

**Details of the site Inspection chaired by Shri Yellapa Reddy of the Empowered Technical Advisory Committee on Sustainable development, on 12.09.08 on the environmental impact of the BMIC constructed by NICE.**

Members present:

1/	Shri Yellapa Reddy, IAS, Chairman
2.	Dr. H.Paramesh, Famous Physician
3.	Dr. D.C.Sharma, Scientist
4.	Shri Puttaswamy RFO, BBMP
5.	Shri Gopalkrishna, Engineer, NICE
6.	Mr. Manjunath, GM, PRO, NICE
7.	Mr. Ismail, Horticultural Officer, NICE

The GM of NICE welcomed the Chairman and other members of the site inspection team, and introduced the Officer of NICE. He drew the attention of the members of the Committee to the spot where 23 akashmallige trees ( on the link road stretch, where Bangalore Ring Road connects to BMIC) and this was observed. The Hon'ble Chairman asked about the measures for using rain water, and said that works had to be undertaken for harvesting rain water. He said that technical aspects like the gradient should be noted while making arrangements for capture of rainwater, and 10-20 spots for preserving biodiversity should be identified and arrangements should be made using the Karnataka state's Pushpa 'Nandibettalu' gunduthopu. This will satisfy the users of the road also. On this matter, the NICE officials said they would take appropriate action.

The Committee travelled on the Peripheral Link Road, between Kengeri and Bannerghatta) to inspect the same. The chairman suggested that leaf litter could be collected from this stretch, use in generating compost, and this could help in controlling the use of chemical fertilizers. He said that keeping in mind the need to control the rise in temperature in the city, attention should be paid to green the areas surrounding the road. He stressed the importance of the climate and the water table on human health. About 300-400 litres of water vapour are released during transpiration, by one tree, he pointed out, and the presence of water vapour in the air eases breathing. Dr. Paramesh agreed that avian air helps in breathing.

While the Committee was travelling on the NICE road, the Horticultural Officer of NICE pointed out the pongamia and neem saplings planted on both sides of the road. The Chairman said that measures should be taken to plant sandalwood saplings between these saplings and zerophytic plants should be planted **at shila pada** places. He said that planting of zerophytic plants and the development of rock gardens could help in development of biodiversity.

Dr. D.C.Sharma, Member, noticed that the rain water was not being collected in the holes in the ground, and said that appropriate measures had to be undertaken.

The Chairman asked the NICE officials about whether the MOU contains provisions for wetland development measures to be undertaken by NICE. The NICE officials replied in the negative. The Chairman responded by directing that wetland formation measures should be undertaken by NICE. He directed that in the adjoining areas, especially in rocky areas, Makale Beru, Sogade Beru and other tree species that grow in rocky areas should be planted. He noticed the aluminium road guards on the NICE road, and pointed out to NICE officials that THIS WOULD LEAD TO A RISE IN TEMPERATURE, and said that creepers could be grown on these road guards, to control this.

The Committee held a meeting with villagers, to inspect the compensation for loss & rehabilitation of land and houses by NICE, and the construction of houses by NICE to those who had lost their houses during construction. The Chairman directed the NICE officials to take appropriate rehabilitation and compensatory measures.

He said that the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of NICE works would be inspected by the Committee on 20.09.08 and said that within 15 days, the NICE company should make a PPT on road works and present it before the Committee. The date for this should be fixed and all members of the Committee should be informed by the Member Secretary, said the Chairman. After this, the members dispersed.

**Chairman**

**Empowered Technical Advisory Committee on Sustainable Development**