



Your ZODIAC TREE'S UPDATE REPORT 2020



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INTRODUCTION

When you plant a tree, you replenish living systems and the Earth itself.

In various mythologies around the world, planting trees is believed to be an auspicious activity that will bring good fortune to the person, so much so that tree species have been mapped with zodiac signs. The SankalpTaru Foundation wanted to cater to your interests and provide more reasons to plant trees. Thus, the Zodiac Plantation project was born.



Mango
(Pisces)

THE BEGINNING

Zodiac Plantations were opened to the public in 2013 with a pilot project first rolled out in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Most of the zodiac trees were later planted on gram panchayat land in Neembla village in Barmer district, Rajasthan.



ZODIAC SIGN: Aries

TREE: Amla

SIGNIFICANCE: Amla is considered to be powerful for the brain and its rich fibre content keeps the digestive process running smoothly.

PLACE: Neembla Village (Rajasthan)



ARIES

ZODIAC SIGN: Taurus

TREE: Jamun or Black Plum

SIGNIFICANCE: The sweet and astringent fruit is responsible for the yummy taste of squash, jams, candies and colored jellies. Rich in nutrients, the fruit enhances the immune system.

PLACE: Haridwar (Uttarakhand) and Neembla Village (Rajasthan)



TAURUS

ZODIAC SIGN: Gemini

TREE: Khair or Catechu

SIGNIFICANCE: Khair is widely used for curing skin disorders and purifying blood. It helps in calming down a swollen nose, throat and indigestion.

PLACE: Neembla Village (Rajasthan) and Haridwar (Uttarakhand)



GEMINI

ZODIAC SIGN: Cancer

TREE: Peepal or Sacred Fig

SIGNIFICANCE: The peepal tree is considered to have religious significance in Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism. It is a powerhouse of medicinal benefits.

PLACE: Neembla Village (Rajasthan) and Haridwar (Uttarakhand)



CANCER

ZODIAC SIGN: Leo

TREE: Banyan or Bargad

SIGNIFICANCE: The banyan is India's national tree and it has the ability to survive and grow for centuries. It boosts immunity, prevents depression and lowers cholesterol.

PLACE: Neembla Village (Rajasthan)



LEO

ZODIAC SIGN: **Virgo**

TREE: **Reetha or Soapnut**

SIGNIFICANCE: Reetha is a natural herb. It is traditionally used for getting soft and silky hair.

PLACE: Haridwar (Uttarakhand) and Neembla Village (Rajasthan)



VIRGO

ZODIAC SIGN: **Libra**

TREE: **Arjuna**

SIGNIFICANCE: Popularly known as the 'guardian of the heart', the Arjuna tree has traditionally been used to treat heart diseases for centuries. The herb is named after the princely warrior Arjun, one of the protagonists in the famous epic 'Mahabharata'.

PLACE: **Neembla Village (Rajasthan) and Haridwar (Uttarakhand)**



LIBRA

ZODIAC SIGN: **Scorpio**

TREE: **Guava, Pine** has been discontinued

SIGNIFICANCE: **Guava** is the birth tree of Scorpions and signifies vitality and creativity. It is a rich source of Vitamin C, antioxidants, potassium and fibre. Known as a powerhouse of nutrients, it is essential for boosting immunity and improving eyesight and heart health.

PLACE: **Guava** trees have been planted in Uttar Pradesh. Pine trees were planted in Chamoli and Tehri district (Uttarakhand)



SCORPIO

ZODIAC SIGN: **Sagittarius**

TREE: **Sal**

SIGNIFICANCE: The sal tree is the state tree of Chhattisgarh. Its leaves are used for medicinal preparations and are extremely beneficial for skin and hair care.

PLACE: Haridwar (Uttarakhand) and Neembla Village (Rajasthan)



SAGITTARIUS

ZODIAC SIGN: Capricorn

TREE: Shami or Ghaf

SIGNIFICANCE: Shami is the state tree of Rajasthan and Telangana, and had a significant role in inspiring the Chipko Movement. Offering prayers to the Shami tree is believed to help a person clean their sins. It is also efficient in increasing soil fertility.

PLACE: Neembla Village (Rajasthan) and Haridwar (Uttarakhand)



CAPRICORN

ZODIAC SIGN: **Aquarius**

TREE: **Shami or Ghaf**

SIGNIFICANCE: Shami is the state tree of Rajasthan and Telangana, and had a significant role in inspiring the Chipko Movement. Offering prayers to the Shami tree is believed to help a person clean their sins. It is also efficient in increasing soil fertility.

PLACE: Haridwar (Uttarakhand) and Neembla Village (Rajasthan)



AQUARIUS

ZODIAC SIGN: Pisces

TREE: Mango

SIGNIFICANCE: Mango is the national fruit of India and also the state tree of Maharashtra. Mangoes facilitate digestion and improve eyesight, skin and hair health.

PLACE: Haridwar (Uttarakhand)



PISCES

THE CHALLENGES

The first challenge came when the block of land earmarked for the pilot project in Uttarakhand was excavated by earth movers from the state government, due to which most of the planted saplings had to be relocated. When a protected plantation area in Neembla village was shortly found, it became the site for all future zodiac plantations.

Peepal (Cancer)



The second challenge was finding water for the trees in Neembla village's dry climate. When groundwater reserves were found, the SankalpTaru Foundation laid down a drip irrigation system to efficiently use it. It proved to be a success, so much so that rainfall for the past two years in the area has been consistent and stable due to the fact that trees bring about rainfall because of the evapotranspiration process.

The last challenge was planting the trees themselves. Trees like banyan, peepal and shami cannot be planted on farmland because of their size. They need dedicated spaces which means high operational costs for their maintenance. But thanks to patrons like you who are planting these trees in record numbers, the SankalpTaru Foundation has been able to optimise their operations on this front.

Banyan (Leo)



THE STORY TODAY

Your trees are growing healthily and their survival rate is around 95 per cent. Nearly 4000 zodiac trees have been planted with 3500 alone planted in Neembla village. These trees are a significant source of shade in the hot desert for people, livestock and wild animals alike. Villagers have also learnt to grow their own plants and trees after observing the growth of the Zodiac Plantation. This campaign has garnered a lot of support from people around the world. Your enthusiasm to plant zodiac trees on occasions such as birthdays, wedding anniversaries and festivals means that this has become a popular offering on the SankalpTaru Foundation website.

Neem (Aquarius)



LATEST PHOTOS



Amla
(Aries)



Arjun
(Libra)



Jamun
(Taurus)

Peepal
(Cancer)



Mango
(Pisces)

Reetha
(Virgo)



THE WAY FORWARD

The Zodiac Plantations are here to stay but the SankalpTaru Foundation has another exciting project in the works for its patrons. The website will soon allow you to plant trees according to Nakshatras (stars).

Pine trees have been discontinued for Scorpios and been replaced by guava trees because they were a forest fire hazard.

Guava Trees (Scorpio)



GET IN TOUCH

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