



Hectares of Jungle Freed From Encroachers

Why in News?

Recently, The [Khandwa forest](#) department stated that they had reclaimed approximately 100 hectares of jungle that had been **encroached upon by individuals for agricultural purposes**.

- **To reclaim the forest, the department destroyed the crops cultivated by the encroachers** by felling a significant number of trees.

Key Points

- Earthmoving machines and tractors were used to destroy the illegal crops and level the fields.
- The official stated that the remaining areas are anticipated to be cleared in the upcoming days, which will then be followed by initiatives to **revive the forest through the planting of seed balls and the installation of wire fencing**.
 - These encroached forests were utilized for the **cultivation of [soybean](#) and corn crops**, which has resulted in **substantial harm to the forest ecosystem**.

Encroachment

- It is the **unauthorised use or occupation of someone else's property**. This can occur on abandoned or unused spaces if the legal owner is not actively involved in its upkeep. It is important for **property owners to be aware of the legal steps** to take and their rights in such cases.
- Urban encroachment refers to the **unauthorised occupation** or use of land or property within urban areas.
- This could include **illegal construction, squatting, or any other form of occupation** without proper permission or legal rights.

Soybean Crop

- Soybean is a **Kharif crop** in India.
- Soybean (*Glycine max*) is the world's most important seed legumes which contributes **25% to the global edible oil**, about two third of the world protein concentrate for livestock feeding and is a **valuable ingredient in formulated feeds for poultry and fish**.
- It is predominantly grown as a rainfed crop in Vertisols and associated soils with an average crop season rainfall of 900 mm.
- **Major Producing States in India:** Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

