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The Times of Nature

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.ndns.in

Issue # 13















July, 2018

Highlights of the Month





























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BBC News

Verhaen Khanna, an environmentalist who started a social media collective called the New Delhi Nature Society, agreed.

"None of the existing trees should be cut as they're living ecosystems within themselves," he said.

Over the past few years, Mr Khanna has been trying to cure "tree blindness", a "disease" which he says is prominent in big cities - that people have no idea about the natural beauty around them. He regularly leads workshops and activities related to climbing trees, meditating under them, walking barefoot on grass plains and trekking across Delhi's lesser-known forested areas.

"It's a really devastating thing to happen to everybody in this city of almost 20 million people. Losing so many trees is catastrophic," he added.

See full article



SAMVADA



very senior environmentalist Vimlendu Jha says, "There are quite a few people who have been steering the protest against felling of trees in Delhi. One person who has been my Hero and been at it forever is Verhaen Khanna, who is beyond all politics of these several groups and has been fighting for trees for. years together, be it one tree or 16500 trees right now, the one who built the momentum of these protests, still supports and contributes to Each of these protesting groups. A soft spoken, innovative, persistent, diligent, a fighter, Verhaen is the key to the success of this upris-

Once again Verhaen Khanna has proved that slow and steady wins the race. Indeed this soft spoken, quiet, activist has been working towards his goal stealthily. He works more than he speaks and his work speaks for his goals. When the entire state is vocal about the court's orders to axe down 16,500 trees, Verhaen is carrying out the protest in the Gandhian style. He has initiated the ancient "Chipko Movement". Activists are seen hugging trees and conveying their intent to protect these trees. This is a very simple and direct message to the government to spare the trees from being (Continued on page 11)





(Continued from page 1)

Save Trees, Save Earth

axed, without any violence or noise.

It is indeed a proud moment for the residents of NFC, that the key activist in the Chipko Movement is our very own Verhaen Khanna. We all need to become proactive and this is the base of any change, expected to happen in the society.

Proud Moment for NFC: Verhaen Khanna was honoured by the "Delhi Langar Seva Society" for making Delhi aware of the



corruption in the system, regarding the citizens' health and damage to the environment by killing trees. It is definitely an honour to have a dedicated and focused environmentalist like Verhaen living in our colony. We definitely hope that the colony will become more aware of its green cover, as more the greenery more the population of the avian population. Already, many residents are becoming proactive towards locating birds of all varieties in the colony.

Contributors of the Month

Special Thanks to Mr. Uday Nath and Mrs. Abha Batra for their generous contribution of Rs 5000/- and Rs 1000/- respectively, towards the environmental conservation work by New Delhi Nature Society. Thank you

Coffee contribution

Please drink more coffee at Blue Tokai, Sleepy Owl Cafe, Cafe Lota and Triveni Kala Sangam to help us grow trees for Delhi.

Every week we receive 100's of Kgs of used coffe powder which gets used in plantation drives or mixed with kitchen compost from homes to nourish the plants.

July, 2018

Indian Express

How I cured myself of tree blindness



See full article

What is tree blindness and how can you and your children learn to reconnect with nature?

By Verhaen Khanna

Tree blindness is a disease that is spreading in urban areas, affecting people of all ages. It is, however, very rare in rural areas. People suffering from tree blindness cannot see trees in their environment, trees are totally invisible for them. Sometimes, they walk into trees and sometimes they drive into trees. If a tree is cut outside their home they would not even notice it missing.

Hindustan Times

The Foundation students join drive against felling of trees

GREEN CAMPAIGN They take part in a nature trail organised by an NGO at Netaji Naga

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The students of The Foundation School, Sadig Negar, arrived at Netali Nagar to lend support to the drive against the felling of trees. They had mind the thought, "The fitture is in our hands. Let's take a stand to preserve our land."

preserve our land."

In a nature trail organised by New Delit Nature Society, an NGO. It was as ad spectacle at the site where forn tree trunks lay on the ground. Heartbrokencitizens had plastered messages where trees had been cut or uprooted. Many of these trees had messages on them such as, "Murdered Why did you kill us," When the word on it was a picture of despair. The students were affected by

Murderest Why did you kill us? We just gave you oxygen!" and so on. It was a picture of despair.
The students were affected by the loss. They voiced their indignation saying, "The people doing this should be punished" and "humans should not be allowed near trees." They discussed the situation and when asked for ways to stop this mass felling. They said they would re-start a CHINGLING.

STUDENTS SAID THEY
WOULD RE-START A
CHIPKO MOVEMENT TO
STOP TREE FELLING



Pupils raised slogans like "Humans should not be allowed near trees," "punish those felling tree

hipko movement of sorts and low their solldarity by embracg trees. They clung to the tree unks and seemed to feel a natuil connect.

