



# The Times of Nature

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.ndns.in

Issue #80

Page 1



February 2024

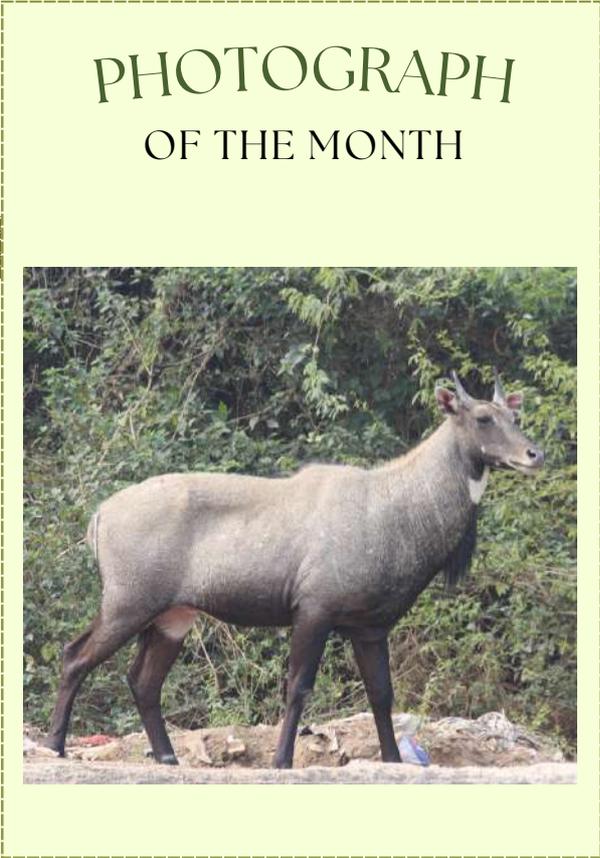
### NATURE'S CLASSROOM HAS NO WALLS



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How do you feel about our work for nature conservation.

[SEND FEEDBACK](#)

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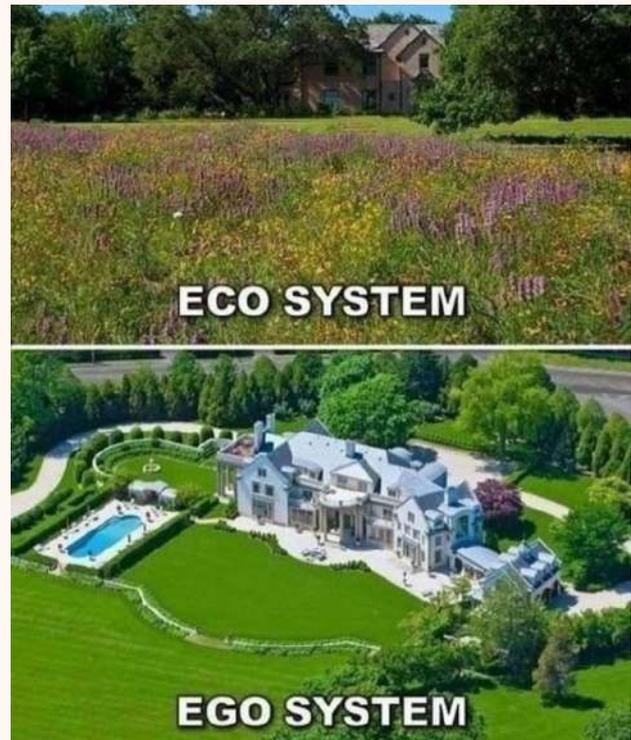
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### March Schedule

Day	Activity
03/03/2024	<a href="#"><u>Nature Walk</u></a>
10/03/2024	<a href="#"><u>Play Date</u></a>
17/03/2024	<a href="#"><u>Canine Carnival</u></a>
31/03/2024	<a href="#"><u>Farm Visit</u></a>

[Click Here for More Details and Registration](#)

### Mememes Of The Month



## Nature Talks Podcast

Let's Talk About Nature!

