

## **Coverage Report**

**Promising steps towards nurturing the Environment – afforestation drive and integrated watershed interventions by Mphasis in collaboration with United Way of Bengaluru and Department**

**September 12, 2022**

## The Hindu

### [One lakh saplings in 11 acres: New botanical garden in Tumakuru to feature dense forest patch](#)

This green intervention of native species would be able to absorb 21,00,000 kilograms of carbon and produce 1,18,00,000 kilograms of oxygen annually

As part of Karnataka's afforestation move, a dense forest will be created on a patch of 11 acre of land at the 228-acre Botanical Garden Project that is coming up at Doddasaggere, in Tumakuru district, said an official of the Horticulture Department on Tuesday.

As part of the plan, one lakh dry deciduous (trees that drop leaves during dry winter and spring) tree saplings would be planted over 11-acres of land. This green intervention of native species would be able to absorb 21,00,000 kilograms of carbon and produce 1,18,00,000 kilograms of oxygen annually, according to the official.

#### **Joint partnership**

To carry out this first of its kind of initiative, Mphasis (F1 Foundation), the CSR arm of tech firm Mphasis, United Way of Bengaluru (UWBe), an NGO that works with communities to take local action for global impact and the state Department of Horticulture have announced their joint partnership.

UWBe would ensure maintenance of the green cover of the forest for three years with support from Mphasis. This would include regular watering, manuring, de-weeding and mulching of the area. Besides these, integrated watershed development, stream restoration, soil cum moisture conservation activities also would be executed at the project site.

UWBe, which already built 280 percolation wells earlier at Lalbagh Botanical Garden, would take up the construction of additional 220 percolation wells at the new park in Tumakuru with the help of Mphasis.

"The existing percolation wells in Lal Bagh have demonstrated multifold benefits. It has helped to address issues like water runoff, flood and a decrease in the groundwater table. The harvested water is used to water 1,850 species of trees in the garden currently," stated Dr. M Jagadeesh, Joint Director, Lal Bagh.

#### **Green intervention**

Just as Lalbagh is considered the lung of Bengaluru, the new green intervention would help improve the air quality, enhance biodiversity, and reduce the temperature in the vicinity, besides building an oxygen bank and carbon sink, Jagadeesh added.

The joint partners are also planning to build over 1,000 percolation wells at various locations in the city. They are kickstarting this project by creating a 4 feet percolation model well at Lalbagh. Each of these percolation wells would have the capacity to conserve 1,28,000 litres of rainwater annually and help augment the groundwater table level in the catchment area.

"By integrating environmental goals into our business strategy, risks and processes, we aim to create a lasting impact on the planet, foster a low-carbon economy and encourage effective waste and water management practices," said Srikanth Karra, Chief Human Resources Officer at Mphasis.

“We believe in mobilising the caring power of the communities and involve stakeholders, including community members with whom the final ownership rests, thereby addressing sustainability,” said Rajesh Krishnan, CEO of UWBe.

The Horticulture Department had earlier said it would create five botanical gardens along the lines of Lalbagh, at Doddasaggere in Tumakuru, Annakunuru in Chikkaballapura, Dattagalli in Mysuru, Tarakanahalli in Uttara Kannada and Kannamangala in Bengaluru East.

## **The HANS India**

A first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative by Karnataka Horticulture

Bengaluru: Mphasis, United Way of Bengaluru , an NGO and Department of Horticulture, Karnataka have come together to drive a first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative. Under the initiative, a dense forest is being set up on an 11-acre plot, which is part of the 228 acres Botanical Garden at Doddasaggere Botanical Garden in Koratagere, Tumkur district.

Plan entails, one lakh dry deciduous tree saplings will be planted over the 11-acre horticulture land. This green intervention by planting native species can help absorb 21,00,000 kilograms of carbon and produce 1,18,00,000 kgs of oxygen annually. Katrina Mayer says, "Time spent amongst trees is never wasted time." This forest will serve as a space to explore native species for students, environmentalists and visitors.

