

2011-12

***Janaagraha Centre for  
Citizenship and Democracy***

Q1

April 2011 - June 2011



# jaagte raho



<http://jaagteraho.net>



Mr. Ramesh Ramanathan, Co-founder - Janaagraha, addressing a gathering of Area Voter Mitras

# Q1

**Jaagte Raho!**  
*inspires values  
of active  
citizenship in  
urban India by  
bringing the  
citizens out to  
vote in local,  
state and union  
elections.*

## **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) Jaagte Raho! has made swift progress in *cleaning the voter list of Shanthi Nagar Assembly Constituency*. It has *submitted 44,306 forms to Electoral Registration Office* in June, 2011. The programme is also constantly tracking the progress of forms that are being processed.

2) *Area Voter Mitras* - both old and new - are being *engaged constantly by way of meetings*. They have been kept abreast of number of forms collected, submitted and processed throughout.

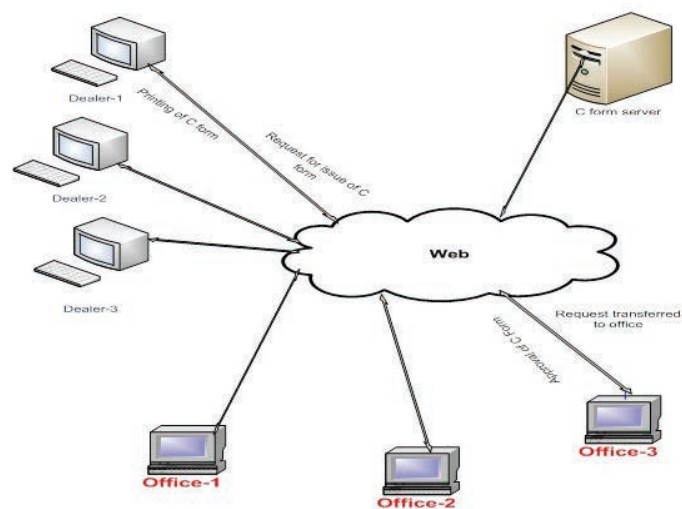
3) According to a pilot study conducted by Jaagte Raho!, *of the 2.14 lakh entries in the voter list of Shanthi Nagar Assembly Constituency, 99,654 names could not be mapped physically*. Huge inaccuracies like these corrupt the quality of voter lists and have larger implications.

# I Paid a Bribe

IPaB

[www.ipaidabribe.com](http://www.ipaidabribe.com)

1.2. A web enabled system for monitoring inter-state transactions



Diagrammatic view of the new web enabled process

In Karnataka a web enabled system was designed, wherein each dealer was given a unique username and password. Apart from a Centralised server, offices in all important cities were networked. The dealer would access the Commercial Taxes department server through the internet and fill all the particulars which were required to be filed in the 'C form'. The server would redirect the request to the concerned officer. On receipt of the information on his/her computer, the officer would scrutinize the request, and if all requirements are complied with, the officer would give permission to issue the form. The permission would enable the dealer to print the 'C form' at his/her place. This 'C' form would have all the data pre-filled and the Commercial Taxes Department would have captured all the details of the transaction thus forcing the dealer to account them accurately.

# Q1

## **IPaidABribe.com**

is Janaagraha's unique initiative to tackle corruption by harnessing the collective energy of citizens. Citizens can report on the nature, number, pattern, types, location, frequency and values of actual corrupt acts on this website. I Paid a Bribe uses them to argue for improving governance systems and procedures, tightening law enforcement and regulation and thereby reduce the scope for corruption in obtaining services from the government.

### **Ipaidabribe.com, statistics since its launch on Aug 15, 2010 - Jun, 30, 2011**

Number of unique visits:

**6,00,000**

Number of bribe reports:

**10,000**

### **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) Following IPaidABribe's coverage by the Chinese National Radio, *seven Chinese websites* cropped up with the aim of fighting corruption.

2) Mr. T R Raghunandan, Programme Co-ordinator, [www.ipaidabribe.com](http://www.ipaidabribe.com) *met with Mr. S V Ranganath, Chief Secretary of Karnataka along with the heads of various departments* leading to I Paid a Bribe working with transport department, registration department, electricity department of Bangalore to reduce the scope of corruption.

3) I Paid a Bribe had been an active supporter of the *Lokpal Bill*. However when the civil society members boycotted the meeting to take a slightly different stand, I Paid a Bribe, *urged them to go back to the table and work with the government for a stronger anti-corruption regime*.

