

Puttenahalli lake to be rejuvenated soon

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The city's only bird sanctuary, Puttenahalli lake near Yelahanka on Doddaballapura Road, will regain its former glory by February-end.

Removal of silt from the 34-acre waterbody, which hosts up to 126 species of birds, is nearly complete, while bunds and islands have been strengthened.

K.S. Sangunni, chairperson of Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake and Bird Conservation Trust which is overseeing the

₹12 crore project, said the work began in 2018. Ninety per cent of the major works had been done. "The ongoing work will be completed in February," said the former IISc. scientist.

The trust held a Kere Habba, which featured a flea market and various games for children, at the lake on Saturday to create awareness on the preservation and conservation of the waterbody.

For the first-time in the city, a passive treatment of sewage is being done to en-

sure 2 million to 10 million litres of sewage is dealt with daily. A channel diverts most of the sewage around the lake, while some sewage is let into ponds where anaerobic bacteria will naturally treat it. This system ensures the lake waters remain replenished. The three-stage passive treatment plant can treat 1 MLD sewage.

Dr. Sangunni, however, is worried about the sewage pipeline built by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board below the lake bed.