



The Times of Nature

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Issue #53

Page 1



November 2021

SEASONS GREETINGS



RE WILD YOURSELF

Try our new 30 day
Re-Wild yourself challenge.

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Save Trees App

- Want to save a tree?
- Don't know where trees are in danger?
- Use the Save Trees App to connect with people who want to save trees.
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We would love to know how you feel about our work for nature conservation.

SEND FEEDBACK

Index

Tree saving app	Pg 1
Re Wild Yourself	Pg 1
Appreciation for Green homes	Pg 2, 3
Greenzones of Delhi	Pg 4-6
Media Coverage	Pg 7
Instagram live session	Pg 8
Cloth Bag	Pg 9
Important Articles	Pg 10-12

Become a member	Pg 13
Donate a book	Pg 13
We're Hiring!	Pg 13
Contribute to NDNS	Pg 14
Volunteer / Intern	Pg 14
Emergency numbers / emails	Pg 15
CSR / Sign Up for NDNS Activities	Pg 15
Previous Newsletters	Pg 15

APPRECIATION FOR GREEN HOMES

New Delhi Nature Society is conducting a campaign where we are awarding a "Certificate of Appreciation" to those houses that have the maximum plants and trees in the area.

The purpose of this campaign is to appreciate the houses which don't cut trees and who have maximum foliage within their property because they are effectively reducing the air pollution in the vicinity, producing free oxygen for the citizens of the city, and also creating food and habitat for the wildlife like birds, bees and butterflies.



More than 200 houses have already received the certificates

This campaign motivates the residents who have won the award and also inspires their neighbors and friends to work harder to increase the foliage within their premises. When many people grow lots of plants and stop cutting trees, then the pollution level can be controlled drastically. Without all that foliage, the pollution particles settle directly in the lungs of people of all ages in those areas.

NDNS will be visiting many other colonies around the city to distribute this award to the beautiful homes which are thriving with greenery. So make sure to keep your home green if you want to win this award. Meanwhile, one can thank the greenest homes in their neighborhood, for their noble efforts in improving the quality of air in the capital during this time of the year, when Delhi has the highest air pollution on the entire planet.

Areas covered so far include: New Friends Colony, Friends Colony West, Friends Colony East, Sukhdev Vihar, Maharani Bagh, Kalindi Colony, Sunder Nagar, Defence Colony, Nizammuddin, Pancheel Park, Pancheel Enclave, Sadhna Enclave, Pamposh Enclave, Chirag Enclave, Greater Kailash Enclave 1, Punjabi Bagh, Paschim Vihar, Karol Bagh, Meera Bagh, Rajouri Garden.

APPRECIATION FOR GREEN HOMES



Greenzones of Delhi



In 25 days, we covered 25 beautiful locations with our participants, to explore and appreciate the pristine natural beauty thriving in our city. People of all ages joined the nature walks and through these experiences, they enjoyed learning how to identify the flora and fauna in different parts of the city. For many, it was their first time visiting these locations. Some locations we enjoyed our time so much that we preferred to stay there for a few extra hours. Those who missed the opportunity can join us next month as we restart the series called "Greenzones of Delhi".



