IN THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

O.A. No. 555/2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

NEWS ITEM TITLED "INDIAN LOST 2.33 MILLION HECTARES OF TREE COVER SINCE 2000, GLOBAL FOREST WATCH" APPEARING IN THE INDIAN EXPRESS DATE 13.04.2024

INDEX

Place: New Delhi

Date: 28.02.2025

FILED BY:

(JYOTI MENDIRATTA)
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(Lower Ground Floor),
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IN THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, NEW DELHI

IN

O.A. No. 555/2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

News item titled "Indian lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000, Global Forest Watch" appearing in the Indian Express date 13.04.2024

REPLY ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 37, IN COMPLIANCE OF ORDER DATED 29.01.2025 OF THE HON'BLE TRIBUNAL IN THE PRESENT MATTER

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

I, Ankit Kumar, s/o Sh. Anil Kumar, aged about 38 years, posted as the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Protection and Monitoring), Department of Forests and Wildlife, Government of NCT of Delhi, is duly authorized to submit the present reply and do hereby state as under:-

1. At the outset, it is most respectfully and humbly stated that the deponent of the reply has the utmost regard and respect for the majesty of the Hon'ble Tribunal and has in the past, as also the present instance done and will continue to do everything in its power to ensure compliance of the directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

2. That the present affidavit is being filed in compliance of the order dated 29.01.2025 of this Hon'ble Tribunal in the present matter. The relevant part of the order is reproduced below:

> *"1. Since O.A. No. 555/2024 and O.A. No. 20/2025 are interconnected as O.A 555/2024 involves the issue of decrease of forest cover in entire India while O.A. No. 20/2025 involves*

the issue of decrease of forest cover in the State of Assam, both the OAs are taken up together.

2. Reply dated 28.01.2025 has been filed by respondent no.31- State of Uttarakhand in O.A. No. 555/2024.

3. None has appeared for respondents no. 5,6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 35, 37, 38 and 40 in O.A. No. 555/2024 and respondents no. 1 to 4 in O.A. No. 20/2025.

4. States/UTs and their instrumentalities are under constitutional obligation to protect and improve environment and in view thereof States/UTs and their instrumentalities cannot absent from adjudication of substantial environmental questions on any ground and are constitutionally bound to cooperate and participate in the same.

.....8. Responses/reports by the remaining respondents with complete information regarding Forest Cover, Tree Cover etc. for the period from the year 2001 to 2021 may be filed at least one week before the date of hearing fixed.....

10. List on 03.03.2025 for further consideration."

3. It is to submit that the earlier order dated 18.11.2024 in the present matter, has marked the present department as

"..... *Respondent 37 –* ***Delhi Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, through Secretary, 3rd&4th Floor Rajendra Bhawan Rajendra Place New Delhi 110008 India."]***

4. That the above address and name of department is not a designated for the deponent department. The name and address of the deponent department are as follows:

   Name of the Department – Department of Forest & Wildlife, GNCTD
   Address – A-Block, 2nd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, IP Estate, New Delhi-110002.

5. That the department came to know about present matter, when the order dated 29.01.2025, was forwarded to this department by the Chief Secretary, GNCTD to this Department.

6. It is to submit that in compliance of the above directions the following information is being submitted for kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal:

   i. **Status of Tree Cover and Forest Cover in NCT of Delhi since 2001 to 2023:**

   Since 1987 the tree cover and forest cover of the country is being assessed by Forest Survey of India (FSI). The assessment on tree cover and forest cover as well as forest resources, carbon stocks etc. is biannually published by FSI in the form of India State of Forest Report (ISFR).

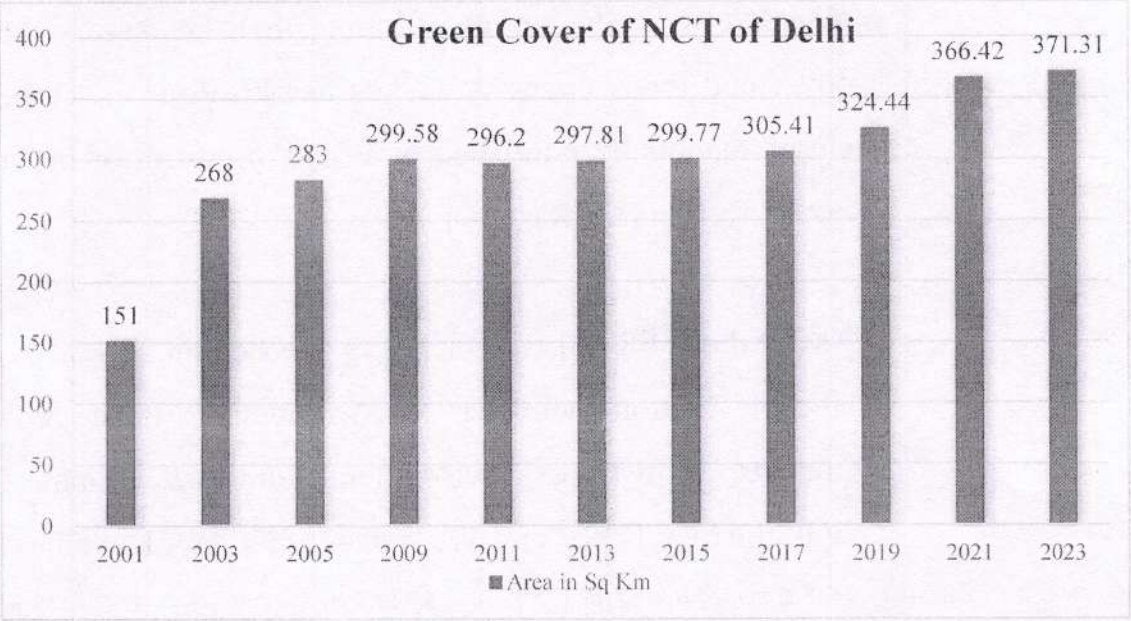
   As per the ISFR, 2023, which was released on 21.12.2024 by the Hon'ble Union Minister (Environment, Forest & Climate Change), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, GOI, the total Forest and Tree cover of NCT of Delhi has become 25.04 percent (371.31 sq km) of its geographical area. The national Forest and Tree cover is 25.17 percent of the geographical area of the country. The percentage of Forest and Tree cover of Delhi at 25.04 percent is almost equal to national

percentage figure. The status of Green Cover (Forest Cover and Tree Cover) of the State since 2001 to 2023 is as under:

Table-1: Green Cover of NCT of Delhi (Area in sq km)

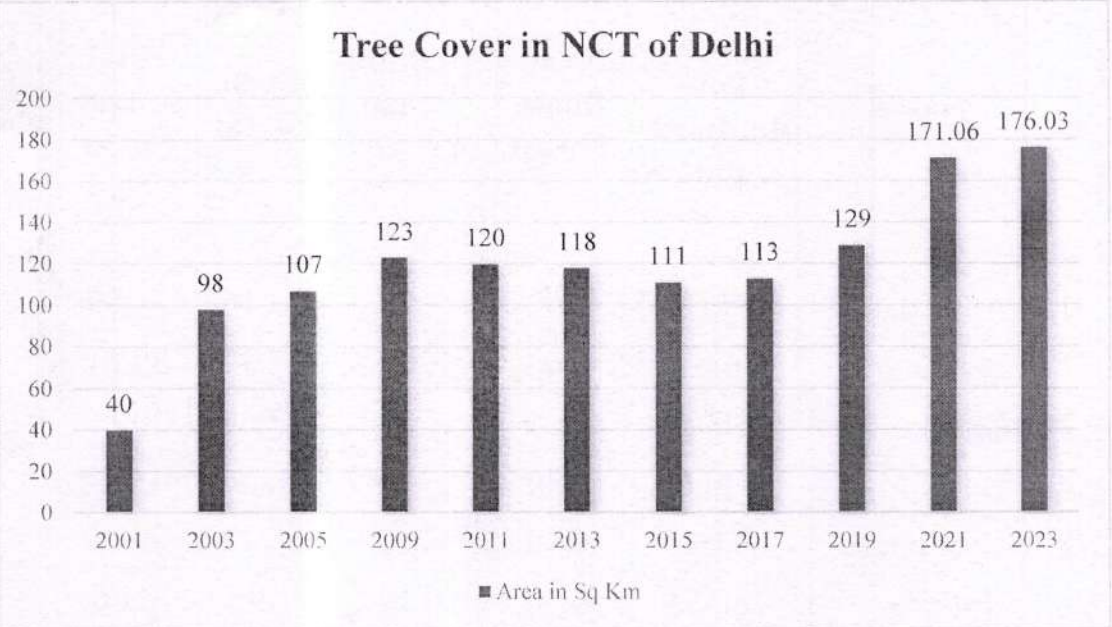
Year	Green Cover (Tree Cover and Forest Cover)	Percentage Share of Green Cover w.r.t Geographical area (%)
2001	151	10.18
2003	216	14.56
2005	283	19.08
2007	Not available	Not available
2009	299.58	20.20
2011	296.2	19.973
2013	297.81	20.081
2015	299.77	20.213
2017	305.41	20.594
2019	324.44	21.877
2021*	366.42	24.7
2023	371.31	25.04

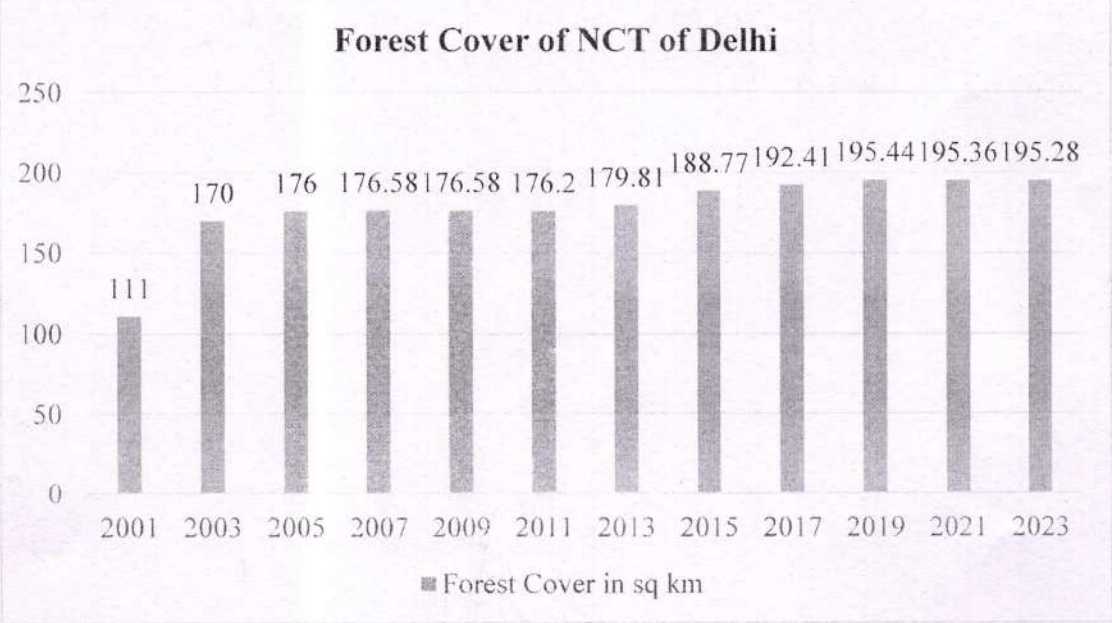
*(*As per the revised data published in ISFR 2023)*



The Green Cover has increased by 4.89 sq km from 2021 to 2023, which is attributed to increase in Tree Cover. However, in the recent report, the Forest and Tree cover figures for 2021 have

been revised to 366.42 sq km from 342 sq km by including all bamboo clumps and trees of diameter at breast height of 5-10 cm which were not included in published figures reported in ISFR 2021. By this revision in the recent report, the percentage of Forest and Tree Cover for 2021, for Delhi, works out to be 24.7% instead of 23.06%. Therefore, the Forest and Tree cover percentage of geographical area of Delhi increased from 24.7% in 2021 to 25.04 percent in 2023 in revised format as per the latest report published by FSI.

