



कुलसचिव  
REGISTRAR

# दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय University of Delhi

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Planting a Tree is part of New Curriculum in DU**

#### **From Environmental Education to Environmental Action**

University of Delhi took a new and innovative step today which will move from environmental education to environmental action at the ground level. From the coming Academic session it has now become compulsory for every student to plant at least one tree anywhere in the country during the course of their study. This will be applicable at the Under Graduate, Post Graduate and M.Phil./Ph.D. level. The programme will be scientifically monitored and evaluated by the respective colleges, centers and departments. Details of the methods and process for evaluation have been simplified and made easier for the students so that they actually contribute to the society and towards a better environmental protection. The world is facing one of the greatest humanitarian crisis today not only due to COVID-19 pandemic but also rapidly going through several environmental, social and economic challenges. For the first time, we all realized the value of oxygen and the pandemic has taught us many things. Therefore, we need to fight the challenges together and get ready ourselves to combat future problems. Planting millions of suitable trees and creating a natural ecosystem is one of the best ways and this can be achieved faster through massive students participation, said Professor P.C. Joshi, Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi while addressing the media in the press conference.

Prof. P.C. Joshi said, every year Delhi University admits lakhs of students from different parts of the country and they will be our climate warriors. It is well known that plants absorb carbon dioxide, provide oxygen, absorb many harmful pollutants including cancer-causing chemicals, prevent soil erosion, landslides etc. said Botanist Professor Dinabandhu Sahoo, Director of the Centre for Himalayan Studies and the brain behind the proposal. Prof. Sahoo said, today we are facing a major Biosphere Crisis and there are only **28 trees** per person available in India while the global average is **422 trees** per person, Canada has **8,953** and China has 130 trees per person. Planting and subsequent maintenance of trees will not only create a big supply chain in creating jobs at a different level but also will yield several valuable products which will provide suitable income at a different level said Professor Joshi. Moreover, we have a responsibility towards fulfilling UN SDG Goals, he said. Students Teachers and Employees of the university are very excited about this new initiative. Prof. Balaram Pani, Dean of Colleges, Prof. Suman Kundu, Director South Campus, Prof. D.S. Rawat Dean Examination, Dr. Vikas Gupta, Registrar, and several other officials were present.

*(Signature)*  
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दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय, दिल्ली-110007

University of Delhi, Delhi-110007

दूरभाष/Tel. : 27667853; फैक्स/Fax : 27666350; वेबसाइट/Website : www.du.ac.in; ईमेल/E-mail : registrar@du.ac.in