

GRASS ROOTS

Research and Consultancy, Mumbai

Ours is a research based organization working with Government Authorities and NGOs and private companies on projects related to Development planning and Environmental conservation.

We are a team of Architects, Planners and Landscape designers and students from Architecture College, working together with experts from various disciplines and Institutions to conduct research and further provide Ecologically Integrated plans/ guidelines for development and providing recommendations for the sustainability of eco sensitive areas. We also collaborate with a wide range of partners in consultancy organisations nationally and internationally and our service is integrated through a team approach to project work.

As a professional environmental consultancy, GRASS ROOTS aims to resolve your environmental problems both effectively and innovatively through research. Our central aim is to focus on the integrated planning and management of the environment. We continually seek to provide responsive and quality services that incorporate our unique approach to environmental planning while integrating our capabilities in design and information technologies

Areas of research consultancy and execution

- ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
- ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT
- ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)
- ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPING
- LANDSCAPE DESIGN
- ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- ECO TOURISM
- WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
- RAIN WATER HARVESTING

Founder

PALLAVI LTKAR

ARCHITECT, TOWN PLANNER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCHER
H.O.D. CENTER FOR URBAN STUDIES - Rachana Sansad, Mumbai

Research associates

BHAKTI HAJARE ARCHITECT AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCHER

STUTI KALAMDANI ARCHITECT AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCHER

VINIT WAGHE CIVIL ENGINEER AND GIS ANALYST

MINAL HALDANKAR ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHITECT

Studio :

13 Castle House, Plot 56,
Sher-e- Punjab Colony,
Andheri - East, Mumbai 400093, India

Tel : 091 - 022 - 28325511

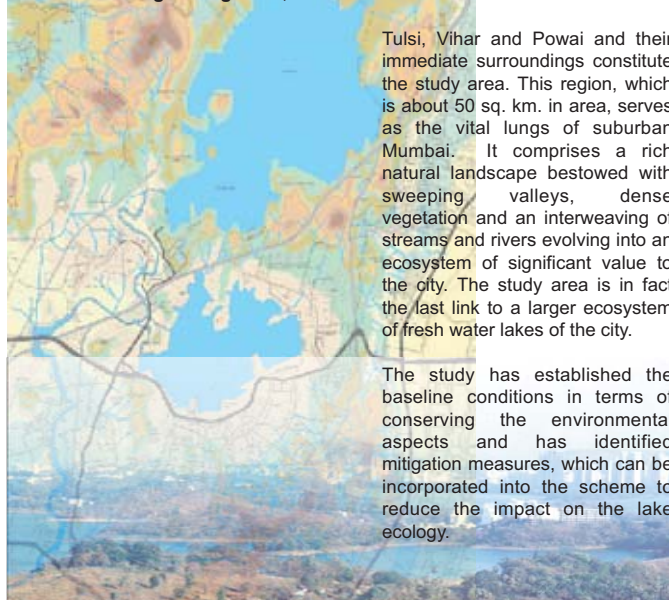
Mobile : 91-9820451922

Email : info@grassrootsresearch.org

Website : www.grassrootsresearch.org

DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE LAKES FOR SUSTAINING THE BIODIVERSITY & ECOLOGICAL STATUS OF THE ENVIRONS

commissioned by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region - Environment Improvement Society
conducted through Design Cell, KRVI



Tulsi, Vihar and Powai and their immediate surroundings constitute the study area. This region, which is about 50 sq. km. in area, serves as the vital lungs of suburban Mumbai. It comprises a rich natural landscape bestowed with sweeping valleys, dense vegetation and an interweaving of streams and rivers evolving into an ecosystem of significant value to the city. The study area is in fact the last link to a larger ecosystem of fresh water lakes of the city.

The study has established the baseline conditions in terms of conserving the environmental aspects and has identified mitigation measures, which can be incorporated into the scheme to reduce the impact on the lake ecology.

