

Of Bashing Nehru In His Own Bastion & Killing Trees

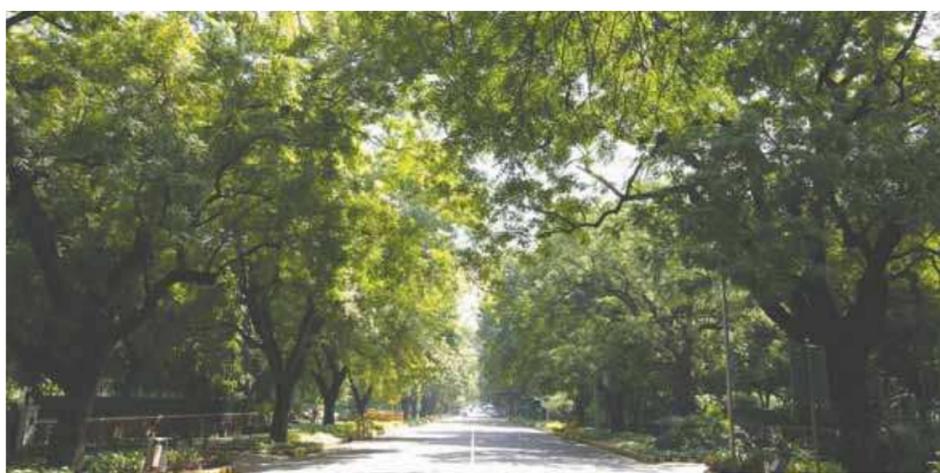
And Of Course, A Famous Sit-In At The L-G's House By Our Friend Aravind Kejriwal

In the classical debate that Dilliwalahs have with their brethren residing in other cities, Dilliwalahs thump their chests (no, they don't claim it to be even close to 56 inches, thankfully!) when it comes to trees and green cover.

Extremely proud of the fact that Delhi is somewhat greener than other metros – the Dilliwalahs rub the point in to make their less-fortunate siblings turn green with envy.

So when NBCC decided to cut trees in the areas that it was assigned to redevelop – all hell broke loose. In the list of things close to the heart of Dilliwalahs – trees are right up there after money, cars, grand weddings, scotch, food, AK-bashing and fist-fights over parking or during road-rage (listing is based on a random survey by this blogger).

The pressure Dilliwalahs put on the government agencies was so profound that Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri had to step in and call a meeting of stakeholders (Yes! The LG, Anil Bajjal, somehow found time for this one!) and direct them to abort the plan of felling trees.



Round#1 goes to the green activists and chipko-movement protagonists of Delhi.

Not too far away from the action of the chipko activists – one witnessed another kind of chipko movement.

Sticking up (chipko) to the vision and discourse propounded by Syama Prasad Mookerjee – the JNU had its VC quoting from a speech given by the Jan Sangh Founder that was critical of Nehru.

He drew parallels on the situa-

tion in India in 1951 to one that's currently prevailing and stuck to the relevance of that speech in today's time. 'Times – they are a changing' or are they? Only Bob Dylan or our friend AK would have an answer to this one!

Well, times aren't really changing for AK it seems. He used to protest then. He protests now – the only difference being in his choice of venues.

This time he chose the LG's office as a venue instead of Ramlila Maidan or a Jantar Mantar. One

hopes it has got nothing to do with his shrinking support or was it that June's heat is too unbearable for someone who now lives in the comfort of an air-conditioned bungalow at Civil Lines?

StateOfDelhi Suggests that you take a trip this monsoon to Sundar Nursery at Nizamuddin.

A redevelopment project undertaken by Aga Khan Trust under the aegis of a private-public partnership with some governmental bodies – Dilliwalahs now have 90-acres of green space that

has more monuments within its precincts than Lodhi Garden.

It has gardens within gardens that are lush green and wonderfully maintained.

Home to a large number of trees (some 250 plus species) of which most are native to Delhi unlike what NBCC have planted in their completed projects – the non-native Ashoka, Banij or Pukar (Ficus Benjamina).

You will find a wide variety of butterflies (no they are not getting extinct – not as yet) and birds to stir up your connect with nature.

- Courtesy: <http://stateofdelhi.in/>

'It's High Time To Free The Beer And Cork The Tax'



OTTAWA: The Federal Conservative Party's John Nater, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Interprovincial Trade and the Sharing Economy and Member of Parliament for Perth—Wellington, has issued the following statement in response to recent developments in the beer and wine industries:

"As many Canadians look forward to enjoying a glass of beer or wine over the Canada Day long weekend, our small Canadian breweries and wineries continue to suffer as a result of the Liberal government's failure to

reduce interprovincial trade barriers.

"With continued uncertainty surrounding the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), now more than ever a renewed focus on internal trade is needed.

"However, instead of addressing the concerns of craft breweries, wineries and distilleries, the Liberals' escalator tax on alcohol is making it harder for these local businesses to remain competitive.

"Justin Trudeau continues to prioritize raising taxes, over building a strong national economy.

"Canadians are frustrated by the outdated rules that govern the sale of alcohol. Meanwhile, Premiers have indicated a willingness to speed up efforts to reduce trade barriers.

"The Liberals should build off of this momentum and ensure that Canadians breweries and wineries can finally sell their quality products across the country.

"Canada's Conservatives will continue to advocate for reduced interprovincial trade barriers and free trade within Canada. It's time to Free The Beer and Cork The Tax!"



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