

TREE CENSUS REPORT ^{INTERIM}

Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi

February, 2016

Introduction

Indraprastha College for Women is the oldest women's college in Delhi and was established in the year 1924. It is affiliated to the University of Delhi and is amongst the most prestigious colleges of India. IP College takes pride in having one of the more scenic and green campuses in Delhi. Located at Alipur House on Shamnath Marg, the campus covers an area of 21 acres consisting of a central British era building and plenty of open green spaces. Despite the ever increasing demand for infrastructure development in the last few years, IP College has taken extraordinary measures to protect and preserve its natural heritage and develop around the greens. As a result, the green cover and heritage trees of the campus are yet another factor that attract many students to this beautiful campus year after year.

The Department of Environmental Studies of IP College initiated a Tree Census and Labelling Project in 2015. The objectives of the project are to quantify the greenery found in the campus and to educate the students about the different tree species that they encounter in their daily lives. According to the Tree Census, there are a total of **518 trees** found in the college campus. In terms of diversity, there are **62 different species** of trees found in the college campus.

*“सर सान्टे रूख रहे
तो भी सस्तो जाण”*

*(If a tree is saved even at
the cost of one's head,
it's worth it.)*

- Amrita Devi Bishnoi



Project Team

- Dr. Anindita R. Saha
- Dr. Vagisha Sharma
- Dr. Govind Singh
- Mr. Akash Verma
- Aishwarya, Aanchal, Shambhavi, Simran, Madalsa, Marwah, Reeny, Ruchi

IP College Principal Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf along with faculty members of the Department of Environmental Studies



IP College students gathered under a mango tree in the campus.

Apart from contributing to the amazing beauty, aesthetics and environment of the campus, the trees are also part of the rich history of the college. Some trees are older than the establishment itself, while others were planted by faculty who have since moved on.

These trees are not just trees; they are gifts passed down from generations of educators, past and present, that have been part of this institution and continue to be so. The trees are a reminder of the selfless nature of the ones who resided in the campus and left an inheritance for the future students, staff and faculty.

Methodology

The Tree Census and Labelling Project was initiated by providing basic tree identification training to eight students of First Year. The students were then made to identify the trees located in the front part of the college. This constituted the first phase of the project and was followed by inviting Dr. A.K. Singh (Plant Taxonomist at the Yamuna Biodiversity Park) for conducting a Green Audit Workshop and a Tree Walk in the college campus. Dr. A.K. Singh verified the trees identified by the students and also provided inputs for the next phases of the project. He also educated the students on the importance of each tree species found in the college campus.



Green Audit Workshop with Dr. A.K. Singh (left)

After the identification process, the Department procured name plates printed on recycled plastic-resin sheets, which are durable and resistant to natural wear and tear. The plates were tied to the trees using galvanized wire and can be recycled continuously to make new name plates. This completed the first phase of the project and was followed by phase two and three in which trees in the rest of the college and the hostels were identified and labelled respectively. Simultaneously, all the tree in the college campus were numbered using enamel paint. The trees in the IP Hostel, which is located adjacent to the campus, were also numbered separately.



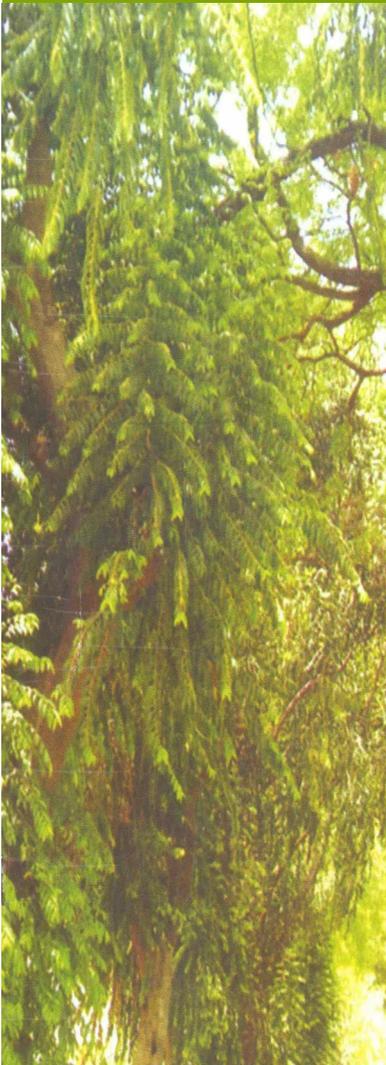
Tree Walk with Dr. A.K. Singh (left)

Phase	Areas Covered	Status
I	Front part of college campus	Completed
II	Remaining part of college campus	Completed
III	KG and IP Hostels	Completed
IV	Residential Area (Teaching/ Non-teaching staff)	Ongoing

Putranjiva Avenue

The road along the KG Hostel, which leads to the College Auditorium, is lined with some beautiful Putranjiva (*Putranjiva roxburghii*) trees. We are happy to note the presence of this 'Putranjiva Avenue' in the college campus

Putranjiva finds mention in the ancient Indian medicine system and the seeds of this tree were put around the necks of children for ensuring their good health.



