

## Ground report: Chennai's Porur lake on verge of getting dry

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**Chennai:** In our continuous coverage of the water crisis in Chennai, today we bring to you the ground report from Porur lake which is on the verge of getting dry.

The lake has a surface area of 4500 acres and the capacity to hold 3300 million cubic litres of water. The lake currently holds 2 million cubic litres of water which is full of silt.

Porur lake along with Chembarambakkam lake are providers of the drinking water to Chennai. The lake has almost completely gone dry with no vegetation at all. The sand has become completely sun baked.

Though authorities claimed there is 2 million cubic litres of water in the lake but our ground check show not a single drop of water in the lake.

Earlier, Mirror Now reported that the Chennai residents have started to move out of the city or shifting to other locations hoping to get better water supply.

The failed monsoon in 2018 and insufficient rainfall in 2017 have led to depletion of ground water thereby causing severe water crisis in the city.

The state government declared nearly 17 districts including Chennai and Kancheepuram as drought-hit earlier last month.

According to a report in *Times of India*, these two districts reported insufficient rains between 19 percent and 59 percent last year.

As the temperature rises across the country, Bengaluru also faces similar water crisis. According to reports, groundwater in Bengaluru will not be available by the year 2020. As the locals of Bengaluru are struggling to fight the dry spell, the administration seems to be inefficient in managing the water crisis. According to activists, the government needs to come up with a strong water policy.

Once known as the Garden City of India, Bengaluru is now struggling to provide water to its residents. TV Ramachandra, a professor at Indian Institute of Science (IISc), told Mirror Now that there is no way one can reach the groundwater resources. Ramachandra blamed 88 per cent reduction in green cover and 79 per cent reduction in water bodies to be the root cause of the ensuing water crisis.