

# Eco literacy initiative

DH NEWS SERVICE

**BANGALORE:** The Centre for Green Building Materials and Technology (CGBMT), a Bangalore-based NGO, on Sunday organised an ecological literacy initiative in the form of a conference at Bal Bhavan.

The initiative was taken up to create awareness on protecting the environment from the dangerous effects of pollution.

The event featured a panel discussion on the topic, 'How Green is Our Bangalore?'

Speaking on the occasion, renowned environmentalist Suresh Heblikar said, most of Bangalore's green cover has disap-

peared due to the rapid growth of industries in the City. This has caused imbalance in the ecological system.

The biggest disadvantage with Bangalore is that the residential and industrial layouts here are not planned in a systematic manner, causing many infrastructure problems, he added.

As part of the event, CGBMT also conducted painting, essay, quiz and architectural design competitions for students.

An exhibition on the theme Sustainable Development- 07 was organised to familiarise people with various products, facilities and projects of the green buildings concept.

# Bid to spread ecological literacy

Staff Reporter

**BANGALORE:** "Sustainable Living 07," a two-day ecological literacy initiative organised by the Centre for Green Building Materials and Technology (CGBMT) took off at Cubbon Park here on Saturday.

It is aimed at creating awareness about sustainable, alternative solutions to the increasing infrastructural and development problems.

Panellists discussed the issues of water scarcity and energy. They also looked at the burgeoning issue of waste from the perspective of a potential resource, apart from contextualising the discussion for the layman in the last discussion titled "How green is your home?"

An exhibition was organised by the centre in this connection, but most of the stalls were unoccupied.



**DESERTED:** *There were very few people at the venue when Chief Secretary P.B. Mahishi arrived to inaugurate 'Sustainable Living 2007' in Bangalore on Saturday.* - PHOTO: K. GOPINATHAN

The organiser's stall occupied the lion's share of the available space and displayed the utility of bamboo as a sustainable building material.

The rest of the stalls showcased eco-friendly products such as fly ash and organic food.

The opening ceremony in-

cluded an inaugural address by the centre's managing trustee Neelam Manjunath and lighting of the lamp by Chief Secretary P. B. Mahishi.