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Civic teachers to get training in English language

MUMBAI: Experts from British Council will train civic schoolteachers in English language. The BMC will pay the organization Rs 1.1 crore for the English language training programme, which will be implemented phasewise, for five years.

In the initial phase, 30 civic teachers will be trained for 60 days this year, and another 60 days next year. Then select teachers from the first batch will train 2,400 others in the second batch. The BMC aims to train 9,600 teachers in the next five years under this programme.

"The training by British Council is for semi-English pattern under which subjects, like maths and science, will be taught in English language after class VIII," said Manoj Kotak, chairman of the civic education committee.

Amid the rising clamour for education in English language, the civic body has decided to introduce semi-English pattern in 250 classes of its 177 schools by next year.

In 2007, 21,899 children studied in English-medium civic schools; the number rose to 52,384 by 2012. The BMC's decision to start civic English medium schools, called Mumbai

Public Schools, has also paid rich dividends by the huge response. The civic body has planned to start 84 English-medium schools.