

Metro life

YOUR BOND WITH BANGALORE



Bollywood actress Sonakshi Sinha says that all is well between Salman Khan and her

POSITIVE OUTLOOK

'I wish I could come here more often'



GROUNDNED Pratek Babbar

There might be a lot of expectations from Pratek Babbar looking at the legacy that he has, but the young actor believes in action and not words. He talked about his future plans when he came to the City to launch the Logo Ferrari Model Collectibles from Shell. "I wish I could come here more often, I haven't seen much of it as yet. I used to visit Bangalore as a kid. A very close friend of my mother had

thriller where I play a writer. I don't write personally. I might write a few random verses but I doodle. People ask me if I draw but I prefer to call it doodling. My grandmother shouts and screams at me because I waste a lot of pages. When I am sitting bored at home, I fill numerous pages with the doodles," he gapes. Being it has become quite a tad in Bollywood but Pratek opines that it is a personal choice that an actor makes.

MESSY AFFAIR

Come rain and it stinks!

A sudden downpour not only triggers traffic jams and dogs manholes but most times, the garbage is left unattended till the next day. Garbage strewn on the road side gets mixed with slush and rain water giving out a stench, forcing commuters to negotiate the garbage-ridden stretch to get to their destination.

Worse still, heaps of uncollected garbage act as a fount of a host of illnesses. The BBMP officials continue to claim that garbage is collected on a regular basis in the City and they say that it becomes more easier to pick garbage after it rains. BBMP commissioner M Lakshmi narayana reasons that when it rains, it is easier to collect the garbage.

"The water minimises the dust and it is quicker to remove garbage. In a few foreign countries, the roads are not swept but washed with water but that can't be done here. Of course, in low-lying areas, it is a problem but we ensure that all the



STENCH Uncollected garbage clog drains leading to water stagnation.

18,000 odd *pourakarmikas* assemble at a common point and then disperse to collect the garbage," says Lakshminarayana. Lakshminarayana further states that the wet garbage is removed manually and not with the help of a machine.

"The *pourakarmikas* are each given a hand shovel, which they use to pick up the wet waste after they rains and dump it into the garbage van," he adds. When asked why after every spell of rains, the garbage lies uncollected, the next day, Lakshminarayana says, "There may be

some delay in collection but we will ensure that it is done." Uncollected garbage at street corners and sometimes on main roads is a common sight and doctors fear this garbage dump could trigger a host of illnesses. Rajeeva Moger, senior consultant, physician, Apollo Hospitals reasons that wet garbage is a good breeding ground for rodents and mosquitoes. "Uncollected garbage can pose a threat to people, especially children and older people, who are vulnerable to contracting diseases pretty fast. Wet garbage could lead to rat fever, typhoid and diarrhoea," says Rajeeva. He further states that dried uncollected garbage could trigger skin allergies and respiratory illnesses among people. People feel that the BBMP is doing a shoddy job, when it comes to collecting garbage on time. They state



Soma Majumdar

that after a night's downpour, garbage mixed with water, remain neglected. Krishnan Jagadeesan, a resident of Banerghatta Road, points out that while a few residents have been following waste segregation, the *pourakarmikas* have not bothered to follow the segregation process. The segregated waste is dumped in a common ground.

"There is little or no monitoring of the waste-pickers who dump the collected waste at any available vacant spot. When there is heavy rainfall, it becomes even more messy and the roads and bylanes stink with trash," he says.

Soma Majumdar, a resident of an apartment complex in Kammanahalli, agrees. "After it rains, there are certain street corners and remains uncollected even the next day. Unless there's a strike, I don't know why there is no regular garbage collection and rent-walk" she wonders. Nina C George



WATCH OUT! Heap of garbage on Dickenson Road.



Krishnan Jagadeesan