ECOLOGICALLY INTEGRATED LAKES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THANE METROPOLITAN REGION

commissioned by the Thane Municipal Corporation



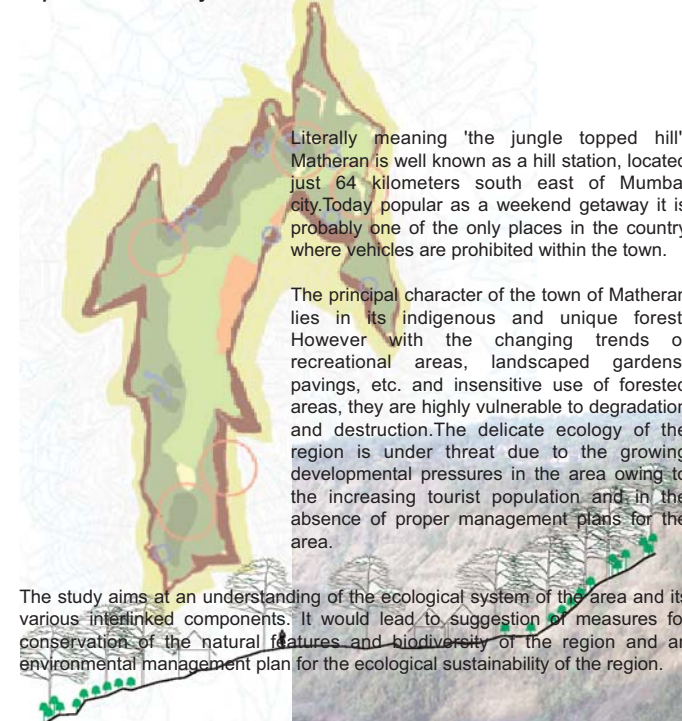
Historically, Thane was known as a city of lakes, nestled between the Yeor hills in the west and the Thane Creek on the east. However over a period of time due to the demands of urbanization, development has slowly crept up to the banks of these lakes thereby converting the once sprawling water bodies into mere water tanks; which are prone to degradation through development pressure, eutrophication and solid waste disposal.

In this context, we have prepared an ecologically integrated lake management plan for the Thane Metropolitan Region which takes into consideration the natural and human ecology of the surrounding areas, explores and establishes the linkages of the lakes in the larger context with the surrounding areas and then suggests measures for those which should be conserved, protected and restored.



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MATHERAN

commissioned by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region - Environment Improvement Society



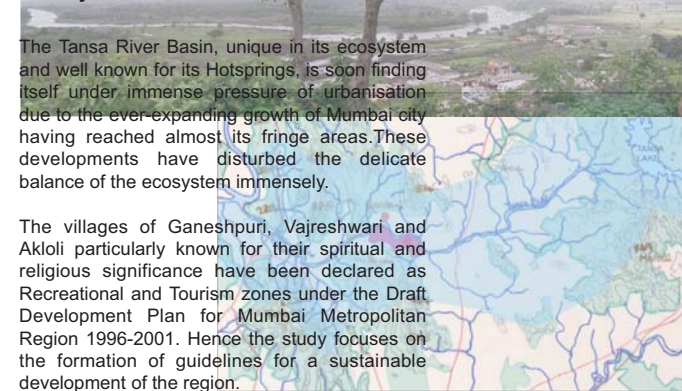
Literally meaning 'the jungle topped hill', Matheran is well known as a hill station, located just 64 kilometers south east of Mumbai city. Today popular as a weekend getaway it is probably one of the only places in the country where vehicles are prohibited within the town.

The principal character of the town of Matheran lies in its indigenous and unique forest. However with the changing trends of recreational areas, landscaped gardens, pavings, etc. and insensitive use of forested areas, they are highly vulnerable to degradation and destruction. The delicate ecology of the region is under threat due to the growing developmental pressures in the area owing to the increasing tourist population and in the absence of proper management plans for the area.

The study aims at an understanding of the ecological system of the area and its various interlinked components. It would lead to suggestion of measures for conservation of the natural features and biodiversity of the region and an environmental management plan for the ecological sustainability of the region.

ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE GEOTHERMAL ZONE OF TANSI RIVER BASIN

proposed to the Mumbai Metropolitan Region - Environment Improvement Society



The Tansa River Basin, unique in its ecosystem and well known for its Hot Springs, is soon finding itself under immense pressure of urbanisation due to the ever-expanding growth of Mumbai city having reached almost its fringe areas. These developments have disturbed the delicate balance of the ecosystem immensely.

The villages of Ganeshpuri, Vajreshwari and Akloli particularly known for their spiritual and religious significance have been declared as Recreational and Tourism zones under the Draft Development Plan for Mumbai Metropolitan Region 1996-2001. Hence the study focuses on the formation of guidelines for a sustainable development of the region.