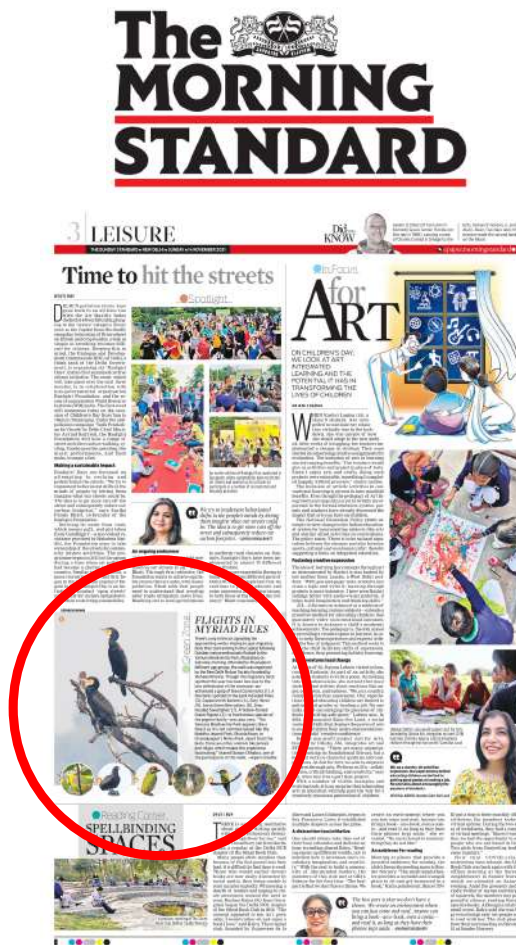
Greenzones of Delhi



Greenzones of Delhi



MEDIA COVERAGE



VERHAEN KHANNA

Green Zone

FLIGHTS IN MYRIAD HUES

There's a nip in the air, signalling the approaching winter. Hoping to spot migratory birds that start arriving in the Capital following October, nature enthusiasts flocked to the Yamuna Biodiversity Park, Wazirabad, on Saturday morning. Attended by 30 people in different age groups, the walk was organised by the New Delhi Nature Society founded by Verhaen Khanna. Though the migratory birds spotted this year has been less due to the late withdrawal of the monsoon, we witnessed a gulp of Great Cormorants (1). A few birds spotted in the park included Kites (3), Coppersmith Barbets (4), Grey Heron (5), Asian Green Bee-eaters (6), Grey-headed Swampphen (7). A Yellow-footed Green Pigeon (2)—a fructivorous species of the pigeon family—was also seen. "The Yamuna Biodiversity Park appears like a forest as it is not commercialised like the Buddha Jayanti Park, Dhaura Kuan, or Chanakyapuri's Nehru Park. Apart from the birds, there are other animals like jackals and nilgai, which makes the experience fascinating," shared Gunjan Chhabra, one of the participants in this walk. —Anjani Chadha

The Times of Nature

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Page 8

November 2021

To join the next session of "Greenzones of Delhi" nature walks series, which will take place in January 2022, please register yourself by sending us an e-mail with your name and phone number at newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com.

You are requested to inform your family and friends about these walks so that they don't miss out on the fun adventurous expeditions through all the beautiful green areas around the city.

January is one of the best time of the year to explore these places, since one can enjoy observing the migratory birds and the various flora of the season.

We conducted an Instagram live session to answer all the questions which were sent to us by people who follow our page.

[Click here to watch video](#)



Interns of the month



Anshika Titiyal



Geet Yadav

CLOTH BAGS

New Delhi Nature Society Cloth Bags

Size - 15 X 15 inches

ORDER NOW!!!

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New Delhi Nature Society
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Important Articles

DEVDICOURSE

Phase IV of metro expansion: DMRC would have to get forest clearance for felling of trees, says SC

[Click here for the full story.](#)



LIVE LAW

Allowed Callous Affair To Fester For Years': Delhi High Court Seeks Response Of SDMC, Delhi Police Over Concretization Of Trees

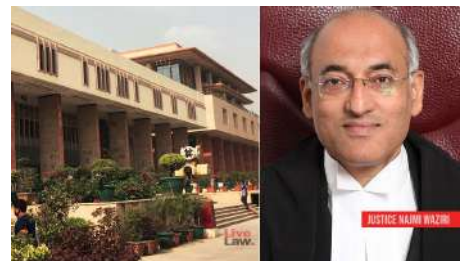
[Click here for the full story.](#)



LIVE LAW

Ensure Compliance Regarding Sensitization, Training Of Officers To Ensure Protection Of Trees": High Court Tells Delhi Govt, Police

[Click here for the full story.](#)



Important Articles

LIVE LAW

"Concretization Of Trees Is Worst Kind Of Human Rights Abuse, You Are Changing People's Neighbourhood" : Delhi High Court Slams SDMC

[Click here for the full story.](#)



The Times of India

Delhi: Supreme Court nixes panel's view that roadside trees 'not forest'

[Click here for the full story.](#)

SC nixes panel's view that roadside trees 'not forest'

Amit Anand Choudhary
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New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday expressed scepticism on the view of a committee it had itself set up when the panel submitted that extending the definition of 'forest' to 'planted trees on non-notified land' will only discourage planting of trees along roadsides on common land.

The panel's reply was filed on an application by DMRC seeking the SC's nod for felling of trees for construction of Phase IV of the Metro project, which would be 20 km long.

TOI tracked the smoke rising from the farm fires that's choking Delhi to the Punjab heartland in an attempt to find out why years of efforts to clamp down on the practice have not paid any dividends. It found that farmers see stubble management as a losing proposition in the absence of any incentives | P 2

from Aerocity to Tughliabad. Around 10,000 trees will have to be axed for the project.

