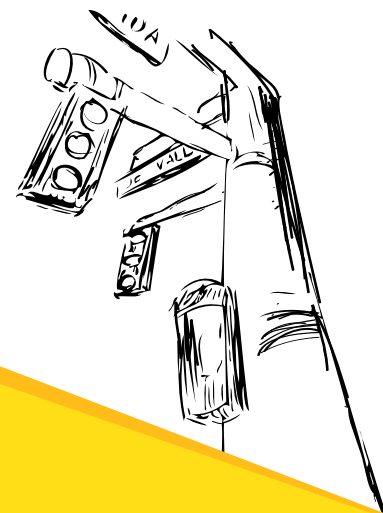
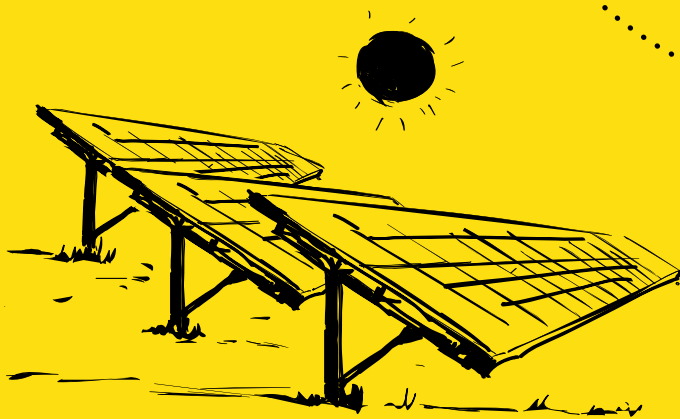




Bangalore

A Child's View





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TEAM

Alia Dharssi, American India Foundation William J. Clinton Fellow, Janaagraha

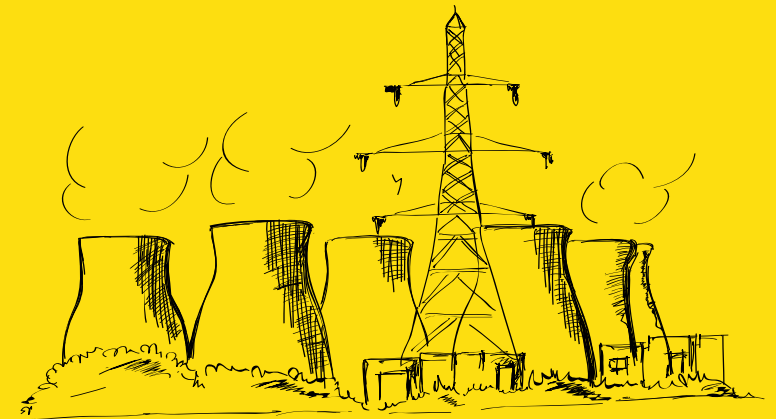
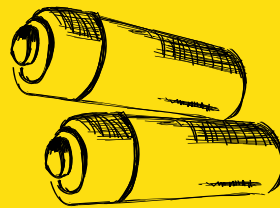
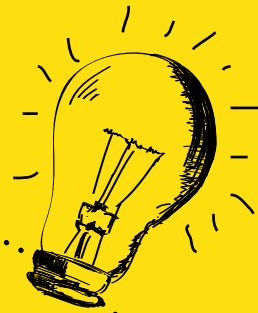
Mesha Tella, Intern, Janaagraha

Design: Sandeep Chandran, Janaagraha.



Introduction

In February and March 2015, 63 eighth standard students from schools around Bangalore explored the neighbourhoods near their schools with cameras in their hands. They walked far and wide, past parks and through narrow streets to take pictures of things affecting their quality of life. They clicked pictures of footpaths, animals, trees, piles of garbage, traffic and all sorts of other things that affect their daily life. Then, they sat down with researchers from the Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy to talk about what they liked and didn't like about Bangalore. This picture book showcases some of their pictures and discusses the good and bad things that shape their quality of life.





