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Desilting Bellandur lake can restore to former glory: Scientist

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Bengaluru | Friday, Jun 9 2017 IST

Renowned Scientist T V Ramachandra today said Bellandur Lake in the city, which is in the thick of controversy due to its massive pollution, can be easily restored to its former glory by just desilting the bed of the lake.

The Scientist from Indian Institute of Science said with support of the industry this can be made a success.

Delivering a guest of honour address at the Workshop on Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting for Industry organised by Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC), he said by just dredging out the deposited silt from the lake, the once pristine water body can be rejuvenated and brought back to life once again. "The exotic flora and fauna and the aquatic life supporting lake's ecosystem can be recreated by just desilting the heavy deposits which has got accumulated over the years," he said.

Dr. Ramachandra revealed that the Government need not worry about spending money the desilting the lake, rather it can take the support of the industry to dredge the silt and sell the same to the farming community and brick kiln industry which would be more than willing to take the dredged rich soil.

"Bellandur Lake has seven million cubic metres of NKP (ammonium nitrate) silt worth Rs. 1,500 Crore. If the industry or any other body comes forward to take up the project under CSR or any other community service, the government will actually gain rather lose on this project," he said.

He slammed industries and the massive apartments lined up along the Bellandur Lake which are

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responsible for killing this waterbody, he expressed surprise that the government at the very first instance should not have allowed these concrete structures to come up at all.

"It is quite intriguing how the government not only allowed these structures line up along the lake but also allowed them to pollute the lake".

Dr. (Mrs.) Tejaswani Ananth Kumar who delivered the keynote address at the workshop called upon all concerned citizens of Bangalore to plant trees and not waste water the way we do right now as she warned that water will turn more scarce as we continue to plunder this precious gift of nature.

Meanwhile, Mr. Thyagu Valliappa, President BCIC speaking at the workshop assured the government that it will chart out a strategy to support the projects related to water conservation and rejuvenation of the lake. UNI RS MSP CS 1710

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