The most enjoyable part of the nature trail was tree climbing "Climbing trees is fun!" was the refrain! The students were aske to form groups of four and the shown how to climb trees. The

erched themselves on different ranches. The children loved eing there. Not once did they emplain about how hot it was? all one could see was the bond hat they had formed with the

The trail ended with children going around a Banyan tree shouting slogans and making promises to save the trees. The uvent served to remin indents about the importance slants and trees for the environnent. Trees fake in carbon dooted and release oxygen whil juman beings and other snimal ake in oxygen and release cat on dioxide. Trees are peessar or the survival of life on thi slanet. They help reduce polit-

Times of India

Mission possible: Bringing a tree back to life doable but initial hours hold key to survival





10 VOCAL

16 ft. 1 We removed if of the twelvisms or the ft. 18 a small of the twelvisms or the ft. 18 a small of the twelvism. It is the small of the twelvism of the ft. 18 a small of the twelvism of twelvism of the twelvism of the twelvism of the twelvism of twelvism of the twelvism of t

Hindustan Times



Interns of the month

Adhish Sharma

Ananya Gupta

NDNS is grateful for having these 2 great interns who have worked passionately for improving the environment in New Delhi in the last two months.



The Foundation School



Students from The Foundation School visited the site where 16,500 beautiful trees full of wildlife are in danger. They loved tree climbing, identifying trees and tree hugging. The students made placards to express their love for trees.



Watch video

Mother's International School



The students of Mothers International School enjoyed their time spent on top and under the beautiful healthy trees full of wildlife at Netaji Nagar where thousands of trees are in danger of being killed.

Watch video

Green Ribbon

Wear a Green Ribbon as a mark of Protest against cutting of Delhi trees. Wear it to offices, to your schools, to universities and the streets. Let our strength and our numbers be seen.



The Indian School



The Indian School students hugged and climbed trees at Netaji Nagar where thousands of beautiful healthy trees full of wildlife are in Danger.

The children want to save these trees for a better future.

Watch video

The Indian School Workshop



NDNS conducted a "Compassion for Animals" workshop at The Indian School. Hundreds of children participated in this program. They learnt the important Do's and Dont's for many species to help them become compassionate humans.

Watch video

Support for Trees





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360° Experience of Netaji Nagar

Click the links below for a VR experience of Netaji Nagar.

Picture 1

Page 5

Picture 2

Picture 3

<u>Video</u>





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Pradip Krishen speaks on Deforestation

Pradip Krishen, Author of "Trees of Delhi" speaking at Siri Fort Auditorium and at Netaji Nagar, regarding the Thousands of Beautiful Healthy Trees full of Wildlife which are in Danger.

Watch Video #1

Watch Video #2

Wildlife at Netaji Nagar

The children, monkeys, birds and squirrels love the beautiful healthy trees. Without these trees, they will not exist.

Watch Video

PRADIP KRISHEN Groundinin MA

Homeless birds of Netaji Nagar

A Rufous Treepie Pair wondering "Where the hell did our nest and babies go?" This has been recorded at Netaji Nagar where thousands of trees have been massacred along with all the wildlife nesting in them.

Where another 16,500 beautiful healthy trees full of wildlife are going to be annihilated.

Watch Video



Panel Discussion on 16,500 Trees

A panel of experts discussed the situation of 16500 trees to be felled in Delhi.

Hundreds of nature lovers from all over Delhi NCR attended the discussion which was held at Indian Social Institute.

Watch Video





Sacred Peepal Tree in Danger

A Beautiful Healthy Peepal Tree with several nests, standing in Netaji Nagar. For more than half a century this sacred tree has stood strong, feeding all of Gods creations. Thousands of people have enjoyed the shade of this canopy for decades. The people living in these homes love this tree and the sacred tree is a part of their identity since they pray to the tree daily.



Watch video



Animals Rescued



This Kite was rescued in New Friends Colony, New Delhi.

It was attacked by many crows.

We found 2 big wounds and medical attention was given by Wildlife Rescue.

Special thanks to The Pollination Project for supporting our animal rescues.

View more



We found this sweet Doberman abandoned on a busy road in NFC. He had no collar and has a fractured leg. Responds to the name chocolate.

We are getting medical treatment for him.

Please contact us if you can give this friendly puppy a loving home.

House check is mandatory!

View more



This lonely abandoned horse was found roaming the busy streets of New Friends Colony. Many residents in the colony had reported seeing him searching for food and shelter. NDNS found him and gave him fresh food. The principal of Cambridge school had also seen this horse, so she sent her team to rescue the horse. Together we were able to bring the sweet horse to the school and then called several leads for help. Finally the horse got a loving home at "All creatures great and small" which is run by Mrs Anjali Gopalan. The horse was welcomed by the other friendly horses and donkeys at the new home PART 1.





