What is People’s Manifesto?

The People’s Manifesto is a statement of agenda for future development made by the citizens of Brahmapur. It is a statement of local objectives based on the ground realities and aspirations of people living in Brahampur city, and an assertion that, it is not merely our votes but also our voices that need to be heard.

Why develop People’s Manifesto?

Manifesto is one of the key documents that is integral to the electoral politics of India. A manifesto consists of the basic road map of what a party would do in case if it is voted to power. However, in the recent past, many of the issues related to people are not finding place neither in election manifesto nor in the debates of the political parties. In this backdrop, people’s manifesto is an attempt to bring back the people-centric issues in to the centre stage of the Indian democratic electoral politics. This in turn empowers the people to influence political parties to move towards good governance. The manifesto formulated by people of the Brahmapur City would help in addressing more pertinent issues related to governance. People in turn would pressurize political parties to include these issues in their own manifests, thereby generating larger political debate on governance issues. Thus, people’s manifesto allows bringing back the core of Indian democracy -- PEOPLE.

How will the People’s Manifesto be developed?

People’s Manifesto will be put into action through 20 local hearings in selected slums and one civil society consultation will be organized. The process includes, direct consultations or ‘local hearings’ will be held in 20 selected wards in Brahampur city. Each of these hearings will result in the formation of 10 Key Demands for ‘Governance & Development’ prioritized by the local people and also a “Children’s Manifesto” will also be designed outlining the priorities of children for their safe and healthy living in slums. Every local hearing will conclude with the presentation of the Manifesto to the existing representatives expected to contest the upcoming civic elections in order to ensure the integration of demands in their future agenda.
How will the People’s Manifesto Influence the Political Agenda?

The People’s Manifesto aims to facilitate a systematic process of engagement with political parties at the local level to integrate people’s priorities in their agenda for the civic elections. The presentation of the Manifesto to current and potential elected representatives during the course of the local hearings will enable the negotiation and representation of demands. Following this, meetings with state and national party offices will be organized to present the People’s Manifesto and demands its inclusion in their election manifestos and post-election governance charters. The collaboration of regional and national media at every stage will be an integral strategy to ensure public opinion and political will for the People’s Manifesto.

Get Involved

- Identify slums and places in which you can initiate / contribute to the People’s Manifesto process
- Organize meeting of local people, groups and organizations who would be interested in contributing to the Local Manifesto process
- Present a draft of key issues and priorities at the Local Hearing across local groups for their inputs and consensus.
- Organize a meeting of the participating groups, civil society to outline the 10 Key Demands for the People’s Manifesto, and the final demands.
- Identify local representatives who can set the context for the demands that will be presented at the Hearing, and include experts, public personalities and community leaders who can add their perspective and inputs to strengthen the local agenda.
- Inform the media about the Local Hearing and publicize the upcoming programme. Work directly with local groups to ensure a quorum of participants for the meeting.
- Print copies of the ‘People’s Manifesto’ and ‘Children’s Manifesto’ which will be released to the media and handed over to political representatives at the culmination of the local Hearing.
- Send a Statement of Outcomes along with the local People’s Manifesto to the media, the political parties and civil society networks.
- For further information, if you are interested to organize a local hearing in Brahmapur city or wish to participate in a local hearing please contact Youth for Social Development at info@ysdindia.org or call +91680 6450804 or you can write us

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