

Lokayukta pulls up Tahsildars for delay in clearing Lake Encroachments

Show-cause notice to Tahsildar east for defying orders

Bengaluru: Feb 03, 2020: It's been more than two years and the Tahsildars (Bangalore North and Bangalore North Additional) are yet to clear the encroachments despite Lokayukta's repeated orders. The order to reclaim the Land of Singapura Lake that was used to construct private road is yet to be reclaimed despite previous order. Lokayukta also issues a show-cause notice to the Tahsildar (East) for not clearing encroachments.

To reclaim and protect Bengaluru's dying lakes Namma Bengaluru Foundation started 'United Bengaluru' campaign under the Aegis of Shri Doreswamy in 2017. The Namma Bengaluru Foundation (NBF) and United Bengaluru team submitted 23 lake petitions to Lokayukta on 03-08-2017 which Abbigere, Singapura, Kaggadasapura and Gubbalala lakes are part of.

The Lake hearing update as follows:

Abbigere lake hearing & Singapura Lake

1. Bangalore North Tahsildar is yet to take any steps to remove the encroachment. ***Lokayukta once again extended 8 weeks' time to remove the illegal encroachment in Abbigere Lake.***
2. Lokayukta also specifically ordered the Bangalore North Additional (Yelahanka)Tahsildar to close down the private road which was constructed in Abbigere lake that falls under Singapura (Survey no 93)
3. The Yelahanka Tahsildar is yet to clear the encroachments. ***Lokayukta again extended 3 months' time to remove the encroachments.***
4. The BBMP engineer updated the Lokayukta that the Lake is under rejuvenation and all development activities will be completed in 6 months' time.

Kaggadasapura Lake

1. Tahsildar updated the Lokayukta that he has not cleared the encroachments as per earlier orders. ***So Lokayukta ordered to issue showcase notice to the Tahsildar east.***
2. Lokayukta has given 3 months' time to remove the Lake encroachments

Gubbalala Lake

1. ***Lokayukta ordered ADLR south to do the survey of the lake and identify the encroachment.***

Officials in attendance: officials from KSPCB, BBMP, South Taluk office, North Taluk office and North Additional Taluk office

Harish Kumar, General Manager, Namma Bengaluru Foundation said, "Officials have failed to abide by Lokayukta orders time and again. These officials are failing their duties and thereby failing us the citizen and failing the city of Bengaluru. The government should take serious note of this and take proactive steps to make things happen on the ground".

About united Bengaluru Lake campaign:

United Bengaluru spread awareness on preservation of lakes and inspected about 23 lakes. The report was petitioned to the honourable Lokayukta. There are 23 cases with Lokayukta currently. So far 13 lakes have been surveyed based on Lokayukta order and we have represented in all these surveys.

Relentless follow up from awakened and informed citizenry for action from the Lokayukta against encroachers, recovering the land and protecting it with boundaries has helped in Civic bodies working on the development of these lakes.

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