

#### Press Release

## "Makkala Kere Habba" organized at Jogi Kere, Hemmigepura

# Namma Bengaluru Foundation in association with Schools and local Government organized this fest to create awareness for lake restoration

**February, 14<sup>th</sup> 2020, Bengaluru:** "Makkala Kere Habba" - A Celebration of bringing kids from schools and colleges together (both from Urban and Rural areas) for fun, entertainment, to encourage community participation and create awareness of History and issues of a lake. Namma Bengaluru Foundation, together with schools, colleges and local Government kick started the first Kere Habba of the year.

The objective of this celebration is to encourage Kids to connect with their 'Vicinity Lake', explore and participate in preserving it and become a stakeholder in keeping their lake alive. NBF intends to conduct Makkala Kere Habba from Feb 2020 to up to a year, covering 10 lakes.

Jogi Kere (the first of the identified lakes) helped showcase the benefits of lakes in terms of community participation, student engagement with activities like Lake Walk, Painting competition, Tree plantation, Essay Writing and Quiz Competition, etc. to create and increased awareness of A particular lake. These activities will not only engage the children around the lake vicinity to be a part of the Habba but also will increase student participation and help them to learn about the lake, its heritage, its importance for a community to thrive on, advantages of lake rejuvenation, etc.

Residents and experts too joined the Habba that truly evoked community participation making it a true blue people's movement to revive the essence of Bengaluru and its lakes.

Harish Kumar, General Manager, Namma Bengaluru Foundation, said, "Today, Bengaluru lakes are barely surviving with garbage being dumped, toxic chemicals being let in as sewage, encroachment, low maintenance and many more. Needless to say, this is directly affecting our health and need of the hour is creating awareness and restoring these lakes. We need more and more Kids who are the future custodians who are ready to put in efforts and safeguard lakes across Bengaluru. This will help in creating little warriors who will take keen interest in protecting environmental assets".

### **About Namma Bengaluru Foundation:**

Namma Bengaluru Foundation is an NGO that works determinedly to Protect Bengaluru and the rights of its citizens and Neighbourhoods. It works through advocacy, partnership and activism for a better Bengaluru. The foundation acts as a platform for citizens to participate in the city's planning and governance, to fight corruption and ensure accountability of public money and government assets.

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