

Karnataka government to ban construction of apartments, BBMP begins rejuvenation of lakes

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With most of Bengaluru reeling under water crisis, the government has constantly been criticised for not devising measures to put an end to the woes of the people.



The Deputy Chief Minister of the state, Dr G Parmeshwara has said that they are planning to ban the construction of new apartments (Representative Image). | Photo Credit: Getty Images

Key Highlights

- Most of the lakes in Bengaluru were found to be silted in the month of May.
- BBMP Commissioner Manjunath Prasad claimed that rejuvenation of lakes will be complete in the next three years.

Bengaluru: The water crisis in Karnataka has had severe implications in the past few years - with drought-like conditions and severe drinking water shortage. The Karnataka government is now mulling a ban on the construction of new buildings. The intensifying water crisis has forced the administration to rethink the construction of new buildings for the next five years.

The deputy chief minister of the state, Dr G Parmeshwara has said that they are planning to ban the construction of new apartments because these buildings are being constructed without making adequate arrangements for necessities like drinking water.

The move is being criticised by the locals and is being called a 'blanket ban'. While the decision will affect the infrastructure of the city and the builder, its efficiency in battling the water crisis is highly questionable.

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BBMP to begin rejuvenation of lakes

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has claimed that rejuvenation of the lakes in Bengaluru has begun in several parts of the city. BBMP Municipal Commissioner Manjunath Prasad said that the civic body has started the process of rejuvenation to make sure that sewage does not enter the lakes.

Prasad said that "presently there are around 148 lakes that fall under the jurisdiction of the BBMP and the civic body has already rejuvenated around 93 lakes. Prasad added they will introduce techniques for rainwater harvesting in the city.

Bengaluru to run out of water by 2020

A report given by *Mirror Now* in June suggested that Bengaluru will run out of groundwater by 2020. Ramchandra, professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) said that there is no way one can reach the groundwater resources. According to Ramchandra, the 88 per cent decline in green cover and 79 per cent reduction in water bodies is to be blamed for the shortage of water.

A local said that due to power cuts, the supply of water is often interrupted. With the intensifying water crisis, the locals have to buy water even for their daily chores.