“Dust bins are a positive aspect in parks as it helps in keeping the park and its surroundings clean.”

Yashas, Little Flower Public School

“My favorite place in my city is Lal Bagh because there are lots of green trees which give happiness to my mind.”

Shashank SK, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

“The parks are a clean, good place for children to play.”

Hajira, Bright High School

Sandhya
Little Flower Public School

Ganesh
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

Syed Ridhwan
Citizens High School



Shashank S
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Zubera
Citizens High School



“Garbage is not cleared from the parks, so people are facing problems.”

Kiran J, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

Parks

One of the things that the children liked most about Bangalore was the parks throughout the city. Some mentioned that they enjoyed iconic green spaces in Bangalore, such as Lal Bagh and Cubbon Park, but they also said that there weren't enough parks. Many worried about green spaces that had been destroyed or dirtied with garbage, and said that there was a need for more parks.

Sanjay J
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Harshith
Auden Public School



Prabhakar
Citizens High School



Sanjay J
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Komala
Udaya High School



CN Hruthik
GBHS Malleshwaram, 18th Cross



“In our Bangalore, many people are dying of electric shock because people stand near electrical poles and build their houses there. People are dying by touching the wires, which are hanging very low.”

Praveen K, Udaya High School

Srinivas
Jaigopal Garoda Rashtrothana Vidyalaya



“If somebody touches the power box, they will be in big trouble or die.”

Shashank S, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Abishek
Jaigopal Garoda Rashtrothana Vidyalaya



Abhishek K
GBHS Malleshwaram, 18th Cross



Vinod
GBHS Malleshwaram, 18th Cross



Mohammad Sujahid
Citizens High School

“When children are playing games and the shuttle cock falls in the wires, they will get hurt if they try to pick it up out of the wires.”

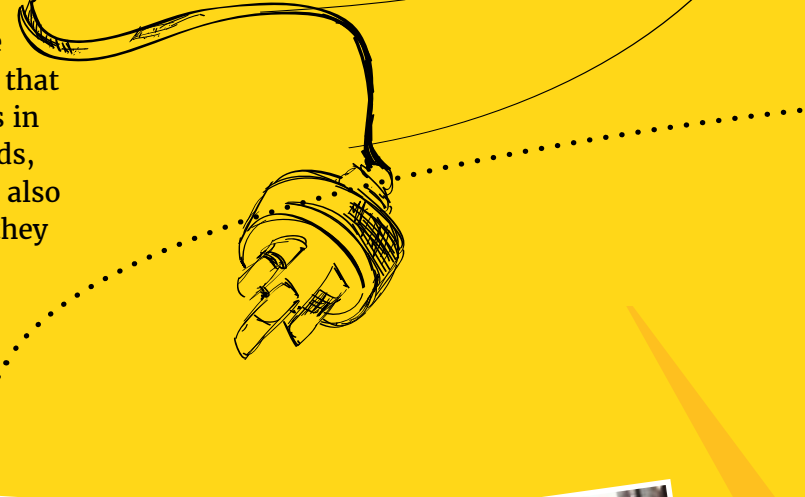
Komala P, Udaya High School

“The government should introduce long-term plans to improve things like unmaintained electricity, wires, dangerous things.”

Harshith, Auden Public School

Electricity

One of the main challenges identified by the students was electrical hazards. They worry that loose electrical wires and open transformers in parks where they play, as well as on the roads, may harm them or other children. Some are also concerned about power shortages and how they affect families and the economy.



Chandana
Little Angels Public School



Vibha
Little Flower Public School



Varshini
Little Angels Public School



Rakshitha
Little Angels Public School



Nishanth
Auden Public School

“Plastic does not decompose. It spoils the soil and, after many days, plants stop growing because of the plastics.”

Abishek, Jaigopal Garodia Rashtrothana

“Garbage bins must be placed in each and every area. People must be responsible and educated enough to put the waste products in the bin.”

