

ABANDONED MINE TURNED INTO INDIA'S LARGEST MAN-MADE FOREST

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The government of Chhattisgarh is planning to build the country's largest man-made forest near Raipur. Creating a natural habitat on 2,500 acres of barren terrain of primarily abandoned and non-operational mines. Nandini mines in Durg district, some 55 kilometres from the capital, would be one of India's greatest ecological restoration projects.

According to PCCF, P.C. Pandey, the initiative will most likely take a comprehensive shape in the coming years. The continuing project is anticipated to be used to transform 3,777 acres of barren and mined-out land into a natural jungle habitat. So far, the government has converted 1,120 acres of the region into forest areas. The approach would not only cut pollution but also rejuvenate the area's ecosystem by adding a touch of green and striking a balance with the environment.



Nandini forest will be the biggest man-made forest in India.

The United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration served as a source of inspiration for this action plan. The man-made forest is being carried out by using the Japanese technique known as Miyawaki. A revolutionary concept centred on environmental preservation. This strategy aids in creating thick, self-sustaining native forests, where plants grow 10 times quicker than traditional methods because of their natural, multi-layered nature. The approach entails planting two to four trees per square metre, with the seedlings ready to self-sustain in two to three years.

Nandini forest's future plans include transforming the region into an open jungle safari like the ones in Africa, as well as promoting the location as eco-ethnic tourism. This will include landscaping, water sports promotion, and stay-in cottages. Approximately 44% of the state's territory is covered in forest areas.

In Chhattisgarh, there is no deficiency of abandoned mines with little substantial reclamation being done. They're usually composed of dolomite-limestones, and they produce massive water reservoirs within the forest. In addition, due to the massive wetlands in the area, the region acts as a great refuge for birds. According to reports, the projected cost of the project is estimated at around Rs 3.37 crore.