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Bengaluru's 218th Lalbagh Flower Show Opens with Tribute to Freedom Fighters

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The 218th edition of the Lalbagh Flower Show was inaugurated today at Bengaluru's renowned Lalbagh Botanical Garden, marking the beginning of a two-week celebration of floral artistry and horticultural heritage. Organized by the Department of Horticulture, this year's exhibition showcases over 3.6 million flowers, arranged in elaborate and thematic designs that pay homage to Karnataka's freedom fighters and pioneering botanists.

The show, a highlight of Bengaluru's cultural calendar, has drawn visitors from across the state and beyond. Floral installations feature varieties including the striking peach Dutch roses, vibrant chrysanthemums, and rare ornamental blooms cultivated specifically for the event. The arrangements have been carefully designed to narrate stories of historical significance, with floral replicas of notable figures and monuments associated with Karnataka's role in the independence movement.

Special attention has been given to sustainability in the preparation of this year's exhibits. The organizers have emphasized eco-friendly practices, including the use of biodegradable materials for structural support and recycled water for maintaining the displays. The event also features a dedicated section highlighting indigenous plant species, underscoring Karnataka's rich biodiversity and the importance of conservation.

According to horticulture officials, the Lalbagh Flower Show is not only an artistic showcase but also an educational platform. Informative panels accompany many of the displays, offering visitors insights into the cultivation, care, and historical context of the featured plants. Interactive workshops on home gardening, vertical farming, and composting are scheduled throughout the event, providing practical knowledge for attendees.

Crowd management measures have been enhanced this year to ensure a smooth visitor experience. Additional entry and exit points have been set up, and digital ticketing options are available to reduce queues. Security and first-aid stations have been strategically placed across the venue.

Vendors offering regional handicrafts, organic products, and local cuisine have been allotted stalls, adding a festive marketplace atmosphere to the garden grounds. The event's timing coincides with the monsoon season, ensuring that visitors can enjoy the blooms at their peak freshness.

In her opening remarks, a senior horticulture official noted that the Lalbagh Flower Show is an enduring symbol of Bengaluru's identity as the Garden City of India. She emphasized that the show not only celebrates floral beauty but also inspires civic pride and environmental responsibility among residents.

The exhibition will run for two weeks, concluding on August 21. Organizers expect hundreds of thousands of visitors throughout the event, with weekends projected to draw the largest crowds. Proceeds from ticket sales will contribute to the maintenance and development of

Lalbagh Botanical Garden, ensuring that it continues to serve as a space for public recreation, education, and environmental preservation.

The Lalbagh Flower Show remains one of Bengaluru's most anticipated public events, blending tradition, artistry, and environmental consciousness. With its vibrant displays and meaningful themes, this year's edition offers a unique opportunity for visitors to appreciate not only the aesthetic appeal of flowers but also the historical and ecological narratives they can convey.