

Activities for 2007-08

Donations during the Year

We profusely thank the following members and non-members for their generous contributions for the cause for which **Nagrik Chetna Manch** stands. It gives us feelings of full support and of confidence of the donors in the work that we are doing. We greatly appreciate the gesture:

Name of the Person	Amount
Mr. Jugal Rathi	2,500.00
Mr. S. M. Acharya	1,000.00
Mr. Suren Khirwadkar	500.00
Mrs. Gita Vir	1,000.00
ACM H. Mulgaokar MVC	2,000.00
Mr. G. T. Moujey	5,000.00
Maj. Gen. S. C. N. Jatar	5,310.00
Mr. K. K. Kabraji	5,000.00
Mr. P. C. Jain	5,000.00
Gp. Capt. S. R. Purandare	5,000.00
Col Jayant Nadkarni	455.00
TOTAL	32,765.00

Life Members during the Year

We welcome the following members as life members during the year:

- a. Vice Adm O. P. Bansal
- b. Ms. Roda Mehta
- c. Mr. N. S. Jatar
- d. Col. Ajay Mudholkar
- e. Mr. S. B. Buddhisagar
- f. Mr. Pradip Yadav
- g. Mr. V. K. J. Rane
- h. Mr. Pheroz Poonawala
- i. Wg. Cdr. V. M. Chitale
- j. Lt. Gen. A. P. S. Bindra

We welcome the following ordinary members to the family of **Nagrik Chetna Manch**.

- a. Mr. S. B. Budhisagar
- b. Dr. P. G. Patankar
- c. Brig. P. V. Gole

Collaboration with Other NGOs

NCM has been collaborating with other NGOs for implementation of like-minded objectives. The NGOs with whom we have been collaborating are Parisar, BetterRoads, DP Coalition, Sajag Nagrik Manch, Pedestrian First, Pune Tree Watch and National Society for Clean Cities on issues pertaining to Traffic & Transportation, Development Plan, Removal of Encroachments, Greening of Pune, etc.

Preventing Vehicular Pollution and Greening of Pune

Lt. Gen. Amit Mukherjee, Gp. Capt. S. R. Purandare and Col. B.F. Chadhari form the Sub-Committee for this task. A major intervention by the Sub-Committee was preventing the felling of century old trees on the road from the National War Memorial to the Council Hall, which HQ Pune Sub Area was proposing to convert into a mall with parks, shopping complexes, theatres, etc. Lt. Gen. Mukherjee held discussions with the Sub Area Commander in this regard.

Towards a Viable Traffic & Transportation Plan for PMR

The Sub-Committee comprising Maj. Gen. Jatar, Mr. P.C. Jain and Mr. B.D. Sharma kept the pressure on the PMC to ensure that the PMC carries out adequate corrections to the BRTS Pilot from Hadapsar to Katraj, strengthens Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd, prepares a comprehensive mobility plan for PMR, avoids going in for wasteful road infrastructure without carrying out cost-benefit study, etc. The President attended the final meeting held on 3 April 2007 at CIRT under the aegis of PMC to discuss the concept note for the Traffic & Transportation Plan for PMC prepared by a committee headed by Dr. P. G. Patankar (of which the President was a member). The concept note with inputs from the meeting of 3 April is now before the general body of PMC for approval. Meanwhile, NCM would endeavour to get a Traffic Management Plan for PMC.

Development Plan 2007

As a member of the Steering Committee for the preparation of the Development Plan 2007-2027, the President made the following contributions on behalf of **Nagrik Chetna Manch**:

- a. Gave critical inputs for the CMP prepared by Wilbur Smith Associates and attended a number of meeting of the T&T sub-committee of the Steering Committee,
- b. Made detailed comments on the Inception Report (Project Implementation Plan) prepared by Ramboll Natura AB as part of the aid given by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). In our view, the report displays

lack of understanding of the culture and problems of Pune and there are contradictions in the report itself. We, however, understand that the PMC has approved the report without even a discussion in the Steering Committee. The Report and our comments are on **Nagrik Chetna Manch** website.

Awareness about RTI

Maj. Gen. Jatar and Mr. Sanjiv Mehta form the Sub-Committee for this purpose. We are actively working with the Right to Information Forum for Instant Information (RFII) by the use of Section 4 of the RTI Act amongst the citizens of Pune. As part of the RFII, we helped in exposing the illegal visit of a group of PMC engineers to Sweden as part of the aid given by SEDA. Our contention is that GoI and GoM approvals are still necessary notwithstanding whether the PMC is paying for the visits or not.

Designing of New Logo for NCM

The Managing Committee had authorised the Secretary to get a new logo designed for NCM after considering the inputs received so far from the members. Ms. Aditi Kulkarni from National Institute of Design was the consultant for the designing the new logo. She did not accept any payment because ours is a civil society organisation working solely in the interest of the citizens. She said this is her contribution in her small way towards improving the quality of life of Pune-kars.

RTI Workshop

NCM organised an RTI workshop on 'How to curb corruption by the use of RTI' on 5th May 2007 at the Poona Club. Shri Vivek Velankar conducted the workshop, which was very well attended. The number of questions after the workshop gave the indication of its success.

Interaction with Citizens on Encroachments

Col. B. F. Chaudhari conducted an interaction with the members of Sajag Nagrik Manch in June 2007. The subject was 'encroachments on footpaths'. He briefed the members of Sajag Nagrik Manch about the efforts by **Nagrik Chetna Manch** towards removing the encroachment on footpaths. The major contribution

was the success that **Nagrik Chetna Manch** achieved in getting a PMC circular allowing *ottas* on footpaths. The event was a great success.

Interaction with Police Commissioner

The Police Commissioner, Mr. Jayant Umranikar, conducted an interaction with the members of **Nagrik Chetna Manch** on 27 July 2007. The event was well attended with good representation from non-members also.

Workshop on Ethics towards Good Governance

Nagrik Chetna Manch organised a seminar on 'Ethics & Values towards Good Governance' on 30 March 2008 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Patrakar Bhawan, Navi Peth. **Nagrik Chetna Manch** took special care to choose the best of the talent in Pune, especially those with a hard reputation for upholding good ethical standards in their handling of issues affecting the common citizen.

Dr. Madhav Godbole was the Chairperson and moderator. The panellists comprised Smt. Vandana Chavan, former Mayor, Avinash Dharmadhikari, former IAS officer, Lt. Gen. Ashok Joshi, former DG Military Training, Shri Vivek Velankar, Shri Asim Sarode and Dr. Bs. Ks. Chopra.

Nagrik Chetna Manch aimed to highlight the various issues that confront the citizens routinely and affect their quality of life. While the workshop went off very well, it was sad to notice that there was inadequate awareness amongst both the panellists and the audience about 'ethics'. The tendency was to confuse it with governance and not distinguishing it as a tool for good governance.

Appointment of Lex Eye Care Services Pvt. Ltd

The Managing Committee approved the appointment LexEye Care Services Pvt. Ltd at a cost of Rs. 7500/- as per the proposal from Lex Eye for auditing the functioning to ensure that none of the laws is violated. Unfortunately, there has not been the requisite progress because old documents are not traceable. The Managing Committee has decided, therefore, to proceed from the date when the documents are available and request LexEye to submit its report accordingly.

Nagrik Chetna Manch

30 September 2008