

PRESS RELEASE

## PMRDA Goes Green: 5,500 New Trees Planted Under Hinjewadi-Shivajinagar Metro Project

**Development Meets Conservation: 100% Survival Rate for New Saplings; Trees Get ‘QR Codes’ for Digital Identity**

**PUNE:** Even as the ‘Maan-Hinjewadi to Shivajinagar Metro Line-3’ gears up to become the lifeline of Pune’s public transport, the Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority (PMRDA) is ensuring that infrastructure growth doesn’t come at the cost of the environment. In a major green push, the PMRDA has planted 5,500 new trees to compensate for those affected by the project, achieving a remarkable 100% survival rate for the new plantation.

During the construction of metro piers, stations, and staircases, a total of 1,305 trees were impacted. Adopting an eco-friendly approach, PMRDA felled only 557 trees, while 748 were successfully transplanted. To further bolster the city’s green cover, 5,500 new saplings were planted across various strategic locations, including the Animal Husbandry Department, the Casting Yard at Tathawade, NDA forest area in Bawdhan, NCL, Panchvati, MIDC plots in Hinjewadi Phase-3, Raj Bhavan, and the College of Agriculture.

**Tech-Enabled Forestry** In a first-of-its-kind initiative for the project, technology has been integrated into conservation. All trees have been **geo-tagged** and assigned a unique **QR code**. By scanning the code with a smartphone, citizens can instantly access details such as the tree’s name, species, and its specific environmental benefits. A comprehensive database has been developed in collaboration with the ‘Science and Tech Park’ and the project contractors.

**Transplanted Trees Bear Fruit** The environmental drive has yielded impressive results: while the 5,500 new saplings boast a 100% survival rate, nearly 80% of the transplanted trees have also survived. In the forest area of Hinjewadi Phase-2, where around 3,000 trees were transplanted, many have already begun to bloom and bear fruit—a clear sign of the campaign’s success. This initiative serves as a blueprint for sustainable development, proving that massive infrastructure projects can coexist with ecological balance.

"We have leveraged technology to maintain a fine balance between infrastructure development and environmental conservation. The fact that our transplanted trees are now bearing fruit and flowers is the ultimate testament to the success of this mission." — **Dr. Abhijit Chaudhari, Metropolitan Commissioner, PMRDA, Pune**

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