THE ECONOMIC TIMES

You are here: ET Home > News > Politics and Nation

Search for News, Stock Quotes & NAV's

10:12 AM | 29 JUL MARKET STATS

SENSEX **28,092 ▼** -116.29

8,641 ▼ -24.90

GOLD (MCX) (Rs/10a.) **31,151 \(\)** 120.00

USD/INR **67.03 ▼** -0.01

CREATE PORTFOLIO MARKETS APP

LANGUAGE **ENG**

Bengaluru's Jakkur lake turns wasteland; redesign begins

By Bharath Joshi, ET Bureau | Jul 18, 2016, 09.48 AM IST

Post a Comment

BENGALURU: The much-celebrated `constructed wetland' model at the Jakkur lake, which was showcased as the way forward to rejuvenate other lakes, has gone wrong. Water experts have gone back to the drawing board to redesign the model.

The man-made wetland was introduced in the lake following its rejuvenation about five years ago. It was part of an integrated wetlands ecosystem comprising a sewage treatment plant (STP) with a 10-million-litre-per-day capacity and a wetland with nutrient-absorbing plants. Water treated by the STP flowed into the wetland where it was purified further.

The model was hailed for keeping the lake at the prime of its ecological health.

However, researchers from the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) have found water quality to be worsening with higher levels of nutrients -nitrates, phosphates and ammonia -and increased levels of biochemical oxygen. Also, the water is turning greenish due to algae.



Raw sewage from Yelahanka, Allalasandra and Kogilu is entering the lake through the wetlands. On top of this, researchers said the wetland has not been maintained properly

Reason: The constructed wetland is not working efficiently.

"It's not only receiving water from the STP but also from an adjoining stormwater drain carrying sewage. So treatment efficiency of the wetland has gone," said Priyanka Jamwal, fellow at the ATREE Centre for Environment and Development.

Raw sewage from Yelahanka, Allalasandra and Kogilu is entering the lake through the wetlands. On top of this, researchers said the wetland has not been maintained properly.

"The wetland is overloaded due to which nitrate and phosphate levels have gone up," said TV Ramachandra, a professor at IISc Centre for Ecological Sciences who was instrumental in rejuvenating the Jakkur lake.

The 160-acre lake was constructed about 200 years ago to meet water needs of the Jakkur village.

Experts are working out a new wetland model. "A layered or multi-tier wetland is something everybody agrees upon. We're trying to calculate load, retention and rate of water flow. A design proposal should be ready in a month's time," said Annapurna S Kamath of Jala Poshan, a citizen group that adopted the lake in 2014. The BBMP has earmarked Rs 3 crore for this, she said. "We've asked the civic body to come up with a wetland maintenance document."

The BWSSB will upgrade the existing STP to treat 15 MLD of waste water. "With this, redesigning the wetland is inevitable. It's senseless to bring sewage all the way up to the lake instead of treating it at the source," Ramachandra fumed.

Stay on top of business news with The Economic Times App. Download it Now! 🎳 🖷 📋





Commodities

Other Times Group news

Live Market

Times of India | I Mumbai Mirror Times Now | Indiatimes F | ष्ट्र | Lifehacker Gizmodo | Eisamay | IGN India NavGujarat Samay

Living and entertainment Timescity | iDiva | Bollywood

Zoom | Luxpresso Online Songs | Travel Guides | Hotel Reviews | Cricbuzz.com | Prepaid Mobile Recharge

Mobile

Networking

Portfolio

itimes | MensXP.com

Hot on the Web

Live TV

News - TOI | Daily Horoscope Weather in Delhi | Mumbai Map Horoscope 2016 | Hotels in Delhi Xiaomi Mobile Phones

Speed

Book print ads | Online shopping | Free Business Listings Matrimonial | Astrology | Jobs | Property | Buy car | Bikes in India Used Cars | Online Deals | Restaurants in Delhi | Movie Show Timings in

Blogs

Alerts

QnA

RSS

Remit to India | Buy Mobiles | Listen Songs | Voice Greetings | Technology News | Augmented Reality | Mobile Recharge | Compare Mobile Phones

Bengaluru's Jakkur lake turns wasteland; redesign begins - The Economi... http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/bengalur...

About us / Advertise with us / Terms of Use & Grievance Redressal / Privacy Policy / Feedback / Sitemap / Code of Ethics / / Disclaimer Copyright © 2016 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved.

2 of 2 29-07-2016 AM 10:17