

After four years, survey yet to identify encroachment on Yelachenahalli Lake

Team holds 5th survey to identify land grabbing of six-acre lake

BENGALURU: Even after the survey during the inspection of Legislative Assembly Committee on Lake Encroachments, the encroachments on Yelachenahalli Lake near Utarahalli remains a mystery.

A team led by Joint Director of Land Records (JDLR) on Saturday held the fifth survey of the lake area since 2012 to identify the encroachment.

A local resident VR Marathe had been fighting for the fixation of the actual boundaries of the lake after apartments came up in the buffer zone.

The Yelachenahalli Lake, also known as Annayyappa Kere, is spread over six acres

and 32 guntas in two survey numbers. The lake is in two survey numbers - four acres and 39 guntas fall in survey number 6 while one acre and 33 guntas in survey number 14.

The lake, which was under the BBMP between 2010 and 2012, was handed over to the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) in April 2012.

First complaint in 2014

Marathe first filed a complaint against encroachment on the lake in October 2014 and requested the tahsildar to conduct a fresh survey.

"In 2012, an eviction order was issued based on 2011 survey against seven encroachers. However, the eviction never took place. Later, based on my complaint, the tahsildar had sent four reminders, between December 2014 and March 2015, to the surveyor to conduct the survey.

He was also directed to issue notices to those who have encroached on the land and to

register an FIR against the people who are constructing buildings on the lakebed. The survey did take place but the sketch was submitted to the authorities. Meanwhile, we gave two more representations and one more survey was conducted in July 2015. In this survey, private encroachers were left out from the list of encroachers. The report only had roads as the encroached lake area," he said.

After this, Legislative Assembly Committee did another survey in November 2015. The survey report could not be released since it was with the committee.

"Based on our complaint, the JDLR got to know that there were major discrepancies in surveys conducted in the past four years. Among the survey reports that we have on record, major encroachers' names have been left out. Hopefully, Saturday's survey will bring out actual encroachments," Marathe said.

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