

Bengaluru: 350-acre tree park near Yelahanka

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Bengaluru will get a new multipurpose park spread over 350 acres on the lines of Cubbon Park and Lalbagh. The 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Park' will be developed at Jarakabande Kaval, off Yelahanka.

While the development of this park, about 15km from Bengaluru, was announced in the budget on Friday, the department of horticulture is yet to ascertain how much money has been allocated for it. "We had requested for Rs 200 crore," a source told TOI.

In October last year, residents of Yelahanka opposed a park being developed in Jarakabande area. "A few officials told us they will not convert the forest into the park. The authorities have not carried out any public consultation," Yelahanka resident Krishna Dutta said.

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He also pointed out that the forest is home to several peacocks, wild boars, and many other species of animal, birds and reptiles which must not be disturbed.

A source in the horticulture department said, "Jarakabande Kaval forest is spread over 175 acres. The new park will come up on revenue land next to the forest and hence there will be no tree felling. In fact, we'll be planting more saplings. "



The park is expected to have a variety of medicinal plants, water conservation structures such as ponds, and an eco-friendly pathway made from Hoskote gravel which enables water percolation, the source explained.