[Listen Now on Spotify](#)

[Watch now on Youtube](#)



[Saving trees/deers in the world's most polluted city - Ft. Jeevesh](#)



[Forest Spirit Learning - Ft. Jyoti Raghavan Khanduja](#)

### NDNS & IIAD Collaboration



Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

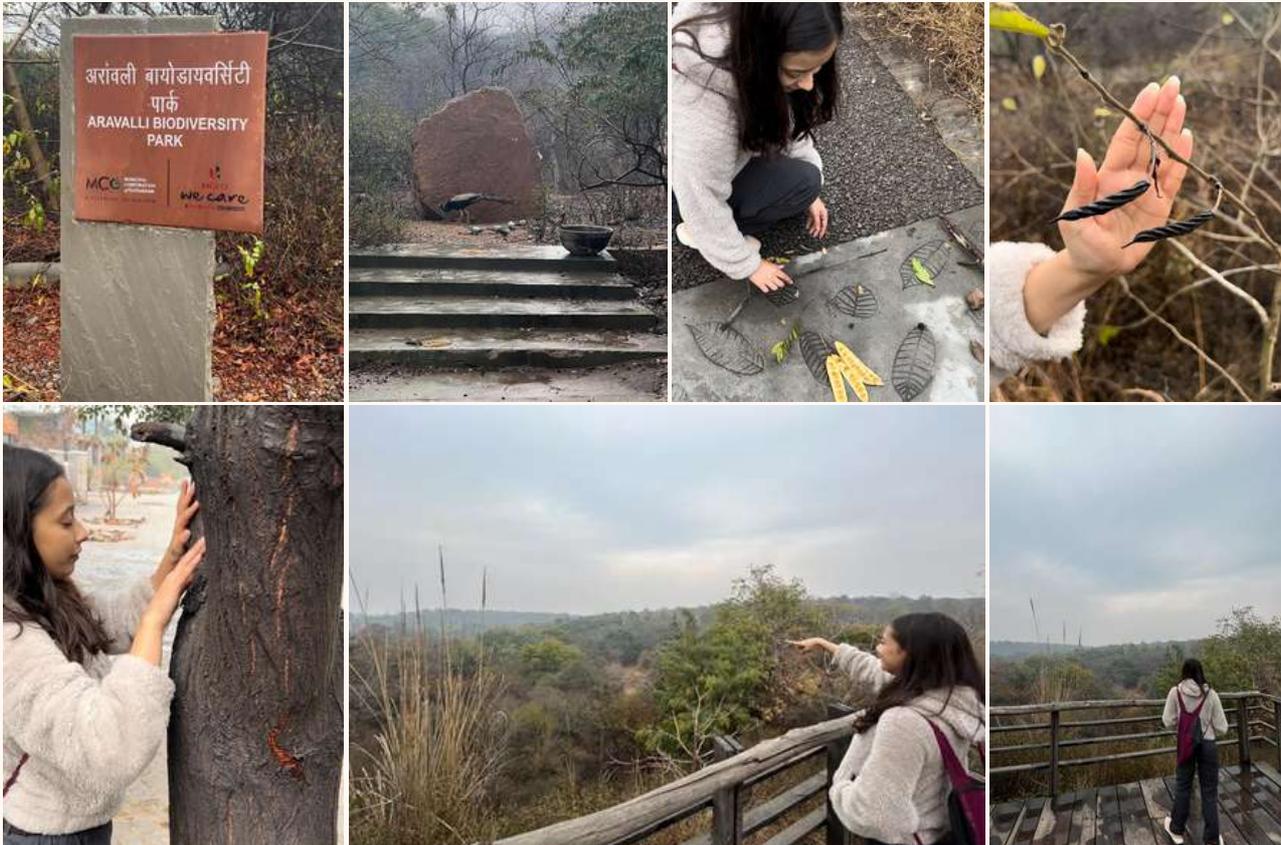
Day 4

New Delhi Nature Society collaborated with the Indian Institute of Art and Design to help the students connect with nature and give them an idea of sustainable living.

