

:: 235 ::

Government of Andhra Pradesh  
Forest Department

Rc.No.48662/E2.81.  
Dated:23.9.1981.

Office of the Chief Conservator  
of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyd.

Sri Munawar Hussain, IFS  
Chief Conservator of Forests..

Circular No.31/81-E2.

Sub:- Raising of 2-3 year old and tall seedlings in  
mud pots for Avenue and Canal bank planting from  
1982 - Reg.

-x-x-x-

It is likely that the Forest Department may take up scale large scale avenue, canal bank etc., plantation raising from 1982 onwards, either under the proposed Canadian assisted Social Forestry project or under the Govt. of India sponsored Rural Fuel wood plantation scheme, or under NREP experience with raising avenue plantations in the past, utilising mostly below 45 cms. tall and six months to one year old seedlings, has not been very satisfactory with heavy casualties and repeated replacements inspite of fairly expensive watering for 2-3 years, tree guards and Watchers provided, all at considerable expense. The reasons for this are many, important of which are (1) planting comparatively small seedlings which require intensive care and protection and also watering for atleast 2 years, to enable the seedlings to grow up beyond the reach of the cattle damage., (2) inadequate protection from cattle even though the seedlings were provided various types of fairly expensive tree guards, to begin with, and kept in good repair later on. Full time watchers were also appointed for every stretch of 5 kms to protect the seedlings help in watering and to keep the tree guards/ fencing around the seedlings in good repair. Fairly large amounts were also spent on watering of the seedlings as per regular schedules and even water tankers and tractors were purchased for this purpose in some divisions. Unfortunately, however, neither watering appears to have been done properly and adequately, as provided in the sanctioned estimates in most cases, due to lack of adequate control checks by the supervisory and superior officers, nor the seedlings well protected, from cattle damage, all these lapses finally resulting in almost complete failure of most of the avenue plantations raised during last 3-4 years in the State.

A number of North Indian States like Uttar Pradesh Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat, have considerable experience spread over last 20-25 years in raising avenue plantations with techniques gradually evolved to suit local conditions. With chosen species, and have almost perfected the avenue planting techniques now. The basic and most important single element of success is in raising avenue plantations in those states is to plant only hardly fall striplings of 2-3 meters height raised carefully in mud pots or mug briks of adequate size over 2-3 years in nurseries. Such seedlings planted in adequate sized pots (50-60 cm cube) with made up soil, and usually combined with a circular trench to protect the seedlings from browsing animals, have given fairly satisfactory results, even without regular watering of the seedlings after they are planted out.



In order to streamline the proposed avenue/~~canal~~ canal bank railway line planting in our State also from now on, it is necessary that immediate steps are taken by both the Divl. Forst Officer (territorial and Extension) to start raising immediately about 20,000 seedlings for 1982 and 1983 planting in each division utilising readily available 4-6 months or older seedlings (bag or naked) (not less than 30cm tall) in their own nurseries for this purpose. Of seedlings to be raised for avenue planting as above, 40% of each will be of 'Neem' and 'Tamarind' and the rest 20% will only be made up of shade giving and flowering trees like Albizia, Raintree, Sissoo, Gulmohar Peltoforum etc. The 4-6 months old seedlings available in the Nurseries should be transferred to adequate size (about 40cm tall and about 25-30cm wide at the top and 20cm wide at bottom) mud pots, filled with suitable mixture of soil and manure (1:1) and maintained with proper watering, weeding, till 1982 rains, to bring them to a height of at least 150cms. and preferably 100 cms. The seedlings to be raised in each division as above, will be distributed in three or four central nurseries, above, where water is available throughout the year. If the potted seedlings are well looked after, including watering regularly with small doses of fertilisers of above one month interval applied, they will definitely reach a height of between 1.5 to 2 m by July 82 and be in a fit condition for planting out during 1982 rains. The seedlings will be hardened for about 2-3 weeks before actual planting by reducing watering, and will also be carefully stripped of all leaves and branches in the lower half of the crown. For canal bank and River bed planting '~~Sissoo~~' will be mainly preferred along with Jamun and Babul where the soils are heavy and water logging with Jamun and Babul where the soils are heavy and water logging likely to take place in rainy season. Eucalyptus will be only preferred for second and subsequent rows of planting at 2 x 2 mts. spacing leaving 3 meters space from 1st row where adequate space is available for such planting. This will apply to avenue planting also. Where the soils are heavy and water logging is likely to take place, Eucalyptus will be replaced by Babul at 3 x 3 Mts. spacing.

All the Divl. Forest Officers are requested to take immediate necessary steps to raise the required number of seedlings as indicated above, utilising the Social Forestry/NREP/DPAP/PFWP funds as are available to them for this purpose. The Divl. Forest Officers should report before the end of Oct. 81 positively with a copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests direct and a copy to the Conservator of Forests concerned on the location of each nursery (preferably one for each range, except in the agency areas), the number of seedlings being raised species-wise etc. in each nursery for avenue planting and possible canal bank planting, to facilitate inspections of the nurseries by various officers on their tours.

Wherever small size seedlings of Neem, Tamarind etc. are not available either in beds or bags in certain divisions at present, for transplanting them into big size earthen pots, the Conservator of Forests should make arrangements for supply of these seedlings from other divisions under their control where they are available.



If adequate number of Neem and Tamarind seedlings are not available in any division of a circle at present, immediate action should be taken to raise the required number of Neem and Tamarind seedlings in normal size polythene bags, so that these seedlings could be ~~main~~ transferred by Jan. 1982 into earthen pots and maintained well thereafter. All these seedlings will be maintained till 1983 to be used in 1983 rains only, in which case there will be no Avenue Canal bank planting during 1982 in those divns.

The Divl. Forest Officers should also make similar arrangements to raise nurseries in 1982 rains for 1984 avenue and canal bank etc. planting. The idea is that such nurseries will be raised atleast 2 years in advance from now on, depending on the likely requirements for same in each division. Such tall striplines only be used for village wood lot and such other planting from now on. The Conservator of Forests and all the Divisional Forest Officers are requested to take immediate action in the matter and report compliance before end of Oct. 81 indicating the number of already available seedlings species wise that are transferred into the big size pots for 1982 planting, and number of seedlings species wise sown now in polythene bags for 1983 planting and any other useful information. The target of raising 20,000 pot seedlings for each division for each 5 years planting under avenue, canal bank etc. planting should be commenced achieved through careful planning at once. The Conservators of Forests should review the progress in this direction in detail at frequent intervals and report results in their monthly D.O. reports also regularly. Seperate circular instructions are being issued on Avenue, Bank Canal Bank Plantations raising etc.

The receipt of the reference Circular letter should be acknowledged.

Sd/- A.L.Rao,  
Addl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Social Forestry., )

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DEPARTMENTAL TEST - OFFICE PROCEEDUR & ACCOUNTS.  
SHORT NOTES

SPECIAL PAY : -

means an addition of the nature of Pay to the emoluments of a post or of a Govt. Servant, graded in consideration of

- a) the specially arduous nature of duties ( or )  
b) a specific addition to the work or responsibility ( or )  
c) the unhealthiness of the locality in which the work is performed.

(Rule 2 (iv) of A.P. Manual of Spl. Pay & Allowance)