

Karnataka

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Karnataka - [Bangalore](#)

Bangalore varsity commits to plant one lakh by year-end

Staff Reporter

University signs MoU with Navachetana Trust and Rotary

— Photo: Bhagya Prakash K.



Support to effort: Schoolchildren formed a human chain at an event organised on the occasion of World Environment Day at BRV Police ground in Bangalore.

Bangalore: Bangalore University celebrated World Environment Day by committing to plant no less than one lakh saplings by the end of the year. Under what is being called the "Laksha vriksha ee varsha" programme, the university inked an MoU with Navachetana Trust and Rotary Bangalore Midtown Charitable Trust.

The Rotary has donated Rs. 2.5 lakh towards the effort, and Navachetana Trust will plant saplings and maintain them for five years. Environmentalist A.N. Yellappa Reddy called upon the people to develop green environs on the campus. "We must all become activists for the 'green' cause," he said.

Vice-Chancellor N. Prabhu Dev listed some problems the city is facing.

"Bangalore may soon be known as garbage city, instead of garden city. There are more than 36 lakh vehicles in the city and many trees have been felled recently," he observed, adding that the university was making it its mission to turn the city green and promote energy efficiency. Anand Prasad and G.

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Govardhan were honoured on the occasion for their contribution towards preservation and creating awareness.

Another event at BRV Police ground had citizens and corporates participating in a human chain with the slogan "Combat climate change". Nearly 1,500 students from different schools and colleges pledged to be "proactivate", a term for working towards a holistic growth model that proposes to minimise carbon emissions.

It was organised by the World Environment Foundation in association with Institute of Directors and World Council for Corporate Governance. "We need to shift away from conventional fossil fuels towards alternative energy," said Madhav Mehra, president, World Council for Corporate Governance.

Around 2,000 saplings were planted at Gowamma Lake, near Varthur, as part of Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor's (RBITC) Green Dream project here on Friday. Employees of Hewlett-Packard and Automated Workflow and Keshav Marble Artefacts joined the local community in the day's event.

In another initiative, SAP Labs India partnered with Eco-Watch and planted saplings to help establish a Bio Park at Hoskote. More than 500 SAP Labs India employees from Bangalore, accompanied by Kush Desai, Managing Director, SAP Labs India, and Suresh Heblikar, environmentalist, participated in the activity by planting 1,000 saplings at the land owned by All India Radio.

[Schoolchildren also](#)

Around 200 schoolchildren, from the 10 government schools in Bangalore, were invited to participate in a painting competition on the theme "environment" and were given a free hand to express their imagination on the existing environmental problems as well as possible solutions.

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