

'ALL INTERCONNECTED LAKES SHOULD BE REJUVENATED'

**GUEST
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Lakes in Bengaluru are interconnected and there are three valleys and the Kormangala-Challaghatta-Bellandur-Varthur valley (consisting of Byappanahalli, Harlur, Kasavanahalli, Kaikondanahalli, Doddanakundi, Vibuthipura, Kundalahalli, Chinna-ppanahalli, Agara, Bellandur, Varthur lakes) is one among them.

This series receives about 500 MLD (million litres per day) of untreated and partially treated sewage daily. Sustained inflow of untreated sewage (due to irresponsible BWSSB) and effluents (from industries) has contaminated the lake and pollutants have surpassed its assimilative capacity.

Froth formation at outlets, profuse growth and spread of macrophytes are all the indicators of nutrient enrichment. Nutrients in the form of nitrogen (N), carbon (C) and phosphorous (P), enters the lake through untreated sewage. Major part of nitrogen is up-taken by plants and algae, while



Rejuvenation will be meaningful only when all interconnected lakes in the series are restored, otherwise Bellandur and Varthur lake will continue to face contamination from upstream lakes

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and technological advancements allow wet dredging in a lake. It will help in the storage of rain water and recharging of ground water.

Waste water treatment: Treatment of waste water through constructed wetlands and algal ponds (similar to Jakkur lake). Only treated wastewater (sewage and effluents) should be allowed into the lake.

Encroachments: Re-establishing interconnectivity among lakes by removal of all encroachments (of storm water drains and Raia