

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (AR&T) DEPARTMENT

Circular Memo No.3270/AR&T/2015,

Dated:05.03.2015

Sub:- *Telangana Haritha Haaram* – Operational guidelines for implementation of *Telangana Haritha Haaram* Programme – Duties and responsibilities of implementing agencies – Orders – Issued.

Ref:- From the PCCF, Telangana, Hyd., Lr.No.2845/2015/S.F- I,
Dt.18.02.2015.

In the letter cited, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad has informed that **"Telangana Haritha Haaram (THH)"**, a flagship programme of the State Government envisages increasing the tree cover of the State from the present 25.16% to 33% of the total geographical area. The strategy developed to achieve the above objective is undertaking massive plantation programme in every possible open space outside the forest and take up intensive rejuvenation and regeneration works coupled with soil and moisture conservation in the degraded forest areas throughout the State.

2. As decided during the 2nd State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) meeting on 14.02.2015, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad has submitted the "draft Operational guidelines for implementation of *Telangana Haritha Haaram* programme" and requested the Government to issue necessary orders:-

3. After careful consideration of the above proposal and after detailed deliberations with all stakeholders and eliciting the views of the people during "Mana Vooru – Mana Pranalika", Government hereby issue the following "Operational guidelines" for implementation of *Telangana Haritha Haaram* programme and assign duties and responsibilities to the implementing agencies:

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR TELANGANA HARITHA HAARAM

1. Under THH programme, 230 crore seedlings are proposed to be raised / developed in the entire State during the next three years. Out of this, 100 crore seedlings will be raised by rejuvenating the viable root stock in the forest area whereas 120 crore will be raised for planting outside the notified forest area. The remaining 10 crore seedlings will be raised by HMDA/ GHMC. This amounts to production of 40 crore planting stock for the entire State or 40 lakh seedlings per Assembly constituency or 40,000 seedlings for each village during 2014-15.
2. Government decides to go for massive tree planting programme (as mentioned in 1 above) in all the available spaces outside the forest area in a phased manner. For this, 40 crore planting stock of various species is being raised by Forest Department and other Agencies in 3899 nurseries (2209 of Forest Dept. And 1690 of other Agencies) in the State. The progress of seedling-raising is being monitored on daily

basis on-line. The HODs of the respective Departments shall review the progress of on-line submission of nursery raising information.

3. Tall seedlings are essential mainly for Roadside and Avenue plantation and hence Forest Department will endeavour to produce very large number of tall plants for 2015 and the subsequent years' planting. Various options like conversion of old seedlings available under other Schemes into bigger containers shall be explored.
4. DWMA is raising exclusively Teak plants for plantation in private lands mostly on farm bunds. However, they will take into consideration the need of the local people and also raise some other species like fruit-bearing species, green-manure species, Redsanders, Sandalwood and other commercial species. Similarly the Horticulture Department will expand the species spectrum and include many other high-yielding nutritional species like Drumstick (*Moringa oliefera*), Indian Gooseberry (*Phyllanthus emblica*), Lemon (*Citrus medica*), Pappaya (*Carica papaya*) etc. other than Mango.
5. Government also decides to celebrate the first week of **July 2015 as "Green Week"** during which all the Government Departments, Private Institutions, public representatives and NGOs will be involved in the planting programme.
6. The potential areas of planting outside the forest includes:
 - a) Linear or strip planting along the roadside (National Highway, State Highways, District Roads, Panchayat Roads or approach roads connecting to the villages, and avenues inside the cities and town);
 - b) Planting along canal and tank bunds, avenues in housing colonies;
 - c) Block planting on the tank foreshore areas and river bank;
 - d) Barren hills afforestation;
 - e) Block planting in community land or abandoned wasteland;
 - f) Mosaic block or scattered planting in the compound of Government Offices;
 - g) Premises of Dispensaries / Hospitals;
 - h) Premises of all Educational Institutions, i.e., Schools, Colleges and Universities (both Government and Private);
 - i) Boarding Hostel campuses administered by Social Welfare, Tribal Welfare, BC Welfare, Women & Child Welfare Departments and residential Schools;
 - j) Religious Institutions (Temples, Mosques, Churches and Gurudwaras);
 - k) Open space in Bus Depots, Bus Shelters, Railway Stations and margins of parking lots etc.
 - l) Industrial Estates, ILEA areas, and areas under various industrial houses and factories;
 - m) Leased areas under Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

