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## It's time to clean & green Bengaluru: Eco-expert

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ENGALURU: Be it in planning infrastructure, handling garbage or managing water usage, the city is mismanaged. It's time to wake up and change the scene.

That was the message conveyed by TV Ramachandra, coordinator, Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, Bangalore, at the Times NIE Newsmakers Meet, held in association with Canara Bank at Rashtriya Military School on Thursday.

Referring to a recent study conducted by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) that presents an alarming picture for the city, he said, "I got a lot of enquiries from people living outside the city, even abroad. But the authorities didn't respond. It is time we did something about it."

Addressing students from city schools on Clean and Green Bengaluru A distant dream? Ramachandra advised students to become messengers of change. "You can be ambassadors for this city. Question the wastage, wrong practices and the harm being caused to the environment." On the city's polluted lakes, he said: "They have a lot of solid waste because of which there is no algae and as a result, there's no other fish than catfish."

Deputy general manager of Canara Bank K Rathinam gave away prizes to the star teachers, Reshma Parvez from Delhi Public School, Whitefield and Aruna Parandhama from Bethany High School. Divisional manager of Canara Bank and former cricketer Sunil Joshi distributed prizes to star student correspondents Harini MS of Nagarjuna Vidyaniketan, Yelahanka, and Neha Vasist of National Hill View Public School, Rajarajeshwarinagar.

Sunil Joshi said, "As a cricketer I have spent years amidst greenery on the field which made me feel good. Greenery inspires creativity and when there is greenery one can think well."

Young cadets from Rashtriya Military School band team performed at the event.

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