We had multiple sessions with the students where we told them about tree saving and census and the art of sustainable living. It has been a great experience to encounter how the youth is willing to contribute to conserving nature and is open to the ideas of sustainable and green living.

We took them for a nature walk as well to give them a first-hand experience with nature and to let them experience the piece nature has to offer.

## NDNS Nature Walk



[Click to watch video](#)

Nestled within the outskirts of Gurgaon lies the enchanting Aravali Biodiversity Park, a sanctuary of ecological wonders waiting to be explored.

Amidst its lush greenery and vibrant fauna, the sands stand out as a testament to nature's diverse tapestry.

These sands, shaped by time and weather, hold secrets of the past and present, harboring a myriad of life forms from microscopic organisms to resilient desert flora.

As we tread lightly upon these ancient grains, we immerse ourselves in a realm where biodiversity thrives against all odds, reminding us of the delicate balance that sustains our planet's ecosystems.

## NDNS Interview With Earthlings



[Click to watch video](#)

The Wildlife Society at Hindu College had a meaningful conversation with Mr. Verhaen Khanna, founder of NDNS, delving into the organization's history, conservation endeavors, and achievements. Mr. Khanna shared inspiring anecdotes about the organization's founding values, emphasizing their commitment to safeguarding endangered species and preserving natural habitats.

The students were enthralled by the innovative wildlife conservation methods of NDNS, ranging from community education initiatives to wildlife rehabilitation programs.

This engaging dialogue ignited a fresh enthusiasm for environmental stewardship among the Earthlings Society members, motivating them to collaborate on upcoming conservation projects and create a positive influence on their surroundings.

### NDNS @ Garden Tourism Festival



[Day 1 Video](#)

[Day 2 Video](#)

[Day 3 Video](#)

Delhi Tourism blossomed with a vibrant extravaganza, hosting a 3-day Flower Festival at the enchanting Garden of Five Senses.

The event boasted an array of delights: NGOs showcased their initiatives, small businesses flourished with their unique setups, and flower experts from across India adorned the landscape with their expertise.

Schools dazzled with intricate flower displays, while bonsai stalls added an exotic touch.

Amidst the fragrance, food stalls tantalized taste buds.

The festival epitomized a celebration of nature's beauty, creativity, and community spirit, leaving visitors enchanted and inspired by the kaleidoscope of floral wonders.

## Nature Walk with Earthlings



[Watch Video](#)

The Environmental Group of Hindu College, Earthlings embarked on a transformative nature walk, immersing students in the splendor of the natural world.

Amidst the rustling leaves and chirping birds, minds opened to the interconnectedness of ecosystems. Guided by NDNS, participants delved into the nuances of local flora and fauna, forging a deeper connection to their environment.

Conversations buzzed with curiosity and awe as each discovery unfolded. From the intricate patterns of leaves to the elusive glimpses of wildlife, every moment was a lesson in reverence and stewardship.

The journey left indelible imprints, igniting a passion for conservation and a commitment to safeguarding our precious planet.

## Canine Carnival



In a bid to promote animal-friendly festivities, the New Delhi Nature Society joins hands with ACGS, Pawasana, and Stray Buddy to host a vibrant Canine Carnival on Holi.