This baby pigeon was rescued at India International Center.

One wing was severely damaged, fractured and bleeding. He was taken to Jain Bird Hospital for treatment. (left)

This baby pigeon was rescued at New Friends Colony.
One wing was severely damaged, fractured and bleeding.
He was taken to Jain Bird Hospital for treatment.
(right)



July, 2018



Thanks to Mr Rohit Alug for saving this baby bird in New Friends Colony.

This Kite was being attacked by a group of crows.

New Delhi Nature Society rescued the bird and got the treatment from Wildlife Rescue.

There was a wound on the head but soon it will be flying in the sky again.

Special thanks to The Pollination Project for the support.



A parakeet which was lost in the storm, was found on the ground when it was about to be attacked by a cat, he was rescued by a lady in Dhaula Kuan who then contacted NDNS for help. We gave him food and a good home for a few days before releasing him back in the same area.



Mr Ashish Khanijao rescued this Sand boa from a snake charmer. It is illegal to hold them captive and to use for entertainment. The snake charmer threw the snake on the road and ran away. The snake was handed to Wildlife SOS with guidance from NDNS.

Fireflies Friday



Every Friday NDNS is conducting walks to a secret location where many fireflies shine brightly through the night. Participants counted hundreds of fireflies there.

If you want to see fireflies in Delhi, Whatsapp: 9711115666

View More



Fallen tree in Defence Colony

2 Residents of Defence colony are angry at a tree which cant speak, just because it fell down due to humans.

The tree likely fell because one resident got the lower branches chopped on the side of their home, where new leaves have emerged, making the other side heavier. The resident across the road had a damaged car due to the fallen tree.

Majority of residents in the area tried to save the tree in its original location, like the way trees have been saved around Delhi.

Unfortunately the people angry at a tree, want the tree removed.

This tree in Def col was better connected to the ground than the other rescued trees around Delhi, so it had a higher chance of survival in its original location, less than 1% of trans-located trees have ever survived in Delhi.

According to the Delhi Preservation of Trees act 1994, it is illegal to uproot a tree. (see point h under definitions)









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Trees Rescued





A Peepal tree which fell in the storm was rescued by us at New Friends Colony. Now it has new leaves. Special thanks to Mrs Kanika Pandit, BSES, MCD, Delhi Police and residents of NFC.

View more





A Peepal tree which fell in the storm was rescued by us at Maharani Bagh. Special thanks to Mrs Maneka Gandhi for helping us with this case. One resident wanted to remove the tree to make parking space. Even the Deputy Director of Horticulture had refused to save this tree at first.

View more



A Pilkhan tree which fell during the storm at NFC community center was rescued by Mr Rohan Gupta after NDNS shared instructional videos to rescue the tree.

View more





This Goolar tree fell during the storm in Maharani Bagh. Special thanks to Mrs Kanika Pandit and the DDH. With their help, we were able to rescue this tree.

View more





A Pilkhan tree fell during the storm in Maharani Bagh. We noticed there was not enough soil space around the tree. The local horticulture supervisor refused to rescue the tree and was adamant to extract the tree for timber. Mrs Kanika Pandit discussed with the senior DDH officer Mr Raj Kumar who agreed to rescue the tree.

View more

ALL TRES MATTER

Let The Trees Breathe

This is what happens when wires are tied around trees.
This branch of a Healthy Tree broke

Healthy Tree broke because someone tied a wire around it.

Tying anything on Trees is Illegal.

View more



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Vatika India Next

Vatika India Next, Gurgaon, invited NDNS Founder Mr Verhaen Khanna for a tree plantation program with the residents. The children were excited to plant trees so that they can climb the trees in a few years.

Many fruit trees and native trees have been planted to support the wildlife and balance the ecology.

View more





Monsoon Wooding (Phase-1)

A Tree Plantation Drive took place at Ashoka Park, New Friends Colony. This was a collaboration of Swechha, NFC RWA, DDA Team and NDNS. Many residebts of New Friends Colony came to plant trees. More than 100 saplings were planted which consisted of only native species because they are easy to take care, they are more adaptive to their surroundings and feed the wildlife around them.

View more



Monsoon Wooding (Phase-2)

Organised by Swechha, and supported by NFC RWA, DDA and NDNS. Many residents of New Friends Colony came to plant trees. 200 saplings were planted which consisted of only native species. Special thanks to Blue Tokai, Cafe Lota, Sleepy Owl Cafe and Triveni Kala Sangam for contributing their used coffe powder for the plantation.

View more





Gifting Native Trees

NFC RWA and NDNS collaborated to distribute native trees saplings to morning walkers and residents of the neighbourhood.

We also spread awareness about the thousands of beautiful healthy trees full of wildlife which are in Danger in Delhi NCR.

