

Dear Participant,

Prajatantra is developed as a platform for young Indians to think, discuss and share their thoughts and opinions on matters of governance. Everybody is a part of the process of governance. Yet, only on selective occasions we play that part actively. We, through Prajatantra, are hoping to empower you and make you play an active role in running your cities.

While corresponding with you for over a month, we are super excited to see your active participation in the thematic competitions, finally. In the last two days, with each event, we experienced your passion, enthusiasm and visions for your cities. It was a thrilling journey. Your energy motivated us throughout this new journey. Yes, we too are new to the virtual execution of an event as big as Prajatantra at national level and are learning from our mistakes. We are aware that there were instances that caused inconvenience and we have deep regrets.

Lastly, a big shoutout to you! We are aware of the network glitches, powercuts you have to face while participating. Yet your commitment remains unchanged. No matter what the competition result is, we encourage you to continue your towards the domain of governance and citizenship. Make the best use of the lessons you will get from Prajatantra. We are here if you need any support or guidance.

Best wishes  
Prajatantra Team



PRAJATANTRA 2021



# PRAJA

*Beats* CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY

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SHAN REVOLUTIONARY STRANG TEAM PROGRESSIVE MEERUT HOI WELCOME AZAD DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND UNIVERSITY MAP  
SHIMLA OPTIMISTIC TIME KASHMIR JAY DAL CHOICE NEW PRAJATANTRA 2021 CLUB  
UNION EDMUNDIAN TEJOMATA AMITY POLITICAL PARTY MADHYA Srinagar YUVA PRAJAMUMBAI DRP 25 - 28 AUGUST 2021 NAYE  
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**PRAJATANTRA**  
CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY  
21 STATES  
3 UNION TERRITORY  
67 TEAMS  
500+ PARTICIPANTS



## MAYOR'S speech

**The Mayor speech** opened up the competitive front of the Prajatantra 2021. Throughout the event, passionate speeches delved into the domain of urban dialogue. Frequently discussed subjects were the pressing need for youth empowerment, opening up opportunities for women, housing and better roads. Response to Covid-19 was another common theme that indicated how deeply the ongoing pandemic is affecting our lives. Collectively every subject reflected what young Indians care about.

It was a welcome addition to the well-crafted speech when participants incorporated terms in their native tongue. This gesture reflected their connection with the local community and India's cultural diversity.

Participants' understanding of the municipal bodies and their commitment as the first citizen of their city amazed the adjudicating panels. Frequently admiring participants, judges also shared bits of their insights and experiences.



*What can we do for our youth? We will go to all colleges and fund them to provide internships and fellowships to their students to help uplift them and provide them with the required experience. We have also launched a scheme in our municipal cooperative bank to support small entrepreneurs to empower the youth.*

**Nagesh Naik**  
Sathaye College



## POLICY Presentation

**Solid Waste Management:** More than 40 colleges participated in the event, booming with excitement and enthusiasm. As participants hail from different states around the country, their views on this fundamental subject under city governance brought varied insightful thoughts. This diversity also facilitated inclusive discussion as garbage mismanagement is ravaging Indian cities. The majority of presentations featured the pressing need for segregation at source, recycle, scientific disposal, civilian and administration partnership to resolve the intensity of this challenge. Many also highlighted budgetary constraints administration faces. Some also pointed towards the rise of e-waste and bio-medical waste in the age of technology as well as a pandemic. One important highlight was the discussion on work done by Safai Sathis and the potential of social media platforms to raise awareness on the subject.


*Rather than drafting new policies to the existing ones in SWM, City governments must take measures to inculcate a culture in citizens to not litter, with the help of active awareness and strict, emphasized rules.*

**Satheeswaran N**  
Kumaraguru College, Tamil Nadu



*When you refuse to reuse, it's the earth you abuse*

**Babita Pathak**  
NBU Dehradun



**PRAJATANTRA 2021  
KNOWLEDGE SESSION**

**SOLID WASTE  
MANAGEMENT**

At Prajatantra, get a chance to hear experiences of field experts

<p><b>MODERATOR</b></p>  <p><b>Dr. Neville Mehta</b> CEO, Mumbai First</p>	<p><b>PANELLIST</b></p>  <p><b>Mr. Asad Warsi</b> CEO, EcoPro Consultants</p>
<p><b>PANELLIST</b></p>  <p><b>Pramod Dabruse</b> Director, Centre for Sustainable Environment and Development Initiatives LLP, Navi Mumbai</p>	<p><b>PANELLIST</b></p>  <p><b>Prof. Srinivas Chary</b> Director, Centre for Environment, Urban Governance and Infrastructure Development, ASCI</p>



