GREENING INDIA WITH NEEM

THE CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED BY THE NEEM FOUNDATION

The Indian Neem Foundation's most relevant activity is related to the promotion of the Neem Tree as a sustainable solution to global ecological and health concerns in India and all over the world.

One of the impacting initiatives of the Foundation is the long term environmental campaign *Greening India with Neem*. The campaign is aimed at providing one Neem tree for every 10 Indians, so that Indians can use it freely for health and hygiene as well as for organic agriculture and all other known uses.

Keeping in view that deforestation, increasing soil salinity, accelerating soil erosion, over – grazing, automobile pollution and noxious emissions from industry are problems which affect a large majority of Indians, this campaign aims to mobilize large scale public and government participation.

The Foundation estimates that India currently has about 20 million neem trees and the population of India is almost 1 billion. The equation works out to 1 neem tree for every 50 Indians. This proportion is inadequate, keeping in view that every part of this fascinating plant is packed with anti-bacterial, anti-fungal, anti-viral, anti-histamine, anti-septic and immune stimulating compounds for treating hundreds of maladies. Neem has a long record of safety to human health and wide acceptability as a herbal medicine. Neem boosts the immune system on all levels while helping the body fight infection even before the immune system is called into action. Therefore increasing the number of neem trees to about 1 for every 10 Indians would have great impact in improving public health, especially in the rural areas where health care facilities are minimal.

The other major factor that influence the final target is that India has today more than 100 million hectares of barren, unproductive and degraded wastelands. Even a

SING A EARTHSONG - PLANT A NEEM !!

Neeming India........   NEEM FOUNDATION

token target of planting 1 neem tree per hectare of wasteland could help drive home the message of using our own biological heritage and knowledge to make productive use of our nation's natural resources.

Neem Trees absorb carbon dioxide and help maintain the delicate balance of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Neem trees act as very efficient, natural air filters trapping dust particles, absorbing gaseous pollutants. The planting of Neem trees helps reduce green house gases through photosynthesis absorbing large quantities of CO2 and producing oxygen. Besides neem has remarkable ability to withstand air and water pollution, as well as heat. Neem also restores and maintains soil fertility.

Greening India with Neem' is a people's initiative and it is being implemented by bringing together on a single platform Individuals, Village Communities, Panchayats, State Governments, Government Bodies, Non-Government Organizations, Semi-Government Organizations, Schools, Hospitals, Agricultural Universities, Corporations, Trusts, Institutions, NRIs, PIO, Funding Bodies. People can initiate this activity by making groups of volunteers, collection of viable Neem seeds, establishing Neem nurseries, plantation of Neem saplings at all possible locations in India and their after care till attending sufficient plant growth.

Neem Foundation is an Indian voluntary, independent, non-profit organization established in 1993. It is supported by leading scientists and environmentalists engaged in Neem related research. The Neem Foundation is an important international forum for individuals and institutions and for the Neem movements of all countries.

The Neem Foundation is also managing the national campaign to Declare NEEM as the National Heritage tree of India.

To know more

Neem Foundation Campaign

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Recommendations Neem Conference 2012

Economic potential of Neem