

## BOMMANHALLI CORPORATOR TURNS GREEN WARRIOR

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*The 40-tonne tree has a mango and a peepal tree conjoined into one*

transplant three trees that were marked to be axed in another road widening project.

A 55-year-old tree that was marked to be axed in Bommanahalli – a part of the city that has been rapidly losing its green cover – got a fresh lease of life on Sunday after a local corporator had it transplanted at a different location 50 kilometres away.

The 40-tonne tree that has a mango and a peepal tree conjoined into one had been pruned and slated to be uprooted for the on-going Bengaluru-Doddaballapur road widening project. 43-year-old corporator Ram Mohan Raju, a regular visitor to Ghati Subramanya Temple in Doddaballapur, witnessed the chopping of the trees along the road a fortnight ago during one of his visits and decided to take action.

Raju, who was in the news last year for his green initiative that asked each household to plant and take care of a sapling, left no stones unturned and spent around Rs3 lakh to save the tree. The process involved two earth movers, a crane, a trolley and a 90-tonne multi-wheel transporting vehicle.

The tree has been transplanted at a BBMP park in Devarachikkanahalli (DC Halli) near the RTO office. This rescue comes at a time when similar efforts are being carried by Sarjapur Road residents to

According to a study by Vishwanatha Bhat, Bharath H Aithal and Ramachandra TV, Bengaluru has seen a shocking 62% decrease in its green cover between 2011 and 2014.