4) *Bribe Bandh*, a campaign started by I Paid a Bribe to pressure the government to ratify UN convention against corruption generated a lot of interest among citizens. The government ratified the convention on May 15, 2011!

5) International media coverage from *BBC and Al Jazeera* in Q1, 2011-12 recognises I Paid a Bribe as a frontrunner in India's fight against corruption.

# *Bala Janaagraha*



Brand new 'Me and My City' book

# Q1

**Bala Janaagraha** is a uniquely designed citizenship education programme that is aimed at empowering children with the knowledge, skills and values necessary to develop a deep sense of ownership and responsibility towards their society.

## Q1, 2011-12 highlights

1) Bala Janaagraha's curriculum book, *Me and My City got a complete makeover*. The new book while making the curriculum colourful and fun, enables schoolchildren to take action in their own neighbourhoods. In June, 2011, the new version of the book was distributed to all the partner schools.

2) Shanthi Nagar constituency in Bangalore is where all of Janaagraha's programmes will converge to produce a multiplier effect in social change. Towards this goal, Bala Janaagraha programme tied up with *thirteen new schools in Shanthi Nagar constituency*.

3) *DELL* deserves a special mention for *providing netbooks, projectors and speakers* - all equipment that will aid the delivery of Bala Janaagraha sessions - e-module and curriculum - in schools.

4) Bala Janaagraha has forged an *association with Reap Benefit*, a not-for profit organisation working in the area of sustainability. It is hoped that the association will lend a practical approach to sustainability issues in the Bala Janaagraha sessions.

# Area Suraksha Mitra

[www.civildefence.areasm.org](http://www.civildefence.areasm.org)

The screenshot displays the 'AREA SURAKSHA MITRA' web application. At the top, it features the organization's logo and name, along with a tagline: 'A Civil Defense initiative being coordinated by Janaagraha which deals with neighbourhood policing and Disaster management'. Below this is a search bar with the text 'Mohan Kumar. V' and buttons for 'Find', 'Buffer', and 'Clear'. A status indicator shows 'Total ASM's found during search are 1'. On the left, there are two panels: 'Layers' and 'Legend'. The 'Layers' panel includes 'Police Station', 'Area Suraksha Mitra', 'ASMs\_49', and 'Civil Division Boundary'. The 'Legend' panel lists various boundary types with corresponding symbols: 'Civil Division Boundary', 'Post Boundary', 'Polling Booth Boundary', 'Ward Boundary', and 'Police Station Boundary'. The main area is a map showing a street grid with labels like '10th Main Road', '9th Main Road', '10th Cross Road', and '9th Cross Road'. A green information popup is overlaid on the map, displaying details for a specific ASM: 'FID: 290', 'ASM Name: Mohan Kumar. V', 'Contact Details:', and 'ASM Address: # 1227/10, 12th Main, , Srinagar, Srinagar, Bangalore, 560050'. At the bottom left, a small 'ASM Information' window is also visible.

A snapshot of Area Suraksha Mitra Query Builder, software from which details of ASM volunteers can be obtained

# Q1

**Area Suraksha Mitra** is a unique Civil Defence Initiative that gives every citizen an opportunity to engage actively in creating safer neighbourhoods and stronger communities by training them to tackle any contingency.

## **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) *Area Suraksha Mitra Query Builder application* is a map-based software that provides details of Area Suraksha Mitras spread across various Civil Defence Divisions of Bangalore. The details of Area Suraksha Mitra volunteers can be obtained by querying based on *ward, division or a pre-defined radius*. Furthermore, the query builder will soon update, alert, and inform ASMs through SMS feature.

2) A *meeting was held in Civil Defence Division No. 49*, headed by Mr. Hareesh Bharathan in Whitefield, Bangalore. All sector wardens appointed in the division were in attendance. Chief Warden, Maj. Gen. T M John (Retd.) addressed the gathering and stressed on getting trained in *community policing to make neighbourhoods safe and secure*.