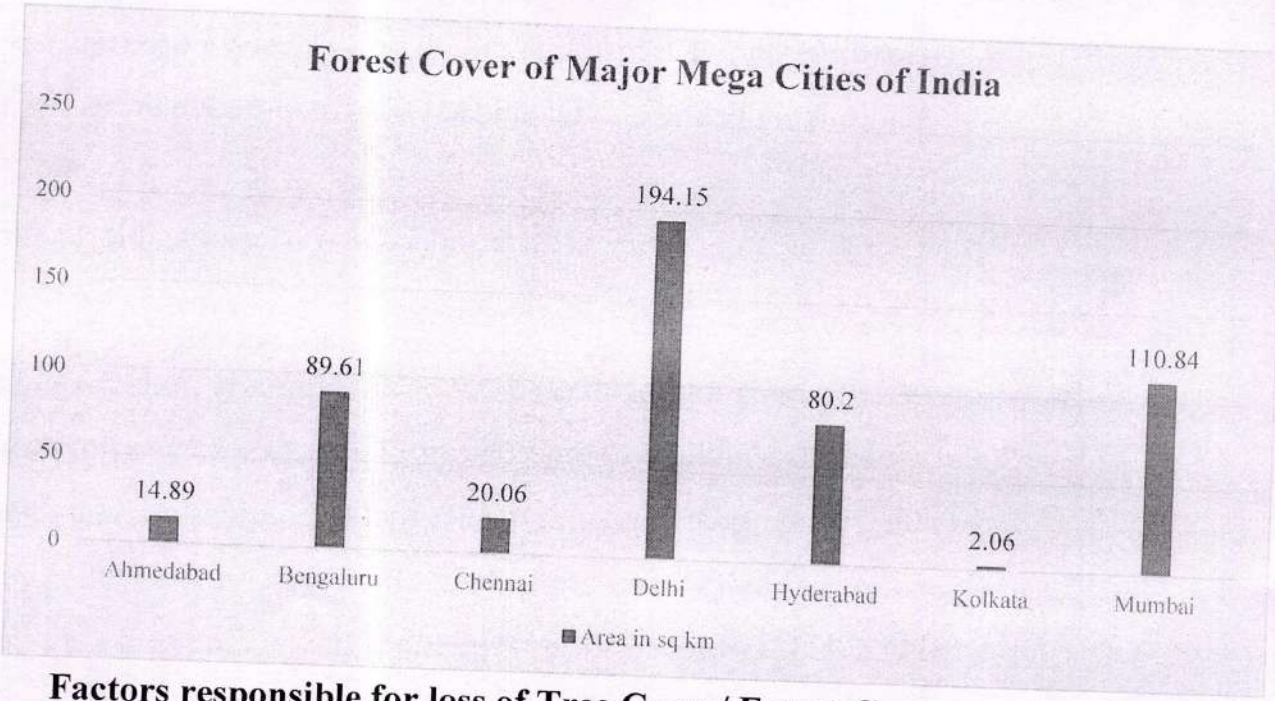




Moreover, as per ISFR, 2023 it is pertinent to mention that, among six major mega cities of the country which are Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Mumbai, Delhi has the largest forest cover (194.15 sq km) followed by Mumbai (110.84 sq km) and Bengaluru (89.61 sq km).

Table-2: Forest Cover in Major Mega Cities (ISFR, 2023) (Area in sqkm)

S. No.	Name	Area as Per digitized Boundary	Very Dense Forest	Medium Dense Forest	Open Forest	Total Forest Cover	% of total Forest Cover w.r.t area of digitized boundary	Scrub
1.	Ahmedabad	455.32	0.00	1.73	13.16	14.89	3.27	3.18
2.	Bengaluru	1307.35	0.00	12.28	77.33	89.61	6.85	13.69
3.	Chennai	430.07	0.00	7.37	12.69	20.06	4.66	1.77
4.	Delhi	1540.63	6.49	53.40	134.26	194.15	12.60	2.39
5.	Hyderabad	634.18	0.00	17.03	63.17	80.20	12.65	28.43
6.	Kolkata	186.55	0.00	0.10	1.96	2.06	1.10	0.00
7.	Mumbai	435.91	0.00	50.85	59.99	110.84	25.43	0.00



ii. Factors responsible for loss of Tree Cover/ Forest Cover:

In view of above account it is pertinent to mention that since 2001 the Tree and Forest Cover of the State have shown manifold increase from 151 sq km to 371.31 sq km. Therefore, over the years there is no loss in terms of Tree and Forest Cover of the State.

NCT of Delhi is part of the one of most rapidly expanding urban agglomerations in the world and is subject to immense pressures due to rapid urbanization, rapid demographic growth and intense infrastructure development. The pressures of exponential population growth coupled with the consequential urban growth and several infrastructural projects and large scale constructions, such as Delhi Metro, National Highway Project, High Capacity Bus Service (HCBS), flyovers, underpasses, subways, or general road widening etc. which may results in the temporary decline in tree cover of the State during the period of 2013 to 2017. However, the number of trees to be felled/ transplanted are rationalized to a minimum before according permissions.

Likewise, diversion of forest area due to non-forestry purposes may the result in minimal decline of VDF and MDF as recorded in the assessment of FSI in 2023.

Further, encroachment on Forest Land is also a responsible factor for declining in forest density.

However, afforestation/ plantation drives are regularly undertaken in the State which also include compensatory plantations done in lieu of the trees cut. The massive plantation drives that are regularly undertaken by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi is reflected in increase area of Open Forest in the ISFR, 2023. However, these plantations have being of a very young age would not have been accommodate for as their canopies are still small, therefore not reflecting in VDF or MDF categories. These plantations would only come under the medium dense forest or very dense forest after a period of at least five to ten years.

iii. Action Taken for conservation and management of Tree/ Forest Cover:

The comprehensive details which are currently being taken by the Department of Forests and Wildlife, GNCTD for conservation, management and increase of Tree and Forest Cover, i.e., Green Cover of the State is recorded in the affidavit dated 15.10.2024 filed by Pr. Sec (E&F), GNCTD, Govt. of NCT of Delhi in the matter of M.C Mehta Vs Union of India in terms of order dated 26.06.2024 and subsequent orders in W.P.(C) 4677/1985. The summarized information in respect of the action taken for conservation and management of Tree/ Forest Cover by the Department of Forest & Wildlife, GNCTD is given below:

a) It is submitted that multiple civic/ greening agencies are undertaking greening efforts in NCT of Delhi and Department of

Forests and Wildlife (DoFW), Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) is coordinating with various Greening agencies such as New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Delhi Development Authority (DDA), CPWD, PWD etc, under Green Action Plan (GAP) to enhance and preserve the green cover of Delhi by undertaking plantations and afforestation activities with trees, shrubs and bamboos.

b) It is submitted that as the nodal department under Green Action Plan (GAP), Department of Forests and Wildlife is coordinating with all greening agencies in assigning the annual targets, monitoring the progress and achievements, issuing various advisories regarding afforestation activities etc in compliance of directives of Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQM).

c) It is submitted that Department of Forest and Wildlife has created a Green Action Plan (GAP) portal (https://gap.eforest.delhi.gov.in/) and all the greening agencies are registered on this portal. The plantation targets and achievements are regularly monitored on real time basis through the Portal. Information regarding number of saplings, location of plantation along with KML files, species planted, survival rate etc, is being uploaded in the Portal by all agencies. The updated plantation report under Green Action Plan 2024-25 is annexed herewith as **Annexure-I**.

d) It is submitted that the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas conducts monthly meeting along with greening agencies of NCT of Delhi and NCR regions. CAQM sets ambitious targets for all greening agencies under Green Action Plan (GAP) and regularly monitors the monthly plantation progress, undertakes filed visits and issues necessary instructions to all concerned agencies/ authorities to achieve the plantation targets and to enhance the green cover in NCR to combat the air pollution and improve the air quality.

e) It is further submitted that Department of Forests and Wildlife (DoFW), with the objective to improve the local biodiversity, has undertaken eco-restoration of degraded forests/lands replacing non -native species like Kikar (Prosopis *juliflora*), Subabool (*Leucanea leucocephala)* Eucalyptus spp. etc., with native trees species suitable for wildlife as per the approval of Cabinet of GNCTD. Elimination of Lantana *camara* through the cut rootstock methodology: Sites for removal of Lantana should be identified through field surveys using the data collected on the extent/ magnitude of infestation and density of Lantana. The Lantana removal operation should follow the 'inside-out' method wherein Lantana is removed first from areas with maximum Lantana density and then moving outwards along a decreasing Lantana density gradient. In areas having undulating terrain and hilly tracts Lantana removal operation should be taken up on the slopes first and then downwards to the valley. The removal operation should be done preferably at a time when

a majority of the Lantana clumps are not in flowering or fruiting stage.

The restoration site will be maintained for a period of seven years. Within seven monsoon seasons, the natives will come to dominate the landscape. Copy of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Ecological Restoration of the Delhi Ridge Ecosystem - 2021 is annexed as **Annexure – A II.**

f) It is submitted that the eco-restoration model is being successfully executed primarily in Central Ridge and other standalone forest patches. In some hectares of forest area dominated by vilayati kikar and subabool both invasive non-native species have been undertaken for eco-restoration and more than 3,50,000 nos of saplings of native tree, shrubs and climber species have been planted in the year 2023-24 and 2024-25.

g) It is submitted that the Compensatory Plantation undertaken in lieu of transplantation/ felling under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 is such that 10 number of saplings are planted for each tree transplanted/ felled and maintained by the user agencies for at-least seven years.

The copy of the Office Order dated 04.03.2010 regarding 10 times the compensatory plantation is annexed as **Annexure –A III.**

h) It is submitted that Delhi has become the first city to implement a Tree Transplantation Policy (Tree Transplantation Policy-

2020). Under this policy, the transplantation of trees is preferred over felling in case where it is required for infrastructural / developmental projects and the felling of trees is only considered as a last resort. To enhance green cover, even in cases where healthy native trees are transplanted, simultaneously, ten new saplings are planted for every tree transplanted as a part of compensatory plantation and maintained for seven years.

i) It is submitted that as per Tree Transplantation Policy – 2020 five indigenous trees with 15 feet height and atleast 6 inch diameter are required to be planted for each non surviving transplanted trees. Copy of the Tree Transplantation Policy-2020 is annexed as **Annexure –A IV.**

j) It is submitted that as a result of the concerted efforts towards raising quality Compensatory Plantations and Compensatory Afforestation against various projects for transplantation and felling of trees/ forest diversion under Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 (DPTA) and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 respectively, a large tract of land in Yamuna Flood Plains, spanning over approx. 1700 acres have been developed into a dense green patch. This is in addition to many other patches of lands across NCT of Delhi wherein successful compensatory plantations have been raised. Photographs showing successful Compensatory Plantation undertaken in Garhi Mandu area is annexed as **Annexure –A V.**

k) In addition to above, the Department of Forests, GNCTD, has developed as many as 19 City Forests for the residents of the

National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi. In a city like NCT of Delhi, City Forests enhance physical environment and landscapes: they filter air, water, and sunlight, provide shelter to animals and recreational area for people. These areas also contribute towards water recharge for every rain drop. These areas not only provide a cleaner environment to the nearby residents but also enhance the recreational and aesthetic value of the surroundings.

