

# Saving 500-year-old Gottigere Lake

## Expert for NICE bend in road

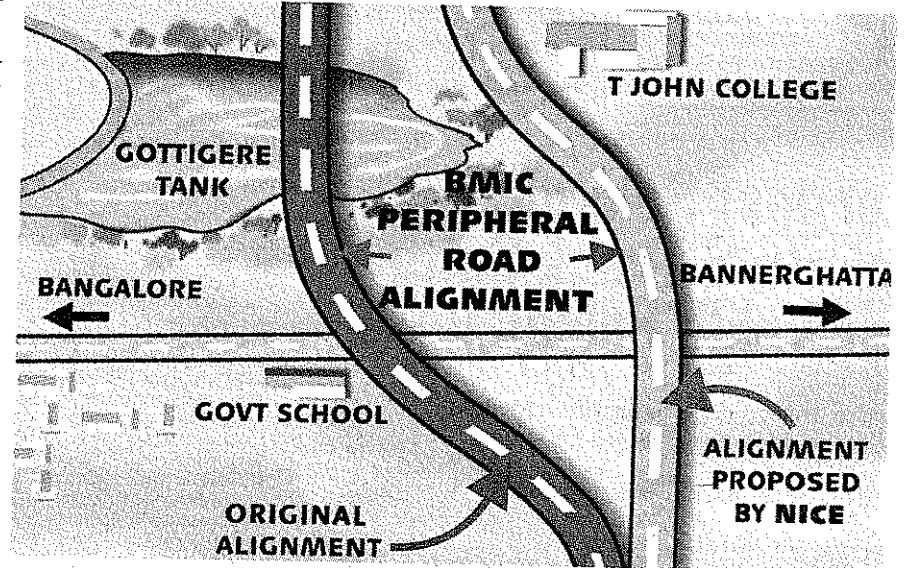
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DH News Service

BANGALORE: In a City of depleting waterbodies, a 500-year-old lake could find hope for survival in an expert report. The case in point is of Gottigere Lake, that comes in the way of the Bangalore Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Peripheral Road, as per the road's original plan.

The corridor's promoters — Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprise — say that they had changed the plan and drafted a new one, wherein the road goes around the lake and not over it, only to be rapped by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) for allegedly violating the sanctioned road alignment.

### Initial plan

As per the initial project plan the BMIC Peripheral Road had to pass through



the lake, a move that was later stalled to avoid digging up of the lakebed, according to NICE officials.

According to a consultancy project report done for NICE by Prof A Ramakrishna Rao of the Department of Civil Engi-

neering, Indian Institute of Science, the modified alignment proposed by NICE is better than the original proposal.

The Gottigere Lake, with a water spread area of 14.98 hectares, also feeds other lakes in Hulimavu,

Madiwala and Bellandur. Global engineering trends favour waterbodies being left untouched during alignment of highways.

The report adds that the original road alignment

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