

UP govt sets target of increasing forest cover to 15 pc by 2030

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Lucknow, May 30 (UNI) The Uttar Pradesh government has set a target of further enhancing forest cover to 15 per cent by 2030 and for this the government has set a target of planting 175 crore saplings in the next five years. The Yogi government has been doing intensive planting during the rainy season since its first tenure. As a result, 101.49 crore saplings have been planted with the efforts of the government between 2017-18 and 2021-2022. Looking at the progress year after year, the target is bigger and for this very reason, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath wants more and more people to join the plantation drive so much so that it shapes up into a mass movement. This is the motive behind schemes like Navagraha Vatika, Nakshatra Vatika, Panchavati, Gangaavan, and Amritvan. Indigenous plants like Banyan, Peepal, Pakad, Neem, Bael, Amla, Mango, Jackfruit and Drumstick will get preference during the plantation drive. The intention of the government is that the plantation during the rainy season should be according to the agro-climatic zone of the area concerned. A plantation campaign will be carried out by keeping 29 species and 943 heritage trees at the center of different districts. In this, along with the national tree Banyan, indigenous plants like Peepal, Pakar, Neem, Bael, Amla, Mango, Jackfruit and Drumstick will be accorded priority. The nodal agency for plantation is the Forest Department. Other than the forest department, 26 other departments will participate in the grand campaign of the plantation. The target of each department is already set. In this respect, the highest target of 12.60 crores and 12.32 crore is for Forest and Rural Development Department respectively. Apart from this, the target of the Agriculture Department and Horticulture Department is 2.35 crore and 1.55 crore saplings respectively. Environment fighters will play an important role in making this campaign a success. Farmers and beneficiaries of Prime Minister's award in the environment, Ganga watch dogs, empowered force, women, disabled, low-income group, visually impaired, NREGA job card holder, self-help group, village level and city development worker, forest worker, tribal-forest, Chief Minister Abhyudaya Yojana beneficiaries, teacher-students and women will also be involved in the plantation process.

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Source:<http://www.uniindia.com/up-govt-sets-target-of-increasing-forest-cover-to-15-pc-by-2030/north/news/2745145.html>