

## Meeting Minutes for Education workshop coordinated by PRATHAM

**Date:** 8th of January 2014, Wednesday

**Time:** 15:10 to 17:15 hrs.

**Venue:** F/South Ward office,  
Conference Hall,  
Jn. of Dr. Ambedkar Road and J. Bhatnagar Marg,  
Parel, Mumbai 400012

### Attendees:

Name	Organization
Dinesh S. Naik	
Suvarna C. Phudtare	
V. Sahare	BMC
Deepali Sawle	MCGM
Surekha Pednekar (Donbosco development & Society)	Donbosco development & Society
Shilpi Syad & Sumati	YUVA
Salima Surathi	
Vasudeo Shenoy	
Kanchan Thakur	
Kalpana Jadhav	
Suvarna M. Rathod	
M.S.Juvekar	MCGM
V.B. Gandhi	
Aamod Karkhanis	Novavia Educational
Santosh R. Patil	MCGM
Anagha A. Gaugan	
Sunita B. Veling	
Farida Lambay	
Pooja S. Yadav	YUVA

Deepak Wadhvani	
Kaustubh Ghandhi	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Prachi Merchant	
Sandeep G. Gawade	
Vinod Hiwale	Apanalaya
Shambhavi S. Jog	
Meghu Gavande	
Rajesh Sabale	
Shruti Vaidya	TISS
Aravind Unni	YUVA
Satish Kasbe	
Linah Baliga	
Rajesh Ingle	
Anita D. Naik	
S. Raghunathan	
Sushila Shastri	
Ujjwala Chavan	
Arun Jadhav	Chip Mumbai)
Nirmal Parmar	CRY
Sunatu B. Dady	YUVA
Vrushali Naik	MMC
Rajashree Kabare	
Natasha Albuquerque	Aseema Charitable Trust
Vinamrata Borawankar	DNA
Ganesh Shet	MCGM
Sachin Mendhe	MCGM

Vishal Lakras	MCGM
M.S.Mirchandani	LSP
Kunal Purohit	HT
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
R.S. Kuknur	
H.C. Daffandar	
Usha Maherwai	
Hrydhal Daman	EGIS
Nandini Manjarekar	
Manisha Phalke	
Darshana Dubhashi	
Hussain Z. I.	
Maggie Paul	
Abhishek Chavan	
Asad Bin Saif	

**Minutes:**

1. Chief Engineer Development Plan (ChE. DP) opened the session introducing Deputy Municipal Commissioner (DMC) Education, Director of Pratham and Director of UDRI and thanked him for his presence.
2. Executive Director (ED), UDRI thanked the ChE. DP and the Education Commissioner for arranging this dialogue with the several organisations and grass root workers working in the field of education. He stated the following
  - The requirements of education for the development plan cannot be taken as a small part of the DP since integrally education is the mandatory responsibility of the municipal corporation.
  - The Indian people tribunal's article states that 1million children in Mumbai are out of the formal education system. Pratham's 2004 report states that nearly 78,000 children, especially girl child drop out of schools after primary education since there are not adequate secondary schools in the city.

- Per capita open space as per UDPFI is 3.5sqm while the Preparatory Study document states 1.37sqm. Geographically one BMC primary school per kilometre is found in the city yet this does not ensure adequacy in terms of number of classrooms or medium of education. The Development Plan 2014-2034 must ensure 100% literacy rate in Mumbai.
3. Executive Committee Member, Pratham thanked Municipal Corporation, ChE. DP, UDRI Directors and introduced herself. She stated the following:
- 4,85,000 students study in 11,088 municipal schools from which 55,000 continue to 49 secondary schools. Several secondary schools started by BMC under PP policy so the total secondary schools not in Mumbai are 96 in total.
  - Rich and the poor, both must be able to go the BMC schools. Currently 56% of the school going children go to private schools while remaining 46% goes to BMC schools.
  - 90% of the aanganwadis are run in private homes as there is no space. There is no linkage between the preschool systems to the existing school system.
  - Municipal Corporation runs 503 balwadis while NGOs like Pratham and Doorstep etc. run around 450 balwadis. There is a good coverage of pre-schools but the education component is weak in these. It is recommended that all municipal schools must have preschools.
  - The medium of instruction must be suitable to the demography of that neighbourhood. BMC has schools in 7 mediums.
  - 96% of the children are enrolled and yet most of them do not attend school. Further 5th to 8th grade students drop out of schools due to poor quality of education. Quality of education will improve if School Excellence Programme are started and such programmes must be made a part of DP in terms of quality education.
  - MCGM must prepare an Education Master Plan for a holistic outcome.
  - Scattered population of child labourers and street children are unable to attend these schools. Thus MCGM must formulate a plan should be formulated to achieve this challenge in the Development Plan.
  - The Development Plan to reserve and ensure adequate playground area near schools for children to play.
  - Many BMC schools lack accessibility for physically challenged.
  - The Development Plan process (DCR) to ensure fire safety norms is adopted for BMC schools. Fire drills to be organized in BMC schools.
  - The corporation needs awareness about the money spent on education versus the dropout rates.
  - Most computers for children in BMC schools are either not working or not maintained.

