



Green Pages

NEWSLETTER OF GREEN CIRCLE, BANGALORE

For private circulation only



Human chain on Avalahalli Kaluve



Green Circle Nature Creativity Contest winners



First Citizens meeting with
PDO



PDO Mr Damodhar receiving a
petition from GC



Revival of Avalahalli Kaluve

Dr P Vidhyasagar Arya, Director, Research & Comm, Green circle

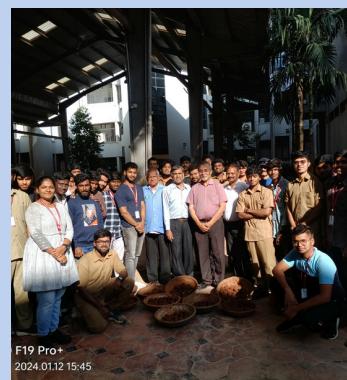
A parched lake during summer and a flooded neighbourhood during rains! A lake brimming with water with chirping birds versus a bone dry lake that has lost its sheen. A visual of extreme contrast awaits you at Avalahalli Lake, off Doddaballapur Road, Avalahalli, a lake situated in the Panchayat area but maintained by the BBMP Lakes Division. The solution on offer is to recover the missing link that has disappeared due to "side effects" of development - a kaluve of 1.2 km connecting the Avalahalli lake with the Krishnasagara Lake. By connecting these lakes through the Kaluve the excess water from the Krishnasagara Lake flows towards the Avalahalli Lake, avoiding the floods in the Ramiah County Layout. It's not an easy task to retrace the path of the Kaluve. However, with Green Circle entering the scene the direction of not only the kaluve changes but even the discourse changes for the good, and the 1927 map comes in handy. As a first step, Green Circle impresses upon the Singanayakanahalli Panchayat the need for a survey of the Kaluve and the Panchayat agrees in principle. The Yelahanka MLA Mr S R Vishwanath is in full support of a survey as well.

What more do we need? Green Circle approaches Mr Krishna Byre Gowda, the Revenue Minister, for his support and he readily obliges. With the strong backing of the citizens and political leadership, Green Circle approaches the Tahsildar office with the Minister's endorsement of survey memo. The Tahsildar provides a seal of approval on the memo. The memo marches towards the Land Records and Survey department where the memo gets the approval of Assistant Director of Land Records and Survey (ADLR) and a surveyor is appointed. The surveyor makes an initial assessment and with the help of Singanayakanahalli Panchayat notifies the nearby land owners around the Kaluve about the impending survey.

The surveyor comes with the Revenue Inspector and his entourage. The Kaluve is marked with boundary stones throughout its course. The surveyor submits his survey report to the ADLR, and after his approval the survey report reaches the Deputy Tahsildar's office located in the same floor but not without a drama of the report missing in action for 20 days. By the time the Deputy Tahsildar gets the report, the election season starts and the survey report is stuck. The elections over and the time starts to move the report to the next destination, the Revenue Inspector.. Green Circle is confident that the survey report will be available soon, and all departments will work in unison to recover the last ground...err...the Kaluve.



Green Circle, Bangalore in action





Green Circle Nature Creativity Contest





Green Circle Activities Diary

06.01.24 Kaluve (canal) Survey has been initiated.

06.01.24 Hoskote Bird walk. 60 species of birds were checklist in eBird

08.01.24 PDO Singanayakkaanahalli initiated the cleaning of Kaluve. One milestone in our journey to revive the Avalahalli lake

09.01.24 Eco sensitisation workshop at BMS IT by V Selvarajan

12.01.24 Seedball making activity at BMS with the students of Eco club and Mechanical Engineering , a programme initiated by Prof Jagadeesh and Prof Rajesh Gopinath

16.01.24 Gardening and watering activities by BMS students at Krishna Sagara lake tree park where GC has planted 100 trees in Aug 23 Session 1

23.01.24 Gardening and watering activities by BMS students at Krishna Sagara lake tree park where GC has planted 100 trees in Aug 23 Session 2

28.01.24 Checklisting of birds at People's Trust campus

31.01.24 Avalahalli lake fence that fell due to heavy downpour on 06 Nov, 2023, was not yet repaired despite taking up through Janaspandana App and BBMP Sahaya App. We took up the matter through X (tweet) also.