Priya, Holy Child English School

“The garbage of our house should be handed over to the vehicle which comes in the morning. If we throw waste wherever we want, we get diseases. So we should inform corporation members to remove garbage.”

Sanjay BS, Udaya Kannada High School



Stuthi
Auden Public School



Alan
Bright High School



Priyanka
Bright High School

“Burning garbage consumes oxygen and increases pollution. People shouldn't burn garbage.”

Ahmed Pasha, HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School Urdu Model Primary School



Pavan Kumar BN
GBHS Malleshwaram



Sanjay BS
Udaya High School



Kiran
GBHS Malleshwaram



Nischith
Auden Public School

Ravi Kiran R
GBHS Malleshwaram



Malesha N
GBHS Malleshwaram



Garbage

Every single child who participated in the project is concerned about the garbage in Bangalore. They worry about the impact it has on the health of children and Bangaloreans in general, as well as how it is damaging the environment. While many said the government needs to do a better job at dealing with garbage, they also said that people must take responsibility and clean up after themselves.

"Waste should be separated like wet and dry waste."

Vinod, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



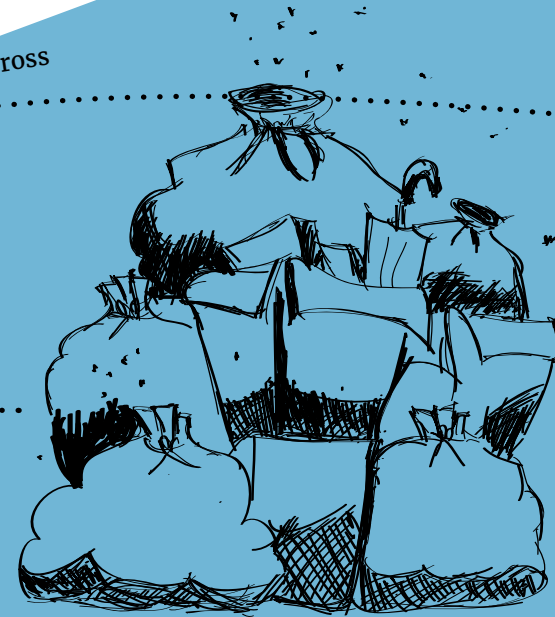
Abdul Rehman
HSIS Government Urdu Model
Primary and High School



Harshitha
Little Angels Public School



Rakshitha
Little Angels Public School



"Due to this garbage, our Bangalore has got a bad name as the 'Garbage City' which was earlier known as the 'Garden City.'"

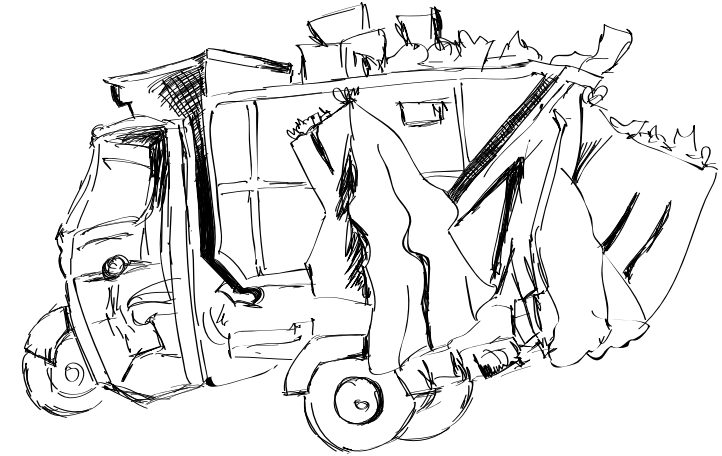
Sharanya, Auden Public School

Vibha
Little Flower Public School



“One could see huge piles of waste in cities like Bengaluru. If such garbage is dumped in roads, poisonous insects may fly to the nearby houses and cause trouble. So waste should be separated as wet and dry waste. Garbage should not be thrown wherever we want. It will be a cause for ill health.”

