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Drop-by-drop

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REGULAR supply of water is a boon for a city's residents. One of the major steps undertaken by the developer fraternity to boost a city's water supply is to install rainwater harvesting systems in their projects. With the monsoons a couple of weeks away, we put the spotlight on efforts taken by Pune's real estate developers.

Need of the hour

A lot of developers have put rainwater harvesting systems in place in their projects. It's a good thing as it helps preserve the environment and is useful for the buyers as well. Darode Jog Properties have installed a rainwater harvesting system in their newly-launched project, Padmanabh in Moshi. The developers did it keeping in mind its usefulness for buyers.

Going green

Kumar Urban Land Development or KUL is another Pune realty firms that takes environment issues seriously. It has placed rainwater harvesting systems in all its projects. The firm has also donated 60,000 trees to various Government bodies, along with 1,056 tree guards.

Marvel Realtors for its project, Marvel Edge won the best energy conservation project in the state by MEDA (Maharashtra Energy Development Agency) in the architects and builders category. They have done rain water harvesting as an integral part of the project, which has resulted in high ground water-

levels in the area. Treated waste water is used for flushing, air-conditioning and gardening, supporting the plantation around the project. The plantation within the project has also been chosen based on its lower requirement of water; drip and sprinkle irrigation further contribute to water conservation.

Ushering benefits

Rainwater harvesting provides an independent water supply during regional water restrictions. It also helps to generate potable water as rainwater is free of salinity and other salts.

Surajit Chanda, regional head-Pune, Sobha Developers, added, "We have undertaken eco-friendly initiatives such as a rainwater harvesting system, sewage treatment plant and an organic waste converter for the benefit of buyers in our Sobha Orion project." Over the years, many small local developers are also placing rainwater harvesting systems.

The other side

Colonel (Retired) Shashikant Dalvi points out some loopholes. He says, "Rainwater harvesting is not done properly by the builders. Since 2009, it has become mandatory for developers to provide this system in all buildings. They claim that they will provide it but actually most of them don't. The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) officers themselves educated in the functioning of such systems. We have done rain water harvesting in more than 350 buildings in the city successfully. If we can do it then PMC and the develop-



MAKE IT COUNT: Correct storage of rainwater can help a city tide over water crisis

ers should be able to do it easily. I don't blame the developers for it. PMC should take more care about the same. With more and more villages getting urbanised, the PMC should strive towards ensuring availability of water for all.

He adds, "The availability of water per capita in India is on the decline.

There are two reasons for it — the increasing demand for water from the burgeoning population." Rainwater harvesting should be encouraged across all cities and metros to ensure that there's no real water crisis even during the summer and every citizen gets sufficient amount of water for his daily needs.

realty rates

Aundh	7000-9000
Balewadi	5500-6500
Baner	6500-9000
Bawdhan/Pashan	5500-6500
Bibwewadi	6000-7000
Boat Club Road	13000-15000
Bhugaon	4500-4600
Bhosale Nagar	12000-15000
Dhole Patil Road	13000-15000
BT Kawde Road	5500-7000
Hadapsar	5000-8000
Kalyani Nagar	10000-15000
Kharadi	4500-5500
Kondwa /	
NIBM Road	4500-5500
Koregaon Park	12000-16000
Kothrud	7000-9000
Model Colony	12000-16000
Pimple Saudagar	5500-7000
Prabhat Road	13000-16000
Sinhgad Road	4500-6000
Sopan Baag	9000-12000
S.B. Road	12000-15000
Talegaon	3000-3500
Viman Nagar	6500-9000

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