

Project Note

Full Title of the Project: Diversion of 0.2260 Ha forest Land for the Development of Mangrove Conservation Center and Mangrove Park at Gorai by Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit (MMCU).

Mumbai Mangrove conservation Unit is a specific body of forest department which look after towards conservation and protection of mangroves in Mumbai region of Maharashtra. Mangroves are present in all the coastal districts of Maharashtra viz. Mumbai city, Mumbai suburbs, Thane, Palghar, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg. Mangrove cell in Mumbai has successfully managed to increase the density of mangroves cover in state although there are many constructions and infrastructural work is increasing in state.

Globally as well as nationally, Forest Conservation is increasingly being viewed as a powerful instrument in sequestering carbon and thereby offset adverse climate change. Maharashtra Forest Department, being custodian of the State's rich and diverse bio-diversity, is committed to a conservation-centric management and protection strategy. Wild-life focused eco-tourism management hinges on sustainability. Production-be it timber or non-timber forest produce is managed with sustainability at its core. Joint Forestry Management to secure natural resources as well as livelihood security remains the major people-centric activity. Attempts are on to hone local artisans' skill in making value-added articles out of non-timber forest produce like bamboo and cane. Augmenting green cover on non-forest areas to achieve national targets of 33% of land area under green cover remains a forefront agenda. Intensive use of Information and Communication Technology supplemented by e-governance is under effective use to monitor on-going forestry activities. Extensive use of digital platform to project a true picture of forest conservation forms the central theme.

There are about 80 different species of mangrove trees. All of these trees grow in areas with low-oxygen soil, where slow-moving waters allow fine sediments to accumulate. Mangrove forests

only grow at tropical and subtropical latitudes near the equator because they cannot withstand freezing temperatures.

Many mangrove forests can be recognized by their dense tangle of prop roots that make the trees appear to be standing on stilts above the water. This tangle of roots allows the trees to handle the daily rise and fall of tides, which means that most mangroves get flooded at least twice per day. The roots also slow the movement of tidal waters, causing sediments to settle out of the water and build up the muddy bottom.

Mangrove forests stabilize the coastline, reducing erosion from storm surges, currents, waves, and tides. The intricate root system of mangroves also makes these forests attractive to fish and other organisms seeking food and shelter from predators.

Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit is planning to develop Mangrove Conservation and Development Park at Gorai. The objective of this project is to educate the citizens of Mumbai about the value of the mangrove ecosystem to their well-being, and in turn running a drive for environmental awareness in the citizen and visitors.

Setting mangrove conservation and a mangrove interpretation center right next to three of the most well-known tourist attractions in Mumbai: Essel World, Water Kingdom and Global Vipassana Pagoda. This will bring in the population. Taking advantage of this pull of crowd MMCU wants to set up a center which will emphasize on environmental importance of mangroves and bio-diversity of the coastal areas.

Date:

Place:



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