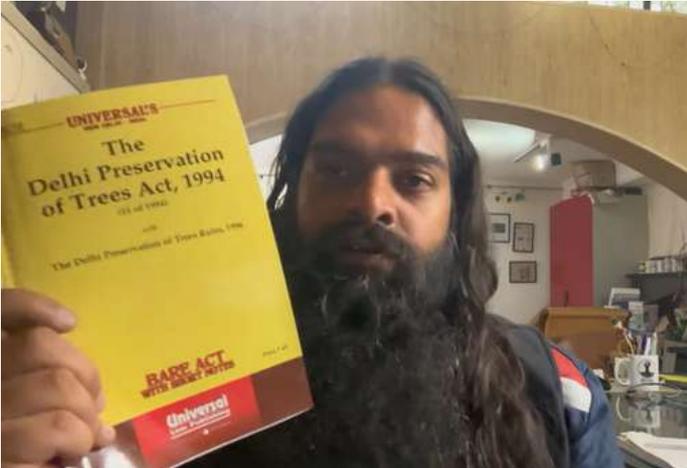
This innovative initiative aims to raise awareness about responsible pet care during the festive season and the event features an array of stalls offering fun games, delectable food, and canine-centric activities.

All proceeds generated will be channeled towards environmental conservation efforts, emphasizing the symbiotic relationship between human and animal welfare.

By fostering a spirit of compassion and community, the carnival not only celebrates the joy of Holi but also underscores the importance of respecting and protecting all creatures, big and small.

It is a walk-in event with the nearest parking at the PVR Anupam market in Saket and a 3-4 min walk from Saket metro station (exit CISF/D-block).

## Our Youtube updates



[What Do You Mean By Fell A Tree/ Felling A Tree?](#)



[Feedback From The Nature Walk At Tughlaqabad Biodiversity Park, New Delhi](#)



[Drone Shots Of Green Vibes Farm At Chhatarpur](#)



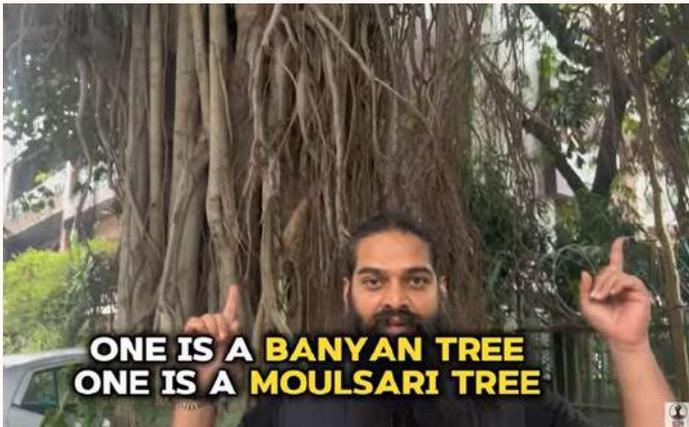
### Our Youtube updates



[Reacting To Your Comments On The 'Saving Trees In Delhi' Viral Shorts](#)



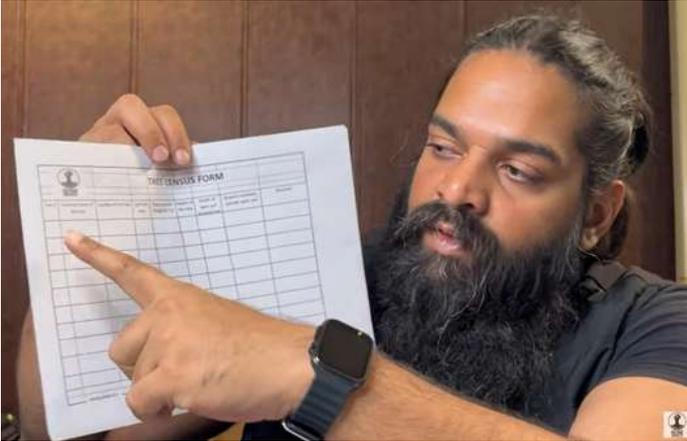
[THE NEW HUMAN OUTBREAK IS OUT NOW](#)



[How To Identify A Tree By Standing Under It?](#)



## Our Youtube updates



[Tree Census || How Can You Contribute In Saving Trees With New Delhi Nature Society?](#)



[\\*LIVE\\* Calling The Green Helpline In New Delhi To Save A Tree](#)



### Our Youtube updates



[Why Trees Fall On Your Cars?](#)



[Shade Loving Plants || Interesting Facts You Didn't Know About.](#)



[Insect Hotel DIY](#)



[How does Hyacinth float?](#)



## NDNS Bird Watching



[Click to View Pictures](#)

Our final bird watching walk of the season at Okhla Bird Sanctuary was a feathered farewell to a memorable chapter of avian exploration.