# ***Janaagraha Applied Research Programme (J-ARP)***



Panelists - Aromar Revi, Helen Siu, Purnima Mankekar at the Yale chapter of IUC held in April, 2011

# Q1

**The Janaagraha Applied Research Programme (J-ARP) is a core programme of Janaagraha which engages in action-oriented research activities to further Janaagraha's advocacy and grassroots objectives. Two main objectives of the programme include -**

**1) Conducting research studies for academic journal publication**

**2) Bringing together various urban research stakeholders, to promote awareness of the need for increased and sustained urban research in India**

## **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) The *Citizenship Index* is Janaagraha's flagship research study to measure and understand the quality of citizenship. It draws a correlation between civic literacy and civic engagement, thereby informing the design of Janaagraha's various citizen-facing initiatives and contributing to existing literature in the field. The initial study has been presented at the international conference at Yale University titled, '*Urban India: Historical Processes and Contemporary Change*'. The abstract of the paper can be found here:

<http://www.yale.edu/macmillan/southasia/urbanindia/abstracts.html>

2) The *India Urban Conference [IUC] 2011* is a four-part series of events designed to raise the salience of urban challenges and opportunities in the on-going debate on India's development. The Yale chapter of the conference was held in April, 2011.

# Advocacy

 **LBSNAA**  
Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration

**National Consultation on  
Urban Sector Training Needs for Mid-Career Training Programmes  
(14-15 April, 2011)**



**Sitting (Left to Right):** Sanjeev Chopra, S. Aparna, Swati Ramanathan, Dr. Shivaramakrishnan, Padamvir Singh, R. Ravindra, Prof. Yudhbir, Prof. EFN Ribeiro, Prof. S.Y. Kulkarni

**Standing Left to Right:** Gaurav Dwivedi, Sudeep, Nalini, Ramesh Ramanathan, Subhash Gupta, T.V. Ramanayya, Dr. Ravikant Joshi, P.C. Pisolkar, Shubhagato Dasgupta, Rajeev Moyal

# Q1

## ***The Advocacy***

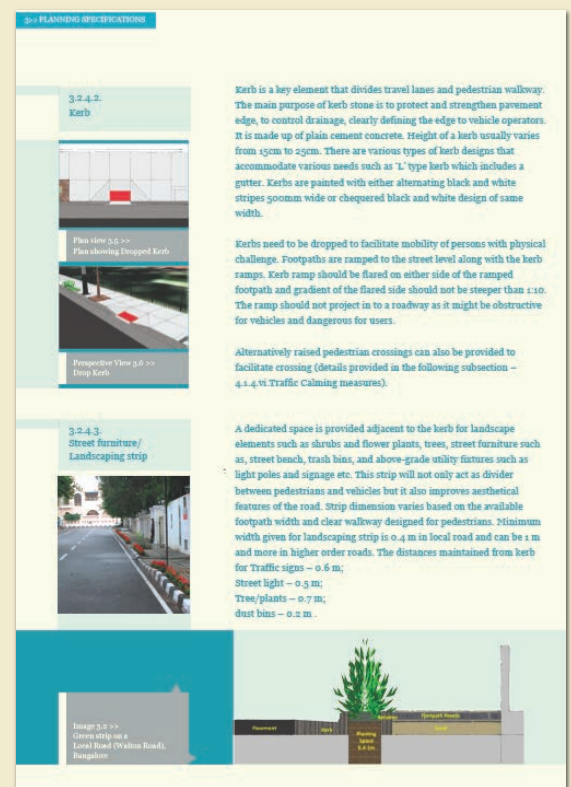
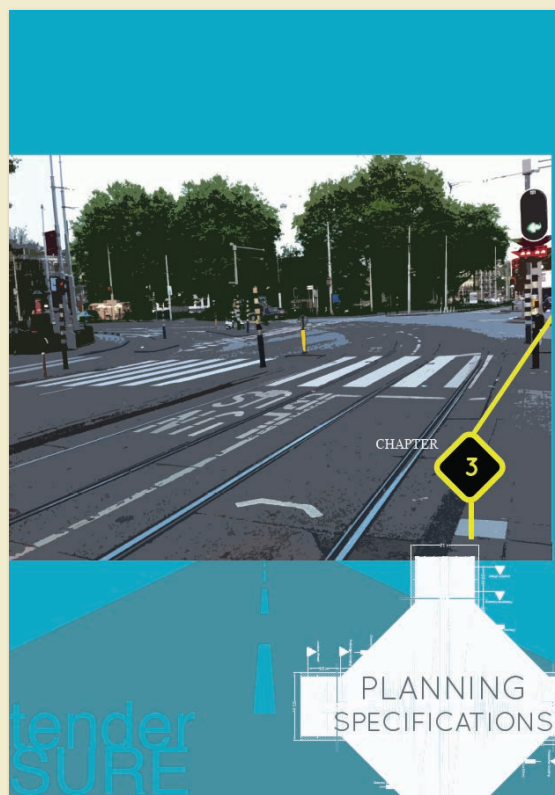
***Janaagraha is a core function in achieving its vision of changing urban quality of life by improving urban governance. The programme works towards defining, advocating and implementing models and solutions within the different levels of government, to improve public governance systems as defined by the REED framework.***

