

An 18 kilometre tour is needed away from the madding city crowd to Miyawalki forest at the peeking hilly region in the outer of the capital city of Trivandrum. One would really feel that he/she is in the midst of dense forest with blabbering noise of Karamana River flowing with white lather and surfing bubbles on the South-West. Brittle, shrilling and cracking noise of insects like Cicadas, leafhoppers and frog hoppers, from unidentified all around in the forest along the mad freeze and chill from the south wind, renders a rare experience.

Into the Miyawalki forest we need to climb with an exertion uphill, the tip of the Western Ghats Mountain. There is the thick forest at a 45 degree slope. Once inside the forest we can see all kinds of birds and small creatures including snakes. And a very few cents of land is kept separated for the floral plants where rare butterflies fluttering on and around the flowers in the garden. At some points we could see the ripe passion fruits fallen down, with some of them patches after bats and squirrel had bitten. An ideal ecosystem is created with all sorts of trees and fruit trees like jack fruits, chikku, pappaya, country badam

etc, shrubs, herbal plants, all sorts of vegetables like cucumber, spinach, beans, lemon tree, elephant yam, banana, plantain ,etc, and even a variety of mint plants which radiates soothing smell into the air and into our nose. (when Masks removed).

But the disappointing scene in here is the decades old quarry mining, with patches of mountainous region disfigured. Right at the entrance to this forest area, we are welcomed with warning boards- "Mining area! "You are under Surveillance camera"!!! On the north-west side of the Karamana River, horrifying blasting and exploding sound... resounding and even enhancing our



heart beats, with raising dust like a misty day. Until we reach Mr. Hari's Miyawalki forest we are perplexed with this exploding and blasting sound.

Mr. Hari, says, now he does not hear any blasting sounds after the forest is grown for three years now. The tall tree in here stops the disturbing blasting sound from quarry. Hence Miyawalki forests' yet another benefit is, the forest prevents sound pollution and also the thick dusty wind coming to his out house, besides various other advantages.

"We are looking into a different order and dedication of some people to protect the lost environment and green cover of our own with emerging new trends". says, Mr. Hari who maintains the Miyawalki forest on his own. "Miyawalki" a Japanese word was heard first in India, during 2014, when Prof. Dr. Akira Miyawalki came to Bangalore on behalf Toyota Company.

Akira Miyawaki a Professor of Botany from Japan is the founder and proponent of the concept of Miyawalki afforestation. "Afforestation in a very minimum space with maximum trees in half of the time required for the evolvement of a natural forest". Says Mr. Hari M.R, the first model proponent of Miyawalki concept of afforestation in Kerala to Nation Age. Mr. Hari is also the founder Director of Invis Media a corporate communication based in Trivandrum. Universe is under the threat of global warming and changing climate, and any unprecedented disasters are expected, so afforestation at any place would mitigate the fierceness of the disasters like severe climatic heat, helps to develop the presence of ground water and slowdown the spread of industrial fire. Above all it helps to mitigate the unbearable warm weather due to global warming, help recharging of ground water, protect soil erosion. And a lot



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Miyawalki is a model forestation, which plants four times in number of trees in a very minimal space. Normally agriculturists, forests officials and botanists advise a space gap between each sapling in planting, is if three feet, the method of Miyawalki is six saplings in three feet. So thick the saplings are planted, that each by its own contest to outgrow each other to get the sun light. In this contest 5% of the saplings may wither away in its course. But the ones which succeed in growth would spread and shed their off-shoots fast and grow thicker than in a natural forest. Said Mr. Hari.

microorganisms including animals, birds, insects and butterflies.

But for Miyawalki, just 15-25 years all processes of flourishing perishing happens naturally because of the processes and protocols fulfilled for it. In Kerala alone there are 90 Miyawalki forests sites, with small and large which are under developing stage since 2014. Miyawalki forest in Trivandrum by Hari is just and experimental one, to showcase how not to let the mountainous region sold off mining, rather to be developed as a natural forest which in turn, would be helpful for the human being in various ways for sustenance. "I have planted all the trees and shrubs on a 45 degree slope, without levelling the land. Any huge tree can be maintained without felling if it's cut at 45 degree slope". Says Hari. Expense for developing a Miyawalki model forest, is three times higher than a natural forest to develop. Hari's next plan is to develop a coastal area afforestation with the same Miyawalki techniques, as that would help the traditional fishermen save their life and livelihood, who are displaced every year due to coastal erosion. ■

other benefits like maintaining ecosystem for man and small and large creatures, birds and butterflies insects and etc.

For the city dwellers who are suffering from severe heat precipitated by the Global warming, Greenhouse gas emission and lack of fresh air with enough oxygen in it, can afford to maintain a small space with a lot of forest tress, including fruit trees, which in turn also provide shade and shelter for birds as well as shade for rest in between the intervals of intense jobs. So the model Miyawalki afforestation in and among the cities' space constrains, a natural forest is created without much of an attention or distraction from the public. Said Mr.Hari.

Miyawalki a Japanese Model of Forestation