Enthusiasts gathered for a morning filled with wonder and discovery amidst the sanctuary's serene beauty.

As we strolled along the tranquil paths, the air was alive with the melodies of winged inhabitants bidding adieu to the season.

From majestic waterfowl to elusive sunbirds, each sighting was a testament to the sanctuary's rich biodiversity.

With grateful hearts, we concluded this journey, already eager for the next season's adventures in the enchanting realm of feathered friends.

## Important Article Of The Month

# पेड़ों के आसपास निर्माण न करने के निर्देश के उल्लंघन पर नोटिस

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: किसी भी मौजूदा पेड़ के दो मीटर के दायरे में बिना पूर्व अनुमति के कोई भी सिविल कार्य नहीं करने के अदालत के पूर्व के निर्देशों का उल्लंघन करने पर दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने सैन्य अभियंता सेवा (एमईएस) के एक अधिकारी से पूछा कि क्यों न उनके खिलाफ अवमानना की कार्रवाई न की जाए। न्यायमूर्ति जसमीत सिंह ने की पीठ कहा कि दिल्ली छावनी में स्टेशन रोड पर ग्रीन बेल्ट में किए गए उत्खनन कार्य से पता चलता है कि शासनादेश को दरकिनार कर दिया गया। दो मीटर की सुरक्षा पर ध्यान दिए बिना पेड़ों की जड़ों को काट दिया गया है।

पीठ ने निर्देश दिया कि साइट पर कोई भी ट्रेंचिंग गतिविधि नहीं होगी। वृक्ष अधिकारी और स्टेशन हाउस अधिकारी (एसएचओ) को इस संबंध में उचित उपाय करने का निर्देश दिया। अदालत ने एमईएस के मुख्य अभियंता दिल्ली क्षेत्र को कारण बताओ नोटिस कर जवाब दाखिल करने का निर्देश दिया।



मामले में अगली सुनवाई 23 फरवरी को होगी। ग्रीन फंड से पौधारोपण से संबंधित मामले में कोर्ट कमिश्नर नियुक्त किए गए अधिवक्ता आदित्य एन प्रसाद ने पीठ को सूचित किया कि एमईएस की ओर से पूर्व अनुमति के बिना किए गए सिविल कार्य से क्षतिग्रस्त हुए पेड़ों को पारित आदेशों के अनुसार लगाया गया था। पिछले साल दिल्ली छावनी में स्टेशन रोड पर लगभग 180 पेड़ लगाए गए थे और हाल ही में देखा कि ट्रेंचिंग गतिविधि से क्षेत्र में कुछ पेड़ों को नुकसान पहुंचा है। 29 जनवरी को अदालत ने निर्देश दिया था कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में किसी भी मौजूदा पेड़ के दो मीटर के दायरे में सिविल कार्य करने के लिए वृक्ष अधिकारियों की अनुमति की आवश्यकता होगी।

## Important Article Of The Month

# HC stops trenching work in Delhi cantt

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**HT Correspondent**

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letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi high court on Monday stayed the trenching work, which is being undertaken by the Defence Estate Officer (DOE), Delhi Cantonment Board, within 2-metre radius of the trees found along the Delhi Cantt station road, without taking the tree officer's nod.

The court was of the view that photos showed that the 2-metre distance rule was not complied with and tree roots were cut without paying heed to the said direction. It issued a show-cause notice to the Military Engineer Service (MES) seeking to know why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against him for failing to

take the tree officer's permission.