Table 5: List of the 19 City Forests developed by the Department of Forests and Wildlife, GNCTD

S. No.	Name of City Forest	Division	Area in Acres
1.	Mitraon City Forest-Pkt A	West	12
2.	Mitraon City Forest-Pkt B	West	86
3.	Nasirpur City Forest	West	11.5
4.	Alipur City Forest	North	48
5.	Mukhmelpur City Forest	North	5
6.	Qutubgarh City Forest	North	20
7.	Mamurpur Butterfly park	North	0.7
8.	Taj Enclave City Forest	Central	2.1
9.	Shastri Park near colony City Forest	Central	14.1
10.	GarhiManduPkt A2 City Forest	Central	42.1
11.	City Forest at Shastri Park Metro Station	Central	45
12.	City Forest at ITO Chungi Loop No. 4	Central	4.5

13.	Butterfly Trail, Tughlaqabad	South	20.3
14.	AravaliAranya Kendra, Tughlaqabad	South	5
15.	Hauz Rani City Forest	South	86.8
16.	Aya Nagar City Forest	South	28.6
17.	Jaunapur City Forest	South	97.8
18.	Dera Mandi City Forest	South	3.34
19.	Chhattarpur City Forest	South	16.8

Further, it is submitted that one more City Forest will be established at Mamurpur, North Forest Division.

l) It is submitted that Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has developed and maintaining Biodiversity Parks/ Parks across the National Capital Territory of Delhi to conserve the biological resources and to enhance the greenery of the city.

Table 6: List of Biodiversity Parks/ Parks developed by DDA in National Capital Territory of Delhi

S. No.	Name of Biodiversity Parks maintained by DDA	Location	Area in Acres
1.	Yamuna Biodiversity Park	Wazirabad	457
2.	Tughlaqabad Biodiversity Park	Tughlaqabad	200
3.	Tilpath Valley Biodiversity Park	Sainik Farms	69.56

4.	Northern Ridge (Kamla Nehru Ridge) Biodiversity Park	Civil Lines	301.34
5.	Aravalli Biodiversity Park	Vasant Vihar	699
6.	Neela Hauz Biodiversity Park	Vasant Kunj	12.67
7.	Kalindi (South Delhi) Biodiversity Park	Okhla	284.17
8.	Bharat Vandhana Park	Dwarka	200

m) It is submitted that NTPC is developing Mega Eco Park at Badarpur spread over 884 acres, over already closed Badarpur Thermal Power`` Plant's Ash dyke. This project is in line with NTPC's commitment towards balancing the ecology and protecting the environment. As part of this initiative 35,000 trees and 2,50,000 shrubs have been planted since 2021 to till date.

n) It is submitted that as a new initiative, Drones have been engaged for broadcasting seed balls in ridge areas. This practice of introducing vegetation to land by throwing or dropping seed balls (Seed ball is the mixture of seeds, soil and farmyard manure) is known as Seed Bombing. In this year (2024-25) on pilot basis around 10,000 seed balls have been broadcasted in an area on 05 ha on Southern Ridge both manually and through Drones.

7. It is most respectfully submitted that the above said facts are submitted for kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal and further

necessary directions as deemed appropriate by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

8. It is humbly submitted that the deponent has the highest respect and regard for the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal. The present status report along with its annexures is being placed before this Hon'ble Tribunal for its consideration and further directions, if any.

28/2/2025

DEPONENT

Report of Plantation under GREEN ACTION PLAN 2024-25

Target for Green Action Plan 2024-2025						Achievement upto January 2025							Source of Data
S.No	Agency	Tree	Shrubs	Bamboo/ Hedge	Total	Tree		Shrubs		Bamboo/Hedge		Total	
Plantation						**Nos.**	**%**	**Nos.**	**%**	**Nos.**	**%**		
1	Central	1,20,000	3,00,000	30,000	4,50,000	43,550	36	22,000	7	74,100	247	1,39,650	GAP Portal
	West	3,30,000	1,50,000	30,000	5,10,000	1,35,500	41	2,78,000	185	5,000	17	4,18,500	GAP Portal
	South	7,20,000	1,50,000	60,000	9,30,000	4,67,694	65	2,51,500	168	0	0	7,19,194	Official Email
	North	1,20,000		30,000	1,50,000	58,860	49	32,000		0	0	90,860	GAP Portal
Total of Forest Department		12,90,000	6,00,000	1,50,000	20,40,000	**7,05,604**	**55**	**5,83,500**	**97**	**79,100**	**53**	**13,68,204**	
	Others Greening Agencies of the state												
2	DDA	3,60,000	6,60,000		10,20,000	1,11,462	31	8,41,090	127			**9,52,552**	Official Email
3	MCD	2,40,000	3,89,958		6,29,958	1,88,611	79	2,72,838	70			**4,61,449**	Official Email
4	NDMC	12,000	6,00,000		6,12,000	11,178	93	8,60,920	143	5,33,785		**14,05,883**	GAP Portal
5	PWD	91,200	3,05,760		3,96,960	25,373	28	3,78,456	124			**4,03,829**	Official Email
6	Education (School)	1,20,000	2,10,000		3,30,000	1,16,184	97	2,75,229	131			**3,91,413**	GAP Portal
7a	Higher Education	53,000			53,000	3,788	7	41,795		10,229		**55,812**	Official Email
7b	Technical Education	67,000			67,000	2,978	4					**2,978**	GAP Portal
8	NTPC	1,20,000			1,20,000	3,249	3	80,274				**83,523**	GAP Portal
9	DSIIDC	23,328	48,853		72,181	17,071	73	47,007	96			**64,078**	GAP Portal
10	DJB	1,104	37,080		38,184	2,752	249	14,720	40	1,300		**18,772**	GAP Portal
11	BSES Rajdhani (BRPL)	21,516	14,484		36,000	23,300	108	12,730	88			**36,030**	GAP Portal
12	CPWD	4,800	27,000		31,800	5,533	115	34,063	126			**39,596**	GAP Portal
13	Northern Railways	0	24,000		24,000							**0**	-
14	DUSIB	600	14,400		15,000	546	91	12,985	90			**13,531**	GAP Portal
15	Delhi Cantt.	180	12,000		12,180	198	110	51,527	429	26,630		**78,355**	Official Email
16	NDPL	12,000	0		12,000	0	0	17,894				**17,894**	GAP Portal
17	NHAI	51,200	32,800		84,000	37,621	73	47,179	144			**84,800**	GAP Portal
18	DMRC	2,400	600		3,000	2,884	120	117	20			**3,001**	GAP Portal
19	IFCD, GNCTD	10,000	30,000		40,000	13,600	136	2,459	8			**16,059**	Official Email
20	Department of Env. (Hort.)	1,800	0		1,800	1,150	64					**1,150**	Official Email
21	DTC	936	594		1,530							**0**	-
Total of Greening Agencies		**11,93,064**	**24,07,529**	**0**	**36,00,593**	**5,67,478**	**48**	**29,91,283**	**124**	**5,71,944**		**41,30,705**	-
Plantation Total		**24,83,064**	**30,07,529**	**1,50,000**	**56,40,593**	**12,73,082**	**51**	**35,74,783**	**119**	**6,51,044**		**54,98,909**	
Free Distribution													
1	Forest Department				4,80,000							3,11,304	GAP Portal
2	DPGS				2,50,000							2,21,258	GAP Portal
3	CPWD				40,000							39,839	GAP Portal
4	DMRC				4,000								-
Free Distribution Total					**7,74,000**							**5,72,401**	-
Grand Total					**64,14,593**							**60,71,310**	

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

FOR

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

OF

THE DELHI RIDGE ECOSYSTEM

1. Ecological restoration and its goal

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)'s *International Primer on Ecological Restoration* (2004) defines ecological restoration as "**the process of managing or assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed** as a means of sustaining ecosystem resilience and conserving biodiversity."

Ecological restoration basically aims to assist an ecosystem move backwards in its historical path to its near pristine form. While the restored ecosystem will not necessarily revert back to its exact former state due to restrictions such as climate change, urbanization, acclimatization of species etc., however, the general direction may be replicated. In order to restore an ecosystem a combination of knowledge of its former state, data from existing intact ecosystems (reference sites), and other ecological, cultural and historical information is needed. These sources will enable the identification of the historical trajectory, and aid in assisting the ecosystem towards health and integrity.

2. Invasive alien species in the Delhi ridge ecosystem

Biological invasion is the disruption in the functioning and processes of ecosystems and communities due to the increased abundance and distribution of a non-native species (Keane and Crawley, 2002). A species which causes such a disruption is called an invasive species. Invasive species typically exhibit one or more of the following characteristics:

1) Fast growth
2) Rapid reproduction
3) High dispersal ability
4) Phenotypic plasticity (the ability to alter growth form to suit current conditions)
5) Tolerance of a wide range of environmental conditions (Ecological competence)

There are three main invasive alien species in the Delhi ridge eco-system are

a) *Prosopis juliflora* or Vilayati Kikar

b) Lantana camara

c) *Leucanea leucocephala* or Subabool

3. Standard Operating Protocol for Eco-restoration.

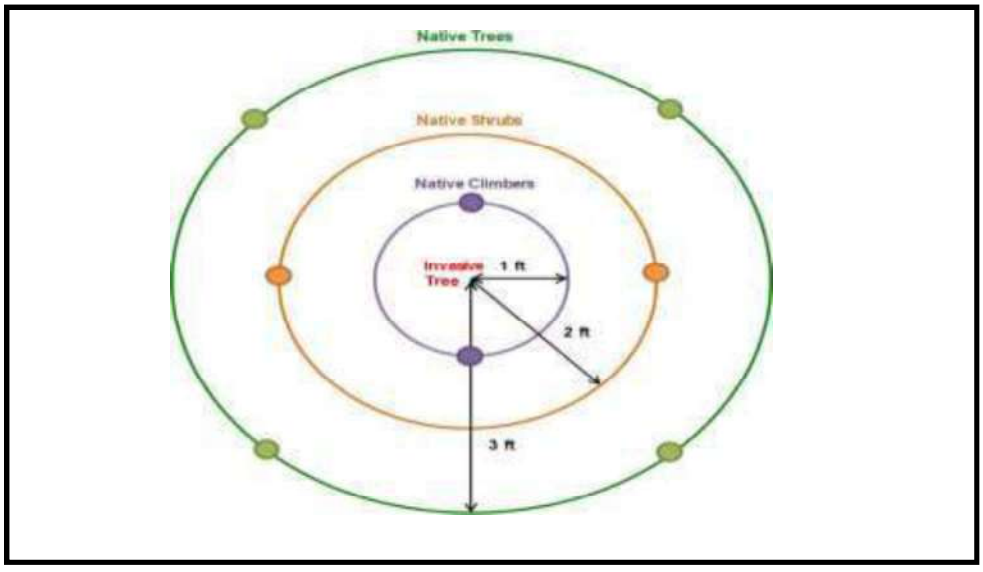
Depending upon the type of Invasive Alien Species, different methodologies are prescribed foreco-restoration of any site.

