao, Sarath Guttikunda, Satish Kumar Viswanathan, Selvam (mother), Sesha sai, Shankar Parameshwaran, Sharath ganapathy, Shashidhar kamath, Shibu M K, Shivani Maheshwari, Shrinivasa Kini, Shyam Narayan V, Shyamala A M, Siddharth, Siddharth Desai, Sindhu Naik, Sindhu Naik, sindhu S Chandran, Sitaraman Ramakrishnan, Sitikant Sahu, Smriti chanchani, Snehlata Nath, Sohan Thobade, Soma Kishore Parthasarathy, Somnath Sen, Sri Jagadish Baddukonda, Srikanth Kasturi, Srikanth Nishtala, Srilakshmi NG, Srinivas Murthy, Srinivasa Raghavan K, Srinivasan Ravindran, Subhankar Ghosh, Subramanian KV, Subramanian Sankaran, Suchitra Deep, Suchitra Govindarajan, sudeep biswas, Sudha Narasimhachar, Sujith Srinivasan, sumitra nitin, Suresh Doraiswamy, Suresh Ramasamy, Suryakant Gokhale, SV Raghavan, Swati Dandekar, T R Shankar Raman, T.Swaminathan, Tarun Jain, Thejesh G N, Tom Tillo, TT Venkatesh, TV Sesha Sai, Uma Swamy, V S Jayaraman, V. Ramalakshmi, Vaidyanathan R, Varun Bhat Bm, Vasuda Ravichandran, Veena Chalam, Veena Kumar, Venkat Kandaswamy, Venkataramanan Associates, Vihang Kamble, Vijay Kundaji, Vijay Padiyar, Vijay Srinivas Prativadi, Vikas Argod, Vinatha M Reddy, Vinatha M Reddy, Vinay Sekhar, Vincent D'Souza, Mylapore Times, Vinita Kurup, Vishwas Sundaramurthy, Vivek, Yauravkumar Tanna.

Accounts

Oorvani Foundation

Charitable trust registration no:
BNG-BMH244/2013-14

Date of registration: 6th August, 2013

Registered office address: 98/1, MMR Plaza,
Sarjapur Road, Jakkasandra, Bangalore – 560034,
Karnataka

Oorvani Foundation is registered as a charitable trust
u/s 12 A of Income Tax Act 1961 Vide No.
DIT(E)BLR/12A/H-257/AAATO4080E/ITO(E)-2/Vol
2013-2014 with effect from AY 2014-15.

Any donations made to Oorvani Foundation are
exempt u/s 80G subject to limits prescribed under
the Income Tax Act 1961. (Approval no.
DIT(E)BLR/80G/12A/H-257/AAATO4080E/ITO(E)-2/
Vol 2013-2014) with effect from AY 2014-2015.

Audited by: P N R & Co., Chartered Accountants, No
186/1, J.C. Complex Annexe, Sirur Park Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore - 560020

Receipts and Payments Account for the period from April 01, 2015 to March 31, 2016			
Receipts	Amount Rs.	Payments	Amount Rs.
Bank Balance in Savings Bank Account with ICICI Bank - Account No.100805000796	11,06,660.56	Salaries	12,87,987.00
Contribution received	15,46,015.06	Professional charges	3,36,900.00
		Accounting Charges	16,000.00
		TDS on salary paid	92,349.00
		TDS on consultancy charges paid	4,210.00
		Interest on TDS	312.00
		Office Rent	1,17,000.00
		Professional Tax paid - Employees	8,200.00
		PT renewal fees	2,500.00
		Bank charges	5,841.79
		Closing Balance	
		Bank Balance in Savings Bank Account with ICICI Bank - Account No.100805000796	7,81,375.83
Total	26,52,675.62	Total	26,52,675.62
Date : 01.08.2016 Oorvani Foundation To be read with our report			
Place : Bangalore and notes of even date			
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended March 31, 2016			
Expenditure	Amount Rs.	Income	Amount Rs.
Salary and benefits	14,35,061.00	Contribution Received	15,46,015.06
Professional Charges	3,40,600.00	Excess of expenditure over Income	3,71,299.73
Rates and taxes	2,812.00		
Accounting Charges	16,000.00		
Office Rent	1,17,000.00		
Bank charges	5,841.79		
Total	19,17,314.79	Total	19,17,314.79



Community-funded media for the new India

www.oorvani.org.in

foundation@oorvani.in