UWBe signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Karnataka Horticulture Department today as a step forward. As per the MOU, UWBe shall also ensure maintenance of the green cover for the next three years with support from Mphasis, including regular watering, manuring, de-weeding and mulching of the area. Besides afforestation, as a part of UWBe's integrated watershed development, stream restoration, soil and moisture conservation activities have been planned at the project site. Just as Lalbagh is considered the Lung of Bengaluru, this intervention will help to improve the air quality, enhance biodiversity, and reduce the temperature in the vicinity, besides building an oxygen bank and carbon sink. All in less than 100 KM from Bengaluru.

Apart from the afforestation, Mphasis is also supporting United Way Bengaluru's "One Billion Drops" campaign to conserve rainwater by constructing percolation wells in the city of Bengaluru. Bengaluru's Lalbagh Botanical Garden, where UWBe has already built 280 percolation wells earlier, will take up the construction of additional 220 percolation wells with the support from Mphasis to cover the entire campus. "The existing percolation wells in Lalbagh have demonstrated multifold benefits. It has helped to address issues like water runoff, flood and a decrease in the groundwater table. The harvested water is used to water 1850 species of trees in the garden. It has been a boon for people living in the locality and businesses like plant nurseries," Dr M Jagadeesh, Joint Director, Lal Bagh. Additionally, over 1000 percolation wells will be built at various locations in the city. We are kickstarting the same by unveiling a 4 ft percolation well model at Lalbagh for all to see. Each percolation well can conserve 1,28,000 lts of rainwater annually and help augment the groundwater table level in the catchment area. The project aligns well with the Prime Minister's clarion call of "Catch the Rain, Where it falls, When it falls" under the National Water Mission. +Another significant intervention undertaken toward water security is the restoration of Dommasandra Lake in Bengaluru. This multi-year project aims to improve water quality, enhance biodiversity, and increase community ownership. This initiative will help the population of Dommasandra Panchayat by increasing the groundwater level and benefit the flora, fauna and aquatic life. All these interventions are also aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, such as SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 13 – Climate Action and SDG 15 – Life on Land.

"At Mphasis we are committed to creating an ethical, inclusive and sustainable future for all. By integrating environmental goals into our business strategy, risks and processes, we aim to create a lasting impact on the planet, foster a low-carbon economy and encourage effective waste and water management practices. This first-of-a-kind afforestation initiative in collaboration with United Way Bengaluru and Government of Karnataka, will enable us to combat global environmental concerns such as climate change and global warming. Moreover, with the combined efforts of the campaign, we are taking a huge step forward towards reviving the biodiversity of the state and helping fight the ongoing water crisis," said Srikanth Karra, CHRO Mphasis.

"Mphasis and United Way Bengaluru are committed to the cause of the Environment, and we firmly believe we owe it to our future generations. We complement the work undertaken by the Horticulture dept, local administration, and Gram Panchayats, as collaboration is key to all our interventions. UWBe believes in mobilising the caring power of the communities and involve stakeholders, including community members with whom the final ownership rests, there by addressing sustainability," said.

### **The CSR Journal**

Mphasis, United Way of Bengaluru and Government of Karnataka start afforestation drive and integrated watershed interventions

Bengaluru, Karnataka: Mphasis (F1 Foundation); United Way of Bengaluru (NGO) and Department of Horticulture, Government of Karnataka have come together to drive a first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative. Under the initiative, a dense forest is being set up on an 11-acre plot, which is part of the 228 acres Botanical Garden at Doddasaggere Botanical Garden in Koratagere, Tumkur district of Karnataka.

Over 1 lakh dry deciduous tree saplings will be planted over the 11-acre horticulture land. This green intervention by planting native species can help absorb 21,00,000 kilograms of carbon and produce 1,18,00,000 kg of oxygen annually. Katrina Mayer says, "Time spent amongst trees is never wasted time." This forest will serve as a space to explore native species for students, environmentalists and visitors.

