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Government of Andhra Pradesh  
Forest Department

Rc.No. 42106/84-U4.  
Dated: 19.4.1984.

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

Sri A.L. Rao, I.F.S  
Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Social Forestry)

Circular No. 11/84

Sub:- Avenue Planting - Raising of tall plants for Avenue  
planting- Instructions - Issued - Regarding.

- Ref:- 1) CCF(SF) Circular No. 29/81, dt: 15.9.81.  
2) CCF(SF) Circular No. 31/81, dt: 23.9.81.  
3) CCF(SF) Circular No. 2/82, dt: 3.3.82.  
4) CCF(SF) Circular No. 2/83, dt: 3.2.83.  
5) CCF(SF) Circular No. 7/83, dt: 31.3.83.  
6) CCF(SF) Circular No. 5/84, dt: 24.3.84.  
7) CCF(SF) Circular No. 10/84, dt: 31.3.84.

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Detailed instructions were issued in Chief Conservator of Forests Circular letters cited above, on growing of tall plants of different species for avenue plantations raising. It was however noticed by Chief Conservator of Forests in his recent tours that due to lack of adequate advance planting in most of districts, there are hardly any stock of seedlings of proper size of most species that will be available for planting in 1984, and much less in 1985. It is also noticed that the species composition of seedlings being raised for this purpose is strictly not as per instructions issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests earlier, and there is a pre-ponderance of species like Rain-Tree, Gulohar, Peltophorum etc., and at the expense of Neem and Tamarind which should have ~~formed~~ formed upto 80% in the avenue planting.

2. To grow conditioned tall plants of above two meters height, will take between one to two years in the case of most species, except, perhaps Tamarind which may take more than two years also. There is therefore, a need for raising tall plants nurseries 2-3 years ahead, strictly demarcating parts of nurseries, to be used yearwise.

3. The technique for growing tall plants for avenue planting has been prescribed in the Chief Conservator of Forests circular letters cited above. It is however reported by some of the Divisional Forest Officers recently, that while taking out the plants from the sunken beds with a ball of earth around the roots, and while enclosing the Ball of earth in a gunny the roots of the plant are being distributed to a great extent, particularly during the transport of these plants over long distances, resulting in considerable mortality in such seedlings after planting out. It is, therefore, suggested by those Divl. Forest Officers, that to minimise damage to the ball root system particularly in transport, and to keep the ball of earth intact around the root system, the ball of earth tied in a gunny may be kept in a suitable size mud pot (flower pot). One of the reasons for mortality to the tall plants after planting out in field, may be due to the seedlings being dug up from the sunken nursery beds only just before their transport for planting out, without conditioning such dug up seedlings for a period of about 2 weeks in the nursery itself by keeping them under shade and with proper watering to enable them to get over the shock of root severing etc, while digging on. Such deviations from the prescribed techniques should be avoided at least from now on, to ensure survival of all the planted seedlings.



4. A suggestion was also made recently by some Divisional Forest Officers that in case of species like tamarind which are too sensitive to root damage while digging up from beds of the tall plants, (also Neem to some extent), seedlings of such may be grown in suitable shaped and size mud pots only (with bottom bid) right from the beginning, with the pots arranged sunken beds to facilitate flood watering etc. The idea is that when the pots are dug out carefully from ~~even bottom~~ the bed after severing the tap root as it came out of the open bottom and of the pot the balance root system is intact without any disturbance with the pot, and such seedlings can be transported with the pot intact to the planting site, where the pot can be broken and removed before planting out, increasing the chance of survival of such seedlings after planting out. This technique is worth giving a fair trial at once. The Conservators of Forests and Divisional Forest Officers are requested to raise upto 25% avenue seedlings being raised this year using of pots for growing tall plants of Neem and Tamarind for planting out in 1985-86.

5. It was suggested recently that tall plant raising (for avenue planting) may also be entrusted to some extent, to private parties (small marginal or other farmers) on suitable terms with the department supplying 3-4 month old polythene bag seedlings to such parties, for their subsequent growing as tall plants following techniques prescribed by the Dept. Preference can be given to weaker section beneficiaries for raising such tall plants selecting only those who have adequate irrigation facilities, and have lands situated close to National or State Highways to facilitate easy lifting of the tall plants from such nurseries and planting to them out on the adjacent National or State Highways without long transport. In the absence of weaker section beneficiaries, such tall plant nurseries could also be entrusted to bigger farmers having similar facilities. The Conservators of Forests are requested to experiment with this also with 20% farmers in each District under their control during 84-85 for raising in each such nursery about 4-5 thousand tall plants for 85-86 planting. The conditions for supply would be that the species to be grown will be indicated by the department (as in bag seedlings supplied) and only tall plants above 2 meters height would be taken delivery of during July of the year and payment made at the agreed rates, strictly for a number of tall plants taken delivery of. The species to be raised will be Neem, Tamarind, (forming upto 75%) sissoo, and Jamun (forming upto 30%) including shortfall in Neem and tamarind) rain tree Dirisenam. It may be only upto about 15% and the balance about 10% may be on flowering trees like Gulmohar, Peltophorum etc. The rate of payment per tall plant delivered shall not exceed the prevailing FSR rate during the year, for that species and techniques prescribed.

6. The result of growing tall plants through private parties can be reviewed in 85 Oct. and suitable decisions taken to extend or given up this method.

7. Where the soils are heavy (clayey) Babul may be preferred as an avenue tree in which case the spacing between trees in first line may be reduced to 5 mts. and on 2nd or 3rd row may also be planted with babul depending on land availability for the purpose.

8. These instructions should be scrupulously followed in future.

9. The receipt of this circular letter may be acknowledged.

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

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