

**Proceedings of the meeting of the Apex Committee held on 10.05.2013 at  
1.00 PM in Room No.510, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gate, M.S. Building under the  
chairmanship of the Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue  
Department, M.S. Building, Bangalore.**

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the members and other participating officers. She spoke briefly relating to the background for calling this meeting as to discuss the issue relating to survey, demarcation of boundaries and fencing of lakes and tanks in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in W.P.No.817/2008 and 1841/2008. The Chair also informed the members present that various Committees constituted in pursuance of the above Court order have to send quarterly report regarding the maintenance and development of lakes to the Apex Committee. The Apex Committee shall also entertain complaints and give proper directions to concerned committees for proper maintenance and development of lakes within their jurisdictions.

The Chair also made reference to the reports of the various committees that were constituted prior to the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka Order in W.P.No.817/2008, in which the importance of protection, preservation and development of lakes in terms of ecological and environmental point of view were emphasized.

The CEO, LDA, informed that there are approximately 37,000 lakes in the entire state of Karnataka according to the record of the KSRSAC which requires ground truthing to establish the correct number of lakes. He also informed that there are 207 lakes in Bangalore Urban District and they are under the custody of various departments – BBMP-55 lakes, BDA-123 lakes, LDA-6 lakes, KFD-5 lakes and M.I-18 lakes for protection, development and maintenance. He further informed that preliminary inspection by the field staff of LDA has revealed that there are about 937 lakes in Bangalore Urban District. The Chair requested the CEO, LDA, to prepare district wise list of lakes in Karnataka.

**Action taken:** Preparation of district wise list of lakes in Karnataka being taken up by LDA and so far list of lakes in Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural and Ramanagara District have been prepared. For rest of the district the concerned Deputy Commissioners have been written to furnish the list of lakes in their jurisdiction irrespective of ownership/custodians. So far....., Efforts are also being made to procure list of lakes in Karnataka State from different sources/ agencies like M.I. Dept., Z.P, KRSRSAC etc.

The Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, suggested that the LDA can utilize the information available in the Bhoomi website relating to lakes in RTC.

The CEO, LDA, informed that Bhoomi is being used; however, village maps of BMRDA area are necessary. The LDA has procured soft copies of the maps of Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural and Ramanagara District villages.

Sri S. Rajanaik, DDLR, Bangalore Urban informed that there are 497 lakes as per Revenue Akarband records in Bangalore Urban District excluding BBMP and BDA area. The Chair observed that the number of lakes in Bangalore Urban District itself differ in the records of LDA and DDLR, and directed the DDLR to visit LDA's office in the afternoon of this day and reconcile the figures.

**Action taken:** Sri S. Rajanaik, DDLR, Bangalore Urban has been asked to visit LDA's office to reconcile the number of lakes in Bangalore Urban District as directed by the Chair.

The officer representative of Zilla Panchayat, Bangalore Urban informed that there are 434 lakes under its jurisdiction and 45 M.I tanks totaling 479 lakes in Bangalore Urban District.

Sri P.N. Nayak, Engineer Member, BDA, informed that there are 123 lakes in their jurisdiction that were handed over to them by BBMP under various Government Orders. He also informed that the department has not carried out survey of the above lakes by itself. Out of 123 lakes, 59 lakes have been surveyed and certified by the Tahashildar.

Out of 59 lakes surveyed and certified by Tahashildar, 52 lakes have been fenced around and encroachments to the extent of 63 acres have been evicted and cleared and for the balance 7 lakes will be completed in two month's time. He also informed that the Tahashildar has assured to survey and to give certificate to that effect in respect of balance 64 lakes by this month end. The Chair directed the concerned Tahashildar to stick on to the assurance given to BDA and not to leave any encroachment un-evicted. The BDA officer also informed that 13 lakes have been comprehensively developed and the Chair requested the CEO, LDA, to have these inspected and report with photographic evidences.

**Action taken:** The concerned Tahshildars have been directed to expedite the process of survey works and to give certificate to that effect in respect of balance 64 lakes as assured by him by this month end to the BDA and not to leave any encroachment un-evicted.

Comprehensively developed 13 lakes by the BDA have been jointly inspected by the Officers of LDA and BDA and report with photographic evidences have been prepared and are being placed before Apex Committee.

