

Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

- CAQM was in continuous dialogue with NCR State Governments and NCT of Delhi to prepare ambitious plans to substantially increase green cover in National Capital Region
- Commission lays emphasis on large-scale greening and urban forestry initiatives including the Miyawaki Technique considering the scarcity of open areas in the NCR landscape
- 17.33% enhanced plantation target set for the entire NCR by CAQM under the Greening Action Plan 2022-23 compared to last year
- 58.59% enhanced plantation/ greening target set for Haryana; 35% enhanced plantation/ greening for Rajasthan; 2.05% enhanced plantation/ greening for U.P. and 21.65% enhanced plantation/ greening for NCT of Delhi under the Greening Action Plan 2022-23
- Commission emphasizes the need for active participation from various Agencies / Departments including educational and research institutions towards greening and plantation across the NCR
- Commission also lays emphasize on using Miyawaki technique along the boundaries of the institutions and patches of land and gap filling between the conventional plantations
- Plantation to be completed by the end of July for best results during the current monsoon season

NEW DELHI:

Greening being an important strategy to improve the air quality of the National Capital Region (NCR), the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has held a series of consultations with the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) and GNCTD to discuss and finalize Greening and Plantation Action Plan for the year 2022-23 in NCR. Greening is one of the major actions

for abatement of air pollution and Commission has been laying emphasis on large-scale greening/plantation/ urban foresting initiatives including the Miyawaki Technique for better utilization of both small/ large patches of land and considering the larger impact on bio-diversity and urban ecology in the NCR. In close co-ordination with GNCTD & State Governments of NCR, the roadmap for greening/ plantation for the year 2022-23 has been framed for entire NCR.

The plan for the year 2022-23, mandates enhanced plantation targets as compared to previous year. As compared to previous year (2021-22), the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan, U.P. and GNCTD have set increased plantation targets for the year 2022-23. According to the Greening Action Plan framed, Haryana (NCR) has set the target of 85,06,999 plantations (58.59% increase); Rajasthan (NCR) has set the target of 9,84,992 plantations (35% increase); U.P. (NCR) has set the target of 1,64,05,873 plantations (2.05% increase) and GNCTD has set the target of 31,89,191 plantations (21.65% increase) for the year 2022-23. The total plantation/ greening target finalized for the entire NCR for 2022-23 is 2,90,87,055 which is 17.33% increase as compared to the previous year's target of 2,47,89,611 plantations.

The major agencies/ departments significantly contributing to the ambitious plantation/ greening drive in the NCR include Department of Industrial Development, Rural Development Department, Department of Basic and Secondary Education, Forest Department, Bhiwadi Integrated Development Authority (BIDA), Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Ltd. (RIICO), PWD, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, CPWD and Municipal Bodies.

Timelines covering various activities including site selection, pit digging, soil weathering, commencement of plantation, completion of plantation, weed removal, mortality refreshment, monitoring and replacement have been finalised and are a part of the Greening Action Plan.

While finalizing the Greening Action Plan, the need to focus greening along the central verges and roadsides has been stressed upon. Higher educational institutions, universities and research institutions have also been roped in towards the greening/ plantation drive. The Commission has also advised dense plantation using Miyawaki technique along the boundaries of the institutions and patches of land and gap filling between the conventional plantations along with post plantation care of the plants.

The Commission will undertake monitoring/ follow up till plantation is completed and will also keep an eye on post plantation care by the NCR State Governments/ GNCTD.