Saman, Udaya High School



J Hemanth
Jaigopal Garoda Rashtrothana Vidyalaya



“In the city, there is too much garbage. It's not good for children.”

Supritha, Little Angels Public School

Ravi Kiran
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Abishek
Jaigopal Garoda Rashtrothana Vidyalaya



"There are garbage bins located across the street, but people dump their garbage at a vacant area in the corner. In the morning, even cows come there to eat. There are even plastic covers in the heap. The cows also come to mid-road and disturb vehicles and people who pass by."

Sanjeeva, Holy Child English School



Harshith
Auden Public School



Sharanya
Auden Public School

"If we throw garbage outside near the house, parents and children will have to face the problem of mosquitoes. So we should not throw garbage."

Malesha, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

Hemanth M
Jaigopal Garoda Rashtrothana Vidyalaya



J Hemanth
Jaigopal Garoda Rashtrothana
Vidyalaya

Om
Little Flower Public School



"People are very careless and not performing their duties as residents of the street. They just fill the water and leave the tap as it is. The tap leaks and the water flows in front of their homes, which spoils the cleanliness and impression of the street."

Athiya, Citizens High School

"This was the main thing I wanted to speak about. You can see the police wearing a mask. It clearly talks about the pollution. The area is polluted so much that people wear masks to avoid them."

Sandhya, Little Flower Public School



Sandhya
Little Flower Public School

"We should reduce using vehicles for short distances and we should use cycles or we should walk. Because of that, we can be healthy."

Hemanth M, Jaigopal Garodia Rashthrohana



Nischith
Auden Public School



Naziya
Bright High School

MD Tohid
Bright High School



Environment



The children enjoyed the greenery in Bangalore. Many said the government and locals should grow more plants, trees and flowers. The children also worried about the impact that piles of garbage and pollution from cars, is having on nature, the health of Bangaloreans and animals. Many worried about wastage of environmental resources, such as water.



Zubera
Citizens High School



Iqra
Citizens High School



Komala
Udaya High School



Harsh
Jaigopal Garoda Rashthrothana Vidyalaya



Hemanth M
Jaigopal Garoda Rashthrothana Vidyalaya

"Every house should plant a tree because plants and trees give us fresh air."

Alan, Bright High School



Gurukiran
Holy Child English School

"We should grow a lot of plants and we should not cut trees because it is not good for us."

Rakshitha, Little Angels Public School



Surabhi
Little Angels Public School



Pratheek
Holy Child English School



Ahmed Pasha
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary
and High School



Supritha
Little Angels Public School



"Plants are good for our health and it is nice to plant the trees in front of our homes."

Surabhi, Little Angel Public School

"Water is necessary in our life so we should not waste water."

Monica, Citizens High School

"We saw many trees near the road. It was looking amazing and place was very clean."

Syed Ridhwan Ahmed, Citizens High School

"Nowadays for building the houses, shops and apartments, they are cutting the trees. But they should get to know that they are not in the right path. They should stop cutting trees."