The BDA officer informed that eviction of encroachment is a Herculean and time consuming task. He also informed that there are 2311 families who have illegally encroached the lake bed areas in 64 lakes for which survey has to be carried out and certificate thereof need to be issued by the concerned Tahashildar. Further, it was also informed that unless suitable and proper rehabilitation arrangements are made for these 2311 families, it is practically an impossible proposition to evict them. In this regard, BDA has addressed letters to the Commissioner, Karnataka Slum Development Board and reply is awaited. The Chair requested the CEO, LDA, to place this issue / subject as one of the agenda in the ensuing meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government for deliberation.

**Action taken:**

The Chair raised a pertinent question as to who will maintain the developed lakes. The BDA officer informed that correspondences are being made with the BBMP to take

over the developed lakes for further maintenance. The Chair requested the CEO, LDA, to bring this issue to the notice of the Chief Secretary to Government in the ensuing meeting to be held on 14.05.2013.

**Action taken:**

The Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, suggested that regular inflow of fresh water into the lakes should be ensured, sewage inflow should be stopped and encroachments evicted before taking up any lake developmental works. He also suggested that localized STP may be established wherever diversion of sewage is not practically feasible. He also informed that this matter was discussed with the Chairman, BWSSB and he too agrees on the issue. He further opined that the list of lakes may be put up in public domain as it would enable the public to lodge complaint to the authority in case of any discrepancies if observed.

**Action taken:** List of 205 lakes in Bangalore Urban district have been put up in public so as to enable the public to lodge complaint to the authority in case of any discrepancies if observed.

The Chair issued directions to the Survey Settlement and Land Records officer concerned to provide list of lakes in Bangalore Urban District as per Akarband along with ground truthing sketch maps to the CEO, LDA by 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2013.

**Action taken:** Director Survey Settlement and Land Records department has been asked to provide list of lakes in Bangalore Urban District as per Akarband along with ground truthing sketch maps to the CEO, LDA as directed by the Chair. Reply is awaited.

The Chair informed that D.O letters from her office will be issued to the Deputy Commissioners of Districts to carry out survey and demarcation of lake areas in their jurisdictional areas irrespective of whosoever may be the custodian of the lakes.

With regards to unauthorized construction within 30 m from the lake periphery, the Chair issued clarification that the unauthorized construction means construction without permission from the competent authority and need to be removed as directed by the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in W.P.No.817/2008.

The reference of Arekere lake was brought out by the BDA. The Chair directed the Revenue Department to fix the boundary of Arkere lake at the earliest and a certificate thereof may be issued to the BDA for further necessary action.

**Action taken:** The Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban has been directed to fix the boundary of Arkere lake at the earliest and a certificate thereof may be issued to the BDA for further necessary action as directed by the Chair.

On the issue of siltation of lakes the BDA officer informed that silt removed from the lake is used for construction of islands and lake bunds and the rest is disposed off. It was also informed that scientific de-weeding is being carried every year as part of annual maintenance. The Chair requested CEO, LDA to inspect the developed lakes and satisfy himself.

**Action taken:** Comprehensively developed 13 lakes by the BDA have been jointly inspected by the Officers of LDA and BDA and report with photographic evidences have been prepared and are being placed before Apex Committee.

The Chair also opined that “buffer area” may be defined and inserted in Section 2 of the proposed KLDA Bill. The Chair also reiterated that the term “boundary of lake” shall be the revenue boundary of the lake as per the Akarband only. The Chair also requested the Urban Development Department to constitute Committee as per Para 7 of the Order of the Hon’ble High Court of Karnataka in W.P.No.817/2008. She also requested the CEO, LDA, to place the complaints received from the public in the next Apex Committee meeting.

**Action taken:** The words “buffer area” have been defined and submitted to the Secretary, Environment and Ecology to be inserted in Section 2 of the proposed KLDA Bill.

The Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, suggested that the Commissioner of Police, Bangalore may be included in the Apex Committee as member to which the chair acquiesced.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.

**Chief Executive Officer  
Lake Development Authority**

**Sd/-  
(Latha Krishan Rao, IAS)  
Principal Secretary to Government  
Revenue Department,  
Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore**