

News letter of 
Bangalore
Environment
Trust (Regd.)

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**CORPORATE PARTICIPATION IN CELEBRATING
 ENVIRONMENT DAY BY PLANTING TREE SAPLINGS AT
 CHINNAPPANA HALLI KERE**



Laake Island being planted



Lake view with ducks floating



Planted by Mr. Reddy, Corporator

As a part of corporate responsibility, employees of the Siemens Information Processing Services Limited, Bangalore participated in observing ENVIRONMENT DAY by planting tree saplings at Chinnappanahalli Kere, Mahadevapura, Bangalore on 5th June 2010. Local Corporator, Mr. Reddy and residents of the area also participated in planting tree saplings and useful medicinal plants along the Lake bund. About 400 saplings were planted on that day.

The event was organised by the Bangalore environment Trust in collaboration with the Chief Engineer, Lake Project, BBMP and the Siemens Information Processing Services Limited, Bangalore.

The Lake at Chinnappanahalli is about 12 acres in area with two small islands in it. The BBMP engineers have been able to restore the Lake after removing the encroachments to the extent possible and developed the Lake with removing the silt, cleaning the weeds, diverting sewerage, providing storm water filtration, fencing and pavements. At present there is about 2-3 m deep water in the lake.

Siemens wanted to adopt this particular lake as a part of their corporate responsibility and wanted technical guidance in carrying out improvement of environment by adopting this lake. Formally, they wanted to start the activity on the eve of Environmental Day.

Since Bangalore Environment Trust is involved in the concerns of the Bangalore Environment, necessary technical guidance was sought by Siemens for growing trees and maintaining the lake thereby fulfilling their corporate responsibility.

Accordingly, on 5th June, from 7.30 a.m. to 1130 a.m., planting was done involving about 60 employees of Siemens, local Corporator Mr. Reddy and local inhabitants, besides the officials of the BBMP. About 400 saplings were planted on this occasion. On 26th June, again plantation of saplings was organised in which about 60 employees of Siemens along with their CEO and Chief Engineer, BBMP (Lake) also took part. About 170 saplings were planted on that day, totaling about 570 saplings planted up.

In the selection of plant species, it has been emphasized that biodiversity elements are taken care of, so as to attract birds, bees and butterflies. Plants planted should be able to provide healthy environment for a harmonious co-existence of other biological entities useful to man and his habitat. The event created an enthusiasm and awareness on the importance of lakes and role of biodiversity for a safe and healthy future of mankind.

- Dr. Sadananda Hegde, Bangalore

PLANTATION PROGRAM AT HEROHALLI LAKE WITH CORPORATE PARTICIPATION



Planted by Mr. Reddy, Corporator



Ceremonial planting by Ms. Shobha Karandlaje

Lakes are life lines of any village, town or a city. In India, lakes are considered as sacred and normally are associated with temples. Bangalore, once known as “City of Thousand Lakes” fulfilled the objectives of drinking water, irrigation and religious needs. Rain water draining down from the catchments area into the Lakes that are linked with down stream ones, lead to the formation of streams and rivers, thus fulfilling the water needs for various human settlements and activities. Herohalli Lake situated along the Magadi road in Bangalore is one such Lake established about 150 years ago with a temple on its bank giving it a sanctity and fulfilling the water needs for drinking, irrigation and contributing the overall healthy environment of the villages down stream.

However, with the growth of the city of Bangalore, sanctity and condition of the Lake deteriorated with encroachments, sewerage flowing into it, silt deposits and invasion of weeds into the water body.

Realizing the importance of Lakes that are vanishing with encroachments and deteriorating conditions, government of Karnataka initiated Lake Restoration program under BBMP and other government agencies like BDA and Forest Department.



10' tall date palm

Restoration of Herohalli Lake was taken up by BBMP about two years ago and restoration works like removing encroachments, fencing, construction of gazeboes, desilting, diversion of sewerage, storm water filtration, Lake Bund improvements pavements of the bund and tree plantation have been completed by them.