31.01.24 Kaluve marking in progress. Our member Vidhyasagar vigorously follows up with Yelahanka Tehsildar office

10.02.24 Nature Creative Contests - a mega event was organised at BMS SA campus, 250 participated

12.02.24 Entered into an MoU with BMS School of Architecture for joint programmes like tree planting and other environmental activities

14.02.24 Kaluve restoration commenced and 500 meter digging over.

18.02.24 Kaluve walk cum Eco chaupal - Organised by Green Circle to celebrate the happiness of restoring the Kaluve partially, brought out two YouTube videos

28.02.24 Avalahalli fence reconstruction work has commenced as a result of our efforts

03.03.24 Citizens Meeting: organised at Singanayakkahalli Panchayat office which was attended by 40 residents and addressed by PDO Mr Damodhar. Green Circle submitted a letter to the PDO highlighting all pending issues

08.03.24 We took up the issue of noise pollution in Puttannahalli Gas power Plant through our X (tweet) post with KSPCB which was reposted by 15 members

11.03.24 Green Circle added another feather in its cap. A dedicated Borewell and a pipeline of 0.8 KM was sanctioned and commenced, enabling the watering of 500 trees planted last year

22.03.24 World Water Day celebrated by watering plants at Krishna Sagara Tree Park

27.03.24 Our active member Vasant Kumar had watered the trees alone for 5 hours. GC feels proud of him!

Please reach us by clicking logos below





Urban Wildlife: Navigating Coexistence in Concrete Jungles

Dr Vaithianathan Kannan,

Wildlife Biologist & Environmental Consultant

Email: kannan.vaithianathan@gmail.com

Urban wildlife refers to the diverse array of species that have adapted to thrive in human-dominated environments. As urbanization continues to reshape landscapes, the interaction between wildlife and city dwellers becomes increasingly significant. This report provides a detailed examination of urban wildlife, exploring the challenges and opportunities they face, the impact on ecosystems, and the implications for both biodiversity and human well-being. The urban landscape, characterized by towering skyscrapers, bustling streets, and a constant hum of activity, might seem an unlikely habitat for wildlife. However, amid human-dominated environments, a diverse array of creatures has adapted and thrived, creating a unique interplay between nature and urbanity. This essay explores the phenomenon of urban wildlife, examining the challenges and opportunities it presents, the importance of coexistence, and the role of conservation in fostering harmony between city dwellers and their wild neighbours. Urban areas worldwide have become unexpected sanctuaries for wildlife, with parks, green spaces, and even derelict structures providing niches for various species. Birds, squirrels, and insects, among others, have found ingenious ways to adapt to the concrete jungle. For them, the cityscape becomes a mosaic of opportunities, blending instincts with urban resources. The juxtaposition of skyscrapers and trees creates a unique urban ecosystem, where nature and human infrastructure intersect. However, the coexistence of urban dwellers and wildlife is not without its challenges. Human activities, from pollution to habitat destruction, pose significant threats to the well-being of urban fauna. Collisions with vehicles, exposure to toxins, and competition for limited resources present ongoing challenges for wildlife survival. Striking a balance between urban development and wildlife preservation is crucial to ensure the sustainability of this delicate equilibrium. Challenges Faced by Urban Wildlife

Habitat Fragmentation: Urban areas often lead to the fragmentation of natural habitats, isolating populations and limiting gene flow. This can result in decreased genetic diversity and resilience among urban wildlife.

Pollution: Urban environments introduce various forms of pollution, including air and water pollution, noise pollution, and light pollution. These can have detrimental effects on the health and behaviour of urban wildlife.

Collisions and Infrastructure: Increased vehicular traffic poses a significant threat to urban wildlife through collisions. Additionally, the construction of roads, buildings, and other infrastructure can disrupt natural migration routes and nesting habitats.

Opportunities and Adaptations: Green Spaces: Parks, gardens, and green rooftops within urban landscapes serve as crucial refuges for wildlife. These green spaces provide habitats, promote biodiversity, and offer opportunities for city dwellers to connect with nature.

Fauna Diversity: Urban areas host a surprisingly diverse range of wildlife, including birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects. Some species, like pigeons and squirrels, have adapted remarkably well to urban living.

