

City's fourth Miyawaki forest to come up on IITR campus

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Lucknow: With scientists from Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR) carrying out a plantation on its Kanpur road campus on Tuesday, the city may have its fourth Miyawaki forest soon.

Earlier, successful Miyawaki plantations in the city have been done by the National Botanical Research Institute in Aliganj, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and one by LMC in Gudamba. Inaugurating the forest, secretary of department of environment, forest and climate change, Ashish Tiwari said, "Miyawaki forests have recorded higher biodiversity than surrounding areas and it is an ideal method for creating diverse forest ecosystems. In the current context of climate change emergencies and repeated warnings about global loss of biodiversity, being able to create such a diverse forest could prove to be the game changer," he said. "This approach identifies small areas for planting saplings to improve the urban landscape. Priority is given to herbal and medicinal plants," said IITR director Bhaskar Narayan. TNN

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Man found dead in forest areaAn unidentified man's body was found dead in the forest area of Sector 56. The body has been shifted to GMSH-16 for an autopsy. Police have initiated inquest proceedings and are trying to ascertain the man's identity. The exact cause of death will be determined after the autopsy report is obtained. Police have shared the details of the deceased with other police stations for identification.106393116

Forest dept objects to operating flights over protected areasThe Tamil Nadu forest department plans to ask the directorate general of civil aviation (DGCA) to avoid flying choppers over protected areas in the state. This decision comes after a chartered helicopter flew over the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR) and Mukurthi National Park in the Nilgiris. The department is concerned that low-flying helicopters may disturb the birds and wild animals in

the area. A wildlife activist mentioned that the chopper could not have flown over MTR and Mukurthi peak without passing over the Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka.106414828

University on Aravali forest land gets post-facto nod, first in Haryana after Forest Act amendedThe Union environment ministry has given post-facto approval to a private university in Haryana, which is the first project to receive such clearance since the Forest (Conservation) Act was amended. The university, built on protected Aravali land, had applied for clearance in November and started construction in 1998. The approval comes with the condition that the university identifies non-forest land for compensatory afforestation. Environmentalists warn that allowing post-facto clearances sets a dangerous precedent and may lead to further damage to forest areas and wildlife.106333839