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Govt must stop fooling people about Bellandur lake revival: experts

News Service, Bengaluru, Aug 23 2017, 4:21 IST



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So far, a total of 100 cubic metres of solid waste and weeds from 350 acres area of the lake have been removed and dumped in a stone quarry on the outskirts of Bengaluru. DH FILE PHOTO

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Conservationists and citizens point out that the government should now stop fooling people about the rejuvenation of Bellandur lake and make its reports on the progress on reviving the lake public.

Reacting to the hearing on the Bellandur lake revival before the NGT on Tuesday, Prof T V Ramachandra, Co-ordinator, Energy and Wetlands Research Group, said, "It is very unfortunate. Only weeding has been done. Encroachment has not been cleared, solid waste and construction debris are still being dumped in the lake bed and inlets. Though a 60 mld treatment plant was recently inaugurated, the water quality is still the same. Frothing has not come down," he said.

Members of the expert committee point out that short term measures which were listed out a year ago have not been implemented.

"The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) is still clearing weeds. The apartments continue to let untreated water into the lake. The water quality is not regularly monitored and details are also not shared. Other stakeholders have also not worked on reducing the velocity of water at weirs to reduce frothing," said an expert committee member on condition of anonymity.

Sridhar Pabbisetty, CEO of Namma Bengaluru Foundation and petitioner said the arguments in the court show that the government is still not in control of the process of rejuvenating the lake.



"It shows the government's lack of sincerity in implementing the previous NGT orders. Different arms of the government contradict each other on ground. Hence, the day-to-day plans and developments should be put in public domain so that citizens can evaluate and hold the government accountable," he said.

The expert committee members now hope that the NGT would question the state government on why the BDA is seeking the help of other agencies when they are unable to follow the expert committee's directions.

"The BDA and urban development department (UDD) have not consulted the expert committee before seeking help from outsiders. The microbes introduced by outsourced experts could have an adverse effect on the environment as the organisms and microbes have not been studied," added the committee member.

'Negligence exposed'

Rajya Sabha member and Founder Trustee, Namma Bengaluru Foundation, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, said the NGT hearing has exposed the government's negligence about following court orders.

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f being a witch

“CEO of Karnataka Lake Conservation Development Authority (KLCDA) refused to support the state government counsel’s contentions about work done on the lake following courts orders,” he said.

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**namit namit** • a month ago

Politicians, Govt workers apart - the root cause of all filth is we all - yes, all of us. We want the govt to do everything for us. We litter streets - a govt worker must be behind us to clean up. We relieve on the streets - a govt worker must be behind us to clean up. Cleanliness comes from the people and must be taught in schools like in the US - If there is Dengue - it's all govt fault - our drains, streets are clogged because we throw plastic. so for every person there must be one public servant behind us. Let's wake up and take the responsibility on ourselves.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Mr.Singh** • a month ago

All these workers and watchers are walking around in this toxic material..show where the cleaning effort is! at least the workers should be wearing some protective material that does not expose this body to this foam!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**keshavapuri** • a month ago

cleaning bellanduru kere is not a joke. no one in world has the technology. the inventor for this technology does not come forward on his own. he has to be approached. no authority is serious in this job.

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**Murali** • a month ago

If you want to get the work done quickly, I suggest we force the entire lot of politicians and babu's to work from belandur lake...

they should feel the pain and agony !!! specially all those who took bribes to allow a lake to die. Make them drink this water..

Just sick of hearing excuses... Get a hit squad and start neutralizing the corrupt..

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**ravindra k** • a month ago

sidda shud develop the Ice skying and other games under some "Hima corrupt Bhagya"or "Nore corruption siri" etc scheme and reserve 70% for ahinda & backward communities!! ..and name it as!! ...also order CID probe and give clean chit after implementing schemes..!!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Basavaraj Patil** • a month ago

what was NGT doing for last 15 years? Instead of giving summon, order, why don't they work on ground? what is that useless rajeev was doing for last 12 years as Bengaluru MP? was he sleeping when his party BJP looting state ruining bengaluru?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**hari** → Basavaraj Patil • a month ago

i agree with you..... where there is a will there is way...if 100+ canteens can be built in 3 weeks, why not lake can be rejuvenated in last 3 years.. very logical.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Mahendra** • a month ago

BBMP, BDA, BWSSB officials, hope you are sending your children to schools, where lessons on Environment, cleanliness, Forestation was taught, even you would have helped projects on Environment...

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**2050** → Mahendra • a month ago

Well sir that will be only for school projects and academics, in reality they will be

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