



Aravalli Regeneration Plan

Why in News?

Recently, the Delhi forest department has initiated the establishment of a **tissue culture laboratory** at the [Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary](#) to conserve rare native trees of Aravalli.

Key Points

- **Tissue Culture Laboratory:** The lab will be able to extract plant tissue from an in-vitro fully grown plant, generating multiple trees from the same tree.
 - The forest department will take assistance from botanists and scientists from the [Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education \(ICFRE\)](#) and the [Forest Research Institute \(FRI\)](#).
- The primary goal of the laboratory is to grow endangered native trees in a controlled environment and regenerate saplings of species facing regeneration challenges due to [invasive species](#).
- Tissue culture has proven **highly effective** in agriculture, particularly with crops such as **bananas, apples, pomegranates, and jatropha**, offering **higher yields** compared to traditional farming methods.
- **The Aravalli Plan:**
 - The regeneration of ridge species like Kulu (ghost tree), palash, doodhi, and dhau is hindered by invasive species, resulting in **poor survival rates**, with large-scale multiplication achievable only through tissue culture, **particularly shoot culture**.
 - The lab will also be useful in culturing endangered [medicinal plants](#).

Asola Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary** is located at the end of an important wildlife corridor that starts from [Sariska National Park](#) in Alwar and passes through Mewat, Faridabad and Gurugram districts of Haryana.
- The region has a **semiarid climate** with notable diurnal temperature variations.
- The vegetation in the Wildlife Sanctuary is predominantly an **open canopied thorny scrub**. The native plants exhibit **xerophytic adaptations** such as thorny appendages, and wax-coated, succulent, and tomentose leaves.
- Major wildlife species include Peafowl, Common Woodshrike, Sirkeer Malkoha, Nilgai, Golden Jackals, Spotted deer, etc.