Open Well at Lalbaug Botanical Garden, Bangaluru, Karnataka

Need of the Project: Over the past few years, there has been unprecedented rains in Bengaluru, the areas in and around the Garden get flooded. Within the Garden due to water stagnation, many rare Trees have decayed. The total requirement of water for the gardens is quite high: Lalbagh requires 1.5 million litres per day (MLD), which is mostly being met through a sewage treatment plant (STP) they currently have. Having an Open Well, will not only help water to get deeper into the aquifer, use for the needs of Lalbaug, but also will avoid stagnation of rainwater in the garden, thus saving trees from decay.

Project Activities:

- **Open Well Construction:** Constructing an open well that is 32.75 ft in diameter and 24 ft in depth.

Project Impacts:

- Help urban flood control – Run from rainwater, during monsoons, into the storm water drains outside the Gardens will now be diverted to the Open Well, thus recharging the groundwater, prevent flooding on roads around the Garden due to overflowing of rainwater from the drainage system.
- Protect the existing Trees from decay due to waterlogging of the Gardens during rainy season will be avoided firstly due to water having a path into the shallow aquifer from the open well and due to levelling of the flooding areas with the soils excavated during the making of the well.
- Increase water levels of shallow unconfined aquifer will be noticeable within a couple of rainy seasons in the surrounding areas through increased levels of water in the borewells, other open wells.
- The Open Well is an educational point for children and Society in water conservation.
- The Open Well has a water holding capacity of 6.34 lakh liters of water, and this will be constant within a few seasons, despite the shallow aquifer being recharged.
- The Horticulture Department, during summers, have to purchase water for the Garden's needs, this will reduce as the Open Well created can give at least 15,000 liters of water, every day, for the next 4-5 decades, in the minimum.