Chinmayee, Little Angels Public School

Yashas
Little Flower Public School



Praveen
Udaya High School



Pratheek
Holy Child English School



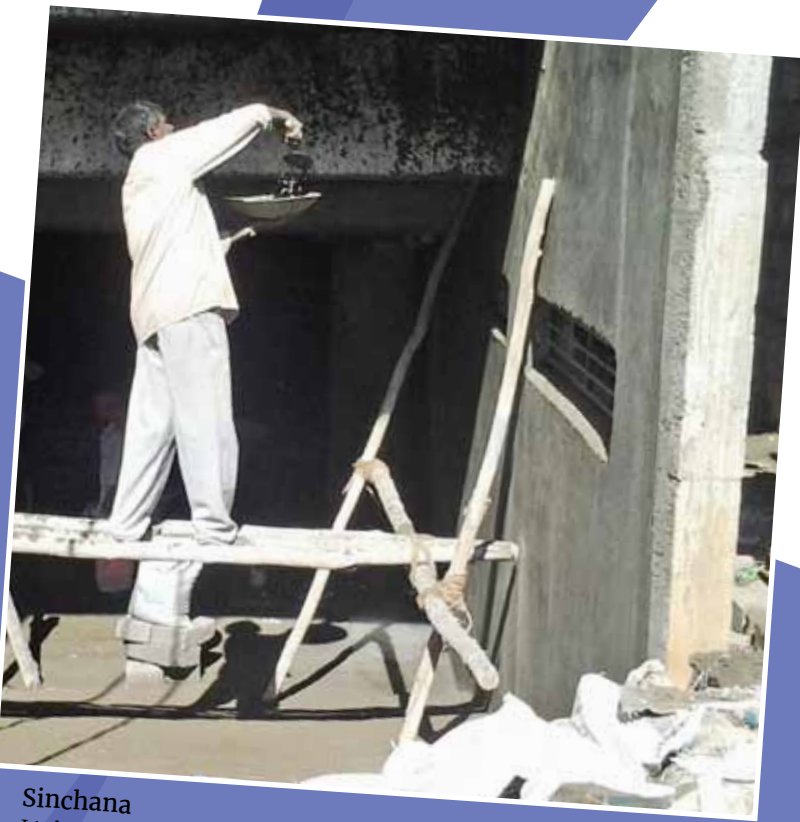
Gurukiran
Holy Child English School



"Smoking not good for the smoker's health and for the society's health."

Mohammed Yousif, HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School Urdu Model School





Sinchana
Little Flower Public School

“This picture shows a man who is standing on an uneven platform which is high up. If he loses his balance, there are great chances of fatal injuries. This picture shows the unsafe conditions that people are asked to work in and to what extent people go to feed their family.”

Vibha, Little Flower Public School



“In this picture, you can see a lady who is collecting water from the water tank. Near the tank, there are fungi and bacteria. She is collecting the water for drinking purpose. What will happen to her when she drinks this water and falls sick? I talked to her and she said that there are no taps in her house and she doesn't have enough money to build taps. My suggestion is that the government should build the taps.”

Naziya, Bright High School



Mohammed Yousif
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School



Naziya
Bright High School



People

While walking around their schools, the students saw, met and interacted with many people, including street vendors, shopkeepers, police officers and auto drivers. The students are concerned about social problems, such as poverty and children like themselves who sell things on the street instead of going to school.



Harshitha
Little Angels Public School



Shashank S
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Ganesh
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Srinivas
Jaigopal Garoda Rashthrothana Vidyalaya



Fahad
Citizens High School



"This is a lady cleaning the road in front of a mosque. It is a very good job. She is cleaning in front of God's home."

Fahad, Citizens High School



Syed Ridhwan
Citizens High School



Priya
Holy Child English School



Shahid
Citizens High School

"Men pass urine in public places. This can cause disease and can make public places dirty."

Prabhakar, Citizens High School



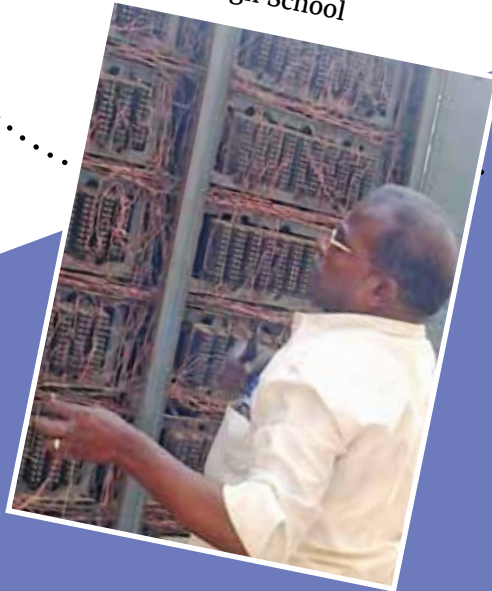
"Many people in India don't even have a house. The people of India are suffering. There is more poverty in India compared to other countries."

