Clean, green city drive by BCC

From Jeevan Chinnappa

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If one comes across beautiful parks and niches maintained by the Bangalore City Corporation (BCC), he is sure to agree that Bangalore is indeed a Garden City. The fragrance from the lush green gardens, which are in full bloom, is an exhilarating experience.

A team of presences, who were conducted around a select few of the most beautiful parks in the City on Wednesday, found the gardens in excellent form. The attractive boxum plants underlining the gentle, cool breeze, varieties of marigold flowers, bougainvillea plants, especially, were a sight to behold. The gardens also could boast of a host of flocks, colourful varieties such as the Shilabati, Blue Silica, City Dahlia, Zonal Dahlia and so on.

The Perenamala Park in Jayanagar, Infinity Park in Vipanagam, Kempannahalli Park in Jayanagar, Arasipura Park and Delhi Rock Park (New T R Shawmama Park) are full of natural beauty. The BCC maintains 225 parks in the City and more than a dozen of them will be chosen every year for award by the Department of Horticulture. The winner of the BCC at Rommanahalli, Jayanagar and Chikkabugh have varieties of plant species and ornamental pots.

The BCC’s Horticultural Department, which takes care of the gardens in the City, has done a commendable job in preserving the parks. Their exemplary work is reflected in the kind of maintenance that is being undertaken to preserve the flowering plants species. It is evident that the department is maintaining the gardens in neat, green shape, with no shortage of staff to maintain the gardens and remove resources.

The Mahatma Gandhi Park on M G Road, the fountains no longer work. An official of the BCC says that the task of repairing all the fountains in the parks and traffic circles was with the BWSSB earlier. But, as of now, no action has been taken by the BWSSB and the fountains have remained dry. Dr. Ravindra, BCC Administrator, who accompanied the presences says that some way will be found to rejuvenate the fountains and make them soar again. Water scarcity has been cited as one of the main reasons for this. Water shortage also has hindered the process of converting open empty spaces in parks into fountains.

He says there are over 100 vacancies for the posts of gardeners. Suitable action will be initiated soon to get over this. Future plan of the BCC will be “Clean City—Green City” and a drive to plant saplings in the City has already begun. He sought the cooperation of the resident welfare associations and individuals to keep the city, parks in particular, in good shape.

Under the “Clean City—Green City” programme, he says various roads, intersections and boulevards will be identified and appropriate saplings planted to enhance the greenery of the City. Landscaping will be an additional attraction, he adds. The concept of incorporating greenery by involving school children and finding sponsors to beautify the City by allowing them to maintain garden niches are at the top of the agenda, he asserts.

The BCC maintains in all 225 parks, 81 circles and nine boulevards in the City. But, out of the 33 fountains installed at different places, only four of them are functioning. It could be a great relief for a Banglorean, who is always under threat of pollution, if the all fountains are made to soar again and gardens kept in fine shape as before.