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Isha foundation helps in beautification, spends ₹1.5 lakh

Gandhipuram bus stand gets a facelift

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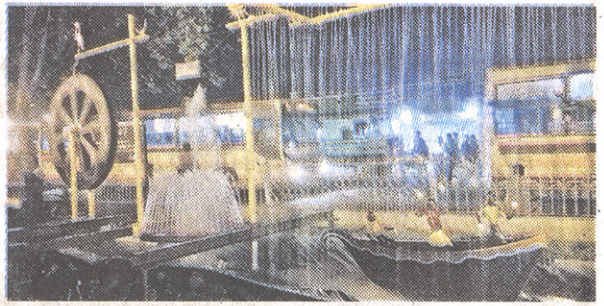
Stop and admire! This is what is happening for the past four days at the Town Bus Stand in Gandhipuram here. No matter how busy one is, passengers cannot take their eyes off the latest fountain inside the city's main bus stand premises.

A bullock cartwheel has been rolling as the crane sits on a bamboo shape base staring down at the pond, hoping to catch one fish at least. On the other side, there is a boat and in it there are three dancing boatmen, while the fountain water keep on showering on them.

A sum of ₹1.5 lakh has been spent to develop and install this newly constructed fountain by the 'Aesthetics Department' at the Isha Foundation.

The creative team has designed and customized the fountain themselves using biodegradable and recycled products to reduce the cost. The base materials used to design this fountain are all abandoned materials like wood and steel.



The newly build fountain by Isha Foundation at Town Bus Stand in Gandhipuram is attracting all passengers. —DC

"Three years ago former Coimbatore corporation commissioner G. Latha approached us with a plan to bring a garden inside the Town Bus Stand premises and we considered it. With an investment plan of about ₹2 lakh, we created a tropical garden with flowering plants and a small fountain then. We have been maintaining for the past three years now," said Swami Abhipada, one of the volunteers of the project from Isha Foundation.

Flowering plants and grass that require less water for survival and also keeps a presentable front at less maintenance cost were chosen.

The old fountain used to consume lot of water, due to scarcity of water the fountain was not functional for many months and the plants were drying too.

"The current fountain keeps circulating the same water again and again; this way we don't have to worry about water scarcity. We wanted to put some lights also and it will be done within a few weeks. This is to create awareness and send a message to industries and multinational companies who too can come forward and take up small areas in the city to keep it beautiful and vibrant always," said Swami Abhipada.

The small garden inside the bus stand premises is called 'Isha Island Path'. Everyday one of the members from Isha Foundation come here to irrigate the plants and once in 45 days they have to manure the plants.