POLICY Presentation

**Public Health:** Public Health policy was under the spotlight, considering the whole world is currently experiencing a pandemic. Throughout the sessions, presentations highlighted the vital role municipal bodies play to ensure public health at the foundational stage. While some participants, through their policies for a 'Model City Government', emphasised more on the niches of public health, others threw light on a wide range of aspects of Public Health. Moreover, the general sentiment of the policies emphasised reaching out to the economically and socially marginalised sections. Some policies even featured creating provisions for better healthcare management riding on the benefits of Information and Communication Technology. Interestingly, all the participants asserted that the significance of mental health in their policies. Mental health is still not openly discussed in our country. Hence youth's willingness to discuss it openly is a welcome step.

The question-and-answer session touched upon the factors such as Budget, finances and implementation that influences public health policies.



## PRAJATANTRA 2021 KNOWLEDGE SESSION PUBLIC HEALTH

At Prajatantra, get a chance to hear experiences of field experts

MODERATOR



**Dr. Mangesh S. Pednekar**  
Director, Healis - Sekhsaria Institute for Public Health

PANELLIST



**Prof. Dileep Mavalankar**  
Director, Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Gandhinagar



**Rakesh Jani**  
Strategic and Management Consultant



POLICY Presentation

## PRAJATANTRA 2021 KNOWLEDGE SESSION MOBILITY

At Prajatantra, get a chance to hear experiences of field experts

MODERATOR



**Tanushree Venkatraman**  
Communications Manager, World Resources Institute (India) Ross Centre

PANELLIST



**Dhawal Ashar**  
Senior Manager, World Resource Institute (WRI)

PANELLIST



**Prof. Shivanand Swamy**  
Director Emeritus, Centre of Excellence in Urban Transport, CRDF, CEPT University

PANELLIST



**Sujit Patwardhan**  
Founder & Trustee, Parisar

**Mobility:** Mobility policy focused on the aspects of transport and efficiency of modes. Ideas of pollution reduction and sustainability had a dominant footprint on presentations. The main emphasis was on the improvement of public transport and the use of environment-friendly vehicles and more.

Other points discussed were non-motorised transport and affordability. The speakers also spoke on the complexity of the web of transport that features; road mapping, peak time, bus card facilities, cycle paths, pedestrianisation, electric buses and more.

Participants also discussed how geographical factors such as topography impacts transport.

The judges found the policy plans too ambitious and emphasised the topic of budget planning of the policies. As their advice, judges emphasised taking inspiration from successful Global ideas and finding ways of applying them at the local level.



*Do we really need an expensive edition of the Coastal Road to city while Mumbai's internal roads remain in bad condition? I would rather scrap an extravaganza and use those funds on the existing roads.*

**Pradnya Awade,**  
Mumbai University



**Municipal Finance:** The participants hailed from different states around the country and provided insights from their respective municipal areas.



The diversity of the participants allowed inclusive discussion from common subjects unique to local urban bodies. The discussion revolved around taxable and non-taxable revenue, public-private partnership and laws governing taxation. The urban local bodies face many developmental challenges due to the paucity of funds. It was noted that states control powers.

Another point of contention was financial inequalities between big and rich corporations like Mumbai or Bengaluru and smaller cities such as Patna or Gangtok. Points were raised regarding the accountability of municipal bodies and the auditing process. Various creative solutions were also put forth to counter the structural and non-structural challenges, viz., empowerment of local communities and awareness campaigns, strengthening the digital communities, increasing the accountability of municipal authorities, social audit of developmental projects, urban mapping, free citizen participation and more. A participant from Patna University suggested the "Sahbhagi Budget" for an inclusive society.