A. Biological suppression through canopy lifting and planting of native species

Areas with *Prosopis juliflora* and *Leucaena leucocephala* (Subabool) are to be restored through **biological suppression through canopy lifting and planting of native species** is proposed. The standard operating protocol is detailed below:-

i. PRUNING - The two major ways of pruning are thinning out (removing a branch to its origin) and heading back. Heading back is a method where the branch is cut back to a stub, small branch or bud. This method changes the shape of the tree or shrub noticeably. This way, the dense shoots emerges from just below the cut and are usually weakly attached and split out easily. It is one efficient and appropriate method to help in directingthe growth of the trees (especially young trees).

ii. PLANTING- Invasive species like *Prosopis juliflora* compete with natives for resources.Thus, native species must be planted in a concentric circle in the following manner



- The **innermost circle** at a distance of 1 foot from the *Prosopis* tree will consistof two native climbing species.
- The **middle circle** at a distance of 2 feet from the tree will consist of two nativeshrub/understory species.
- The **outermost circle** at a distance of 3 feet from the tree will consist of fournative tree species.

iii. DE WEEDING- In order to prevent re-emergence of young *Prosopis* saplings, weeding will be carried out twice a year. The pre-monsoon weeding will be conducted in June and the post-monsoon weeding will be conducted in October.

The restoration site will be maintained for a period of seven years. Within seven monsoonseasons, the natives will come to dominate the landscape.

In the case of *Leucanea leucocephala* / Subabool, the young sapling has to be removed manuallyon a regular basis and pruning of trees must be done before seed pods starts to emerge on the tree. Elimination of Subabool is one extremely labour intensive and high maintenance process involving heavy costs but is probably the only effective method to control spread of this species.

B. Elimination of *Lantana camara* through the cut rootstock methodology

Sites for removal of Lantana should be identified through field surveys using the data collected on the extent/ magnitude of infestation and density of Lantana. The Lantana removal operation should follow the 'inside-out' method wherein Lantana is removed first from areas with maximum Lantana density and then moving outwards along a decreasing Lantana density gradient. In areas having undulating terrain and hilly tracts Lantana removal operation should be taken up on the slopes first and then downwards to the valley. The removal operation should be done preferably at a time when a majority of the Lantana clumps are not in flowering or fruiting stage. The cut root stock method shall be employed for the removal of the lantana.

Continuous surveillance of the areas, where *Lantana* clumps have been removed and the areas beneath trees used for perching by birds from where the saplings are removed, is necessary consecutively for three growing seasons (monsoons) for the emergence of new saplings. Post removing the lantana clumps, broadcasting of seeds and plantation of native tree species has to be done immediately to avoid re-emergence of *Lantana*.

Weed-free landscapes in open areas can be easily restored to grassland communities by planting rooted ramets or clumps of native grass species or by broadcasting pellets containing seeds of grass species.

LIST OF NATIVE TREES

S.No.	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	TYPE
1	*Aegle marmelos*	Bael	Tree
2	*Albizia amara*	Krishna siris	Tree
3	*Albizia lebbeck*	Siris	Tree
4	*Albizia odoratissima*	Kala siris	Tree
5	*Anogeissus pendula*	Dhau	Tree
6	*Balanites aegyptiaca*	Hingot	Tree
7	*Bauhinia racemosa*	Jhinjheri	Tree
8	*Butea monosperma*	Dhak	Tree
9	*Cassia fistula*	Amaltas	Tree
10	*Cordia dichotoma*	Lasoda	Tree
11	*Cordia gharaf*	Gondi	Tree
12	*Crateva religiosa*	Barna	Tree
13	*Dichrostachys cinerea*	Goya khair	Tree
14	*Diospyros cordifolia*	Bistendu	Tree
15	*Ehretia laevis*	Chamrod	Tree
16	*Ficus virens*	Pilkhan	Tree
17	*Flacourtia indica*	Bilangda	Tree
18	*Gmelina arborea*	Gamhar	Tree
19	*Holoptelea integrifolia*	Kanju/Chudail Papdi	Tree
20	*Mitragyna parvifolia*	Kadamb/Kaim	Tree
21	*Moringa concanenesis*	Wild sonjna	Tree
22	*Moringa oleifera*	Sonjna	Tree

23	*Morus alba*	Shahtoot	Tree
24	*Phoenix sylvestris*	Khajoor	Tree
25	*Phyllanthus emblica*	Amla	Tree
26	*Prosopis cineraria*	Khejri	Tree
27	*Salvadora oleoides*	Khabbar	Tree
28	*Salvadora persica*	Peelu	Tree
29	*Schleichera oleosa*	Kusum	Tree
30	*Senegalia catechu*	Khair	Tree
31	*Senegalia modesta*	Phulai	Tree
32	*Senegalia senegal*	Kumttha	Tree
33	*Stercularia urens*	Kulu	Tree
34	*Syzygium cumini*	Jamun	Tree
35	*Tamarindus indica*	Imli	Tree
36	*Tecomella undulata*	Roheda	Tree
37	*Terminalia bellirica*	Baheda	Tree
38	*Vachellia leucophloea*	Ronjh	Tree
39	*Vachellia nilotica*	Desi babool	Tree
40	*Wrightia arborea*	Kala indrajao	Tree
41	*Wrightia tinctoria*	Doodhi	Tree
42	*Ziziphus mauritiana*	Ber	Tree

LIST OF NATIVE SHRUBS

S.No.	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	TYPE
1	*Abutilon indicum*	Kanghi/Indian mallow	Shrub
2	*Barleria prionitis*	Vajradanti	Shrub
3	*Calotropis giganea*	Safed aak	Shrub
4	*Calotropis procera*	Aak	Shrub
5	*Capparis decidua*	Kareel	Shrub
6	*Capparis sepiaria*	Heens	Shrub
7	*Carissa spinarum*	Jungli karaunda	Shrub
8	*Ficus palmata*	Anjeeri	Shrub
9	*Grewia asiatica*	Falsa	Shrub
10	*Grewia flavescens*	Pisangna	Shrub

11	*Grewia tenax*	Gangeti	Shrub
12	*Gymnosporia senegalensis*	Kankera	Shrub
13	*Justicia adhatoda*	Adusa	Shrub
14	*Lawsonia inermis*	Mehendi	Shrub
15	*Murraya koenigii*	Curry patta	Shrub
16	*Nyctanthes arbor-tristis*	Harshingar	Shrub
17	*Tamarix dioica*	Jhau	Shrub
18	*Withania somnifera*	Ashwagandha	Shrub
19	*Ziziphus nummularia*	Jhad ber	Shrub
20	*Ziziphus oenoplia*	Makora	Shrub

LIST OF NATIVE CLIMBERS

S.No.	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	TYPE
1	*Clitoria ternatea*	Blue pea	Climber
2	*Trichosanthes cucumerina*	Jungle chanchinda	Climber
3	*Combretum indicum*	Madhumalti	Climber
4	*Coccinia grandis*	Tindora/Ivy Gourd	Climber
5	*Cardiospermum halicacabum*	Kanphuta/Balloon vine	Climber
6	*Vallaris solanacea*	Roth/Bread flower	Climber
7	*Tylophora indica*	Dam bel	Climber
8	*Cocculus hirsutus*	Patalgarudi/broom creeper	Climber
9	*Cissampelos pareira*	Patha	Climber
10	*Dregea volubilis*	Hemajivanti	Climber
11	*Gmelina asiatica*	Badhara	Climber
12	*Tinospora cordifolia*	Giloy	Climber
13	*Abrus precatorius*	Ratti	Climber

LIST OF NATIVE HERBS

S.No.	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	TYPE
1	*Asparagus racemosus*	Satavari	Herb
2	*Ruellia prostata*	Neelambaram	Herb
3	*Chenopodium murale*	Khartua	Herb
4	*Blepharis maderaspatensis*	Doodhiya choti	Herb
5	*Tridax sp.*	Bhringraj	Herb
6	*Eclipta prostata*	Bhringraj	Herb
7	*Malvastrum coromandelianum*	Three lobed false mallow	Herb
8	*Sida acuta*		Herb
9	*Oxalis corniculta*	Common woodsorrel	Herb
10	*Oxalis debilis*	Pink woodsorrel	Herb
11	*Oxalis latifolia*	Large leaved sorrel	Herb
12	*Stellaria media*	Chickweed	Herb
13	*Spergula arvensis*		Herb
14	*Commelina sp.*	Dayflower	Herb
15	*Euphorbia helioscopia*	umbrella milkweed	Herb
16	*Indigofera linnaei*	nine-leaved indigo	Herb
17	*Melilotus indicus*	Jungli methi	Herb
18	*Fumaria parviflora*	Indian fumitory	Herb
19	*Portulaca pilosa*	pink purslane	Herb
20	*Anagallis arvensis*		Herb
21	*Convolvulaceae nummularius*	round leaved binweed	Herb
22	*Rumex spinosus*	Kandiali Palak	Herb

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE
2ND FLOOR, A-BLOCK, VIKAS BHAWAN, IP ESTATE, NEW DELHI-02

F.No.11(106)/PA/CF/09/Pt. File/SA/ 7005-7016, Dated: 04.03.2010

OFFICE ORDER

The matter relating to the issues of compensatory plantation under the relevant provisions of the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 with twin objectives of ensuring effective implementation of the provisions of the said Act and compensation on account of loss of greenery in the National Capital Territory of Delhi was under consideration in the Department of Forests & Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi during some time past. With a view to split up the compensatory plantation in the component of ten times i.e. one half to be carried out by the Forest Department on government/ forest land, wherever available, at the cost to be borne by the applicant and second half to be raised on the land identified by the applicant, the matter was, therefore, placed before the Cabinet in the meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 24.02.2010 wherein it has been decided vide its decision No.1629 dated 24.02.2010 that the existing amount of security of Rs.1000/- be raised to Rs.28,000/- for each tree to be removed under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 with the refundable/ non-refundable component of Rs.14,000/- each for ensuring compensatory plantation by the applicant vis-à-vis the Forest Department.

It has been further decided with the approval of the competent authority that the aforesaid decision of the Cabinet shall be implemented with effect from 02.03.2010. All the Dy. Conservators of Forests/ Tree Officers in the Department are hereby directed to proceed further in the pending cases accordingly.

(D.M. Shukla)
Chief Conservator of Forests 1/3/10

Copy to:

1. The Pr. Secretary to Lt. Governor, Delhi, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Raj Niwas.
2. The Pr. Secretary to the Chief Minister, Delhi.
3. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
4. The Vice-Chairman, Delhi Development Authority, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.
5. The Commissioner, MCD, Town Hall, Chandni Chowk, Delhi.
6. All Pr. Secretaries/ Secretaries/ Heads of the Departments, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
7. The Chairman, NDMC, Palika Kendra, New Delhi.
8. The Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
9. The Conservator of Forests, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
10. The Dy. Conservator of Forests (North/ West/ South/ P&M/ HQ), Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
11. Guard file.