► Delhi, Centre clash, P 3

Hindustan Times

Plan for five-star hotel at Delhi's Pragati Maidan delayed

[Click here for the full story.](#)

Plan for five-star hotel at Pragati Maidan delayed

Paras Singh
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NEW DELHI: A five-star hotel that is due to be built at the revamped Pragati Maidan complex is likely to be delayed even further after a lukewarm response and "lack of interest" from the hospitality industry, said senior officials on Monday.

L.C. Goyal, the chief managing director of the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), which manages Pragati Maidan, said the Covid-19 pandemic has left the industry more cautious.

"The proposal request documents are ready, and we will wait for the opportune time to invite bids. It may be done in another six months or a maximum of 12 months. Right now, there is no appetite in the hospitality industry to put in money in the project," Goyal said.

He added that private companies currently prefer to invest in brownfield projects rather than greenfield projects.

The union government approved in December 2019 a project to transfer of 3.7 acres of land at Pragati Maidan on a 99-year lease for its 611 crore for a five-star hotel.

The government also at the time said ITPO will redevelop the land into an international exhibition and convention centre and Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated four such exhibition halls under this project last month. These new halls will be utilized to host the 40th annual trade fair between from November 14-27.

Goyal said he was hopeful that the market will improve in six months.

"Even the existing capacity of hotels is currently not getting utilised optimally," he said.

"The hotel unit will be a completely private-sector enterprise in which we will monetise the land. We have a clear proposal in which the land will be monetized and the cost will be paid by the private company over a period of time. They will be able to run the facility for 99 years. The model of providing land for 30-33 years would have run into many problems being witnessed in such models in last few years," he added.

Preparation underway for India International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan, on Wednesday.

ANAL KSHIR

Important Articles

LIVE LAW

Supreme Court Asks DMRC To Apply Under Forest Conservation Act To Cut Trees For Delhi Metro Phase-IV Expansion



[Click here for the full story.](#)

The Times of India

[Click here for the full story.](#)

HC takes strong note of 'victimisation of trees'

Abhinav Garg@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Taking note of what it dubbed as "victimisation of trees" Delhi High Court has demanded an explanation from South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) and the AAP government on why hundreds of trees had been concretised in south Delhi.

The court was hearing a plea seeking preservation of trees and future of agencies to comply with orders passed by courts and the National Green Tribunal against concretising of trees. The court was shocked by some of the photographs and noted that "right up to the tree trunk, nails had

been embedded and metallic wires been strung along the trees."

Justice Nageswara Rao said that this was "evident victimisation of the trees" and pointed out that SDMC, which maintains the streets inside residential colonies, would have noted it "but has, for reasons best known to it, allowed the callous affair to fester for years."

It further directed the deputy commissioner, SDMC, to file an affidavit explaining "how this unfortunate state has come about" and made it clear that the executive engineer and director (Horticulture) concerned would also fix responsibility and take remedial measures. The court made the tree officer of

the area, deputed by the forest department, a party to the petition filed by environment activist, Bharwari Kandhari. She submitted that last year she even complained to the tree officer on victimisation of trees and illegal activities, where trees on the streets had been concretised.

The court noted that "concretisation of the street is inimical to the directions of this court and that of the NGT. It is shown that the officer not only by the municipal corporation, but by the road maintaining agency - Public Works Department" and directed them to file an affidavit. The bench also asked the local SHO

and the DCP to explain how the concretisation was allowed in the first place. The plea said instead of taking action against the offenders on the complaint filed to the tree officer, notice was issued to the Vasant Vihar Welfare Association, which was actually involved in preserving the trees in the said colony.

After studying the efforts by the residents, including children and senior citizens, the court observed that "the efforts of the Residents' Welfare Association for preserving the ecology of the area should be encouraged." The court then posted the matter for next week when it would examine the stand of the agencies.

Are roadside trees part of forest? Delhi govt, Centre clash

► Continued from P1

A bench of Justices L. Nageswara Rao, B. R. Gopal and B. V. Nagarathna, which is examining DMRC's plea, said the stand taken by the committee could not be accepted. "We are not going to accept that all planted trees are not forest. It would lead to chaos. Who will decide whether a tree is planted one or grown naturally?" it asked. Advocate A. D. N. Rao, appearing for the committee, contended that the panel took the stand on the basis of the apex court's earlier verdict in 1996 that trees planted in a project area cannot be branded as forests.

"The Government of India guidelines specifically exclude all plantations raised outside the notified forests/recorded forests from the purview of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Only lands with naturally grown trees outside the notified/reserved forest are treated as deemed forest," the committee said.