- n) Jail campuses, Fire Stations, Police Stations, Battalion areas, and open spaces in Cantonment and Defence establishments;
 - o) Water supply conduit margins, filter beds, O.H. Reservoirs etc.
 - p) Planting in Housing Colonies and Homestead areas;
 - q) Cremation grounds, burial grounds, graveyards etc.;
 - r) Planting on Field bunds and farm lands of farmers;
7. The whole planting programme involves the following:
- Identification of the planting site,
 - Undertaking pre-planting operations like site clearance and digging of pits,
 - Selection of the species to be planted,
 - Identification of the nearest nursery from where the plants can be sourced for planting,
 - Deployment plan for transporting the plants to the planting site,
 - Agencies / Officials responsible for actual planting on site,
 - Agencies or institutions or Officials responsible for after-care of the plants including the protection,
 - Monitoring the whole planting work at district level, and
 - Documentation of the site-wise planting with all details etc.
8. Such a massive continuous plantation programme can be possible only when all the steps enlisted in the above para are coordinated at the District level by the District Collector. The Officials concerned have to take immediate action to identify all potential areas for planting in a phased manner in 3 years. A tentative list of potential areas for planting, agencies / Departments responsible for identifying such areas and the agencies / Departments responsible for planting and after-care has been compiled (Refer Annexure – I). This list can be used for reference and guidance. **The District Collector of each District will finalize a 3-year District Plan for the planting works under 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' Programme** enlisting the potential areas of plantations as enlisted in para 6 and Annexure – I.
9. During the recently conducted "**Mana Vooru Mana Pranalika**", the potential sites for planting were enlisted and that information can be taken as supportive document while formulating the District Plan for 'Telangana Haritha Haaram'.
10. The **District Action Plan** will include a time schedule specifying the timeline during which a particular component of the work can be completed that can be useful in monitoring the progress of the work. The duties and responsibilities of the concerned Agencies / Institutions / Officers who are involved in all the steps of the entire operation of planting and subsequent after-care as mentioned in Annexure - I will be finalized and should be a part of the Action Plan for 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' Programme for easy monitoring. **This Plan shall be completed by March 10, 2015 which will be reviewed by the Govt.**

11. The existing information system like GIS and other data base shall be utilized in effective way for planning, identifying locations and also monitoring post-planting progress. Forest Department has got a well-equipped Geomatics wing which has got MoU with Telangana State Remote Sensing Application Centre to share the data. **The Planning Department will ensure that necessary data base including GIS maps and related information are provided to the Forest Department immediately on the request.**
12. The District Collectors will also assess the **financial requirement for the whole programme and the money available under various Schemes and the provisions under NREGS. The Finance Department will ensure timely release of funds** under those programmes where the tree planting is involved on priority basis so that the dearth of funds should not affect the success of programme.
13. The strategy for developing *in-situ* 100 crore plants (as mentioned in para 1) in the degraded forest will be achieved through the following methods:
 - a) facilitating the natural regeneration by ensuring strict regulation on spread of forest fire and incidence of grazing;
 - b) augmenting the supply of seeds to the forest floor by dibbling of seeds of indigenous forest species by scrapping / loosening the soil in patches;
 - c) planting of tall saplings reference ecosystem species in permanent gaps;
 - d) rejuvenating the viable rootstock by appropriate silvicultural operations like coppicing and singling, removing dead and diseased plants, cleaning of crowded stumps, preferential treatments in form of soil working to the healthy saplings.
14. The increased recruitment of seedlings on the forest floor has to be supported by **adoption of intensive *in-situ* soil and moisture conservation (SMC) works** in the treatment areas based on the premise of watershed principle to improve plant growth and survival rate.
15. The Forest Department will prepare an elaborate **Rejuvenation Plan** for the identified degraded forest in each functional unit (Forest Beat) of the Division. The Rejuvenation Plan will include the following:
 - a. The treatment area on cluster or series basis,
 - b. Identification of drivers of degradation,
 - c. Benchmark study of the existing vegetation,
 - d. Annual treatment map, and
 - e. List of management interventions with anticipated output.

It is reported that the Annual Rejuvenation Plan of the Forest Department has been submitted to Government by Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests. However, a comprehensive working manual or technical guideline shall be issued by Forest Department cataloguing the techniques of various prescribed operations, criteria for selection of sites based on various management interventions (Assisted Natural Regeneration or Artificial Regeneration).