(D.M. Shukla)
Chief Conservator of Forests 1/3/10

Office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests (West) GNCT of Delhi
Diary No. 3712
Date 5/3/10

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रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.- 33002/99

REGD. No. D. L.-33002/99

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

दिल्ली राजपत्र
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भाग IV
PART IV

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्य क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

पर्यावरण, वन एवं वन्यजीव विभाग

अधिसूचना

दिल्ली, 24 दिसम्बर, 2020

सं. फा. 3(20)/सीएफ/एचक्यू/ट्रांसप्लांटेशन पॉलिस ऑफ ट्री/पार्ट फा0–क/2018–19/6453.— दिल्ली वृक्ष परिरक्षण अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 33 द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार जनहित में, एतद्द्वारा 'वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण नीति, 2020'' को बनाती है।

वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण नीति, 2020

''प्रत्यारोपण'' से अभिप्राय है किसी पेड़ की जड़ को पर्याप्त रूप से वैज्ञानिक तरीके से खोदकर निकालना और नए स्थान पर, उस स्थान को वैज्ञानिक तरीके से तैयार करते हुए, उसी पेड़ को नए स्थान पर प्रतिरोपित करना।

उल्लंघन की सीमा तक, यह नीति, वन एवं वन्यजीव विभाग, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार, जिसे यहां से ''विभाग'' कहा जाएगा, द्वारा जारी सभी पिछले आदेशों को समाप्त करती है, जिनमें दिल्ली वृक्ष संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1994 के अपेक्षित प्रावधानों के तहत वृक्षों की क्षतिपूर्ति के लिए प्रत्यारोपण के संबंध में नियम शामिल हैं, ताकि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में विकासीय गतिविधियों के कारण हरित क्षेत्र की क्षति की पूर्ति की जा सके।

प्रत्यारोपण नीति में निम्नलिखित उल्लिखित है :–

1. **वृक्षों को गिराने तथा उनका प्रत्यारोपण करने के लिए चयन के मापदंड :**

(1) विकासीय परियोजनाओं के लिए चिह्नित क्षेत्र में आवेदक द्वारा कोई भी पेड़ अनावश्यक रूप से हटाया नहीं जाएगा।

(2) ऐसे वृक्ष जिन्हें गिरने अथवा प्रत्यारोपण से बचाया जा सकता हो, उन्हें सावधानीपूर्वक योजना बनाकर, डिजाइन और क्रियान्वयन किया जाना चाहिए और निर्माण कार्यों के बाद रखरखाव किया जाना चाहिए।

(3) यदि उसी स्थान पर संरक्षण कार्य संभव न हो, तो विकासीय कार्यों से प्रभावित और जिन्हें उसी स्थान पर संरक्षित न किया जा सकता हो, कम से कम 80 प्रतिशत वृक्षों को वैज्ञानिक तरीके से प्रतिरोपित किया जाना चाहिए और नए स्थान पर आवेदक द्वारा रखरखाव के पर्याप्त उपाय किए जाने चाहिए ताकि कम से कम 80 प्रतिशत वृक्षों को प्रत्यारोपण के पूरा होने की तारीख से एक वर्ष के बाद संरक्षित किया जाना सुनिश्चित किया जाना चाहिए।

(4) उक्त शर्तों, यदि कोई हों, जैसा लागू हों, को पूरा करने पर सरकार यदि आवश्यक समझे, तो जनहित में ऐसा कर सकती है, जिसके लिए इस उद्देश्यार्थ राज्य सरकार द्वारा गठित समिति की सिफारिशों पर विचार करने के बाद कम से कम 80 प्रतिशत वृक्षों की अपेक्षा से आवेदक को छूट दी जा सकती है।

2. क्षतिपूर्ति के रूप में प्रत्यारोपण के नियम :–

(1) प्रत्यारोपण की आवश्यकता के अतिरिक्त, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में विकास कार्यों से प्रभावित होने वाले प्रत्येक वृक्ष की क्षतिपूर्ति के रूप में किए जाने वाले वृक्षारोपण के वर्तमान स्वरूप का अनुपात दस गुना अर्थात् 10:1 होगा। प्रत्येक गिरने वाले और प्रतिरोपित वृक्ष के लिए क्षतिपूर्ति के रूप में वृक्षारोपण करना आवश्यक होगा।

(2) क्षतिपूर्ति के रूप में किए गए प्रत्यारोपण के माध्यम से लगाए गए पौधों/वृक्षों को बचाए रखना सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सभी पौधों/वृक्षों की न्यूनतम 6 फीट ऊंचाई रखने के अलावा क्षेत्र का ध्यान भी रखा जाना चाहिए साथ ही प्रत येक बीजारोपण/वृक्षों को जियो–टैग भी किया जाएगा।

3. कुछ वृक्षों की प्रजातियों को प्रत्यारोपण से बाहर रखना :–

तेजी से फैलने वाले कुछ असाधारण वृक्षों की प्रजातियों जैसे ल्यूसीना ल्यूकोसेफिला, युकेलिप्टस ग्लोबलस् और प्रोसोपिस जूलीफ्लोरा (विलायती कीकर) के प्रत्यारोपण पर विचार नहीं किया जाना चाहिए और इन्हें विकास कार्यों के कारण प्रभावित होने वाले वृक्षों के प्रत्यारोपण की न्यूनतम 80 प्रतिशत आवश्यकता के लक्ष्य से बाहर रखे जाना चाहिए, ऐसे वृक्षों की प्रजातियों, जिन्हें प्रत्यारोपण से बाहर रखे जाना है, की निगेटिव लिस्ट विभाग द्वारा नियमित रूप से अद्यतन की जाएगी।

4. किसी परियोजना स्थल पर वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए अपनाई जाने वाली प्रक्रिया :–

किसी परियोजना स्थल पर वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण करना चाहने वाले आवेदक द्वारा निम्नलिखित प्रक्रिया का पालन किया जाएगा :–

(1) स्थल वाले वृक्षों की रिपोर्ट : परियोजना की व्यवहार्यता के आकलन के समय वृक्ष सर्वेक्षण किया जाएगा और साइट के विकास की योजना और वृक्षों के संरक्षण के प्रस्तावों के लिए अपेक्षित जानकारी प्राप्त करने के लिए साइट की पहचान की जाएगी। साइट ट्री रिपोर्ट में निम्न शामिल होगा :

(क) साइट के सभी वृक्षों की वास्तविक गिनती के साथ–साथ वृक्षों के घेरों की जानकारी;

(ख) सभी वृक्षों की जियो–टैगिंग;

(घ) प्रत्यारोपण किए जाने वाले वृक्षों की संख्या और प्रकार तथा उनकी स्थल क्षमता का प्रारंभिक आकलन;

सरकारी एजेंसियों के मामले में, विभाग द्वारा जारी दिशा–निर्देशों के आधार पर व्यय की स्वीकृति और उसकी अनुमानित लागत की स्वीकृति से पूर्व साइट ट्री रिपोर्ट तैयार की जाएगी और उसे व्यय की स्वीकृति के प्रस्ताव में शामिल किया जाएगा। व्यय की स्वीकृति से पूर्व साइट ट्री रिपोर्ट की एक प्रति संबंधित वृक्ष अधिकारी को रिकार्ड हेतु प्रस्तुत की जाएगी। हालांकि, इस चरण में वृक्ष अधिकारी की स्वीकृति की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी।

(2) वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए एक तकनीकी एजेंसी नियुक्त करना : आवेदक वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण कार्य करने के लिए सूचीबद्ध एजेंसियों में से किसी एक तकनीकी एजेंसी का चयन करेगा।

(3) सरकारी एजेंसियों के मामले में, यह कार्य व्यय की स्वीकृति के बाद तथा एक प्रतिस्पर्धी बोली प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से किया जाएगा। यह प्रतिक्रिया एक समयबद्ध तरीके से पूरी करने के लिए, विभाग द्वारा वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण कार्य के लिए एक तकनीकी एजेंसी के चयन हेतु प्रस्ताव का एक मॉडल अनुरोध तैयार किया जाएगा।

(4) वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना तैयार करना और अनुमोदन : चुनी गई तकनीकी एजेंसी पहली प्राथमिकता के तौर पर स्थल पर ही संरक्षण के लिए वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना तैयार करने में आवेदक की सहायता करना होगा। ऐसी स्थिति में जहां वृक्षों को उनके मौजूदा स्थलों पर ही बनाए रखना असंभव हो, वहां प्रभावित वृक्षों को प्रतिरोपित करने के लिए प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिए, ताकि प्रत्यारोपण के बाद वृक्षों के बचने की दर तथा स्थानीय माहौल में हरियाली की हानि को कम किया जा सके; और यदि लागू न हो, तो प्रभावित वृक्षों को उपयुक्त स्थलों पर उसी जगह पर प्रतिरोपित करना चाहिए। प्रत्यारोपण का स्थान मुख्यतः परियोजना स्थल के आसपास ही होना चाहिए ताकि आसपास के क्षेत्र में रमणीयता बनी रह सके। किसी भी स्थिति में, विकास कार्यों से प्रभावित न्यूनतम 80 प्रतिशत वृक्षों को वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के माध्यम से बचाया जाना चाहिए।

वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना की प्रमुख विशेषताएं इस प्रकार होंगी :–

(क) ऐसे वृक्षों के संबंध में, जिन्हें उसी स्थल पर संरक्षित किया जा सकता हो, की परियोजना की रूपरेखा में उन वृक्षों का विवरण होगा जिनके प्रत्यारोपण तथा जिन वृक्षों को गिराने की आवश्यकता होगी;

(ख) वृक्षों का स्थान बदलने/प्रत्यारोपण की नीति की पहचान;

(ग) उस भूमि/क्षेत्र की पहचान, जहां वृक्षों को प्रतिरोपित किया जाएगा;

(घ) प्रत्यारोपण के लिए निधि की आबंटन;

(ङ) वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना के साथ समय–सीमा के संयोजन से विकास योजना का आकलन;

वृक्ष हटाने, यदि कोई हो, के लिए आवेदन के साथ वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना संबंधित वृक्ष अधिकारी को प्रस्तुत की जाएगी। वृक्ष अधिकारी, दिल्ली वृक्ष संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1994 के अंतर्गत निर्धारित समय–सीमा के भीतर अपना निर्णय देने के साथ ही वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना में आवश्यक परिवर्तन करते हुए, लिखित रूप में कारण बताते हुए सशर्त अनुमोदन देगा। यदि अनुरोध करने पर वृक्ष अधिकारी निर्धारित समय में अपनी अनुमति की जानकारी नहीं दे पाता, तो अनुमति दी गई मान ली जाएगी। पूर्ण आवेदन प्रस्तुत होने के बाद यदि वृक्ष अधिकारी निर्धारित अवधि में अनुमति नहीं दे पाता, तो अनुमति दी गई मान ली जाएगी।

(5) वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना का क्रियान्वयन : अनुमोदन मिलने अथवा संबंधित वृक्ष अधिकारी का अनुमोदन मिल गया माने जाने के बाद ही वृक्ष संरक्षण योजना पर कार्रवाई की जाएगी। वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण की प्रभारी तकनीकी एजेंसी नीचे दर्शाई गई संबद्ध गतिविधियों के लिए जिम्मेदार होगी :–

