

Min announces ₹5k cr plan to boost forest cover in state

Jul 23, 2024, 04.34 AM IST



Jaipur: During his Budget reply on Monday, minister of state for forests and environment Sanjay Sharma took a swipe at Leader of Opposition Tika Ram Jolly, humorously noting the resemblance between the latter's surname and 'prosopis juliflora', an invasive plant species commonly known as vilayati babool.

Sharma announced that the forest department will launch an ambitious project to eradicate the naturally proliferating prosopis juliflora.

He said, "I am not talking about you (Mai aap ke liye nahi bol raha hoon) . The project to eradicate the juliflora was taken by the Congress govt but left incomplete. The plant is of no use and does

not allow other species to flourish."

Sharma said the state govt is committed to developing Rajasthan as a 'Green State'. "Forest cover in the state will be raised by 20,000 hectares by 2028. Nearly Rs 5,000 crore will be spent on it over the next five years," he said.

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