"The photographs show that the two-metre distance as mentioned in the order dated 29.01.2024, has totally been given a go by and the roots of the trees have been cut without paying any heed to the two-metre safety. In this view of the matter, it is directed that no trenching activity shall take place on the Green Belt of Station Road without complying with the mandate of the order dated 29.01.2024. The tree officer as well as SHO (station house officer) will ensure compliance of the letter dated 31.05.2023 and order dated 29.01.2024 in its true letter, spirit and intent," a bench of justice Jasmeet Singh said in the order.

## Important Article Of The Month

# Centre has no details of panel report on deemed forests: RTI

Jayashree Nandi

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Union environment ministry does not have details of the state expert committee reports which identified so-called deemed forests in every state following Supreme Court's 1996 order in TN Godavarman Vs Union of India matter, according to information received under a right to information or RTI application.

The Supreme Court, in that December 12, 1996 order directed that each state government constitute an expert committee within a month to identify areas which are "forests" as per the dictionary meaning, irrespective of whether they are so notified, recognised or classified under any law, and irrespective of their ownership.

Retired IFS officer, former principal chief conservator of forests (PCCF) Kerala, Prakriti Srivastava in January this year sought the names of all states that have submitted state expert committees as directed by SC in 1996; and copies of all state expert committee reports prepared as per direction of SC. In response to the query, the environment ministry, on January 25 said: "The requisite information is not available in the Forest Conservation division of the Ministry. Accordingly, a copy of the application is hereby transferred under section 6 (3) of the RTI Act of 2005 to the PIO, O/o PCCF all states/UTs to furnish information directly to the applicant, as available with them."



A batch of petitions were filed by retired IFS officers and others. HT

Srivastava filed another RTI query on January 20 which sought the latest updated GIS maps for all states and UTs containing the district wise details of the location and boundary of each plot of land that may be defined as forest for the purpose of forest conservation act 1980; whether a GIS based decision support database was created as directed by the SC, and if so, a link to that; and all geo-referenced district forest maps with details of areas identified as forests in compliance with the 1996 order. However, the weblink did not provide geo-referenced maps of these forests according to Srivastava.

To this, the ministry, in a response dated February 1 stated that it "in collaboration with the Forest Survey of India has prepared a GIS based decision support system wherein forest layers among other layers such as hydrological layers; wildlife corridors; landscape integrity etc have been embedded. The data-

base is available in the public domain and can be accessed at <https://parivesh.nic.in/kya/#/>. Further as per requisite information in State/UTs specific, therefore as regards to the revenue forest areas or other forest like areas, not covered within recorded forest areas of the FSI may be obtained from state government/UTs."

Interestingly, in the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Forest Conservation Amendment bill 2023 submitted in Lok Sabha in July last year, the ministry stated that "deemed forests as identified by expert committees of the states, have been taken on record and hence the provision of the Act will be applicable in such lands also..." This gave the impression to several environmental groups that the data was already available with the union environment ministry. The FC Amendment Act or the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 2023 was passed last July. One of

the most contentious provisions of the Act is that it removes the protection that unrecorded deemed forests thus far enjoyed under the 1996 judgement.

A batch of petitions were filed by a group of retired IFS officers and former bureaucrats against several contentious provisions of the amended Act.

The SC on Monday issued an interim order that has effectively suspended what experts and activists said were dilution of environmental protections for forests in a law enacted by the government last year. The court ordered that states and Union territories need to go by the dictionary definition of the word forest to determine whether any work can be approved on any land, asked the Union government to seek details about what lands have been identified as forests in the lexical sense (in keeping with a 1996 ruling), and that no zoos or safaris can be set up in such areas unless the court's approval has been secured.

"All states and UTs must comply with the directions by forwarding the reports of the expert committees by March 31, 2024. These records shall be maintained by the MoEFF and shall be duly digitised and made available on the official website by April 15, 2024," the bench said.