Harsh, Jaigopal Garodia Rashtrottana Vidyalaya

Chinmayee
Little Angels Public School



Chethan
Udaya High School



Chethan
Udaya High School

"Old people should be helped to cross roads because they will not have the strength to cross the road. If they try to cross road, the vehicles will hit them. So helping the old people to cross the road is good work. If you help the old people to cross the road, in future your parents will also get others' help."

Chethan, Udaya High School

"We should not do any social discrimination in the society."

Pratheek, Holy Child English School



Priyanka
Bright High School



MD Tohid
Bright High School



“Due to the pits in the footpath, there may be chances of us falling or tripping and getting injured.”

Stuthi, Auden Public School

“There should be proper footpaths for the people to walk. Footpaths are meant for the people to walk but others park their vehicles there and pedestrians walk on the road. This causes accidents.”

Jagruti, Holy Child English School

“People are using the footpaths like toilets.”

Shabaz Qureshi, HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School

Monica
Citizens High School



Fahad
Citizens High School



Shashank SK
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Malesha
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

Prabhakar
Citizens High School



"The people get diseases because of the bad drainage system and it causes bad odor."

MD Tohid, Bright High School

Streets & Footpaths

Another major concern for children is the condition of roads and footpaths in the city. They students noticed potholes, uneven roads and other things that could cause car crashes. They also said that broken footpaths, open drainage and other things make it hard for people to walk around and could injure pedestrians.

"The gully for drainage is open and does not have a proper compound to prevent children from falling in."

Priyanka, Bright High School

"People love to walk on clean and beautiful streets."

Shahid, Citizens High School



"If the shops are at the footpath, it is difficult for the public to walk on the footpath. They cannot walk."

Pavan Kumar BN, GBSJ Malleshwaram, 18th Cross



Sthuthi
Auden Public School



Hajira
Bright High School

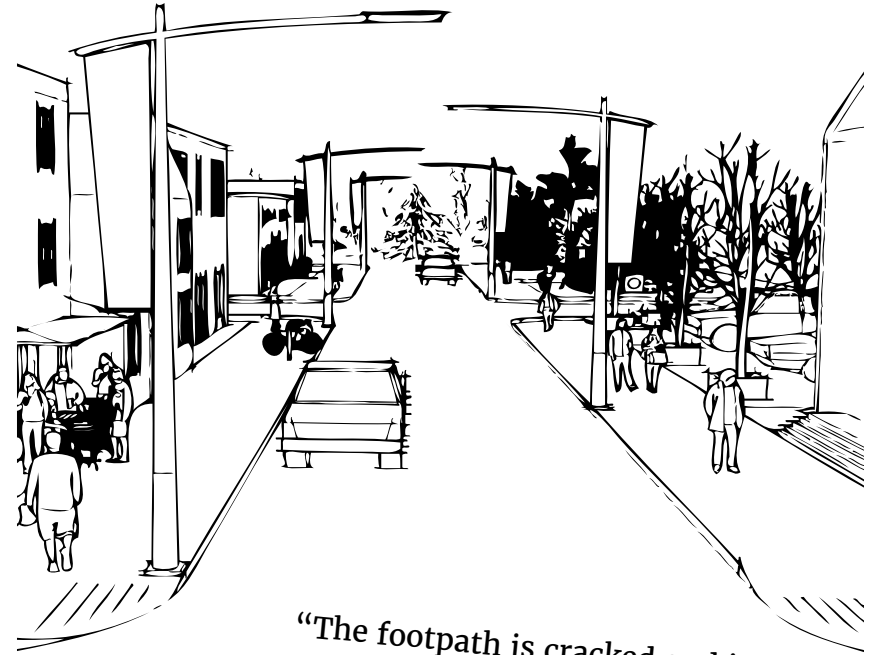


Alan
Bright High School

Shashank S K
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Jagruti
Holy Child English School



“The footpath is cracked and it is not closed properly. When people walks on the footpath, they might fall.”