"It is therefore recommended for consideration of this court that the prayer of the applicant to declare that the 5.34 km stretch of Road No. 26 between Vikaspuri to Peeragarhi, 1288.973 sqm land at Najafgarh drain, 16097.75 sqm land located at Mangolpuri and 55.78 sqm of Krishna Park are nonforest areas is allowed, subject to the condition that the DMRC will fell the trees only after obtaining permission under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 from the concerned authorities and after complying with the conditions associated with such approvals, including compensatory planting of 10 times the number of trees close to the site from where the trees are being felled," the committee said.

The court proceedings also witnessed the Delhi government and Centre opposing each other fiercely on the issue with Delhi's counsel contending that the area was part of forest and the showcause notice is being issued for felling of trees. The solicitor general accused Delhi of blocking the Metro project, which is a lifeline of the people.

Shroff also raised an objection to Mehta appearing for DMRC, saying that there was a conflict of interest between the Centre and DMRC. Mehta, also appearing for the environment ministry, told the bench that the Centre was not against the project like Delhi government.



The Times of Nature

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Page 13

November 2021

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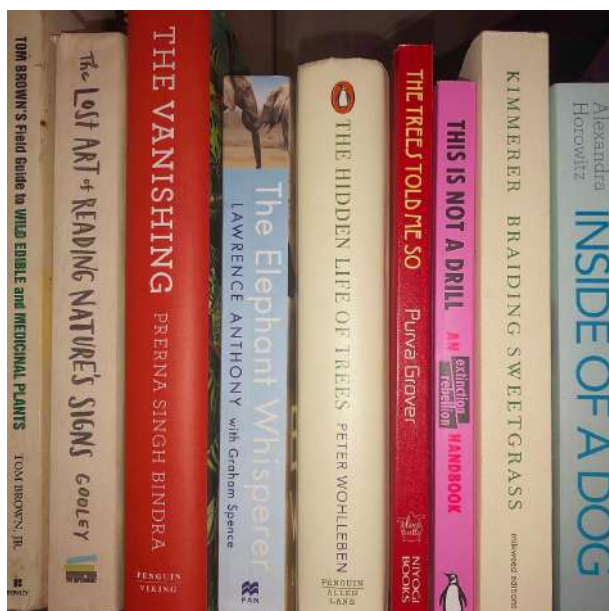


Donate a book to the NDNS library

THANK YOU to all the amazing people who have donated nature-related books towards the #newdelhinaturesociety library.

You can also donate books to NDNS and help build the library.

Visit our website for more details: www.ndns.in



We're Hiring!

We are looking for candidates interested in an Internship and/or full-time work.

We have multiple projects which we are working on.

So just send your CV to us at newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com.

The Times of Nature

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 2021

Rs 500 Contribution - Level 1 Gifts

1 x Birds of Delhi Badge



1 x Suitable Trees of Delhi Booklet
Identify trees around your home.



Rs 1000 Contribution - Level 2 Gifts

1 x Aloe Vera Plant



5 x Cool Bags

Fits in your pocket easily.
Carry your laptop or groceries.



Rs 2000 Contribution - Level 3 Gifts

1 x Cute NDNS mug



1 x Delhi Trees Card-Game

A fun and interactive way to learn the names
of Delhi Trees.



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- Join the growing NDNS team
- Email your CV to info@ndns.in

Contribute to NDNS

Bank Details :

Account: New Delhi Nature Society

Account number: 918020010738403

IFSC: UTIB0001326

 Pay  : 9711115666


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.

[NAILS, WIRES \(10,000 RS. FINE\)](#)

[NGT ORDER FOR DE-CHOKING TREES](#)

[DELHI PRESERVATION OF TREES ACT](#)



For queries regarding CSR, please contact New Delhi Nature Society at info@ndns.in

SOS NUMBERS (TREES AND ANIMALS)

- NDNS - 9711115666
- Wildlife Rescue - 9810129698, 9810639698
- People For Animals - 011 23719293 / 9294.
- For Cows - Dhyan Foundation - 9999099423

TREE IS BEING CUT?

- Click pictures
- Tell them to stop immediately
- Ask them to show the Forest Department permission.
- No permission, then Call 100 and wait till help arrives.
- Report the matter on the Green Helpline - 1800118600
- Write a letter to the Forest Department
- If they do have permission, then take the supervisor's details who must be present there and contact the Forest Department .

FOREST DEPARTMENT

dcfhqgnctd@gmail.com
dcfpmgncd@gmail.com
pccfgnctd@gmail.com

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