

GREEN Proposal to reduce DELHI AIR POLLUTION

As a possible partial or complete solution to the New Delhi problems of Air Pollution, following is a scientifically researched proposal:

Wrt the Odd-Even scheme (NO.F.3 (21 SYMRTS/TpL./2015 t 3 oz Dt. 28/12/15) to counter Air Pollution (particularly CO₂ gas), we propose transplantation of 'Fully Grown' Trees of different species on the Side-walks, Dividers & Footpaths of most polluted & crowded roads.

A number of steps to curb Air Pollution including Planting or Aforestation of Plants have been initiated by Delhi Government & it is a widely known but these will take about 5 to 10 years to reach full Tree or to be called an OLD TREE. Proposal is as follows:

'Oldest trees' are growing faster, sequestering or storing more carbon as they age and 97 percent of 403 tropical and temperate species grow more quickly the older they get. An international research group/study led by Nate L. Stephenson of the U.S. Geological Survey Western Ecological Research Center Nature covering Six (6) Continents (17th Jan, 2014) refer <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/stephenson>.

2) OLD TREES store carbon faster: Science Alert, Australia & New Zealand (20th Jan, 2014).

3) Rate of tree carbon accumulation increases continuously with tree size – NATURE dt. 14th Jan, 2014).

The above is re-inforced by the fact, that National Green Tribunal ordered Maharashtra government to plant 44,000 trees for cutting 7,000 trees, Ghats forest in eco-zone for one 'useless' toll plaza (Banda village, Sindhudurg between December 2013 and January 2014 to make way for a toll plaza on NH-17).

Furthermore, Please note that there is markedly less pollution & more Freshness in Air of LUTYENS DELHI, which has wide Tree lined roads & almost all roads have OLD TREES.

Similar is the Cantonment area in-between DHAULA KUAN- NARAINA having ample Fresh Air & had been correctly termed sometime ago as 'Lungs of Delhi' by the Honorable High Court.

(though transplantation of OLD TREES, if undertaken will have following drawbacks: i. Disrupt traffic temporarily, ii. after a few years the Roots may travel to and cause cracks in the adjacent areas/ emerge out, iii. OLD TREES on narrow Side-walks, Dividers & Footpaths may cause some obstruction to normal flow of pedestrians).