

# 'Understand a sapling's needs before planting it'

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**SAS NAGAR** : The housing and urban development department invited renowned environmentalist Pradip Krishen here to share his knowledge about trees, on Monday.

Krishen has authored two books: 'Trees of Delhi' and 'Jungle Trees of Central India'.

In his presentation, he informed that there are around 6,000 native species of trees in India, of which less than 100 are being planted.

He said, "Before carrying out plantation in an area, the development agency must know the needs of each plant. A plant should be selected for plantation on the basis of its adaptability to the area's climate."

He added that the horticulture department has a limited variety of plant species in its nurseries.

"There is a need to introduce more indigenous species. Mag-

nificent trees can be grown without the need for regular watering.

Plants requiring excessive water should be discouraged as our water resources are rapidly decreasing," he said.

Meanwhile, additional chief secretary of the housing and urban development department has directed the engineering wing to ensure that department's nurseries are equipped to meet the plantation requirements.

**THE HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT HAS A VERY LIMITED VARIETY OF PLANT SPECIES IN ITS NURSERIES**

