

## **10. Trees and Gardens**

### **10.1 Present Status**

Gardens are termed as lungs of the city. There are 134 gardens covering an area of 5.47 Lakh sq m area in NMMC (Table 10.1.1). In the year 2006-2007, NMMC has completed work of re-development of 21 gardens. 2 gardens ( Vashi and Nerul zone each) are being developed as theme based gardens/parks and those are nearing to completion. There are 74,093 planted trees in NMMC area as on 2006 and same has been given on contract for maintenance for three years. NMMC also provides tree samplings to the citizen for tree plantation. NMMC arranges various informative programmes to emphasis the importance of tree plantation for public awareness.

NMMC shall be spending Rs 753 lakhs for improvement, up gradation and maintenance of 134 gardens in 2006-07 and shall build a "Science Park" a new garden for children at sector-19 Nerul and at the back of Mayor bungalow on Parsik hill.

NMMC is involving private sector as well as NGOs for garden development, maintenance, tree plantation, traffic island beautification etc.

As per the requirements of Government of Maharashtra, Tree Authority has been established for NMMC area on May 16, 2001. Experts in the area of tree plantation have been nominated on the Tree Authority to continuously monitor the activities. Meetings of the Authority are convened after an interval of 45 days. Special care is taken by the Authority to stop illegal tree felling. It has been made obligatory to plant two trees for each tree cut in unavoidable circumstances.

A budget of 1.35 Crores has been proposed during 2007-08 for 45,000 tree plantation, detection squad for illegal tree felling, exhibition of flowers and fruits.

NMMC has carried out beautification of Traffic islands and development of few gardens on BOT basis through private participation. The same policy is to be continued on major scale this year.

### 10.2 Environmental Status

NMMC provides everything best in gardens but most of children games get broken and are not maintained. They are replaced every year. Also gardens are not secured in night hence it is becoming free place for undesirable activities. There is need for comprehensive O & M contract in this regard.

**Table 10.1.2 (a): Details of Tree Plantation in NMMC Area**

Zone	No of Trees Planted							Present No. of trees
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2006-07	
CBD Belapur	1,200	425	300	2275	3500	7880	850	14,787
Nerul	1,250	200	1385	6050	1502	2936	700	12,621
Juinagar		225		225	-	-	=	405
Sanpada	1,570			1570	-	-	1700	4,356
Vashi	3,000		1000	5300	2100	6407	3400	19,086
Koparkhairane	1,800		2400	1750	2100	2861	3500	12,970
Airoli	1,500	425		1400	3200	2690	1750	9,869
Total	10,320	1275	5085	12570	12402	20,684	11900	74,093

**(b): Tree Plantation along Roadside & Nallaside 2006-07**

Zone	Area	No. of trees	Plant species
CBD Belapur	Sector - 11, 15, 19, 20	650	Satvin, Badam, Pettoforum, Acasia, Postula, Kijilya, Ashoka, Nim, Suru
Nerul	-	-	
Juinagar	-	-	
Sanpada	Sector - 1, 13, 15, 16, 16A	1200	
Vashi	Roadside - 1500 Nallaside - 500	2000	
Koparkhairne	Roadside - 2000 Nallaside - 1400	3400	-do-
Airoli	Roadside - 1200	1200	-do-
	Total	7800	

(Source: NMMC- DMC- Gardens)

**10.3 Actions Taken / Proposed by NMMC for Environmental Projects**

Department	Environmental related projects	Remarks
CE	It is proposed to develop a national level Amusement Park consisting of garden with boating arrangement at Morbe.	The work is partly complete and partly in progress at various places.
CE	Children Park at Sector-19 of Nerul	Proposed in 2006-07
DMC	Development of new 15 gardens at various nodes	Proposed in 2006-07

**10.4 PRIORITY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS**

- Numbering trees and Tree Audit of trees every year.
- Comprehensive O & M contract for garden maintenance.
- Tree plantation along open nalla and storm water ponds
- Tree plantation and garden development in all NMMC utility centers
- There is huge open land available under power corridor. NMMC may consider developing this land as green space with the use of high quality treated sewage available from STPs. Otherwise, there could be development of slums on this un-protected land.