At this moment, United Way of Bengaluru (UWBe) and Bangalore Environment Trust (BET) have joined in hands with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to supplement their efforts in restoration of Lakes in Bangalore, especially for tree plantation, beautification and maintenance of Lakes. The goal is to make this lake people-friendly,

prevent it from degradation, in the long run retain water and improve the environment.

Accordingly on 21st August, 2010, tree plantation program was organized by BET jointly with BBMP and UWBe. As many as 120 people participated in the event. Local MLA, Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, inaugurated the planting ceremony by planting a tree sapling which was followed by planting of saplings by Mr. Manish Michael, UWbe, Capt. S. Prabhala, Chairman BET, dignitaries and employees of Quintile and Qwest Companies. About 200 selected tree saplings belonging to about 23 different species were planted with an objective to maintain biodiversity of the lake environ, to attract birds, bees, butterflies and other animals that feed on fruits, flowers, tender leaves, flowers, etc, besides adding aesthetic and ethno medicinal value in the surroundings of the lake. Tall tree saplings measuring about 6' to 12' in height are the specialty to ensure survival and fast growth of trees planted. Some of the important species chosen for planting are listed below along with their usage and importance.



12' tall Tabubea tree sapling

(Contd... to page 4)

PROCESS OF TRANSPLANTATION OF FICUS RELIGIOSA PEEPAL TREE AT KSHEERAVANA, BANGALORE UNIVERSITY



Standing Ficus tree

On 6th June 2010, a Peepal (Aralimara) tree (Ficus religiosa) was transplanted successfully from a private property of one Dr. Tyagaraja, at Byatarayanapura, Mysore Road to Jnana Bharati Campus, Bangalore University. The entire operation lasted about seven hours from 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM. The tree measured about 8' girth at chest height and about 50' tall with huge canopy of mighty branches spread all around endangering the adjacent houses/buildings.

Hence, the owner of the property Ddr. Tyagaraja approached Mr. Govardhan of Bangalore Environment Trust who in turn asked me to help them transplanting the tree. Dr. A. N. Yellappa Reddy suggested to transplant the tree to Ksheeraa Vana in Biodiversity Park of Bangalore University Campus and showed the site. The Vice Chancellor BU permitted to transplant the same to that location. Following is the process adopted for transplanting and after care of the same.

1. Necessary permission was obtained from Forest authorities of BBMP and other authorities concerned before taking up tree transplantation work.
2. Occupants of the adjacent houses were asked to vacate to avoid any mishap at the time of pruning the branches and lifting the tree
3. Approach was made for the movement of JCB, crane, tractor and truck for the movement. Electric lines were disconnected.
4. At first, larger side branches were pruned with the help of power saw. Care was taken to tie up the branches with steel chains and held up by the crane. Each branch was cut at the desired height (14') neatly with out any crack of the branches; the branch was gradually brought down to the assigned site without harming any structure/ building nearby. One by one all branches were cut/pruned. The cut-ends were applied with fungicide. The trunk was covered with a pad of straw not to harm the trunk. The trunk was tied up with ropes/chains and held up by the



Pruned branches safely brought down by crane



Uprooted tree being loaded on to the truck

crane so as not to allow it to tilt.

5. About 6' deep trench was dug around the tree trunk about 4' away, with the help of JCB carefully, not to damage the roots. Lateral roots were pruned and treated with fungicides. At the bottom of the trench, soil was removed at bit all around the tap root.
6. The trunk of the tree was lifted up by the crane and also with the help of the JCB to lift the ball of earth surrounding the roots.
7. The lifted tree trunk was gradually placed over the truck. Tied to the body of the truck so as to avoid tilting to any side while in motion.
8. All the pruned branches were cut into size and cleared the debris. They were sent to the designated dump yard with the help of tractor.
9. All care was taken not damage any buildings and other civic amenities.
10. The loaded tree trunk was transported to BU Campus about 3 KM away.
11. Mean while the pit measuring 7x7' was kept ready on the previous day only with preliminary treatment of sand soil and manure.
12. The tree was transplanted into the pit with the help of crane, positioned upright, and filled up with soil with the help of JCB.
13. It was ensured to insert PVC pipes (one inch size, 8' long) on either side to pour water and "Jeevamrutha" an organic fertilizer prepared for revitalizing the growth of the tree.
14. The trunk was once again covered with the straw and poured water allover the trunk covered with straw to keep it wet and humid. Water was poured in to the pipe to the bottom so as to soak the bottom soil and water was also poured around the tree base so that the entire soil around the root ball is wet.
15. Water was applied thrice a week in the first week. Frequency was reduced after one month and stopped on rainy season.
16. Within a week leaf primordial appeared here and there on tree trunk. New sprouts appeared with 4-5 leaves with in a fortnight. Several sprouts with 8-1- leaves with small branches appeared with in a month. In about two month's time, the trunk was covered with number of branches with leaves.
17. The straw was removed after 15 days to facilitate branches to grow and to avoid attack of termites.