View more





Robberfly

Robberfly controlling the ecology. We found this at Ashoka park new Friends Colony. This is a sign of a healthy environment.



Bees enjoying nectar

Several bees flying around the beautiful Datura flowers and enjoying the nectar of the Flowers. <u>Watch video</u>



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De-Choking Trees

The BSES had repaired wiring in the ground. then they cemented over the wires and also around the tree next to that.

Cementing prevents water percolation and air transfer to the roots, causing them to become weak. It also prevents the tree from growing thicker, which causes it to break or get uprooted and fall.

It took a couple of days but we got them to break the cement from around the tree.

How many trees are cemented around your home?

Dont wait for them to fall, remove the cement to be safer.



July, 2018

The Hon'ble NGT has ordered all departments to remove cement from trees upto 1 meter in all directions, and no construction or digging work can take place within 1 meter of trees.

You can find this court order on the last page of this newsletter or on our website in the resources section.

Slug Life at NDNS

Slugs love moist area, so they are seen frequently during monsoons.

They eat earthworms and mushrooms among other food.

Birds and lizards eat them sometimes.

They are very interesting to observe.

You can usually find them if you follow the slimy trail left behind.

Watch video



Things to do, if a tree is being cut:

- Click pictures
- Tell them to stop immediately
- Ask them to show the Forest Department permission letter
- No permission, then Call 100 and wait till help arrives.
- Write a letter to the APCCF and CC to the DCF of your area.
- If they have permission, take the supervisors details who must be present there and contact the Forest Department.

Tree Census

Start a Tree Census in your area to save trees.

Contact NDNS to get started.



Booklet of Native Trees

If you are trying to identify trees around your home or planning to plant some new trees, this is the best place to start.

This booklet covers 100 native trees of Delhi. Trees which are adapted to the environment, require minimum maintenance and sustain the wildlife. (Rs 50/-)



Buy Forever Plants

Buy forever plants from NDNS. These plants can outlive you and all your future generations if it is well taken care of. (Rs 100/-)

When you buy from NDNS, you are supporting our environmental conservation work.



A sip of Nature

Enjoy beverages in your very own NDNS. (Rs 300/-)





Volunteer / Intern at NDNS

- Protect the environment
- Join the growing NDNS team
- Email your CV to newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com

COOL BAGS for Cool People



New Cool Bag Designs

Fits in your pocket easily. Carry your laptop or groceries. Buy 5 cloth bags for just Rs 200/-Plastic bags are out of fashion.

Order now: 9711115666



DONATE to NDNS

Bank Details:

Account: New Delhi Nature Society Account number: 918020010738403

IFSC: UTIB0001326

Bank Address: Axis Bank, Shop no 6,

Ground Floor and Basement,

Community Center, New Delhi 110025



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De-Choke Trees

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 23rd April 2013 has directed all Public Authorities to ensure that all the sign boards, names, advertisements, any kind of boards or signage's, electric wires and high tension cables or otherwise are removed from the trees.

They shall also ensure that the concrete surrounding the trees within one meter of the trees are removed and all the trees are looked after well and due precaution is taken in future so that no concrete or construction or repairing work is done at least within one meter radius of the trunk of trees.

Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994

Click here for the NGT Order
Click here for the Public Notice

Website to Contact the Forest Department:

http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/DOIT Forest/for est/home/rti/directory+of+officer+and+employees

CLICK HERE FOR THE COURT ORDER ON PLASTIC BAN



Maybe your company has some CSR funds.

Maybe you want to support <u>New Delhi Nature Society.</u>

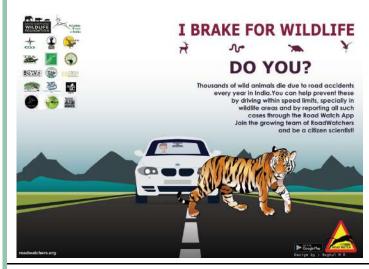
Maybe your investment can save trees, animals and make the world a better place.

Sign Up 🖋

Click the Sign Up button and fill up your details to receive regular updates about NDNS activities.

You can also ask your like minded friends to sign up this form.

Roadwatch App



SOS NUMBERS FOR TREES AND ANIMALS



NDNS - 9711115666

Fauna Police - 9212111116

Give Me Trees Trust - 8800326033

Wildlife Rescue - 9810129698, 9810639698

People For Animals - 011 23719293 / 9294.

For Cows -

Love for cow Trust - 9818434399

Doctor for cow - 9650048826

Dhyan Foundation - 9999099423

Kamdhenu Mangal Parivaar

(Free 24×7 Cow Ambulance with doctor on board) -

7503777888, 9911002200

<u>Please Read the helpful documents</u> <u>on the Animal Welfare Board of India website:</u> <u>https://awbi.org/</u>

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