It further stated that the expert committees which are constituted as per rule 16 of the 2023 FC Rules shall duly include data of the 1996 SEC reports by the previous expert committees formed as per the Godavarman judgement. The court added that

the expert committees formed as per the 2023 rules will be at liberty to expand the ambit of forest lands which are worthy of protection.

"This is an amazing order because SC has said that all state expert committee reports on forests identifying all categories of forests including unclassified forests as per the Godavarman judgement are to be compiled by the MoEFF within two weeks and georeferenced also as per the 2011 Lafarge order in the 202/96 Godavarman case. These georeferenced maps of all forests have to be put in the public domain by 15th April 2024. When I sought these reports under RTI, I was told that the information is not available with the Ministry. This is shocking when the Ministry has stated before the Joint Parliamentary Committee that the SEC reports have been taken on record and the amended Act will be applicable to the land also. It is really horrifying that the Ministry has made such false assurances which have resulted in changing the conservation regime of the country through the amended Act without even examining the State Expert Committee reports! Considering the few poor quality SEC reports that have been seen by us, it is to be seen what the next steps of the Ministry will be in pursuance to the SC order of today," Prakriti Srivastava, retired IFS officer said on Monday following SC's interim order.

The ministry did not respond to HT's queries on the court's Monday order.

### Media Coverage

#### HC ask DDA to hold Deer Census in Deer Park



PTI

Outlook India

Indian Express

Law Trend

Magzter

News9Live

Law Beat

The Print

Law Advice





Below are a few tweets from the month of January about important nature-related stories from our @NDN\_HQ page. Please click on the links to open the tweets and learn more about these fascinating topics. Our Twitter page is a great way to stay up-to-date with the latest news and events related to nature and conservation, so be sure to follow us for more updates!

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44 Hectares cleared up for setting up tents for Commando Battalion

[Click to View](#)

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Go By Dictionary Definition of Forest, Says SC

[Click to View](#)

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Four Flamingos Died After They Dashed in the Signboards

[Click to View](#)

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Site For Sabrimala Airport.

[Click to View](#)

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Air Pollution is a Spiking Cause Of Cancer

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Nearly 1000 Methane Emission Events Linked With Waste Since 2019

[Click to View](#)

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Mass Coral Bleach at Great Barrier Reef

[Click to View](#)

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1000 Deodar Trees To Be Chopped Off For Road Widening Plan Jageshwar, Almora

[Click to View](#)

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Water in Ganga and 21 Other Rivers in Bihar Is Unfit To Even Bath In.

[Click to View](#)

---

Green Tribunal NGT To Send Notice To 50 Most Polluted Cities.

[Click to View](#)

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## Native Flowers For Local Biodiversity



Biodiversity refers to the variety of life on Earth, including the diversity and range of species, genes, and ecosystems, whereas local biodiversity refers to the variety of life within a particular local area.

Local biodiversity in particular plays a very vital role, as it provides essential ecosystem services and supports the well-being of local communities.

With the emphasis on local biodiversity, our focus on 'Native flowers for local biodiversity' became crucial in today's time as many people started to grow non-native plant flowers in their gardens for aesthetic and commercial purposes without having proper information about their ill effects on the local environment.

[Click Here to Read the Full Blog](#)

Project Manager/  
Editor



Ms. Aysha Wamiq

Interns of the Month



Ms. Shreya Barnwal



Mr. Sarthak Goel

### Delhi Birds Card Game



An original New Delhi Nature Society creation.  
Great for all ages.

[Order Now](#)

### Pencil made of Recycled Newspaper with Seeds



From trash to treasure, this pencil can save the planet for good measure!

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### New Lapel-Pins Designs



[Order Now](#)



### Birds Of Delhi Lapel-Pins



### New T-Shirt Designs



All Funds Raised will be used for Environmental Conservation

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### DELHI TREES CARD GAME

An original New Delhi Nature Society creation  
Suitable for 2-6 players.  
Great for all ages.