Chandana, Little Angels Public School

Kiran
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Pavan Kumar
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Sanjay BS
Udaya High School



Hruthik
GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

Abhishek
Jaigopal Garodia Rashtrottana Vidyalaya



Om
Little Flower Public School



“This footpath has a drainage which is not covered properly with cement. This is a big problem for blind people, old people and children.”

Varshini, Little Angels Public School

Surabhi
Little Angels Public School



“In some places, there are no streetlights and it is hard to walk at night and for vehicles to drive.”

Abhishek, GBHS Malleshwaram,
18th Cross



Varshini
Little Angels Public School

Abdul rehman
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and
High School

Mohammed Ibrahim
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School



Sanjeeva
Holy Child English School



"Our Bangalore has too many vehicles. Because of this, the environment is damaged and people are also facing problems. Pedestrians are facing problems to walk and people are dying of vehicle smoke. This smoke is also damaging the ozone layer. So overuse of vehicles should be avoided and plants should be grown."

Praveen, Udaya Kannada High School



Priya
Holy Child English School



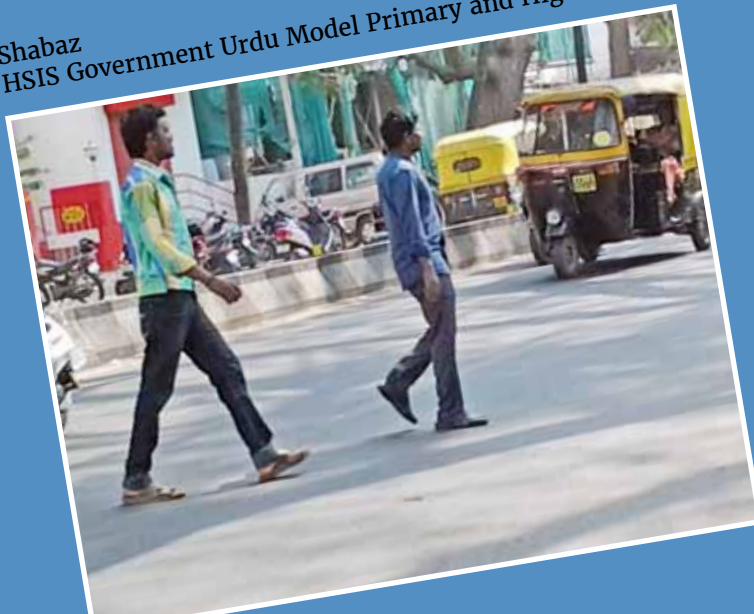
"There are many accidents happening because of the damaged roads and the government should take a strict action on this. That way we can avoid accidents and there should be a zebra crossing in the highway roads."

J Hemanth, Jaigopal Garodia Rashtrothana

"Traffic movement on the ring road is heavy and it is difficult for pedestrians to walk so they need to have sky walks and subways."

Srinivas. Jaigopal Garodia Rashtrothana

Shabaz
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School



Mohammed Yousif
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School



Athiya
Citizens High School

Chinmayee
Little Angels Public School



Broken footpaths are a major problem in Bangalore. We can't walk on the roads due to the fast-moving vehicles and, on top of it, we also can't walk on the footpath due to its bad condition."

