

Press Release

13th June 2013

Save Our Urban Lakes(SOUL)

3rd Annual Day Event was held at “Shri Ramanujachary” Hall at Maheshwari Complex on 12th June 2012. Following are highlights of the function:

- **Honorable Lok Ayukta Andhra Pradesh Shri B. Subhashsan Reddy** was Chief Guest and delivered keynote address during which he clearly pointed out role of government for allowing destruction of water bodies in Hyderabad and assured his full support for efforts to protect them.
- Metropolitan Commissioner, HMDA, **Shri Neerabh Kumar**, was Guest of Honor and delivered a talk on Protection of Water Bodies in Hyderabad
- **Jasveen Jairath & Thakur Raj Kumar Singh** presented critical comments on current policies/programs being proposed/ implemented by government regarding Hyderabad Water Bodies i.e. Fencing and Demarcations of Full Tank Level and Adoption of Lakes schemes.
- **Complete List of 3086 Lakes of Lakes under HMDA** compiled at **Saciwaters** based on data collected by SOUL members, was **released by Lok Ayukta**.
- Outgoing Convener **Thakur Raj Kumar Singh** handed over charge to the new Convener **Lubna Sarwath**. She highlighted the connection between depleting water bodies and mounting waste, and stressed on **Segregation at Source (SAS)** of Biodegradable/Wet and Dry Waste as future focus of SOUL. Former Convener continues as Co-Convener for coming year as per convention of SOUL network.
- *Policy Suggestion & Public Message of SOUL*
- Demarcation of Original Water Spread **Use of SOI/Memoirs/Google/NRSA Data as reference as Geo Referenced Maps**
- Data to be Put in Public Domain & Notified
- Freeze all Development **for Area Between Original and Present WS**
- Account for Failure of Governance –**Since Many Violations of Lakes Sanctioned by Government Agencies!**
- Adoption of Lakes – MOU – after revision - with public lake committees NOT with Funder.
- Participation of Civil Society in **LPC Deliberations through SOUL Representation**

Lubna Sarwath
Convener
SOUL