...nches campaign ...ck the sparrows

The posters will be placed in malls, important junctions, market places and areas frequented by people.

Rohini Ghatpande, another volunteer, said boxes made of soil (earlier cardboard boxes were used) would be used as sparrow nests.

The volunteers have devised short- and long-term strategies for bringing back sparrows. While giving away sparrow nests is a short-term goal, the bigger goal is that of planting saplings that attract these birds. "We will appeal to every resident to participate in the drive," Rohini added.

Those who want to be part of the drive can call BBMP's wildlife helpline 9880108801.

IIScians to keep a vig-eye on graft

They plan to spread awareness of the CVC's 'Project Vigeye', as well as patrol across the city to record and report cases of corruption

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The fight to eradicate corruption is often so weak-hearted that the campaign generally fizzles out before any lasting result is achieved. But students of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have other ideas, literally.

The students have formed a group called Nation First Initiative and plan to offer unstinted support to the Central Vigilance Commission's (CVC) Project Vigeye, a citizen-centric platform aimed at eradicating corruption. The group plans to spread awareness about the project and also help iron out technical deficiencies in it.

These students also plan to go around the city to record and report cases of corruption to the CVC.

Amogh Sahaje, who is doing his Master's at the prestigious institute, said, "We see corruption and malpractice going on all around us day in and day out, but instead of reporting these cases we tend to keep quiet and do nothing. This is not only because of fear of repercussions, but also the complex and cumbersome process of filing a complaint. Vigeye helps make the entire process easy."

To learn more about the project, the group recently attended an interactive session with Raja Seevan, founder trustee of Indian Centre for Social Transformation, which developed the project. "One simply has to log on to www.vigeye.com and register for web or mobile complaints or send SMS VIGEYE to 09223174440," said Rohan Deshmukh, a doctoral student. "Now, anywhere you see corruption or crime, you can take a photo, record the voice or video and upload this with your complaint. The best part is that the complainants remain anonymous. The complaint goes to the CVC, who will then take it

Vigeye helps people report corruption anonymously and on the the go

WHAT VIGEYE MEANS

Vigeye, short for Vigilant Eye, is a project launched by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to tackle corruption. It is a forum through which any citizen can report a case of corruption or crime anonymously through the internet or through a mobile application. Mobile Vigeye facilitates real-time submission of complaints. The complaint along with supporting evidence is automatically uploaded via 3G /GPRS / Wifi network to back-office of the CVC. From here it is forwarded to the respective vigilance officer. The status of the complaint along with attached information is made available for reference in the Vigeye login page.

REGISTERING A COMPLAINT

There are number of channels through which citizens can air their grievances and complaints.

Mobile phones: Download the mobile application from the CVC website . Complaints can be better articulated with additional data like audio/ video/ photo evidence directly from mobiles.

Internet: Fill up the complaint form online and attach audio/ video/photo evidence.

Telephone: Help lines have been set up. The CVO concerned will interact with the complainant directly over phone/email or in person, as the case may be. Status of the complaint is communicated back to the complainant.

forward."

Vigeye was instrumental in unearthing scams related to the 2010 Commonwealth Games. Students believe that it could also help root out instances of corruption in everyday life.

Banke Bihari, another Master's student, said, "More and more people making use of this system will not only help bring in more transparency but also help fight crime. We are trying to make this project popular in the campus community as well

as outside through word of mouth and social networks."

Manash Chakraborty, a member of the group, added that the project needs some technical improvements and the group is trying to solve them with the talent available within the IISc campus.

"The mobile application works only on Symbian phones," he said. "We have invited experts and students to develop an application compatible with Android phones."

Prosecution loses 70 % of cases, says HC