16. As stated above, the District Collector of the respective Districts will be over all in-charge of this programme. The District Collectors duly examining the ongoing Schemes and also obtaining the required feedback from all Departments have already fixed the targets for nursery raising in their districts which are being forwarded to all the Department Heads in the Secretariat for their perusal and further action and review with their concerned HODs.
17. The State Government have already constituted District level and State Level Monitoring and Coordination Committees with all concerned officials for continuous monitoring of the progress of implementation of 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' programme. However, if the Committee feels the necessity of expanding the representation of other Departments in the respective Committees, it can do so without any further delay.
18. The State Level Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary will act as the Apex Body and should meet regularly to sort out the issues. The State Level Monitoring and Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Prl. Secretary, EFS&T Department will interact with the District Collectors and other Nodal Departments of the State through video-conferencing once in a month and provide guidance.
19. Given the enormity of works and wide arrays of implementing agencies involved in the whole operation of 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' Programme, it is worthwhile to have the monitoring mechanism at the District, State and Department Headquarters level in place. After careful consideration the Government have decided the following line of monitoring at various levels:
 - (a) The overall programme will be monitored by Forest Department at the State level and accordingly Forest Department will be the **State Level Nodal Department** of 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' programme. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of Telangana State will constitute a comprehensive reporting and monitoring cell designated as Programme Monitoring Unit (PMU) in Head Office with a senior level Officer having adequate staff for planning, data processing, monitoring and publicity campaign. The guidelines / formats for daily reporting, monitoring and evaluation will be issued from the office of the PCCF to all concerned HODs and District Collectors for necessary action. The designate Officer of the State level PMU will have liaison with the Chief

Minister Office (Ms Priyanka Varghese IFS as *Ex-Officio* Officer-on-Special Duty, O/O Chief Minister Office).

(b) At State level, each Department Head (HOD) will monitor the 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' programme concerned to his Department in the State at frequent interval. He will be designated as **Departmental Nodal Officer** concerned to his Department at State level. The concerned HOD will be interacting with District Collectors on regular basis regarding the progress and various aspects of implementation of the 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' programme. He will be the connecting link between District Collector and State Level Nodal Officer. All HODs concerned to 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' programme will nominate one Senior Officer as Nodal Officer exclusively for this purpose and intimate his name, mobile number, e-mail id and other details to the PCCF office.

(c) It was decided to develop a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanism and the monitoring will be done at three levels in the District.

- (i) At Panchayat level: By Sarpanch / Panchayat Secretary, FBO and others.
- (ii) At Mandal level: By MPDO/MDO/MRO/FSO and others.
- (iii) AT District level: By District Collector/District Nodal Officer/DFO and other District level Officials

At the District level, the District Collector will be the **District level Nodal Officer**. He will establish a dedicated Programme Monitoring Unit (PMU) at the District level and designate an Officer who will coordinate with all line Departments for preparation of District 'Haritha Haaram' Plan, processing of the data and monitoring the progress of the programme implementation from various line Departments. He will consolidate at district level and then submit onwards to the State level Nodal Office. He will have regular interaction with the Department Nodal Officers of each HOD Office at the State level.

- 20. The concerned HODs will immediately review the Action Plan of their Departments and take necessary steps to expedite the nursery raising /procurement and plan remaining activities specially identification of locations and furnish the report to the State Level Nodal Office (PCCF).
- 21. Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. Shall carry out major Afforestation programme in their vacant open spaces and OB dump areas and township areas with appropriate site-specific species. Similarly, all the avenue planting and homestead planting in the residential colonies will be taken up extensively. The Company shall prepare an action plan for this programme for review by 10th of March 2015.
- 22. The list of the species to be planted and the guidelines for implementation to be implemented has been given in a book prepared by the Forest Department ("Mana Vooru – Mana Vanam") which may

be referred. Further details regarding the species selection for various sites shall be provided by the Forest Department.

23. Under Mission Kakatiya, all the lakes which are being restored are to be planted with Babul (*Acacia nilotica*), Silver Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) and Eetha (*Phoenix sylvestris*).
24. Each Municipality shall prepare plan for 'Smrithi Vanam' (Memory Garden) in its jurisdiction.
25. The on-line training for MIS and data entry will be taken up immediately for easy monitoring of the activities.
26. The timeline and milestone for various activities to be implemented for 2015 planting under 'Telangana Haritha Haaram' Programme is furnished in Annexure – II.

4. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests at the state level and District Collectors at the district level shall be responsible for over all coordination, implementation and monitoring of the *Telangana Haritha Haaram* Programme.

5. The duties and responsibilities of all the agencies responsible for planting and after care is appended to this Circular Memo as Annexure-I.

DR. RAJIV SHARMA
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

All the Departments of Secretariat.

The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana, Hyderabad.

All the Heads of Departments

All the Collectors and District Magistrates in the State.

All Urban local bodies/Commissioners/Special Officers of Municipalities.

Hyderabad Metro Development Authority (HMDA), Hyderabad, and Kakatiya
Urban Development Authority (KUDA), Warangal.

All Rural local bodies/Zillaparishads/Mandals/Grampanchayats.

The CMD, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Hyderabad.

The C&MD, T.S. GENCO/ T.S.TRANSCO

The Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Telangana State Forest Development
Corporation Ltd. (TSFDC), Hyderabad.

All the Public Sector Undertakings and Corporations in the State.

The P.S. to Chief Secretary to Govt. & Chairman of
the State Level Steering Committee.

The P.S. to Prl. Secy. to Govt., EFS&T Dept.

OSD to Hon'ble C.M.

SF/SC

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER