

# Miyawaki forest plantation drive begins on vacant plots

TNN | Aug 25, 2021, 04.41 AM IST

Coimbatore: In a first step towards converting vacant lands within the city corporation limits into green zones by raising mini forest , 599 saplings were planted in one of the corporation reserve sites of Emerald City Park, VKV Kumaraguru Nagar, at Saravanampatty.

NGOs Pricol and Siruthuli took up this initiative, known as 'Aranyam', with the support of Coimbatore city municipal corporation to plant trees on the reserve sites.

Corporation commissioner Raja Gopal Sunkara planted the first sapling on the reserve site. The uniqueness of this project is that a large number of Palmyra saplings were planted all along the perimeter of the parcel of land with a layered plantation of various native trees in a Miyawaki pattern that would soon form a mini forest.

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"This upcoming residential area where numerous concrete buildings are coming up with no green cover around, such small pockets of land with tree cover will soon become the much-needed lung space," said Vanitha Mohan, managing trustee of Siruthuli, while expressing her happiness for permitting to carry out plantation projects in these reserve sites.

Children from nearby areas actively participated in planting trees which they promised to nurture till they grow up into big trees filled with life, she said.

For people in such residential units it will be a vital space to get along and carry out their daily health regimes to stay fit and live

a disease-free life.

The members of the local community came up with ideas after seeing the activity in their neighbourhood.