

[TOI HOME](#)[HOME](#)[ABOUT US](#)[YOUTH BRIGADE](#)[CHANGE DAYS](#)[CONTACT US](#)[YOUTH PARLIAMENT](#)

Winged guests throng Youth Brigade's butterfly garden

Nov 10, 2013, 02:45 AM IST

KOLKATA: Nature's mysteries are the most fascinating. On Saturday afternoon, psychotherapist Minu Budhia and members of the Youth Brigade team were taken completely by surprise when butterflies came fluttering into a patch of the Maidan where they are collaborating to set up a butterfly park.

"Looks like the winged guests have sensed what's happening and realized they are welcome here," said Budhia, founder director of AddLife Caring Minds, a psychological cognitive wellness centre. She had come down to see the progress of the butterfly park on a plot near the Chowringhee-Park Street intersection when the butterflies flew in.

The butterfly garden is part of a composite plan to clean the Maidan and restore its greenery. The butterfly garden apart, the team is setting up an urban forest opposite the East Bengal Club tent, reviving a rugby ground along Chowringhee, creating a palm grove and undertaking a census of all trees in the Maidan.

Explaining the butterfly instinct, Arjan Basu Roy of Nature Mates, an environment action group that is implementing the project, said the planting of larval host plants and nectar plants on Saturday had attracted them. "During the ongoing tree census, we have found 23-24 species of butterflies like Blue Tiger, Common Crow, Common Caster, Common Grass Yellow, Peacock Panzy and Tailed Jay scattered across the Maidan. This butterfly park will attract them, leading to higher concentration of butterflies in a relatively small area," he said.

Youth Brigade members assisted Roy and Budhia plant larval host plants like Oliander, varieties of Lemon, Passion flower, Curry leaf and Caster as well as nectar plants like varieties of Ixora, Henna, Hibiscus and garden variety Lantana. In a year's time, the garden will be in full bloom and supporting a host of birds and insects as well, giving biodiversity of the area a boost.

"Butterflies are flagship species that will support birds, lizards and frogs. The presence of a sprawling waterbody, the General's Tank, is an added advantage," Roy added.

Budhia, who looks after the garden at home, was glad to extend her help and experience to a public project. "It is extremely inspiring to see the youth care for the city. I am glad to be part of the endeavour," she said.

Budhia, who launched AddLife Caring Minds that takes care of all issues relating to mind including psychological counselling, psychotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, special education and career counselling pointed to the connect between the centre and the butterfly park.

"One learns about life's struggles by just observing how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. But for the struggle to extricate itself from the cocoon, a caterpillar would not have evolved into a beautiful butterfly. That's true for us as well. It's challenges that make one blossom," she reasoned.

While Budhia invested time and money to help the Youth Brigade turn a slice of urban filth into paradise, Tractors India Ltd has chipped in with a backhoe loader to clear the debris and prepare

[Download Anthem](#)
[Download Ringtone](#)

Our Network >>



the ground for planting as Satnam Singh Ahluwalia provided round-the-clock security.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Powered by INDIATIMES

[About us](#)
[Privacy policy](#)
[Newsletter](#)
[Sitemap](#)

[Advertise with us](#)
[Feedback](#)
[TOI Mobile](#)
[Archives](#)

[Terms of Use and Grievance Redressal Policy](#)
[RSS](#)
[ePaper](#)

Other Times Group news sites

Times Crest | The Economic Times
 इकनॉमिक टाइम्स | ईशेनोमिक्स टाइम्स
 Pune Mirror | Bangalore Mirror
 Ahmedabad Mirror | ItsMyAscent
 Education Times | Brand Capital
 Mumbai Mirror | Times Now
 Indiatimes | नवभारत टाइम्स
 महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स | മലയാളം ഇന്ത്യ
 Go Green | Lifehacker | Gizmodo

Living and entertainment

Timescity | iDiva | Bollywood | Zoom
 Healthmeup | Luxpresso | Technoholik
 Guylife | MensXP.com

Interest Network

itimes

Hot on the Web

World | Politics
 Business | Sports
 Entertainment
 Science & Tech
 New Cars

Services

Book print ads | Online shopping | Free SMS | Website design | CRM | Tenders
 Matrimonial | Ringtones | Astrology | Jobs | Tech Community | Property | Buy car
 Bikes in India | Deals | Free Classifieds | Send money to India | Used Cars
 Restaurants in Delhi | Movie Show Timings in Mumbai | Remit to India | Buy Mobiles
 Listen Songs | News | TimesMobile

Trending Topics

Samsung Mobile | Micromax Mobile | You Tube | Delhi Travel Guide | Katrina Kaif
 Photos | Sony Mobile | Hindi Songs | Horoscope 2016 Predictions | Asus Mobile |
 Facebook | Sunny Leone Photos

Top Trends

Bernie Sanders campaign claims huge crowd at New York rally
 Donald Trump, on Staten Island, finally gets his NYC homecoming
 Brazil's lower house votes to impeach President Dilma Rousseff

Ecuador digs for survivors after quake kills 246
 IMF chief urges transparency to stop corporate tax avoidance
 Sachin Tendulkar celebrates his 43rd birthday

Sachin Tendulkar imparts cricket education to kids on 43rd birthday
 IPL 2016: Virat Kohli fined Rs 12 lakh for slow over rate
 Fans rejoice to mark Shakespeare's 400th birth anniversary

Copyright©2013 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved. For reprint rights:Times Syndication Service