Get your pack just for Rs 200/-

**ORDER NOW**



### CLOTH BAGS

New Delhi Nature Society  
Cloth Bags  
Size - 15 X 15 inches

5 assorted bags for Rs 200/-

**ORDER NOW**

[Click here to watch video](#)



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Rs 5/- each

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Sizes Available - M , L , XL , XXL  
Colors available - Black , Blue , Red , Yellow

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### RE-WILD YOURSELF 30 Day Challenge



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### Birds of Delhi Badges

(Rs50)

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### Aloe Vera Plant

(Rs 100)

**ORDER NOW**



### Native Trees of Delhi Booklet

(Rs 50)

**ORDER NOW**



### NDNS Coffee Mugs

(Rs 250 each)

**ORDER NOW**



### Volunteer / Intern at NDNS

- Protect the environment
- Join the growing NDNS team
- Email your CV to [info@ndns.in](mailto:info@ndns.in)

### Contribute to NDNS

Bank Details :  
Account: New Delhi Nature Society  
Account number: 918020010738403  
IFSC: UTIB0001326

 **Paytm** : 9711115666

### NDNS Membership

We are thrilled to offer you the opportunity to become a member of the New Delhi Nature Society (NDNS). As a member, you will play a critical role in helping to protect the environment and support our mission of creating a sustainable future for all. In addition to making a meaningful impact, you will also enjoy special packages and benefits exclusively available to members. We look forward to your participation and thank you for your support!



**BECOME A MEMBER**

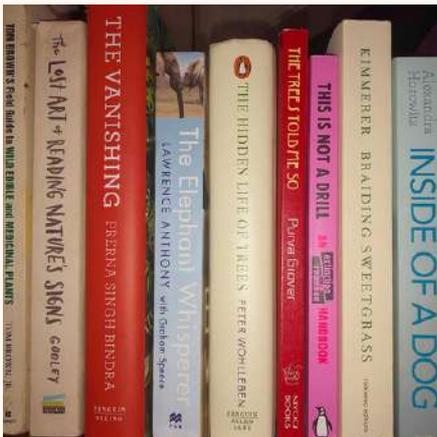
BECOME A NEW DELHI NATURE SOCIETY MEMBER TODAY AND AVAIL THESE AWESOME BENEFITS!

- 10% OFF ON NDNS EVENTS
- 15% OFF ON NDNS MERCHANDISE
- INVITATION FOR MEMBERS EVENTS
- NETWORK WITH LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE
- LEARN TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT
- ACCESS TO THE NDNS LIBRARY

JUST FILL THE FORM BELOW

[Click here to Sign Up](#)

### Donate a book to the NDNS library



We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the amazing individuals who have donated nature-related books towards the #newdelhinaturesociety library. Your generosity will help us in building a comprehensive library that will be a valuable resource for nature enthusiasts and students alike. If you too would like to contribute to our library, we welcome book donations and encourage you to get in touch with us for more information. You can visit our website at [www.ndns.in](http://www.ndns.in) to learn more about our organization and our various initiatives.

### We're Hiring!

We are currently seeking candidates who are interested in an internship and/or full-time work with our organization. We have multiple ongoing projects that require dedicated and passionate individuals who are eager to make a positive impact on the environment. If you are interested in joining our team, please fill out the application form to apply. We look forward to hearing from you!

[FILL THE FORM](#)



**JOIN OUR TEAM**

New Delhi Nature Society is offering paid internships!

[Details](#) →

### 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](mailto: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

### A 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

[dcfhagnctd@gmail.com](mailto:dcfhagnctd@gmail.com)

[dcfpmgncd@gmail.com](mailto:dcfpmgncd@gmail.com)

[pccfgnctd@gmail.com](mailto:pccfgnctd@gmail.com)

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Access to previous Newsletters

