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Take care of nature in developing cities: Prof TV Ramachandra

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NAGPUR: "Urbanization has led to fast vanishing of wetland Bengaluru, once known as the greenest city in India. Nagpur the Bengaluru way as a lot of developmental activities are here for which trees are chopped down, leading to loss of greenery," said TV Ramachandra, professor and coordinator of energy research group, Centre for Ecological Science, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bengaluru.

Delivering a lecture on 'Carbon footprint of Bengaluru with urbanization', organized by CSIR-Neeri to celebrate National Day on Wednesday, Ramchandra explained the impact of urbanization on Nature and said that the governments concerned should ensure

other cities do not become like Bengaluru, Mumbai or Delhi which have substantially lost water bodies and green spaces at a high cost of infrastructure development. There can and should not be any opposition to development, but the planners should make sustained efforts to maintain the ecosystem, he said.

In Bengaluru, Ramchandra said, there is only one tree for seven persons. Ideally, there should be at least eight trees for one person. "The garden city has become a garbage city," he added. The Nature has been giving enough hints to stop wanton cutting of trees and water bodies. Floods in Uttarakhand and Chennai, and drought in Kerala are clear indications of the climate change, he added.

In his address, Ramesh Kumar, director of CSIR-Neeri, said that "One need not be a scientist to speak as the green front is clearly visible."

DS Pandey made the introductory remarks while Jaya Sabjiwale conducted the programme. Prakash Kumbhare presented the vote of thanks.