

76 closure notices issued to industries releasing industrial waste into Storm Water Drain by KSPCB

Lokayukta pulls up the absent Tahsildars for delay in clearing Lake Encroachments

Bengaluru: Jan 20, 2020: It's been more than 14 months and the Tahsildar (Bangalore North) is yet to clear the encroachments despite Lokayukta's repeated order. While the officials from Joint Director of Land records department had submitted Survey, the Tahsildar does not seem to adhere to the orders of removing encroachments on Chikkabanavara Lake.

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 one of which Chikkabanavara and Mallasandra lakes are part of.

The Lake hearing update as follows:

Byramangala Lake

1. As per earlier directions of Lokayukta, KSPCB held meeting with BWSSB, BBMP, Kaveri Neeravari Nigama, Minor Irrigation department, KIADB and prepared a project report and submitted to the Lokayukta.
2. BBMP once again failed to submit its action plan on Byramangala Lake rejuvenation and Lokayukta has once again extended 8 weeks to submit a report to that effect
3. KSPCB has given 76 closure notices to the industries who are releasing industrial waste to the Storm water drain
4. KIADB submitted to the Lokayukta saying that Industrial waste is coming from Main Industrial Area. Lokayukta ordered the KSPCB to examine and take action on this.

Vasanthapura Janardana Kere, Horamavu Agara, and Horamavu Jayanthi Nagara

1. The Tahsildar had to remove encroachments in all the above listed lakes however there is no action and additionally was absent for today's hearing. Lokayukta has once again given 8 weeks to remove the encroachments
- 2) BBMP has allocated 3cr for Rejuvenation of Vasanthapura Janaradhana Kere. Tender has been called for

Sompura lake hearing was adjourned

Mr. Harish Kumar, General Manager, Namma Bengaluru Foundation responded that, "Despite two plus years of our relentless efforts in saving the lakes and waterbodies of Bengaluru, the Tahsildars seem to be in no seriousness to clear encroachments. Lokayukta has been giving additional time to clear the same. It is falling on deaf ears and officials need to be pulling up their socks. Though the Lokayukta is trying to fix accountability, officers are wringing out of this situations. Stringent actions are necessary now. There should be no mercy."

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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