Bio-Inclusive Urban Planning: Incorporating wildlife-friendly design principles into urban planning can enhance coexistence. This includes creating wildlife corridors, preserving green belts, and implementing sustainable practices to reduce environmental impact.

Impact on Ecosystems: Biodiversity Loss: While some species thrive in urban environments, others face decline or extinction due to habitat loss and human disturbances. This can lead to imbalances in ecosystems, affecting predator-prey relationships and disrupting food chains.

Ecosystem Services: Urban wildlife contributes to essential ecosystem services, such as pollination, seed dispersal, and pest control. Protecting urban biodiversity is crucial for maintaining these services that benefit both natural and human environments.

Human-Wildlife Interaction: Awareness and Education: Raising awareness among city residents about urban wildlife is vital. Education initiatives can promote coexistence and responsible behaviors to minimize negative impacts on wildlife.

Citizen Science: Involving citizens in wildlife monitoring and conservation efforts can provide valuable data. Citizen science projects empower communities to contribute to scientific understanding and conservation initiatives

Continued..



Chairman's Chat

DR V SELVARAJAN

Chairman, Green Circle

Hi friends,

We are proud to bring out our second issue of *GREEN PAGES*, the mouthpiece of Green Circle, though there was a slight delay. The purpose of this quarterly newsletter is to showcase our activities and to publish a few useful articles on environment. In due course, we will increase the rejuvenating Avalahalli Kaluwe. I am pleased to inform you that it is due to well wishers like you that we were able to restore the compound wall of Avalahalli lake which is nearing completion. Many more issues need to be addressed collectively. Though I am leading the green movement from front, I sincerely feel that we achieved many laurels so far only due to our relentless team work. I am thankful to all of you and appeal to you to support us both financially and physically, for grassroot level work is the need of the hour

Selvarajan V

Urban Wildlife:.. Continued from Page 6

Efforts to promote urban wildlife conservation are vital in maintaining biodiversity and fostering a harmonious relationship between humans and nature. Designing green spaces within urban planning, implementing wildlife corridors, and raising awareness about responsible waste disposal are crucial steps. Additionally, citizen involvement in community-based conservation projects can contribute to creating habitats that cater to the needs of both urban residents and wildlife. The importance of coexistence between humans and urban wildlife extends beyond ecological considerations. It offers city dwellers a unique opportunity to reconnect with nature during their hectic lives. Observing a family of squirrels in a city park or hearing the chirping of birds amidst skyscrapers can foster a sense of appreciation for the natural world. Recognizing the shared spaces between humans and wildlife prompts a shift in perspective, emphasizing the interconnectedness of all living beings. Urban wildlife represents a dynamic and complex facet of modern ecosystems. Balancing the challenges and opportunities associated with urbanization requires a collaborative effort from policymakers, city planners, conservationists, and the general public. Through thoughtful urban planning, conservation initiatives, and fostering a sense of responsibility, it is possible to create urban environments where wildlife and humans coexist harmoniously, ensuring the sustainability of both ecosystems and urban communities. In conclusion, urban wildlife represents a resilient adaptation to the challenges posed by human-dominated environments. The coexistence of humans and wildlife in urban settings necessitates a conscious effort to mitigate the impact of urbanization on natural habitats. By promoting conservation initiatives, fostering awareness, and embracing the intrinsic value of urban biodiversity, we can navigate the delicate balance between the urban and the wild. In doing so, we pave the way for a future where the concrete jungle harmoniously integrates with the vibrant life that persists within its midst.

Green Circle, Delhi Activities

20.01.2024

Painting competition was held at Bal Bhawan International School. Around 150 students from different schools and NGO's participated. Bicycles and trophies were awarded to the winners.

01.03.2024

An awareness Drive was done at Vegas Mall. The theme was 'Engaging everyone for Environmental protection'. The program reached out to 200 visitors of the Mall besides environmental activists and students

20.03.2024.

Taken up the issue related to Fish aquarium in a mela organized in Dwarka Sec 11 where rare fish varieties were reported to die due to unfavorable conditions. Also, the act was in violation of Wildlife act. Aa petition was sent to Deputy conservator of forest Mandir Marg lane and his response is awaited



Green Circle Dwarka Chapter organised a Painting Competition on 20.01.2024