

LAUGHING WATERS OF KUKKARAHALLI LAKE



Environmental Engineer from US visits Kukkarahalli Lake and scowls !

Caption: Dr. P.K. Das, Subijoy Dutta and K.M. Jayaramaiah are seen discussing at the spot where there is a pump to facilitate the removal of algae from the lake.

Mysore, Jan. 24- Our city's iconic Kukkarahalli Lake, which is frequented by citizens of Mysore for morning and evening walks, had a VIP visitor in Subijoy Dutta, Environmental Engineer and Founder Director of Rivers of the World Foundation, Maryland, USA, this morning.

The lake, which a few decades ago inspired writers like R.K. Narayan and Kuvempu, unfortunately is getting polluted, sometimes spreading foul smell. A lake which used to be a laughing lake, has now turned out to be a weeping one, needing immediate attention.

Subijoy Dutta said, "Lakes, rivers and streams in India have to be revived and stopping of pollution in the water bodies is a must."

Dutta, speaking to SOM, said that many well-intended land development projects conceived, planned and carried to completion in an inadequate environmental context, often lead to contamination and degradation of streams, forests, soils and the entire natural system.

He further said that dealing with challenges of maintaining a decent balance between man's needs and a sustainable environment has become the province of specialised professionals and technicians who are trained and equipped to address the problems of environmental contamination.

Dutta said that creating awareness on environment and measures to be taken to control pollution is the need of the hour and added that young minds should be trained on safeguarding environment because it is they who can protect it.

During his inspection of the lake, Subijoy Dutta found that the lake had Bluegreen algae and also noticed sewage water entering the lake.

Subijoy Dutta said that the first and most important thing that has to be done was to stop sewage water entering the lake and only after that, measures to protect the lake can be taken up because, how much ever we try to protect the lake, the sewage water will keep on polluting it.

He said that administrative authorities should take measures to check the pollution and protect it. He said that the sooner they take measures it is better for the lake to survive. He said that he would collect data and water samples for testing and then would suggest corrective measures to protect the lake.

He was accompanied by K.M. Jayaramaiah, Kukkarahalli Lake Protection Committee Convener and Dr. P.K. Das, Retd. Scientist, CSR&TI, Mysore.

Earlier Dutta, along with Jayaramaiah, met Mysore University Vice-Chancellor Prof. K.S. Rangappa at his residence, where the VC assured them of all support to protect the lake.

Link to the newspaper star of Mysore..

<http://www.starofmysore.com/main.asp?type=news&item=39016>