- Water tanks, segregated toilets for boys and girls, kitchens for midday meal and drinking water quality be regularly checked and maintained in BMC schools.
  - Need for BMC middle and secondary schools. With the current budget BMC can afford integrated schools till 10<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup> standard.
  - Health programmes to be integrated with schools.
  - Several grants available at the State Level must be accessed by the municipal corporation.
  - Cases of rape and eve-teasing of girls have been noted, appropriate measures for safety to be adopted including proper lighting of campus.
  - Teacher pupil ratio of 1 to 30/35 according to RTE norms be followed. Number of classrooms to be designed to suit the same. Schools must be RTE compliant.
  - Committees for education in each Prabhat formed out of elected representatives to focus on key education issues. Schools in each neighbourhood to be responsible for the education and enrolment for children in that neighbourhood.
  - Schools must become hubs for community programs, study classes and reading melavas. The Development Plan 2014-2034 have reservations for libraries.
  - Rebranding of BMC schools, they could have names of mountains, rivers, flowers etc. to development pride among students.
  - Some suburbs do not have BMC schools. MCGM to check and stop malls from being built on plots reserved for schools.
4. The organisation YUVA gave a short presentation giving certain suggestions and fact findings as follows:
- Several areas need more schools like Dadar, resettled areas like Vasi Naka need schools. There are inadequate schools in M/East, M/West, G/North, P/North, H/East wards.
  - Education is an important topic considering the urban poor.
  - Rs 53,000/child/year, i.e. Rs 4417/child/month, i.e. Rs 147/day/child is spent.
5. ED, UDRI stated that there are gross violations of RTE norms. The preparatory study to have a clearly defined vision and goals set for education
6. DMC, Education asked the forum to consider number of rooms in the school, and the number of shifts the school operates in and then calculate the area per person.
7. The organisation YUVA stated that according to Census 2011, 1871 more schools needed. RTE norms to be followed for amenity space, science lab, sports facility and computer rooms and reservations to be made in the Development Plan for the same. Hostel and storage for books and uniforms of homeless or street children to be made available. This would also protect education of slum children when their families are evicted from slums.

8. An individual from Aapnlaya who works predominantly in areas near Deonar Dumping ground, stated that a detailed school wise gap analysis has been submitted to BMC where 22 schools run in 6 buildings. There is a need for secondary school in Shivaji Nagar. Adequate safety measures and quality assurance be given to BMC schools. Since education is mainly required in slum communities detail slum studies must precede the Development Plan Implementation.
9. An individual from, EDUCO stated that there waiting list for school admission. Playgrounds, physical training teachers needed since students have reached national level sports competition. Safe interaction spaces for girls are needed especially in Kala Ckawki. Community level work needed for education.
10. An individual stated that Goregaon Aarey Colony has 7 villages on hills with no primary schools accessible to children or transport facility. The DP must provide schooling facility for them. Vocational training plans to be incorporated in the Development Plan. Parent and community involvement needed. Cleaning of schools and removal of unused material essential.
11. An individual from YUVA stated that the Development Plan should clearly demarcate private versus public schools, illegal or non-recognized schools. Accessibility mapping of primary and secondary schools and all other social amenity with density mapping. There is no school in P/North, Mudh-Marve, Erangal, Hera Devi Dongar village, Dongar pada etc. Considering the limited availability of land primary and secondary schools could be integrated. Mapping of all types of colleges, universities and colleges is needed.
12. An individual stated that in BMC schools poor quality of teaching especially in mathematics is due to unmotivated teachers. This results in poor quality of education.
13. An individual from YUVA stated that there are no BMC schools after 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the entire stretch of Malwani. Reservations for community centre or spaces which will take care of social amenities, women training centres and vocational training centres. Aanganwadis must have basic infrastructure like toilets, water and proper structural space.
14. An individual from KRIVIA stated that the current benchmarks for amenities like education, health and open spaces are extremely low. These are half of any standards followed in our country. This shows that the concept of public sphere in the city is extremely low and is continuously diminishing. Mapping of should be done per capita areas linked to income.
15. An individual from TISS asked for a road map to MCGM for planning for education, policy fallouts for public private partnership for education and asked for an audit of the profit agencies working within BMC schools.
16. ED, UDRI summarized the points discussed and emphasized on the urgency of detail slum mapping and asked for a commitment on integrated schools in DP. Can open spaces near BMC schools be reserved for BMC schools during schools hours instead of giving them out to the clubs. Development Control Regulations (DCR) to have set rules for schools without which permission to run or build a school must not be given.
17. ChE. DP stated that:

- Slum cluster detail mapping not required as of now. 151 sectors have been defined and will be taken into consideration for detail slum mapping during drafting Proposed Land Use (PLU). Ward level workshops will be conducted regarding amenities.
  - The ChE. DP committed to improve per capita standard considering current land constraints.
  - All BMC school plans are approved after scrutinizing of plans and checking for access for handicapped and computer room, libraries etc; hence all schools are handicapped friendly.
  - NGOs and concerned individuals must submit detail gaps for education to MCGM before ward level workshops are started so that they may work on that in advance.
18. DMC, Education stated that the Integrated schools up to standard 12<sup>th</sup> must be the minimum that the BMC should aspire to in the DP. He tried to put reservations for secondary schools. The Chikal Wadi School will be expanded. Community participation is needed in School Management Committees (SMC). He requested the attendees of the meeting to become a part of the SMC to improve quality of education. The constraints for toilet, light and ventilation are specific mainly for school running in the rented premises. He asked for a list of school with poor light and ventilation. The BMC expense is less than 20,000/child/year.
19. ED, UDRI requested that the planning sectors maps and details be made available publically on the MCGM website and the feedback for the same can be collected.
20. ChE. DP agreed to make the sector maps public once they are finalized.
21. Executive Committee Member, Pratham gave vote of thanks and concluded the meeting at 17:10 hrs.