POLICY Presentation

**PRAJATANTRA 2021  
 KNOWLEDGE SESSION**

**MUNICIPAL FINANCE**


At Prajatantra, get a chance to hear experiences of field experts

MODERATOR




**Prof. VN Alok**  
 Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Public Administration

PANELLIST



**Debarpita Roy**  
 Fellow, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)



**Ravikant Joshi**  
 Former Chief Accountant of Vadodara Municipal Corporation, Urban Finance and Management Specialist




**Prajatantra Debate** revolved around two key themes under urban governance- solid waste management and health. Both motions featured unique perspectives brought by the participants.

The solid waste management theme featured the dilemma of scientific segregation and decentralised. Most of the participants, however, asserted their faith in the method of decentralisation. Ultimately it won the vote from the majority. Discussions focused on the techniques to make decentralisation more effective, stakeholder management, citizen responsibility. Participants also emphasised forming a just system to achieve these outcomes.


The second topic directed conversations on the division of municipal funds between primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of health subject. In the purview of the pandemic, the subject was under the spotlight.

DEBATE Policies

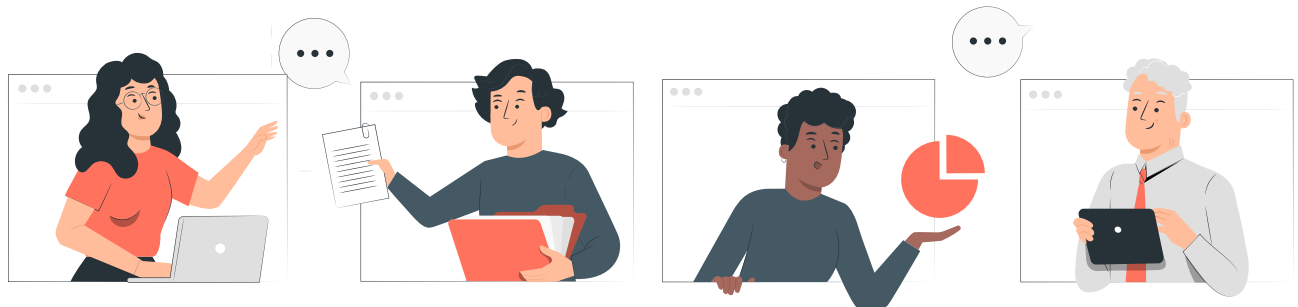


Bring People Together

TEZPUR UNIVERSITY



# #SahbhagiBudget





## QUIZ Competition

**The quiz** round tapped on participants' knowledge on matters under governance. Subjects featured predominantly were facets of the Indian Constitution, urban governance and issues chosen for Prajatantra.

Despite their multistream backgrounds, all participants shared their passion for quizzing and mining knowledge. Tensions were high in each room as only one participant was permitted to answer questions in each round. All entrants also found themselves in the race against time in the fast-paced world of question and answer.

Unfortunately, the excitement of quizzing marred when a handful of participants failed to submit their answers due to a network error or an unexpected power cut. Overall, participants enjoyed the experience and also showed their interests in continue to learn more about the topics covered. Some also suggested Prajatantra team to send some reading material in advance to them.

*I really enjoyed the game. All I wished for a little extra time. Next time onwards though I will prepare to read faster to not miss out.*

**Vandana Kumari**

Centre of Excellence, Government Post Graduate college, Sanjauli

#InvolveToSolve  
#SayNoToMixWaste  
#ICanPickUpLitter  
#Prajabeats  
#IStandWithCityGovernment



## SOCIAL Media

**Social Media:** Two hours of the event were filled with creative ideas to tap the potential of this new age tool.

Participants lay out their innovative roadmaps to connect with every age group. Along with innovation, practicality was an essential component of the social media strategies. Most strategies focused on Facebook and Instagram, reflecting the most popular social media platforms among Indian youth. Another favourite platform was LinkedIn which is known to publish more professional content. Participants presented posters, hashtags, reels and articles to support their causes. Participants also made sure to involve senior citizens through radios and newspapers. They also talked about social media marketing costs and how it works. Besides social media, some strategies also featured specialised app where citizens can easily submit their grievances. Teams also came up with the necessity to create a wing to deal with social media. Some also suggested that youth can be involved to run such wings with no profit interests.

