

B'lore's G-factor: 0.17 tree per person

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The pace of development of the IT city of India seems to have taken a toll on its ecology. The present green-factor of erstwhile Garden City reveals a scary picture with just 17 trees per 100 people. It is not just Bangalore, but even cities like Mumbai, Ahmedabad too are treading on the same path with dwindling green cover. Environmental Information System (ENVIS), centre of the IISc in association with Karnataka Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), released a technical report on the trees of Bangalore on Thursday. According to the report, while Bangalore has just 17 trees for every 100 people, Mumbai has just 15 trees and Ahmedabad 11 trees for 100 persons.

In 1973, Bangalore flaunted 68.27 per cent vegetation cover. But by 2012, within four decades of the IT boom, the city has just 23.25 per cent vegetation, according to the report.

The ward-wise study by the IISc scientists revealed that areas like Chickpet, Shivajinagar, Padarayanapura have just about 100 trees (1 tree for 500 people) while locations like Bellandur, Jakkur, Varthur, Agara and Aramane Nagar hosted more than 40,000 trees (one tree for every person). As per the report, Bangalore has a total of 14,78,412 trees.

However, contrary to these panic figures both Gandhinagar in Gujarat and Nashik in Maharashtra have scored well with 4 trees and 1 tree per person respectively.

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