



Karnataka must set aside Rs.500 cr. for Bengaluru lakes

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Karnataka must set aside Rs.500 cr. for Bengaluru lakes-NGT orders State to place money in escrow for use in cleaning up water bodies

- Coming down heavily on the Karnataka government for failing to “protect and rejuvenate” Bengaluru’s Bellandur, Agara and Varthur lakes, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed the State government to transfer Rs.500 crore to an escrow account.
- The amount is to be utilised for execution of action plans to clean the water bodies.
- The green panel further said that the State government had to furnish a performance guarantee to execute the plan in a time-bound manner.

Monitoring panel

- A panel, to be headed by former Supreme Court judge N. Santosh Hegde and comprising representatives from the CPCB, the State Pollution Control Board and T.V. Ramachandra of the Indian Institute of Science, would monitor implementation which may oversee the timelines and the action plans prepared by Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or State of Karnataka.

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