

'With technology you need water too'

DH NEWS SERVICE

BANGALORE: With globalisation and intervention of new technology, what is more important is adequate availability of water for daily use, according to writer Dr U R Ananthamurthy.

Speaking at a function in which Mr K N Shanth Kumar, Editor, Deccan Herald and Prajavani released the book *Nashisuttiruva Neerina Gnana* at Nayana hall at Kannada Bhavan on Wednesday, Dr Ananthamurthy detailed ancient and mythological references to water in order to highlight the necessity for sustainable use of this natural resource and preservation of water bodies.

The writer rued that his own house, built in an area with high real-estate values, gets flooded during the monsoon, on account of being a construction on an erstwhile tank bed.

The event organised to mark World Water Day by Communication for Development and Learning (CDL), a voluntary organisation, also marked a screening on water journalists, a new concept evolved to highlight



Deccan Herald and Prajavani Editor K N Shanth Kumar releasing 'Nashisuttiruva Neerina Gnana' book at Kannada Bhavana in Bangalore on Wednesday. Also seen are (L to R) Akshara Foundation Chairperson Rohini Nilekani, Writer U R Ananthamurthy and Communication for Development and Learning Executive Director Shangan Das Gupta.

water issues in the mainstream media.

Rohini Nilekani, Chairperson, Akshara Foundation and

Araghyam Trust and Pratham Books opined that Bangalore had the worst urban model in the use of water. "We bring water from Cau-

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very, pollute it and send it back to the stream," she said adding that fresh water demand outstripping its availability should be addressed by integrated water management solutions like eco-sanitary toilets and rainwater harvesting.

Mr Shanth Kumar mentioned the exemplary work of Rajendra Singh in Rajasthan, Anna Hazare in Maharashtra and Shree Padre in Kasaragod in mobilising communities to rejuvenate their own water resources. He addressed these efforts as a step towards societal revolution.

Shangan Das Gupta, founder and executive director of CDL, said the effort of their development initiative in water issues is "to anchor their work with the media through direct research." Water, she observed, is invariably, a concern across the State.

The Kannada book, which focuses on our diminishing knowledge of water, will be translated into English and is scheduled to hit the stands on July 1.