

## SAGHAN VANN NIRMAN

Swami Shraddhanand College is the renowned college of Delhi University, established in 1967. The college is situated in Alipur, at G.T. Karnal Road, National Highway 44. Being located in the outskirts of the city, the college holds plenty of space with wide prospects of generating ecosystem services. In 2020, when the whole world was fighting with deadly virus “covid 19” and people were dying due to lack of availability of oxygen, everyone realised the importance of trees and forest. This was the time when the college authority took the important initiative to construct a “Saghan Vann” in the college premises. For that, one-acre land area of the campus was devoted for the development of "Saghan Vann" (small dense forest). Various native plant species such as neem, Arjun, Sesame, Amla, Bael, Jamun, Peepal, Shehtoot, Amrood and Anar etc were selected. The whole college community was feeling very enthusiastic by the idea of developing a small forest in the college. Principal Prof. Parveen Garg encouraged the faculty and students to construct the forest in less than one hour.

On 27 September 2020, the college community established the Saghan Vann and planted 1000 plants in just 30 minutes. The program was inaugurated and endorsed by the learned social intellectual Shri, Suresh Soni, Dean of colleges, Prof. Balram Pani, Chairman, Prof. Suresh Awasthi and other respected members of the society.







Perhaps this is the only college in Delhi University which has constructed a small dense forest in the college premises, and it is certain that in future, when the trees will be grown up, the small forest will work as lungs to purify the air. It is confirmed by the principal sir that in future the Saghan Vann will purify the air up to the radius of 3 km in the vicinity of the college.

The college authority is very much conscious about the present environmental problems and committed to provide the best ecosystem services not only in the college premises but in the nearby locality too and this best practice of the college will help in gearing up the environmental and socioeconomical targets of achieving the sustainable development.

### Outcomes and Future Perspectives

Various ecosystem services, generated by the small forest in college:

1. All type of ecosystem services such as regulatory, provisioning, supporting and educational, are actively operated by the Vann.
2. The small Forest is now habitat of birds, butterflies and various another creature.
3. The students are studying the concept (structure and function) of forest ecosystem.
4. The Saghan Vann will act as a carbon sink and will help in reducing the carbon footprint.
5. It will help in recharging the ground water level.
6. The air quality in the college premises is maintained good.

**Saghan Vann on 21 June 2023**

