

Govt frees forest dept land occupied by GMDA for ready-mix concrete plant

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Gurgaon: The forest department has reclaimed 4.5 acres of forest land in Basai that had been encroached upon by GMDA for a ready-mix concrete plant.

It was in 2018 that this protected land was earmarked by GMDA for the concrete plant. Officials said no document had been signed between GMDA and the forest department for using this land for non-forest activities.

“The reclamation of this forest land is a significant conservation effort for Gurgaon. It sends a clear message that the protection of natural habitats is top priority for us and no kind of encroachment on protected land will be tolerated,” said a forest department

official.

Experts said the encroachment of land by a govt body was a serious issue. “The lack of an official agreement between GMDA and the forest department regarding the use of this protected land for non-forest activities is a serious concern. How can GMDA use forest land for building a concrete plant? It underscores the need for accountability in the allocation and utilisation of natural resources,” said Vivek Kamboj, an environmentalist.

“The reclamation of 4.5 acres in Basai serves as a reminder that the protection of our natural heritage should be a collective effort, involving govt agencies, private organisations, and the general public. By working together and

prioritising the preservation of our forests and wildlife, we can ensure a sustainable future for the generations to come,” he added.

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