

The Bhar Prathisi Sri Jayadali felicitated nium player P Venkatarama week. It was f harmonium r Venkatarama panied by Kri player), Brind violin, B Ragh danga and R ta. Rao presear pieces but efforts with a sition of 'Daa ti,' one of the tions of Saint

The compicifal Goddess Mother who timable pros who protects have been pr ness the Frid yours

The delin Keerthana c briety on the ered in good he opened tl the popular na. The invo javadana Be with brief sw by all time fe Mahanubha Panchayat k ed with a de nara Surabl command o ment, Rao c there was b sion in the r the audienc

Young voca

Earlier, Dr gave a voca by Brinda I Venkata K mridanga, Ramya has M A Naras an vocalist teacher. St trist in Lor ing her mu Shivashak

The Bruhat Mahanagara Palike in an elaborate move to increase its tax income from commercial establishments will not result in less revenue with its

planned to plug the system and the basis for computation. Though there are lakh commercial

establishments in the City, the BBMP has issued trade licences to only 35,000 of them. Of these, only 2,000 pay taxes regularly.

Palike Commissioner N Lakshminarayana said they had introduced an online system to enable unlicensed establishments to register their businesses. Those not falling in line will have to pay heavy fine, he said. Assistant Revenue Officers are on the job to verify compliance, he added.

There have been several other instances of revenue leak-

For example, commercial establishments that are given licences for photocopying purposes, start selling mobile phones and other electronic goods, which come in a higher tax bracket. In such cases, taxes from these outlets would be reworked to reflect change in nature of business, he said.

Advertisement space
BBMP Additional Commissioner (Advertising) Manjunath Swamy told Deccan Herald that some outlets also sell advertising space and the Pa-

like will ensure that such outlets are taxed for advertising space as well.

Officials have estimated that of the 35,000 registered outlets, some 15,000 use space available to them for advertising.

Another area of concern is that under the self-assessment scheme, owners of commercial establishments have largely tended to undervalue their property and business, so as to pay lesser tax. The BBMP move includes setting right this anomaly too.

The BBMP had initially intended to outsource the inspection to a private company. But the response was poor and the rates being quoted by them were much higher than what the Palike was prepared to pay. Eventually, the move was dropped and instead, the BBMP roped in officials from other departments for the job. Health officials and other staff who are usually on field duty have been asked to double up and check on commercial establishments.

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workers immerse Ganesha idols with the help of huge cranes at Lake on Sunday. DH PHOTO

IISc experts warn of more PES-like flooding

Bosky Khanna

BANGALORE: In the wake of the recent incident of water from Rayasandra lake flooding the PES College campus in Electronics City, experts from Indian Institute of Science (IISc) warn that many other parts of Bangalore are prone to flooding as lake beds and rajakaluves have been encroached upon.

The Centre of Ecological Sciences, IISc, had prepared a report on the pathetic condition of lakes and stormwater drains and submitted it to the government in 2009. But experts point out that the report lies in cold storage and no corrective measures have been taken so far.

Prof T V Ramachandra, senior scientist, Energy and Wetland Research Centre, CES, IISc, said: "We had prepared a detailed survey of prime lakes in Bangalore City. After this, periodic surveys of some lakes too were conducted. The list includes Kempambudhi lake, Sankey Tank, Agaram lake, Varthur lake and Bellandur lake, to name a few. Many stormwater drains around lakes and flowing through main roads like Vittal Malya Road were also studied. We found that there was no change

so far in anything. Bangalore is prone to flooding because lake boundaries have been tampered with, stormwater drains have been encroached upon and outlets have also been choked. Lake breaching is not new to Bangalore and officials have not been serious about it. The natural channels have also been tampered with leading to flooding even on City roads."

IISc experts also point out that warnings issued by the Indian Meteorological Department annually about heavy downpour seem to have fallen on deaf ears as there seem to be no precautions taken. Repeated court and Lokayukta orders also seem to have had minimal effect.

Reacting to this, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Commissioner N Lakshminarayana said PES College was not under BBMP limits. Thus it was not for him to comment. "In case of 55 lakes that are under BBMP limits, I assure you that nothing untoward will happen as we have taken care of everything. In case of lakes handed over to BBMP (by the Bangalore Development Authority), we will ensure that there are no encroachments and other problems."

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Corporator's remark on URA draws flak

RE: The remarks of corporator on Jnanapitha late U R Ananthamurthy invited condemnation from the Congress councilors taking serious objection to the comments and demanded Ganesh to tender apology.

have regretted the controversies surrounding him," BJP corporator B V Ganesh said.

Soon, the Congress councilors took serious objection to the comments and demanded Ganesh to tender apology.

"He is just doing politics and should be ashamed of making such comments on the writer,"

they said.

The situation calmed down after a two-minute silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

The councillors sought to name roads in the City after U R Ananthamurthy and the late Yoga Guru B K S Iyengar.

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