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## Citizens to replicate steel flyover fight to other city projects

Bengaluru, Mar 4, 2017, DHNS:



**Encouraged by the positive outcome of the #steelflyoverbeda (no steel flyover) movement, citizen groups in Bengaluru want to keep up the momentum on #beku (want) projects.**

Besides the demand for the suburban train network, citizen groups demand speeding up of the Metro rail works, alternative routes to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) and increasing the BMTC's bus fleet.

At the same time, activists and citizen groups are up in arms against indiscriminate tree-cutting for infrastructure projects and the proposed elevated corridor aimed to ensure seamless travel across the city.

Prof T V Ramachandra, from the Centre for Environmental Sciences, IISc said that they now look forward to sustainable solutions in improving public transport and address traffic chaos. He said the same enthusiasm was also needed to save the natural resources like lakes, parks and trees, so that the future generation can enjoy them.

Priya Chetty, CXO Search Consultant and Citizens for Bengaluru member hoped that the government will go beyond looking at citizens only for votes and truly invest in both the city's and citizens' future.

"We offer ourselves as a volunteer partner to the government and its civic agencies to help create a model urban centre with working principles and practices of citizens' participation in governance. We have been working on realising the suburban train service (#ChukuBukuBeku) and strengthening of bus service (#BusBhagyaBeku) and will continue to do so with active citizens' participation on the ground," said D S Rajshekar, a citizen activist.

Vijay Nishanth, founder of Project Vruksha said that Bengaluru is known as a Garden City and at no cost chopping of trees will be allowed on Jayamahar Road. "We are not against projects and development of the city. Trees should be spared and there needs to be transparency in the project. Our next focus is on saving trees on Jayamahar Road," he said.