

Buddha Nulah gets 11 micro-forests

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Ludhiana: The joint campaign of the Ludhiana MC and IRS officer Rohit Mehra to beautify the banks of polluted Buddha Nullah got a big push on Tuesday as work on 11 micro-jungles was completed on Tuesday. Namdhari sect chief Satguru Uday Singh was also present during a plantation drive which was conducted on the occasion. MC commissioner Pardeep Kumar Sabharwal, along with Congress MLA Rakesh Pandey and others, were also present on the occasion.

Under this unique campaign of micro forest, the MC is going to create 300 micro-forests on the banks of Buddha Nullah with each jungle spanning on an area of about 2,000 sq yd having different varieties of plants. Along with this, the drive will only use cow dung from local dairies and the waste leaves collected by the MC as manure for growing micro-jungles.

Speaking on the occasion , Rohit Mehra, who is spearheading the campaign along with Sabharwal, said, “We have completed the task of making 11 micro-forests on the banks of Buddha Nullah in record time of less than 30 days. So far, 11,000 saplings of various varieties, including air and water purifying plants like panchvati and moringa, have already been planted here. On September 4, the first micro-forest under this campaign was created on the banks of Buddha Nullah near the slaughter house, where 450 saplings were planted.”

He asid, “The MC and its officials are playing a very proactive role in the entire campaign and soon we are going to rope in NGOs, corporate houses and other stakeholders to adopt these micro-forests and ensure their proper upkeep and growth. Once we are over with the micro-forest campaign, we will also try and address the problem of water pollution in the Buddha Nullah.”

Mehra added that, “Another beautiful aspect of this campaign is that cow dung, which was otherwise thrown into the Buddha Nullah, is being used by us as manure, along with waste leaves, collected by the MC to grow these plants. So far, more than 32

truck loads of the cow dung and waste leaves have been used in this campaign, which aims at making the banks of this nullah into lush green forest, which has become an eyesore for Punjab.”