

# IIT-Hyderabad to bloom into Green Campus

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**Sangareddy:** With the objective of covering 40 per cent of IIT-Hyderabad's area with greenery, the institute launched the 'Green Campus' drive by involving the students, staff and faculty in the mass plantation drive. Each of the student, staff and faculty in IIT-H will plant one sapling each on the premises of the campus and adopt the same plant. The plants will not only be geo-tagged to monitor its growth and health, but the person who adopted the plant will also monitor the sapling regularly. Following the instructions of IIT-H director, Prof. UB Desai, a three-member faculty designed a programme making the involvement of each person on the campus mandatory. Speaking to Telangana Today, a key member of the plantation committee, KBVN Phanindra, who is also working as an Assistant Professor at Department of Civil Engineering, said that the director wanted to cover 40 per cent of the 565 acres of land the campus is spread over with greenery. Since the construction work is going on at

several places, Phanindra said that they chose to plant the saplings at selected places where the construction work is either completed or where there would be no construction coming up at all even in the future. Prof Desai planted a banyan tree, the national tree, on Wednesday on the premises of the campus launching the 'Green Campus' initiative. Following the instructions given by the plantation committee, students and staff walked to the designated

Location on the campus to plant a sapling. At ground level, M Brahmasri, supervisor of Green Campus, played a key role by guiding the students and staff in the plantation drive. Phanindra said that by June 30 they would plant over 800 saplings in the first phase, adding that they will plan for the next phases of plantation drive after consulting the director and other higher officials on July 1. Meanwhile, the plantation committee has also decided to landscape the campus wherever they need to. Most of the plants being planted on the campus are indigenous and homogeneous to Telangana's eco-system. Plants like peepal, banyan, neem, Indian Gum Arabic tree and others were planted. Appreciating the management's decision to launch the green drive on the campus, Srujana Anjali, a IIIrd year Material Science Engineering student said that they want to see greenery all over the campus. "They have been waiting for this day and they were happy for being part of such a wonderful programme," Anjali, who planted a sapling at a road median in IIT-H, told Telangana Today.

Faculty members R Sathish Kumar, Ch Viswanth and Prem Paul played a key role in the plantation drive.