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Take care of nature in developing cities: Professor Ramachandra

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

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

cities do not become like Bengaluru, Mumbai or Delhi which have substantially lost water bodies and green cover. He stressed on sustainable 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, Ramachandra 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 the destruction of trees and water bodies. Floods in Uttarakhand and Chennai, and drought in Kerala are clear indicators of climatic changes, 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 took the vote of thanks.