### ***Q1, 2011-12 highlights***

- 1) Janaagraha is gearing up for the *Area Sabha and Ward Committee Member training* to be held in co-operation with *Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC)* to advance the case of Community Participation Law in Andhra Pradesh
- 2) The *PIL filed by Janaagraha against BESCO* in the Karnataka High Court has been met with a favourable response. The aim of the PIL is to *move unsafe transformers to safer locations* and thereby make roads and footpaths, pedestrian-friendly. The High Court has asked BESCO to consider the alternative solutions proposed by Janaagraha.

# Bangalore City Connect Foundation

<http://cityconnect.in/blr/index.php>



# Q1

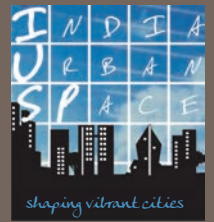
**Bangalore City Connect Foundation (BCCF) is a platform that unites urban stakeholders - corporate institutions, civic groups, community organisations and volunteers to collectively engage with the government on urban issues. BCCF adds value at three levels, viz., strategic inputs, project inputs and implementation inputs, while working with government agencies responsible for urban infrastructure.**

## **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) *Ms. Bhairavi Jani*, Head, India@75, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and *Mr. Arun Chaube*, India@75, CII, visited BCCF office to *study the structure of BCCF*. CII intends to replicate the model across India.

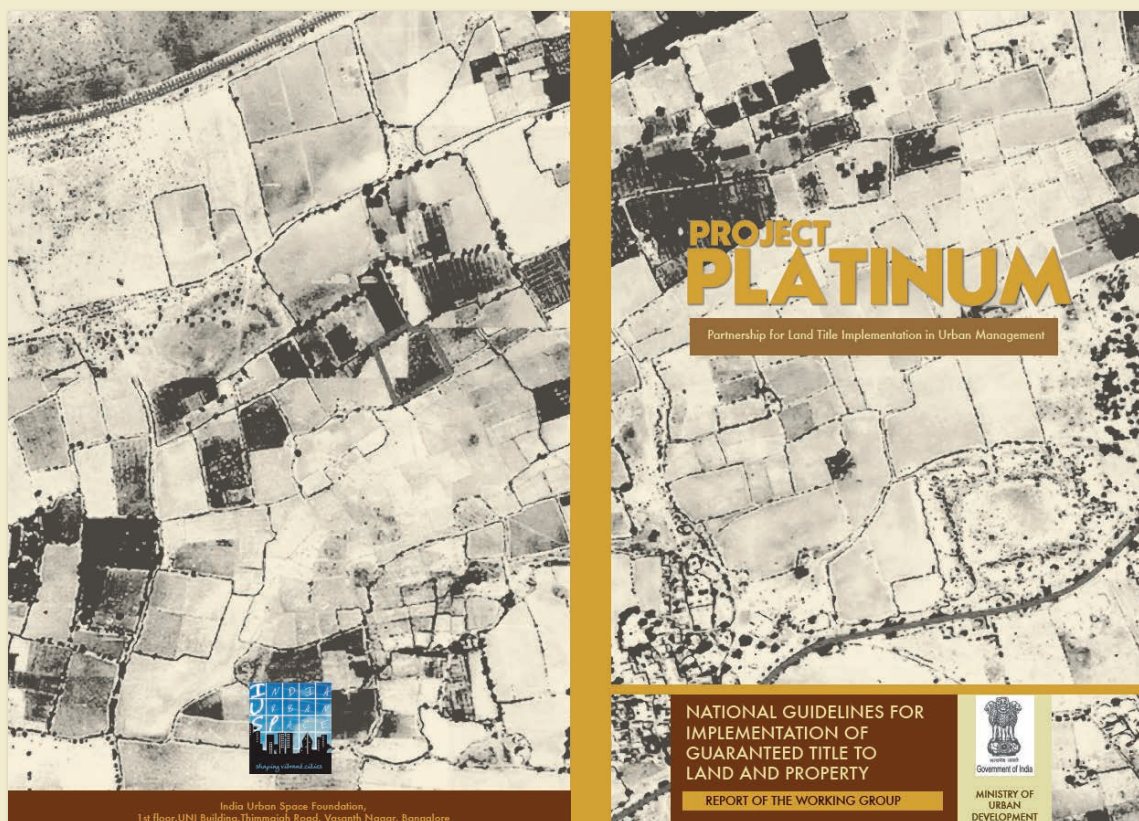
2) *TenderSure*, BCCF's seminal work on urban road guidelines is gathering momentum in the official circles. *Ms. Swati Ramanathan*, *Mr. Ramesh Ramanathan* - Co-founders of Janaagraha and *Mr. Ravichander*, Feedback Consulting met with *Mr. S V Ranganath*, *Chief Secretary - Karnataka* to discuss TenderSure where it was met with a positive response.

