

## Minutes of meeting - Participatory Urban Governance

**Date:** Tuesday, 14/07/2020

**Time:** 4.30 pm -5.15 pm

**Venue:** Google Meet (online)

### Attendees:

From Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy:

1. Mr. Srikanth Viswanathan, Chief Executive Officer, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

From CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CRDF):

1. Dr. Saswat Bandopadhyay, Professor, CEPT University
2. Dr. Sejal Patel, Professor, CEPT University
3. Shelly Kulshrestha, Assistant Professor, CEPT University
4. Vijaya Salanke, Research Associate, CRDF
5. Vishal Chudgar, Intern, CRDF



### Discussion :

- Meeting started with introductory address by Dr. Saswat Bandopadhyay followed by Dr. Sejal Patel explaining the topic of the study and key research questions.
- Mr. Viswanathan spoke about experience of ward committees in Bangalore. Though the constitution of ward committee is a mandate, it's only last year that most of the ward committees were formed after the High Court order.
- He also addressed the importance of participatory platforms at Neighbourhood level.
- Acknowledging failure of ward committees as a participatory platform at ward level, there is a need to think of an alternative options. These alternative options could be in the form of mobilized communities in the form of SHGs, NHGs in various livelihood-oriented schemes, urban poor oriented schemes (eg. NHGs in Kudumbahsree). Emerging from a programmatic platform, these communities eventually can become a part of the larger system.
- The neighbourhood level participatory platforms play a major role in identifying societal issues and developing vision for the neighbourhood.

- He also threw a light on elite capture within the participatory platforms.
- At city level, there is fragmentation of works between different parastatals, the percentage of the budget devolved to the councillor for utilization in the ward is very minimal (2-3% in case of Bangalore). Hence, strengthening the ward councillors is an equally important aspect in order to visualize an efficient participatory governance system.