Tree Census

A total of 518 trees are found in the IP College campus and have been numbered from 1-468 (main campus) and 1-50 (in IP Hostel, located adjacent to the main campus). This does not include the trees found in the residential area (teaching and non-teaching staff) which will be covered in the concluding phase of this project.

Ashoka (*Polyathia longifolia*), Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), Amaltas (*Cassia fistula*), Chamrod (*Ehretia laevis*), and Putranjiva (*Putranjiva roxburghii*) are some of the most numerous trees found on the campus. Some of the trees noted during the Census were well over hundred years old and IP College is therefore proud to have these 'heritage trees' of Delhi. The two large Neem trees near the main gate of the college campus therefore add to the historical significance of IP college. A single large Khirni tree in the college field is another witness to the IP College legacy.

There are several trees with edible fruits, including Amla (*Phyllanthis emblica*), Jamun (*Syzigium cumini*) Shahtoot (*Morus alba*), Goolar (*Ficus racemose*), Katthal (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*) and Papita (*Carica papaya*). It goes without saying that these trees are a boon for the bird diversity found in the college campus and are perhaps the reason that the college supports rich avian diversity. A few species of the invasive tree Vilayati Keekar (*Prosopis juliflora*) were also observed during the Census calling for regular monitoring for ensuring that this species does not increase in number.

Tree Census

This page contains the Tree Census Data of IP College for the year 2015-16. For any further information, contact:

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TREE CENSUS DATA			
#	Common Name	Scientific Name	Frequency
1	Amaltas	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	13
2	Amla	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	6
3	Arjun	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	4
4	Ashok	<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i>	125
5	Babul	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	1
6	Badhal	<i>Atrocarpus lacucha</i>	3
7	Bakain	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	2
8	Banyan	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	4
9	Barna	<i>Crataeva adansonii</i>	9
10	Belpatra	<i>Aegle marmelos</i>	2
11	Bottle Brush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	3
12	California Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	2
13	Champa	<i>Plumeria rubra</i>	13
14	Chamrod	<i>Ehretia laevis</i>	21
15	Chandni	<i>Tabernaemontana divaricata</i>	1
16	Chilbil	<i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i>	1
17	Chir Pine	<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>	3
18	Christmas Tree	<i>Araucaria culumnaris</i>	2
19	Cycas	<i>Cycas sp.</i>	1
20	Goolar	<i>Ficus racemose</i>	8
21	Guava	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	3
22	Gulmohar	<i>Delonix regia</i>	5
23	Harshingar	<i>Nyctanthes arbor-tristis</i>	8
24	Imli	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	1
25	Jaba	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	2
26	Jacaranda	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	1
27	Jamun	<i>Syzigium cumini</i>	17
28	Kachnar	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	1
29	Kadamb	<i>Mitragyna parviflora</i>	2
30	Kadi Patta	<i>Murraya koenigii</i>	1
31	Kanak Champa	<i>Pterospermum acerifolium</i>	3
32	Kaniar	<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i>	2
33	Karanj	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	5
34	Kassod	<i>Senna siamea</i>	4
35	Katthal	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	7
36	Khirni	<i>Manilkara hexandra</i>	1
37	Lasora	<i>Cordia dichotoma</i>	3
38	Mahua	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>	2
39	Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	10
40	Maulsari	<i>Mimusops elengi</i>	9
41	Morpankhi	<i>Thuja orientalis</i>	4
42	Neem	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	66
43	Orange	<i>Citrus x sinensis</i>	1
44	Papaya	<i>Carica papaya</i>	3
45	Peepal	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	17
46	Pilkhan	<i>Ficus virens</i>	10
47	Putranjiva	<i>Putranjiva roxburghii</i>	35
48	Royal Palm	<i>Roystonea regia</i>	2
49	Rubber Plant	<i>Ficus elastica</i>	3
50	Sahjan	<i>Moringa oleifera</i>	3
51	Saptaparni	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	10
52	Semal	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	5
53	Shahtoot	<i>Morus alba</i>	25
54	Sheesham	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	10
55	Silk Floss	<i>Ceiba speciosa</i>	2
56	Silver Oak	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	1
57	Siris	<i>Albizia lebbeck</i>	1
58	Subabul	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	4
59	Torchwood Tree	<i>Ixora pavetta</i>	1
60	Vilayati Keekar	<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	Not Censused
61	Weeping Fig	<i>Ficus benjamina</i>	1
62	Yellow Oleander	<i>Thevetia peruviana</i>	3