

2 apps to help Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority monitor green cover, record tree count

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AGENCY TO CHECK SURVIVAL RATES

Two apps developed by GMDA

- To record new plantations on green belts
- To maintain a database of trees in city



Objectives

- A tree census will help officials maintain and increase green cover in city
- Apps will also guide authorities on issues such as locations for development work

GMDA will empanel an agency to check survival rates of the trees, and accordingly plan plantation drives

GURUGRAM: The Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) has created two mobile applications for better monitoring of green belts and plantations in the city, based on which it will formulate plans to maintain and increase the green cover.

One app will record the number and locations of plantations on roads across the city. Another will help maintain a tree census, recording species and nature of the trees.

“The first app will record plantations on the greenbelts of each road. We will be updating the number and location of newly-created plantations on the app each month. A separate app will record the trees, a kind of census with tree species and other characteristics,” said Subhash Chander Yadav, additional CEO, urban environment division, GMDA.

“We will now empanel a reputed agency to undertake third-party monitoring and checking of the survival rates of trees obtained through the tree census. Accordingly, we can plan plantations in the future,” said Yadav. He added that the GMDA is preparing the Expression of Interest (EoI) for the same.

GMDA has been working on the two apps and plans to check the survival rates of trees over the last seven months. These moves came after chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar, the GMDA chairman, gave directions to this effect. In the ninth Authority meeting in December last year, Khattar asked officials to find a way to assess the survival rates of planted trees in a scientific method.

At that meeting, he also sought the involvement of schools in this work through technology.

On Sunday, Yadav said, “We will be involving school children in the sense that we will be acquainting them with this method of recording the survival rates of trees and spreading awareness about it.”