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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.

CIRCULAR NO. 3/2004/U1

Sub: - Plantations under Social Forestry, FDA, CFM etc., - Kartika vanam -
Raising of Panchavati - Further Instructions - issued - Regarding.

Ref: - Circular No. 03/2003/U1, Dt. 05-03-2003.

Certain guidelines have been issued in the Circular cited above to raise Kartika vanams in order to cater to bio-aesthetic needs of the people.

Some progress has already been achieved in this direction. Kartika vanams sites have been identified and planting of a few species has also been done leaving a vast scope for further development in both planting of species and development of infrastructure during the next 2-3 years.

Certain long rotation indigenous species of multiple value are considered very useful to plant in Kartika vanam. The following five species which constitute "Panchavati" are believed to be immensely good for the environment and ground water.

1. Ravi (*Ficus religiosa*)
2. Marri (*Ficus bengalensis*)
3. Maredu (*Aegle marmelos*)
4. Usiri (*Phyllanthus emblica*)
5. Ashoka (*Saraca indica*)

All the officers in the address entry are requested to raise "Panchavati" invariably in the Kartika vanams. The Officers are also requested to note that along with the above species, a few more species like Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), Badam (*Terminalia catappa*), Neredu (*Syzygium cumini*), kanuga (*Pongamia pinnata*), Medi (*Ficus glomerata*) and a few ornamental species may also be planted in order to make it more attractive.

The officers who are implementing the CFM / FDA projects are requested to note that it will be a good idea to plant these species at the entrance of the VSS Plantations under the entry point activity.

In many Plantations under the VSS, there is no big tree under which the inspecting officer can stand to discuss the important issues with the members of the VSS. It will be a good idea if the seedlings of these species are planted in a block at the entrance of the Plantations with lot of inputs like organic manure / SSP etc., as outlined in Circular No. 004/2002/U1, Dt. 07-08-2002 on Avenue Plantations. This tree grove would eventually become a meeting place of the VSS members and officials in the field.

All the officers are requested to take keen personal interest in order to implement this programme during the 2004 planting season and follow up continuing action in the next few years.

Sd/- (**S.K. Das**),
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