

Integrated Approach for Developing Biologically Diversified Urban Landscape : A success Story of TCS –Yantra Park, Thane

[Dr. Naik Laxmikant \(laxmikant.naik@tcs.com\)](mailto:laxmikant.naik@tcs.com)

Corporate Health Safety & Environment, Tata Consultancy Services



View TCS Yantra Park, Thane



Provision of Nursery/Green House



Medicinal Garden

The preservation, restoration and ecologically sound management of urban biodiversity is crucial to the maintenance of global and regional biodiversity. Urban biodiversity is under severe threat due various developmental activities and decreasing at an alarming rate. Large landscapes in urban areas plays significant role in protecting biodiversity.

TCS perceives biodiversity management as an integral part of its environmental philosophy and biodiversity considerations are integrated into Environmental Management System. **Biodiversity Mapping** of TCS owned landholdings through out India has been carried out and site specific **Biodiversity Action Plan** has been implemented for conservation and enhancement of flora & fauna within the TCS premises for protection of depleting urban biodiversity.

The present case study i.e. TCS Yantra Park, Thane (Maharashtra) spreads over an area of 13.5 acres with 36 % is open area & state of the art 10 buildings. Various innovative biodiversity conservation & enhancement programs has been successfully implemented and resulted in biologically diversified landscape.

Biodiversity Action Plan is a multi-faceted strategic approach for implementation of various programs for conservation of flora & fauna. **Flora Conservation Program** includes, Protection of traditional native plant species, transplantation of trees during construction phase, Protection of endangered, rare, threatened plants species, implementation of various plantation drives under Greening the



Bird Habitat Improvement



Creation of Butterfly Zones



Snake Conservation Program



Care for Nature Program

Office Program, provision of Medicinal Garden within premises, Providing Nursery for propagation of plants and implementation of afforestation program. While fauna conservation programs includes Creation of Butterfly Zones, Bird Habitat Improvement Program, Care for Nature program, Snake Conservation Program etc.

The floral diversity is represented by i.e. 181 plant species belonging to 120 genera and 96 families with 750 well grown trees. While faunal diversity comprised of 108 species representing butterflies, **Creation of Butterfly Zones** amphibians, reptiles birds and mammals. Remarkable increasing trend in biodiversity was recorded form 2007-08 to 20012-13. Biodiversity awareness programs were implemented Effective use of biotechnology for onsite waste management has further resulted in use of organic fertilizers for landscaping.

Integrated approach for developing biologically diversified urban landscape not only played vital role in achieving ecological sustainability but also provides business sustenance through ensuring ecological services, enhancing working environment, increase productivity, appreciation form clients, visitors, internal & external stakeholders, and forms an important part of various recognitions & awards.

The present approach is innovative not in regards of its implementation but also with respect to sustenance of ecological services and conservation of depleting biodiversity in urban environment. Also it is considered innovative as it is research based approach involving extensive study of the existing ecosystem and developing the area so as to proliferate native species and thus conserving biodiversity, an important pillar of sustainable development.

Thus, successful implementation of biodiversity action plans resulted in developing biologically diversified campus. Yantra Park has become an excellent example of successfully operating IT Industry in biologically diversified urban landscape and preserving valuable natural resource.