

Seva Parv: Forest dept to roll out green initiatives

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Lucknow: The Uttar Pradesh forest department is set to commemorate 'Seva Parva' from Sept 17 to Oct 2.

The two-week campaign, to mark the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will focus on cleanliness drives, anti-single-use plastic efforts, weed removal in bird sanctuaries, and public awareness programmes on environmental protection, rainwater harvesting, and water conservation.

To ensure the campaign's success, principal chief conservator of forests Sunil Chaudhary has instructed officials at all levels to implement the activities effectively.

Sushant Sharma, secretary of environment, forest, and climate change, has been appointed as the state-level nodal officer, while Ramkumar, additional principal chief conservator of forests (projects), will serve as the departmental nodal officer.

On Sept 25, the birth anniversary of Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya, a massive plantation drive will be conducted across all districts. The forest department will distribute saplings to citizens, institutions, and educational bodies. A one-hour mega event will bring together various stakeholders, including govt departments, public representatives, students, NGOs, civic groups, panchayat members, industrialists, medical associations, and partner volunteers such as Tiger Mitras, Sarus Mitras, and Wetland Mitras.

Deepak Kumar, mission director of the campaign, said that 15 lakh saplings will be planted across the state during Seva Parv.

On Sept 17, at least 100 plants will be planted in each of the 34 Nagar Vans. Public participation will be encouraged, with contributions from voluntary organizations, schools, eco clubs, self-help groups, and civil society. The events will be graced by mayors, MPs, MLAs, and other public representatives.