

Reforestation on 198 ha of reserve forest land in city

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Pune: State forest department has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Anandvan Foundation for the redevelopment of 198 hectares of forest land in Wanowrie, Mohammadwadi, Undri and Yewalewadi for seven years.

The foundation will sign a tri-party agreement with the forest department and two other agencies for funding, during which it will plant over 2 lakh trees and introduce self-sustainable water resources.

A government resolution (GR) issued on March 1 stated that 132 hectares of land in Yewalewadi, five hectares in Undri, 56.3 hectares in Mohammadwadi and five hectares in Wanowrie will

be issued for the Foundation to restore the green cover.

“We have decided to plant indigenous trees,” Bhupesh Sharma, the founder secretary of the foundation said.

An approximate funding of Rs 13 crore has been decided for the project.

“These trees will also be named for educational purposes,” said Praveen Kumar, president of the foundation.

According to forest officials, the proposal was submitted in July last year, and around 40% of the forest patch will be used for plantation purposes. “This is an extension of the urban forests that we currently have, and to maintain

and grow the forest cover consciously, we have taken the help of the foundation,” said NR Praveen, chief conservator of forests.

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Meghalaya chief conservator of forest found dead at homeN Luikham, Chief Conservator of Forest, died by suicide in Shillong. The 50-year-old IFS officer was found hanging at his official residence in East Khasi Hills district. Family took him to Shillong Civil Hospital.108461964

Opium plants worth Rs 10 crore destroyed in Odisha forestJashipur police destroyed 5.25 lakh opium plants in Bakua and Kukurbhuka villages, Similipal Tiger Reserve. STF busted interstate opium racket in Rourkela, seized 10 kg opium worth Rs 50 lakh, biggest haul in state.108373481

Chhattisgarh: Tribal woman injured in crossfire in Bijapur forestRaje Oyam, a tribal woman, was injured in a crossfire between Maoists and security forces. The incident highlights the ongoing violence in the region, where civilians frequently become victims of the conflict.108472862