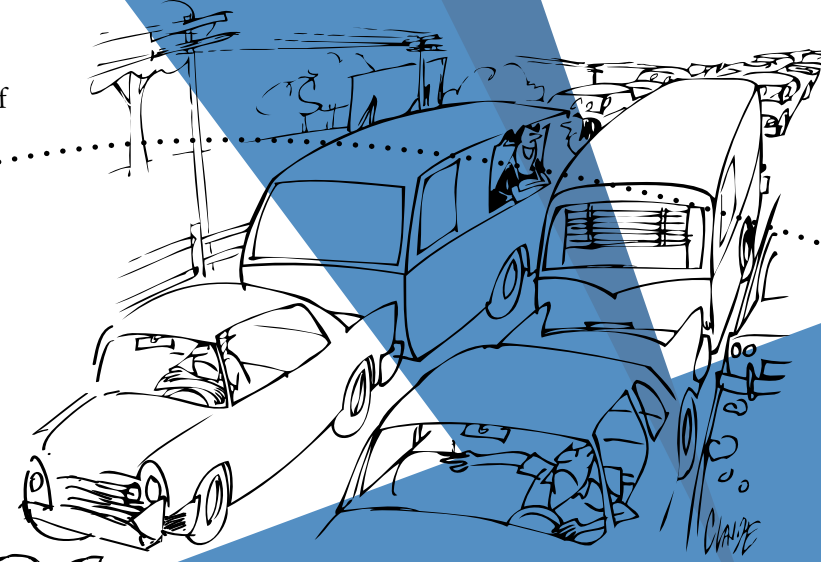
Sinchana, Little Flower Public School

Chandana
Little Angels Public School



Traffic

Traffic is another issue that affects the students. Some said that roads need to be planned better with more safety measures. Others criticized rash driving and said traffic issues create problems for pedestrians, including children and the elderly.



Alfisha
Citizens High School



Athiya
Citizens High School



Sinchana
Little Flower Public School

Saman
Udaya High School



"The pedestrians will have to face problems if the vehicles move before the signal goes on."

Ganesha, GBHS Malleshwaram
18th Cross

"First, before telling others what to do, I should set an example. If one of us changes, then all will say they can also change."

Harshitha, Little Angels Public School

"I think by joining BBMP I can do something. Like if I could be a mayor, I could put a police in each of the streets and help with cleaning and put a pressure on the cleaning people so that they clean every street and reduce the garbage and put fine on the polluting vehicles."

Nishanth, Auden Public School

Monica
Citizens High School

"We have to follow the principle of cleanliness to be good citizens and strive for the success of the country. Being a good citizen involves active participation, being clean and growing more trees."

Gurukiran, Holy Child English School

"All the houses must plant the trees. If this greenery is contained in our Bangalore, our Bangalore will become a green land."

Zubera, Citizens High School

"We can approach the corpora-
tor regarding our problems."

Mohammed Ibrahim, HSIS Government
Urdu Model Primary and High School-
Urdu Model Primary School

"We can clean our road"

Alfisha Fathima, Citizens High School

Supritha
Little Angels Public School

Praveen
Udaya High School

Mohd. Ibrahim
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and
High School



Changing the city

In spite of the challenges, many of the students were optimistic about how they could help create a change in Bangalore. They spoke about the ways that they could help to improve things today and the ways in which they hoped to do so in the future. They also talked about how they could convince the government and fellow citizens to help improve Bangalore.

“Change should begin at home. Everyone should change. We need to change our attitudes towards scarce resources like water and electricity.”

Nischith, Auden Puublic School

“We can take an initiative to clean up garbage with the help of authorities. We can involve the corporator in solving the problem.”

Om, Little Flower Public School

“I want to tell people not to cut trees.”

CN Hruthik , GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross

“We want Bangalore to be a garden city, a good garden city.”

Iqra, Citizens High School



Shahid
Citizens High School



Shabaz
HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School

“If I become an MLA, I will change the city. I will segregate different waste, make the road clean and close manholes.”

Sanjay J, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



Sanjeev
Holy Child English School

“We should create awareness on cleanliness by discussing it within our family and with others.”

Abdul Rehman, HSIS Government Urdu Model Primary and High School
Model Urdu Primary School

“I tell people: ‘Don’t put trash there. It affects me, you and other people too.’”

Ravi Kiran, GBHS Malleshwaram 18th Cross



BalaJanaagraha
TODAY'S CHILDREN, TOMORROW'S ACTIVE CITIZENS.

Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

4th Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560052

Phone: 080-40790400, Fax: 080-41277104

Email: info@janaagraha.org

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