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# FOCCIC NEWS

### Decoding a Better Planet Together



# **DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY**

Forests are a metaphor for life. Every aspect of human life is connected to the forest, from drinkable water to the air we breathe, to the medicines we need. Forests are necessary for the survival and livelihood of about 1.6 billion people. They are the most efficient carbon-absorbing machines.

Undeniably, forest conservation is crucial for sustainability.

## **INSPIRATION SPARKS ACTION**

The primary duty of an Indian President is to protect and defend the constitution. But time and again we have been blessed with their inspirational actions and words encouraging us towards sustainability.



In his last speech as the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind talked about the future of the planet and how climate change is inhibiting overall growth. He gave us the simplest solution prompt – "we must take care of our environment". Protecting mother nature is indeed the path to a vivid future.

He then handed over the baton to our newest President Droupadi Murmu. She is as passionate about forest preservation. She was the brainchild for planting 50 lakh trees at the foothills of the Similipal National Park. It helped repair wildlife habitats, biodiversity supported restored and local communities.

She understands the need for united efforts. "Environment cannot be protected by only depending on the government or the forest committees, but a collective effort is needed to protect it," she had said a few years ago when she was serving as the Governor of Jharkhand.



#### JHARKHAND – THE LAND OF FORESTS

Recognizing that urbanization has been the biggest instigator of deforestation in Jharkhand, Jharkhand took to an innovative solution. The Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Hemant Soren recently announced an incentive for households to plant and protecting trees.

With every tree planted and protected, the government will offer 5 units of electricity free of cost. He also made it clear that the incentive is not applicable for any plant. It should be a genuine tree holding the power to help conserve the nature for our future.

Rightfully named the "land of forests", Jharkhand used to be one of the greenest states of India. In the year 1935, the area now known as Jharkhand had forest cover of roughly 49%.

Reminiscing the time when Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was the president; he became one of the first ambassadors for a greener future. He took an oath "I will plant and nurture 10 trees and will ensure that my family and neighbours also plant 10 trees each!". His vision "Billion Trees for Billion People" was truly inspirational across the globe.

It is good to see his devotion towards plantation and preserving forests has been nurtured well by his successors.

#### PLANT A HOPE

Protection of Forests are included in the Concurrent list, implying that both the centre and state are responsible for protecting them. Not only that but, the constitution of India also bestows the responsibility of protection and improvement of natural environment including forests as every citizen's fundamental duty.

Planting trees is a great step towards improving our

But, with the increase in population, deforestation has been exceedingly high. During the last 80 years, Jharkhand has lost more than 50% of its forest cover. Urbanization is the major culprit for the reckless clearing of green covers in the state.

Jharkhand has become familiar with the wrath of climate changefallen agricultural produce, heatwaves and droughts. 2018-19 were the years of severe drought, heatwaves and deficient rainfall. The decrease in the green covers have a major role to play in the extreme weather conditions being faced by the state.

The plantation policy is the first step towards restoring nature. Hopefully, Jharkhand would soon dedicate more resources towards reforestation and afforestation.

## JHARKHAND

Total recorded forest cover 23,721 sq km

Change in forest cover from 2019 to 2021 is 109.73 sq km | |

#### mother nature. But we seldom ignore, rather encourage deforestation.

This is a sign for each reader to plant a tree this weekend and to not lose its traceability, tag with FloCard's planters app.