# India Urban Space Foundation



India Urban  
Space Foundation

[www.indiausp.org](http://www.indiausp.org)



PLATINUM report implementing Land Titling in urban India has been approved by the Ministry of Urban Development.

# Q1

**India Urban Space Foundation (IndiaUSP)**  
**Janaagraha's partner programme which aims to make urban and spatial planning the centre of urban transformation in India and through it, lead the economic, political and social change.**

**PLATINUM - Partnership for Land Title Implementation in Urban Management**

-is a national level programme for preparing guidelines for implementing a system of guaranteed land title system in India.

**INSPIRE - Integrated Spatial Planning Including a Regional Emphasis**

- is a project under IndiaUSP that is working on developing spatial planning guidelines for urban areas that can be used by state governments for preparing, implementing and enforcing master plans in urban areas. The project advocates Master Plans as the key tool for planning Indian cities with a larger regional perspective.

## **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) In the context of formulation of twelfth Five-year plan (2012-17), the Planning Commission has constituted a *working group on Urban Strategic Planning*. This is under the chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation. *IndiaUSP has been identified as the secretariat and Ms. Swati Ramanathan has been appointed as a resource person*. Subsequent meetings have been held by the working group.

2) The *PLATINUM report on implementing Land Titling in urban India* has been approved by the Ministry of Urban Development. On June 29, Ms. Swati Ramanathan, Chairperson - IndiaUSP held a meeting with Mr. Kamal Nath, Minister for Urban Development. The report has been *uploaded on the ministry's website*

-[http://urbanindia.nic.in/programme/lsg/project\\_platinum/FINAL\\_REPORT\\_PLATINUM4711.pdf](http://urbanindia.nic.in/programme/lsg/project_platinum/FINAL_REPORT_PLATINUM4711.pdf)

3) *PLATINUM report* has been *sent to other ministries - law, home and finance* for their individual examination

4) In the previous quarter, a *draft report of the information and communication technologies* required to support INSPIRE and PLATINUM was *shared with CISCO*

5) *Mr. S C Gupta*, Former Commissioner, Delhi Development Authority has come onboard with INSPIRE as a subject matter expert. *Prof. Rebeiro*, Chairman, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal has joined INSPIRE as a Technical Advisor.

# *Human Resources and Volunteer Management (HRVM)*

## Decentralization and Human Development

- "Decentralization implies that the job rational for (all state) units of government" have the discretion available to them to explore an effective way (in respect of binary decision making) about their area (Bardhi, 2009)
- Bardhi vs. Olson - Urban expansion, but not internal (institution) expansion towards formation of a city
- Participatory democracy - question the very notion of democracy
- Community based development
- Decentralization index -  $\text{Local level} \div \text{Admin}$  units and political bodies
- Core of link between decentralization and development - "more transfer of responsibility" has decentralized increased poverty"

# Q1

**As Janaagraha expands in scale and scope of its work, the number of employees has more than doubled in 2010-11.**

## **Q1, 2011-12 highlights**

1) A burst of activities - recruitment, training, re-engineering HR processes, building partnerships and volunteer management - were carried out by the Human Resource and Volunteer Management team at Janaagraha. The focus has largely been on working towards *building systems to ensure maximum employee productivity and satisfaction*. To this end, they are working comprehensively on an *HR audit that will address employee motivation through the Rewards & Recognition Program* and the development of a *customized training calendar*.

2) Another primary focus area has been to be perceived as the preferred employer of choice and build an organisation with diverse skill sets and competencies. As the team moves forward, the concerted efforts will be towards *empowering employees to be thought leaders and community builders*.

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