(क) प्री–कंडीशनिंग
(ख) हार्डनिंग
(ग) रिजोम कंसोलिडेशन
(घ) आश्रय स्थल की तैयारी
(ङ) परिवहन
(च) आश्रय स्थल पर प्रत्यारोपण
(छ) बाद की देखभाल

यह संभावित है कि उपर्युक्त (क) से (घ) तक में विशेष तौर पर 3–4 माह लगेंगे, जबकि बाद की देखभाल में 3–12 माह का समय यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए लग सकता है कि प्रतिरोपित वृक्ष अपने नए स्थान पर सफलतापूर्वक लगा दिए गए हैं। सभी प्रतिरोपित वृक्षों के लिए जियो–टैग लगाए जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

(6) प्रतिरोपित वृक्षों के रखरखाव को सौपनाः प्रत्यारोपण की प्रभारी तकनीकी एजेंसी की जिम्मेदारी, नए स्थान पर वृक्षप्रत्या रोपण के एक वर्ष पूरा होने तक निम्नलिखित शर्तों पर सीमित होगी :

(क) एक वर्ष की समाप्ति के बाद तकनीकी एजेंसी द्वारा सर्वाइवल असेसमेंट रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत की जाएगी, जिसके साथ नए स्थलों पर वृक्ष की सर्वाइवल दर के आकलन के साथ रिसेप्टर साइट पर संबंधित वृक्ष अधिकारी द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित एक कम्पलीशन सर्टिफिकेट दिया जाएगा।

(ख) वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के एक वर्ष पूरा होने पर बेंचमार्क ट्री सर्वाइवल दर 80 प्रतिशत अथवा जैसा समय–समय पर विभाग द्वारा अधिसूचित अनुसार होगी। तकनीकी एजेंसी के अंतिम भुगतान को वृक्ष की सर्वाइवल दर से जोड़ा जाएगा जिसमें बेंचमार्क दर से कम दर पर वृक्ष के सर्वाइवल के लिए दंड का प्रावधान होगा। भुगतान का शेड्यूल इस प्रकार होगा :

(i) प्रथम भुगतान : 100 प्रतिशत के बाद अंतिम तय दर का 20 प्रतिशत। समस्त वृक्षों का तकनीकी रूप से उचित तरीके से फोटोग्राफी के साथ प्रत्यारोपण का पूरा होना।

(ii) दूसरा भुगतानः तकनीकी रूप से उचित तरीके से फोटोग्राफी के साथ सर्वाइवल दर के आधार पर अंतिम तय दर का 30 प्रतिशत।

- यदि सर्वाइवल 80 प्रतिशत से अधिक हो तो 100 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- यदि सर्वाइवल 60 प्रतिशत से 79 प्रतिशत के बीच हो तो 75 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- यदि सर्वाइवल 50 प्रतिशत से 69 प्रतिशत के बीच हो तो 50 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- यदि 50 प्रतिशत से भी कम वृक्ष सर्वाइव होने में विफल रहते हों तो कोई भुगतान नहीं होगा। यदि प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य विफल घोषित किया जाएगा तो आगामी वर्षों में कोई और भुगतान नहीं होगा।

(iii) तीसरा भुगतानः तकनीकी रूप से उचित तरीके से फोटोग्राफी के साथ तथा समिति द्वारा सत्यापन के बाद सर्वाइवल दर के आधार पर अंतिम तय दर का 25 प्रतिशत।

- प्रथम वर्ष में सर्वाइव हुए समस्त वृक्षों के 100 प्रतिशत सर्वाइवल पर 100प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- प्रथम वर्ष में समस्त वृक्षों की सर्वाइवल दर 60 प्रतिशत से 79 प्रतिशत के बीच रहने पर 75 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- प्रथम वर्ष में समस्त वृक्षों की सर्वाइवल 50 प्रतिशत से 69 प्रतिशत के बीच रहने पर 50 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- यदि 50 प्रतिशत से भी कम वृक्ष सर्वाइव होने में विफल रहते हों तो कोई भुगतान नहीं होगा। यदि प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य विफल घोषित किया जाएगा तो आगामी वर्षों में कोई और भुगतान नहीं होगा।

(iv) चौथा और अंतिम भुगतानः तकनीकी रूप से उचित तरीके से फोटोग्राफी के साथ और किए गए रखरखाव की वीडियों रिकार्डिंग तथा समिति द्वारा सत्यापन के सत्यापन के बाद सर्वाइवल दर के आधार पर अंतिम तय दर का 25 प्रतिशत।

- प्रथम वर्ष में सर्वाइव हुए समस्त वृक्षों के 100 प्रतिशत सर्वाइवल पर 100प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- प्रथम वर्ष में समस्त वृक्षों की सर्वाइवल दर 60 प्रतिशत से 79प्रतिशत के बीच रहने पर 75 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- प्रथम वर्ष में समस्त वृक्षों की सर्वाइवल 50 प्रतिशत से 69 प्रतिशत के बीच रहने पर 50 प्रतिशत भुगतान।
- यदि 50 प्रतिशत से भी कम वृक्ष सर्वाइव होने में विफल रहते हों तो कोई भुगतान नहीं होगा। यदि प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य विफल घोषित किया जाएगा तो आगामी वर्षों में कोई और भुगतान नहीं होगा।

इसके अतिरिक्त समस्त ऐसे प्रतिरोपित वृक्षों के लिए, जो देशी वृक्ष की प्रजाति के हों तथा 15 फीट ऊंचे हों और कम से कम 6 इंच व्यास वाले हों, उन्हें 1:5 के अनुपात से प्लांट किया जाना चाहिए।

(ग) ऐसी परियोजनाओं, जहां 100 अथवा अधिक वृक्ष प्रतिरोपित किए गए हों, वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के पूरा होने के एक वर्ष बाद एक सोशल ऑडिट कराया जाएगा ताकि वृक्षों की वास्तविक सर्वाइवल दर का पता लग सके और कंपलीशन सर्टिफिकेट पर संबंधित वृक्ष अधिकारी द्वारा तथा सोशल ऑडिट टीम के एक प्रतिनिधि के संयुक्त रूप से हस्ताक्षर होने चाहिए।

प्रतिरोपित वृक्षों के रखरखाव के लिए तकनीकी एजेंसी से हस्तांतरित जिम्मेवारी भूमि के स्वामित्व वाली एजेंसी की होगी।

5. सोशल ऑडिट :–

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार सोशल ऑडिट के माध्यम से भागीदारी को मान्यता देती है, क्योंकि यह वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण परियोजनाओं के आकलन का सबसे प्रभावी तरीका है। नागरिक समूहों, पेशेवर तथा विशेषज्ञ व्यक्तियों वाली स्थानीय समितियां (वार्ड अथवा असेम्बली स्तर पर) वन एवं वन्यजीव विभाग द्वारा गठित की जाएंगी। वृक्ष समितियां समस्त परियोजनाओं की नियमित मॉनिटरिंग करने के लिए जिम्मेदार होंगी, जिनमें क्षतिपूर्ति के रूप में वृक्षरोपण 100 अथवा अधिक वृक्षों/पौधों का उनके स्थानीय एरिया में प्रत्यारोपण शामिल होगा और एक वर्ष के बाद वे वृक्ष सर्वाइवल दर को प्रमाणित करेंगी।

6. वेबसाइट पर डेटा का प्रकाशन :–

(1) वन एवं वन्यजीव विभाग अपनी वेबसाइट पर प्रतिमाह दिल्ली वृक्ष संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1994 के अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित विवरणों के साथ वृक्ष हटाने के लिए प्रत्येक आवेदन के अनुमोदन के विवरण रखेगा तथा अद्यतन रिकार्ड रखेगा :–

(क) आवेदन का विवरण।

(ख) प्रभावित साइट की लोकेशन।

(ग) हटाए गए वृक्षों की संख्या एवं उनके प्रकार के साथ ही वृक्ष हटाने का कार्य पूरा होने की तारीख।

(घ) प्रतिरोपित वृक्षों की संख्या और प्रकार के साथ ही प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य पूरा होने की तारीख।

(ङ) क्षतिपूर्ति के रूप में वृक्षारोपण के लिए साइट की लोकेशन, विवरण जैसे प्रत्येक वृक्ष/पौधे का प्रकार, ऊंचाई और जियो–टैगिंग तथा क्षतिपूर्ति वाले वृक्षारोपण के पूरा होने की तारीख।

(च) वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण करने वाली प्रभारी एजेंसी।

(छ) क्या नागरिक समिति द्वारा सोशल ऑडिट किया गया है, यदि हां तो उसका विवरण।

7. वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए तकनीकी एजेंसियों का पैनल बनाना :–

(1) विभाग अर्हक प्रत्यारोपण एजेंसियों का पैनल तैयार करेगा ताकि न्यूनतम तकनीकी मापदंड को पूरा किया जा सके और दिल्ली में प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य किया जा सके।

(2) राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में किसी परियोजना स्थल पर प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य कराने के लिए आवेदक को पैनल पर उपलब्ध एजेंसियों में से किसी एजेंसी को चुनना होगा, जो तकनीकी व्यवहार्यता रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करेगी और विशिष्ट परियोजना के लिए वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य करेगी। पैनलीकृत एजेंसी दिल्ली में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए विभाग द्वारा समय–समय पर जारी समस्त तकनीकी विनिर्दिष्टियों का पालन करेगी।

8. वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए भूमि :–

दिल्ली के लोक निर्माण विभाग की सड़कों पर प्राथमिक तौर पर उसी स्थान पर वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण किया जाएगा बशर्ते सड़कों के किनारे भूमि उपलब्ध हो। इसके अतिरिक्त, विभाग द्वारा दिल्ली में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए सड़कों के किनारे भूमि की पहचान की जाएगी, जहां पुनः वृक्षारोपण किया जाएगा, उदाहरण के लिए सरकारी नर्सरियों में यह कार्य किया जाएगा। यदि ऐसी कोई भूमि उपलब्ध नहीं होती, तो यह आवेदक की जिम्मेवारी होगी कि वह एक वैज्ञानिक तरीके से वृक्षों की प्रजातियों के प्रत्यारोपण के लिए उक्त भूमि की व्यवस्था करे।

9. वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण से छूट :–

एक सामान्य नियम के रूप में, समस्त विकासीय परियोजनाओं के लिए यह सुनिश्चित करना अनिवार्य होगा कि न्यूनतम 80 प्रतिशत प्रभावित वृक्षों को निम्नलिखित मामलों के अलावा, वैज्ञानिक तरीके से प्रतिरोपित किया जाता हो :

(क) प्राइवेट संगठन अथवा व्यक्तियों द्वारा 10 अथवा कम वृक्ष हटाये जाना।

(ख) राज्य सरकार द्वारा गठित समिति द्वारा इस उद्देश्यार्थ और लिखित रूप में कारण दर्ज किए जाने के लिए विशेष मामलों में परियोजना विशिष्ट छूट।

10. राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में वैज्ञानिक वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण की सुविधा :–

(1) वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण एक ऐसा विषय है जिसमें प्रौद्योगिकी शामिल होती है इसमें राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में मौजूदा एग्रो–क्लाइमेटिक परिस्थितियों में पाई जाने वाली विभिन्न वृक्ष प्रजातियों के वैज्ञानिक प्रत्यारोपण की श्रेष्ठ और सफल प्रक्रिया शामिल होती है। विभाग में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए एक समर्पित सैल की स्थापना की जाएगी ताकि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण से संबंधित सभी मामलों के लिए सुविधा दी जा सके तथा उनका निपटान किया जा सके।