United Way of Bengaluru signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Horticulture of Government of Karnataka today as a step forward. As per the MOU, UWBe shall also ensure maintenance of the green cover for the next three years with support from Mphasis, including regular watering, manuring, de-weeding and mulching of the area. Besides afforestation, as a part of UWBe's integrated watershed development, stream restoration, soil and moisture conservation activities have been planned at the project site.

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where UWBe has already built 280 percolation wells earlier, will take up the construction of additional 220 percolation wells with the support from Mphasis to cover the entire campus.

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Additionally, over 1000 percolation wells will be built at various locations in the city. We are kickstarting the same by unveiling a 4 ft percolation well model at Lalbagh for all to see. Each percolation well can conserve 1,28,000 lts of rainwater annually and help augment the groundwater table level in the catchment area. The project aligns well with the Prime Minister’s clarion call of “Catch the Rain, Where it falls, When it falls” under the National Water Mission.

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“Mphasis and United Way Bengaluru are committed to the cause of the Environment, and we firmly believe we owe it to our future generations. We complement the work undertaken by the Horticulture dept, local administration, and Gram Panchayats, as collaboration is key to all our interventions. UWBe believes in mobilising the caring power of the communities and involve stakeholders, including community members with whom the final ownership rests, there by addressing sustainability,” said Rajesh Krishnan, CEO of United Way Bengaluru.

Deccan Herald

Dense forest plan in Tumakuru district



## Dense forest plan in Tumakuru district

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** In a first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative, Mphasis, in collaboration with United Way of Bengaluru (UWBe) and the Department of Horticulture, has come together to set up a dense forest on an 11-acre plot, which is a part of the 228-acre botanical garden at

Doddasaggere in Koratagere in Tumakuru.

According to the plan, one lakh dry deciduous tree saplings will be planted over the 11-acre horticulture land. This green intervention by planting native species will help absorb 21,00,000 kg of carbon and produce

1,18,00,000 kgs of oxygen annually.

According to the MoU, UWBe shall also ensure maintenance of the green cover for the next three years with support from Mphasis, including regular watering, manuring, de-weeding and mulching of the area.

The New Indian Express

Horti dept signs MoU for afforestation drive

## **Horti dept signs MoU for afforestation drive**

Bengaluru: The Horticulture Department on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding with Mphasis Ltd and United Way of Bengaluru to launch an afforestation and watershed drive for the next three years. Under the initiative, a dense forest will be set up on an 11-acre plot on the 228-acre Doddasaggere Botanical Garden in Koratagere, Tumakuru district. As many as 1 lakh dry deciduous tree saplings will be planted on the plot. The multi-year project aims to improve water quality and increase community ownership. **ENS**

**Prajavani**

One Billion Drops Initiative Underway

**ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ**

ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್: ಪ್ರತಿ ಇಂಗುಗುಂಡಿಯಿಂದ 1.28 ಲಕ್ಷ ಲೀಟರ್ ಮಳೆ ನೀರು ಸಂಗ್ರಹದ ಗುರಿ

# ‘ಒನ್ ಬಿಲಿಯನ್ ಡ್ರಾಪ್ಸ್’ ಅಭಿಯಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಚಾಲನೆ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

**ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು:** ಇಂಗು ಗುಂಡಿಗಳ (ಪರ್ಕೋಲೇಷನ್ ವೆಲ್) ಮೂಲಕ ಮಳೆ ನೀರು ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವ ‘ಒನ್ ಬಿಲಿಯನ್ ಡ್ರಾಪ್ಸ್’ ಅಭಿಯಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಮಂಗಳವಾರ ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಚಾಲನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಯಿತು.

ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಯುನೈಟೆಡ್ ವೇ ಆಫ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮತ್ತು ಎಂಫಸಿಸ್ ಕಂಪನಿಯ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಹೊಣೆಗಾರಿಕೆ ನಿಧಿಯಡಿ (ಸಿಎಸ್‌ಆರ್) ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಸರ ಅರಣ್ಯೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಜಲನಿಯಮ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಒಪ್ಪಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಲಾಯಿತು.

