

Alien species reduction policy

Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence is committed to creating a sustainable environment at the university campus and within the local community by protecting and conserving the local flora and fauna, along with reducing any alien species that may not be ecologically viable. We have an encompassing [Planning and Development policy](#) that enumerates several measures for conservation of local biodiversity and to include it in the planning and development of the campus. The 286-acre biodiverse campus is home to over 10,000 trees and 800+ plant species, mostly native.

A unique Thematic Botanic Garden is one of its kind and leading efforts in biodiversity identification and conservation. All species in and around the garden are indigenous or endemic, except for a few. The main thrust is to introduce as many rare, endangered, and threatened plant species from the point of view of conservation and to reduce alien species if any. It was established with the objective of increasing awareness about a wide variety of plants with which we deal in our daily life and conserving their unique germplasm for education and research purpose. The garden is spread over an area of 4.2 ha (10.4 acres) near the eastern boundary of the sprawling campus. About one fourth of the area adjacent to the boundary is part of Bil Akbarpur Wetlands where natural population of Equisetum is conserved. After eco-restoration of this specific area during 2014, planting started during February 2015.

The Thematic Botanic Garden is conceptualized in the form of a main garden having separate theme gardens of different categories of plants within. The garden is a homogenized habitat where cultivated and native wild plants are grouped together based on their uses or taxonomic groups. Besides playing a crucial role in conservation and research on various genotypes conserved in the garden it provides an opportunity for people to see a wide range of plants belonging to the same theme/category/group at one place. It is also home to plants, which are becoming rare, uncommon and economically important and not observed in any of the Botanic Gardens, except in their native range of cultivation. The 12 Theme Gardens are:

1. Medicinal Plants Garden
2. Ferns and Fern-Allies Garden (Fern House)
3. Rare, Endangered & Threatened (RET) Plants Garden
4. Palm Garden
5. Gymnosperms Garden
6. Ficus Garden
7. Hydrophytes Garden (Aquatic Plants)
8. Butterfly Garden
9. Bamboo Garden (Bambusetum)
10. Fruit Plants Garden
11. Spices, Condiments and Herbs Garden
12. Xerophytes Garden (Arid & Semi-Arid Zone Plants)

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Due to large diversity of terrestrial and aquatic plant species the Garden has become a home to several species of birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects, especially butterflies, moths, dragonflies, damselflies, spiders, beetles, etc. This was possible due to the large variety of plants providing shelter, food and protection from various predators. Hence, the Thematic Botanic Garden is aptly referred to as the Biodiversity Garden encompassing both diverse flora and fauna.