(2) वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण सैल के कार्य इस प्रकार है :

(क) राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में किसी वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण कार्य के कड़े अनुपालन के लिए तकनीकी स्पेसिफिकेशंस को तैयार करना तथा उन्हें नियमित रूप से अद्यतन करना।

(ख) कम से कम प्रत्येक दो वर्ष में दिल्ली में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए तकनीकी एजेंसियों का पैनल तैयार करना।

(ग) सरकारी एजेंसियों को समर्थन देने के लिए मॉडल आर एफ पी और अन्य समर्थित दस्तावेज तैयार करना ताकिदिल्ली में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए स्थापित प्रक्रिया को कुशलतापूर्वक अपनाया जा सके।

(घ) बैंचमार्क वृक्ष सर्वाइवल दर को परिभाषित करना और वैज्ञानिक रूझानों और डेटा को शामिल करते हुए समय–समय पर उसे अद्यतन करना, जो दिल्ली में वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के सफल तथ्यों पर आधारित होगा।

(ङ) विभाग के अधिकारियों, लोक निर्माण विभाग के इंजीनियरों आदि को वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के विषय पर तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण देने और क्षमता विकास के कार्यक्रम आयोजित करना।

(च) दिल्ली में किए गए समस्त वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण कार्यों के साथ–साथ उक्त वृक्षों का जियो–टैग डेटा के लिए एक सेंन्ट्रल रेपोजिट्री का रखरखाव करना तथा साथ ही साथ विभिन्न परियोजनाओं की सफलता की दरों, विभिन्न वृक्ष प्रजातियों, विभिन्न भू–स्वामित्व एजेंसियों और वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण का कार्य करने वाली प्रभारी तकनीकी एजेसियों के आंकड़ों का रखरखाव करना।

(छ) उन आवेदकों अथवा तकनीकी एजेंसियों को वृक्ष प्राधिकरणों को आवधिक रूप से फ्लैग करना, जो बैंचमार्क सर्वाइवल दर की प्राप्ति नहीं कर पाते।

(ज) स्थानीय वृक्ष समितियां (वार्ड अथवा असेम्बली स्तर पर) गठित करना, जिनमें इस नीति की अधिसूचना जारी होने के तीन माह के भीतर नागरिक समूहों, पेशेवर और विशेषज्ञ शामिल होंगे, जिनका उद्देश्य नीति के तहत सोशल ऑडिट करना और ऐसे सोशल ऑडिट करने के लिए नियम निर्धारित करना है।

(3) दिल्ली वृक्ष प्राधिकरण वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण के लिए निर्धारित प्रक्रिया के क्रियान्वयन की मॉनिटरिंग के लिए जिम्मेदार शीर्ष निकाय होगा जो नए नियम, मेकेनिज्म और दिल्ली में सफल वृक्ष प्रत्यारोपण सुनिश्चित करने के उद्देश्य से श्रेष्ठ प्रक्रियाओं की प्राप्ति के लिए जिम्मेदार होगा।

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली के उपराज्यपाल
आदेश से तथा उनके नाम पर,
संजीव खिरवार, प्रधान सचिव (पर्यावरण एवं वन)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND WILDLIFE

NOTIFICATION

Delhi, the 24th December, 2020

F. No. 3(20)/CF/HQ/Transplantation policy of tree/part-file-A/2018-19/6453.—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 33 of the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in public interest, hereby, make "Tree Transplantation Policy 2020" .

Tree Transplantation Policy 2020

"Transplantation" means scientific digging out of a tree with sufficient root and shoot system and replanting of same tree in a new location after scientific site preparation.

This policy, to the extent of contravention, suppresses all previous orders issued by the Department of Forest & Wildlife, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, herein refer to as "Department", regarding the norms for carrying out compensatory plantation under relevant provisions of the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 to compensate the loss of greenery in the National Capital Territory of Delhi due to developmental activities.

Transplantation policy prescribes following:

1. Criteria for selection of trees for felling and transplantation: -

(1) No tree shall be unnecessarily removed in area identified for development projects by applicant.

(2) Existing trees that can be prevented from felling or transplantation shall be properly preserved through careful planning, design, implementation and post construction maintenance.

(3) When on-site preservation is not possible, at least 80% of the trees that are affected by developmental activities and cannot be preserved on-site shall be required to be scientifically transplanted and adequate maintenance measures shall be undertaken by applicant at the new site so as to ensure survival of at least 80% of the transplanted trees after completion of a year from date of completion of transplantation.

(4) Subject to such conditions, if any, as may be imposed, the government may, if it considers it necessary so to do in the public interest, exempt an applicant from requirement of minimum of 80% of trees to be transplanted after considering recommendations of committee constituted by State government for this purpose.

2. Norms for compensatory plantation: -

(1) The present norm of carrying out compensatory plantation in the component of ten times i.e., 10:1, for every tree affected by developmental activity in NCT of Delhi shall continue, in addition to the requirement for carrying out transplantation. The compensatory plantation shall be required to be done for each felled and transplanted tree.

(2) To ensure maximum chances of survival of saplings/trees planted through compensatory plantation, it shall be mandatory for all saplings/trees planted to be minimum 6 feet in height and area as well as individual seedlings/trees to be geo-tagged.

3. Exclusions of Certain Tree Species from Transplantation:-

Invasive exotic tree species such as *Leucaena leucocephala, Eucalyptus globulus* and *Prosopis juliflora* (*Vialyati kikar*) should not be considered for transplantation and will be excluded from the target of requiring minimum 80% of the trees affected by developmental activity to be transplanted. A negative list of such tree species to be excluded from transplantation shall be regularly updated by the Department.

4. Procedure to be followed for Tree Transplantation at any Project Site:-

Following procedure shall be followed by any applicant seeking to carry out tree transplantation at any project site:

(1) Site Tree Report: A tree survey shall be carried out at the time of project feasibility assessment and site identification to obtain the required information for developing site planning and trees preservation proposals. The site tree report shall include:

(a) A physical tree count of all trees on site along with the noting of tree girths;
(b) Geo-tagging of all trees;
(c) Tree photographs uploaded online for record of date;
(d) Preliminary assessment of number and type of trees to be transplanted and potential location(s);

In case of Government agencies, preparation of Site Tree Report shall be done prior to seeking Expenditure Sanction (E/S) and the estimated costs for the same, based on guidelines issued by Department, should be included in the proposal for E/S. A copy of the Site Tree Report shall be submitted to the concerned Tree Officer for record prior to seeking Expenditure Sanction. However, no approval shall be required from the Tree Officer at this stage.

(2) Appointing a Technical Agency for Tree Transplantation: The applicant shall select one of the technical agencies among the agencies empanelled for carrying out tree transplantation work.

(3) In case of Government agencies, this shall be done after receiving Expenditure Sanction and through a competitive bidding process. To ensure that this happens in a time-bound manner, the Department shall prepare a model request for proposal for selection of a technical agency for tree transplantation work.

(4) Preparation and Approval of Tree Preservation Plan: The selected technical agency shall assist the applicant in preparing a Tree Preservation Plan for the site with first priority given to on-site preservation. In a situation where retaining the trees at their existing locations is unfeasible, priority should be given to transplant the affected trees to other permanent locations within the project site where appropriate, so as to increase the tree's survival rate after transplanting and minimize the loss of greenery in the local environ; and if not applicable, transplant the affected trees to suitable permanent location ex-situ. Location of the receptor site should preferably be in proximity to the project site for retention of amenity effect in the vicinity. In any case, a minimum of 80% of trees affected by any developmental activity shall be preserved through tree transplantation.

Following will be the salient features of the Tree Preservation Plan:

(a) The project outline with respect to trees that can be preserved on-site, trees that will need transplantation and trees that need to be felled;
(b) Identification of tree relocation/transplantation strategy;
(c) Identification of land/area where the trees will be transplanted;

(d) Allocation of funds for transplantation;
(e) Assessment of development plan in conjunction with the tree preservation plan with timelines;

The Tree Preservation Plan shall be submitted to the concerned Tree Officer along with the application for tree felling. If any, The Tree Officer shall give his/her decision within the time stipulated under Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 including, for reasons to be recorded in writing, granting a conditional approval subject to making necessary changes in the Tree Preservation Plan. If the Tree Officer fails to communicate his/her permission on request within the stipulated period, the permission shall be deemed to have been granted. If the Tree officer fails to communicate his/her permission within the stipulated period after submission of complete application, the permission shall be deemed to be have been granted.

(5) Implementation of Tree Preservation Plan: The Tree Preservation Plan can be put to implementation only after receipt of approval or deemed approval from the concerned Tree Officer. The technical agency in-charge of tree transplantation will be responsible for all the associated activities as illustrated below:
(a) Pre conditioning
(b) Hardening
(c) Rhizome consolidation
(d) Refuge site preparation
(e) Transportation
(f) Transplanting at refuge
(g) After care

It is expected that the steps (a) to (f) above will typically take 3-4 months, whereas after care could take anywhere from 3-12 months to ensure that the transplanted tree have successfully adapted to their new habitat. It will be mandatory for all the transplanted trees to be geo-tagged.

(6) Handover of Maintenance of Transplanted Trees: The responsibility of the technical agency in-charge of transplantation will be limited to one year of the completion of tree transplantation to a new site, subject to the following:

(a) Survival assessment report shall be submitted by the technical agency at the end of one year with an assessment of tree survival rate at the new sites, along with a completion certificate signed by the concerned Tree Officer at the receptor site.

(b) The benchmark tree survival rate at the end of one year of tree transplantation shall be 80% or as notified by the Department, from time to time. The final payment of the technical agency shall be linked to the tree survival rate achieved with a provision for a penalty for tree survival rate below the benchmark rate. The schedule for payment will be as follows

i. First payment: 20% of finalized rate after 100% completion of transplantation of all trees by technically proper method with photography.

ii. Second payment: 30% of finalised rate depending upon survival rate by technically proper method with photography.

- 100% payment if survival is more then 80%.
- 75% payment if survival is between 60 to 79%.
- 50% payment if survival is 50 to 69%
- No payment if less than 50% trees have failed to survive. No further payments in the subsequent years will not be released as the transplantation operation will be declared a failure.

iii. Third payment: 25% of finalised depending upon survival rate by technically proper method with photography and verification by the committee.

- 100% payment on 100% survival of all the trees that survived in the first year.
- 75% payment if survival of all the trees that survived in the first year is between 60 to 79%.
- 50% payment if survival of all the trees that survived in the first year is 50 to 69%
- No payment if less than 50% trees have failed to survive. Further payments in the subsequent years will not be released as the transplantation operation will be declared a failure.

iv. Fourth and final payment: 25% of finalised rate depending upon survival rate by technically proper method with photography and video recording of maintenance done and verification by the committee.

- 100% payment on 100% survival of all the trees that survived in the first year.
- 75% payment if survival of all the trees that survived in the first year is between 60 to 79%.
- 50% payment if survival of all the trees that survived in the first year is 50 to 69%
- No payment if less than 50% trees have failed to survive. Further payments in the subsequent years will not be released as the transplantation operation will be declared a failure.

Moreover for all transplanted trees that do not survive indigenous tree species with 15 feet height and atleast 6 inch diameter to be planted at 1:5 ratio should be planted.