ಯುನೈಟೆಡ್ ವೇ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ರಾಜೇಶ್ ಕೃಷ್ಣನ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ,



ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿರುವ ಇಂಗು ಗುಂಡಿಯು (ಪರ್ಕೋಲೇಷನ್ ವೆಲ್) ಮಾದರಿಯನ್ನು ಆನುವರಣಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಯಿತು

—ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ಚಿತ್ರ

‘ಎಂಫಸಿಸ್’ ಬೆಂಬಲದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ 220 ಇಂಗುಗುಂಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಇವುಗಳಿಂದ ನೀರಿನ ಹರಿವು,

ಪ್ರವಾಹ, ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ಜಲದಂತಹ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಸಾಧ್ಯ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಅಂತರ್ಜಲ ಮಟ್ಟವು ಗಣನೀಯವಾಗಿ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದರು.

## ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್: ಇಂಗುಗುಂಡಿಗಳು ಸಹಕಾರಿ

ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ 280 ಇಂಗು ಗುಂಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದು, ಭೌಗೋಳಿಕವಾಗಿ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶವು ಎತ್ತರದಿಂದ ಹಾಗೂ ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶವು ಇಳಿಜಾರು ಪ್ರದೇಶದಿಂದ ಕೂಡಿದೆ. ಮಳೆ ಬಂದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರು ಕಾಲುವೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಹಾದುಹೋಗಿ, ಪೋಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಇದನ್ನು ತಡೆಯಲು ಇಂಗುಗುಂಡಿಗಳು ಸಹಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಉದ್ಯಾನದಲ್ಲಿ 1,850 ವಿವಿಧ ಜಾತಿಯ ಮರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ ಮಾಡಿದ ನೀರನ್ನು ಬಳಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಲಾಲ್‌ಬಾಗ್ ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಕುಸುಮಾ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದರು.

‘ಮುಂದಿನ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ವಿವಿಧ ಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 1,100 ಇಂಗುಗುಂಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸುವ ಗುರಿ ಇದೆ. ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕೊರಟಗೆರೆಯ ದೊಡ್ಡಸಾಗ್ಗೆ-ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 228 ಎಕರೆ ಸಸ್ಯೋದ್ಯಾನದಲ್ಲಿ 11 ಎಕರೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 1 ಲಕ್ಷ 11 ಎಕರೆ ಉದ್ದದ ಮರದ ಸಸಿಗಳನ್ನು ನೆಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೂ ಎಂಫಸಿಸ್

ಬೆಂಬಲದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪೋಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು’ ಎಂದು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದರು.

ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಕಟಾರಿಯಾ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಕೆ. ನಾಗೇಂದ್ರ ಪ್ರಸಾದ್, ಎಂಫಸಿಸ್‌ನ ಸಿಎಚ್‌ಆರ್‌ಒ ಶ್ರೀಕಾಂತ್ ಕರ್ರಾ ಇದ್ದರು.

**The HANS India**

A first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative by Karnataka Horticulture

**THE HANS INDIA**

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**HANS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU**

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Online

Online		
Date	Publication/ Portal	Headline
September 08, 2022	The Hindu	<a href="#">One lakh saplings in 11 acres: New botanical garden in Tumakuru to feature dense forest patch</a>
September 09, 2022	The HANS India	<a href="#">A first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative by Karnataka Horticulture</a>
September 09, 2022	The CSR Journal	<a href="#">Mphasis, United Way of Bengaluru and Government of Karnataka start afforestation drive and integrated watershed interventions</a>
Print		
September 07, 2022	Deccan Herald	Dense forest plan in Tumakuru district
September 07, 2022	The New Indian Express	Horti dept signs MoU for afforestation drive
September 07, 2022	Prajavani	One Billion Drops Initiative Underway
September 09, 2022	The HANS India	A first-of-its-kind afforestation initiative by Karnataka Horticulture