

Panel inspection at Bellandur Lake reveals illegal sewage inlets

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: An expert committee constituted by the government to submit a suitable proposal for restoration of Bellandur Lake on Wednesday inspected the inlets and outlets of raw sewage entering the waterbody.

The members, who went around the lake in boats with help from MEG

& Centre personnel, found multiple entries of untreated sewage and huge quantities of silt and sludge accumulated. The committee is headed by Mahendra Jain, additional chief secretary to government, urban development department. "About 100mld of sewage is entering the lake from Koramangala side. Once we arrest that the fresh flow of untreated sewage can be con-

trolled. The pumping station near Agara lake side is expected to be ready in 9 months. The silt will be tested for toxicity and we will then decide on what will be done with it," he added.

"We noticed raw sewage being directly dumped near an STP plant close to Sarjapura Road," Shridhar Pabishetty of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said. The committee will in-

spect Varthur Lake on June 9.

"We found over 27 illegal connections to the lake from IT parks and apartments. There were many underground connections too. Stormwater drains and lakebeds have been encroached upon beside dumping solid waste and construction debris," said Prof TV Ramachandra, IISc and member of Bellandur lake panel.