

## Palm Tree

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### Palm Tree Latest News

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has sought a response from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and others in a matter related to the large-scale felling of palm trees in Bihar which is reportedly causing an increase in lightning-related deaths.

### About Palm Tree

- Palm is a member of the **Areaceae, or Palmae**, a single **family of monocotyledonous** flowering plants of the order Arecales.
- It is an evergreen plant which can grow in the form of **shrubs, trees, or long**, woody vines called lianas.
- **Distribution:** It is distributed in **America and in Asia**, from India to Japan and south to Australia and the islands of the **Pacific and Indian oceans**, with Africa and Madagascar as a third but much less important palm region.

### Characteristics of Palm Tree

- They are characterized by a **tall, unbranched stem** or, rarely, by a dichotomous branching stem (Hyphaene), and of the same diameter all along from base to top;
- Palmate leaves, like hands, grow in a bunch at the end of a stem. Pinnate leaves are like feathers, growing all along either side of a stem.
- Though many species of palms are sturdy and plentiful, as many as 100 species are endangered due to deforestation and unsustainable cultivation practices.
- The palms with the greatest importance in world commerce are the coconut and the African oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*); both are prime sources of **vegetable oil and fat**.

**Source:** TH

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