(c) For projects where 100 or more trees have been transplanted, a social audit at the end of one year of completion of tree transplantation shall be carried out to establish the actual tree survival rate and the completion certificate shall be jointly signed by the concerned Tree Officer and a representative of the social audit team.

Subsequent responsibility for maintenance of transplanted trees after handover from the technical agency shall lie with the land owning agency.

5. Social audit:-

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi recognizes participation through social audits as the most effective manner to assess the success of tree transplantation projects. Local committees (ward or assembly level) comprising citizen groups, professionals and experts shall be constituted by the Department of Forests and Wildlife. Tree committees will be responsible for carrying out regular monitoring of all projects involving compensatory plantation or tree transplantation of 100 or more trees/saplings in their local areas and to certify their tree survival rate at the end of one year.

6. Publishing of data on website:-

(1) Department of Forests & Wildlife shall keep a detailed and up to date record on its website every month of every application approved for tree felling under Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 with the following details:
   (a) Application details.
   (b) Location of affected site.
   (c) Number and type of trees felled along with date when felling was completed.
   (d) Number and type of trees transplanted along with date when transplantation was completed.
   (e) Location of site for compensatory plantation, details such as type, height and geo-tagging of each tree/sapling and date when compensatory plantation was completed.
   (f) Agency in-charge of carrying out tree transplantation.
   (g) Whether social audit by citizen committee carried out, and if so details of the same.

7. Empanelment of Technical Agencies for Tree Transplantation:-

(1) The Department shall empanel qualified transplantation agencies that meet minimum technical criteria and expertise to carry out transplantation work in Delhi.
(2) To carry out transplantation from any project site in the National Capital Territory of Delhi of Delhi, the applicant shall be required to select an agency from among the empaneled agencies only that will appear the technical feasibility report and carry out tree transplantation for the specific project. The empanelled agency shall adhere to all the technical specifications for carrying out tree transplantation in Delhi as issued from time to time by the Department.

8. Land for Tree Transplantation:-

Ex-situ transplantation of trees shall be facilitated along Delhi Public Works Department roads on first priority subject to availability of land along the roads. In addition, special land banks for tree transplantation will be identified across Delhi by Department, where re-plantation can be carried out, for example at government nurseries. In case, such land is not available, it will be responsibility of the applicant to arrange such land to accommodate transplanted tree species in a scientific manner.

9. Exemptions from Carrying Out Tree Transplantation:-

As a general rule, it shall be mandatory for all developmental projects to ensure that a minimum 80% of the affected trees are scientifically transplanted, except for the following cases:

(a) Private organizations or individuals requiring 10 or less trees to be felled.
(b) Project specific exemption granted in exceptional cases by the committee constituted by State Government for this purpose and for reasons to be recorded in writing.

10. Facilitating Scientific Tree Transplantation in National Capital Territory of Delhi:-

(1) Tree transplantation is a subject with evolving technology and best practices for successful and scientific transplantation of various tree species found in the agro-climatic conditions prevailing in National Capital Territory of Delhi. A dedicated Tree Transplantation cell shall be established in the Department, to facilitate and deal with all matters related to tree transplantation in National Capital Territory of Delhi.
(2) The functions of the Tree Transplantation cell shall be as under:
  (a) To prepare and regularly update the technical specifications for tree transplantation to be strictly followed for any tree transplantation activity in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
  (b) To carry out empanelment of technical agencies for tree transplantation in Delhi at least once every two years.
  (c) To prepare model request for proposal and other supporting documentation to support government agencies in efficiently adopting and following the established procedure for tree transplantation work in Delhi.
  (d) To define the benchmark tree survival rate and update it from time to time keeping evolving scientific trends and data on success factors of tree transplantation in Delhi.
  (e) To organize and carryout technical training and capacity building of Tree officers of Department, engineering staff of Pubic Works Department etc. on the subject of tree transplantation.
  (f) To maintain a central repository of all tree transplantation works undertaken in Delhi along with the geo-tagged data of such trees as well as data on success rates of different projects, different tree species, different land owning agencies and technical agencies in-charge of carrying out tree transplantation.
  (g) To periodically flag to the Tree Authority those applicants or technical agencies who are unable to achieve the benchmark tree survival rate, and the reasons thereof.
  (h) To constitute local Tree committees (ward or assembly level) comprising citizen groups, professionals and experts within 3 months of the notification of this policy for the purpose of carrying out social audits as requires under this policy and to specify the norms for carrying out such social audits.
(3) The Tree Authority of Delhi shall be the apex body responsible for regular monitoring of the implementation of the prescribed procedure for tree transplantation and for evolving new norms, mechanisms and best practices to achieve the objective of ensuring successful tree transplantation in Delhi.

By Order and in the Name of the Government of
National Capital Territory of Delhi,
SANJEEV KHIRWAR, Principal Secy. (Environment & Forests)

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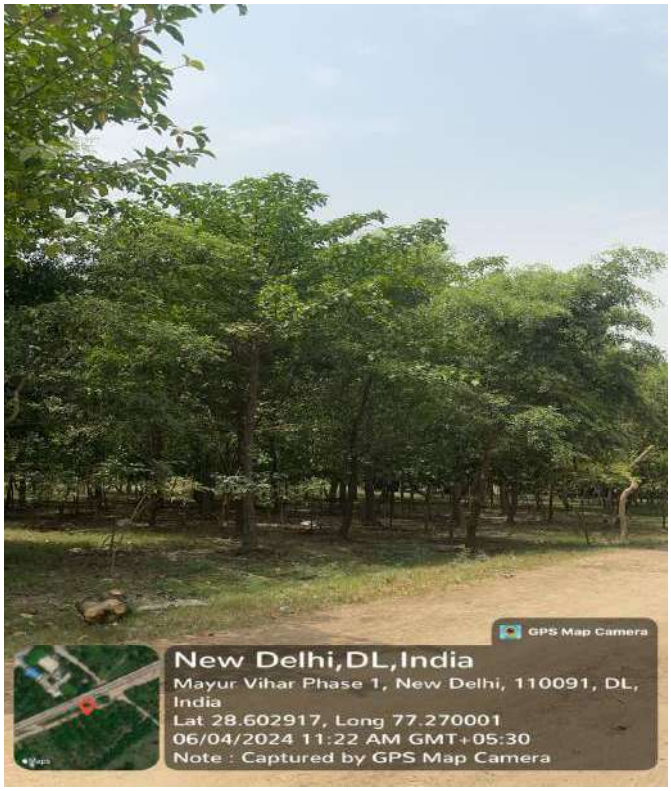
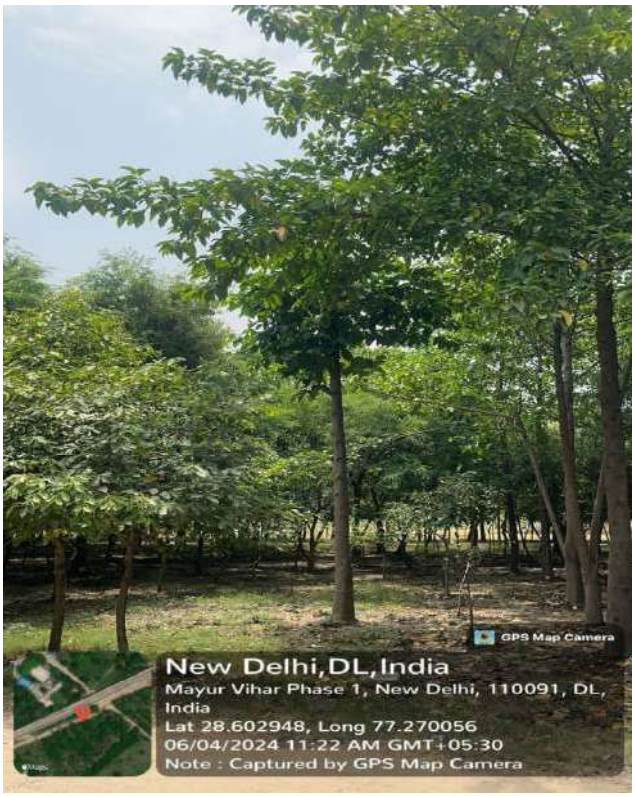
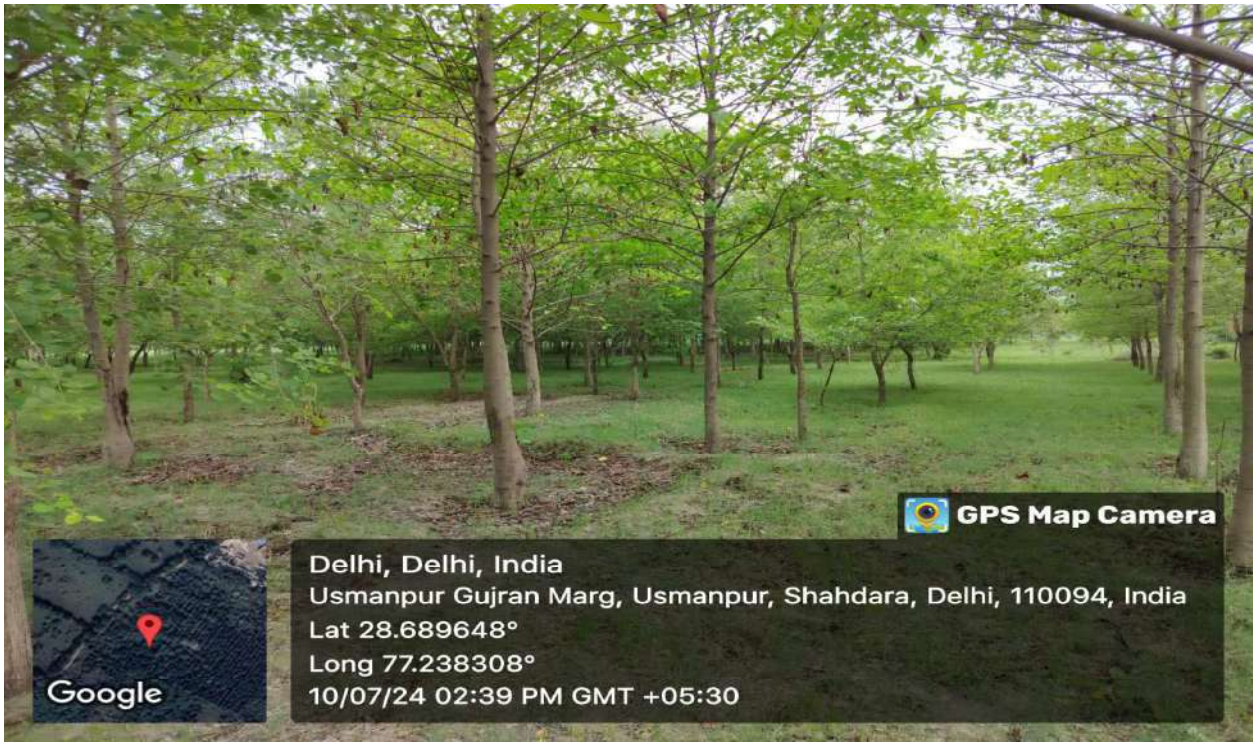
Annexure A

Photographs of Compensatory Plantation at Garhi Mandu, Central Forest Division





Photographs of Compensatory Plantation at Garhi Mandu, Central Forest Division



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