This technique of transplantation has proved to be a success and can be adopted for transplanting other trees also.

- Dr. Sadananda Hegde,
09448905455.



Girth at chest height



Roots pruned, treated trunk covered with staraw

LIST OF TREE SAPPLINGS FOR PLANTING AT HEROHALLI LAKE

- | Sl. No. | Name of species & their importance
Park Area |
|---------|---|
| 1. | Madhuka latifolia: Mohwa, The butter tree; Birds, bats feed on petals |
| 2. | Calophyllum inophyllum: Undimara; Alexandrian Laurel; Sweet scented; Oil useful in rheumatism, |
| 3. | Lagerstroemia speciosa: Pride of India; Hole dasavala; Purple-mauve fls; Medicinal, timber |
| 4. | Tecoma/Tabubea: Tree of Gold; ornamental Walk-way |
| 5. | Palms (Phoenix sp.) Date palm; ornamental, yields edible fruits. Birds & bees attracted. |
| 6. | Bauhinia variegata: Basavanapada; Ornamental, dye-yielding, medicinal(for ulcer, leprosy) |
| 7. | B. purpurea: As above. Purple fls. |
| 8. | Nictanthus arbor-tristis: Parijata, Mythological, sweet scented; bees attracted. |
| 9. | Syzigium jambos: Nerale; Medicinal; attracts birds & bees. |
| 10. | Anthocephalus kadamba: Kadamba; Mythological; ornamental; wood for box making; bats feed on fruits |
| 11. | Terminalia arjuna: Bilematti; Medicinal; feed for wild silk worms; timber |
| 12. | Albizia labbec: Kalbagie; Siris; Bark for snake bite; timber |
| 13. | Butea monosperma: Muttuga; Sacred tree; Medicinal for snake bites |
| 14. | Pongamia pinnata/glabra: Honge; Yields oil- used for mixing with diesel, soap making etc. Medicinal. |
| 15. | Azadirachta indica(Neem): Bevu; Sacred tree; Medicinal; purifies air. |
| 16. | Michelia champaca; Sampige mara; Ever green tree producing fragrant flowers. Good timber Children Play Area |
| 17. | Mangifera indica: Mango; edible. Branches delight children to play Islands |
| 18. | Bamboo: Multipurpose giant grass; Young shoots edible. Branches & leaves used by birds for building nests |
| 19. | Ficus sp.: Key-stone species. Fruits edible & attracts animals, birds& bees. |

Dr. Sadananda Hegde,
Bangalore Environment Trust, Bangalore.

LIST OF TRUSTEES

1. Capt. S. Prabhala
Former CMD, Bharat Electronics Ltd
2. Mohan Bopaiah
Architect
3. Zafar Futehally
Environmentalist
4. Urmila Devi Kotda Sangani
Committee Member,
International Music & Art Society
5. G. Govardhan
Administrator, BET
6. Ravi Thumboo Chetty
Former Sr. Vice President
HCL INFOSYSTEMS
7. A.N. Yellappa Reddy IFS (Retd.)
Chairman, Biodiversity committee of
Karnataka
8. D.T. Devare
H.R. Consultant
9. Ashwini Kumar
Former Director, United Way, Bengaluru
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Former Vice President, Boyden Global
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11. V.R. Thiruvady
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