



Government of West Bengal
Directorate of Forests

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force

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No.: 472 /13-1/Pub-19-20

Dated: 04.07.2019

To

The Secretary
West Bengal Legislative Assembly.

Sub.: **Celebration of 'Ban-Mahotsav 2019' and supply of seedlings to Hon'ble Members of West Bengal Legislative Assembly for planting.**

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed herewith the Minutes of Meeting chaired by the Hon'ble Minister-*in-Charge*, Forests, West Bengal, held on 19.06.2019 at Aranya Bhawan in connection with celebration of 'Ban-Mahotsav 2019'. It was decided in the meeting that every Hon'ble member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly will be provided with 1000 seedlings free of cost for planting in their respective Assembly areas during 'Ban-Mahotsav 2019'. Hon'ble MLA may kindly be requested to contact DFOs of his area for collecting seedlings.

All Hon'ble MLAs may kindly be intimated regarding the same, further requesting their participation in different district-level programmes for awareness generation among the general public about forest, wildlife & biodiversity and making 'Ban-Mahotsav 2019' a grand success.

Yours faithfully,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, West Bengal

Encl.: As stated above.

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Copy forwarded for information to:

1. The Principal Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal, Department of Forests.
2. The PS to Hon'ble MIC, Forests, West Bengal.
3. All Divisional Forest Officers, West Bengal. They are requested to contact Hon'ble MLAs of their respective area so that they can collect the seedlings for 'Ban-Mahotsav 2019' from nurseries, specially from DPN.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, West Bengal

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19-06-2019 AT ARANYA BHAWAN ON
“CELEBRATIONS OF BAN MAHOTSAV 2019”

A Meeting regarding State-wide celebrations of Ban Mahotsav in West Bengal on 14th July 2019 was held at 4pm on 19-06-2019 at Conference Hall, 8th Floor, Aranya Bhawan. The meeting was Chaired by the Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Science and Technology and Biotechnology and Forests Departments, Government of West Bengal, Sri Bratya Basu.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Forests Department, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force and other Senior Officers from Directorate of Forests. List of participants of the meeting is Annexed at **Annexure A**. The Agenda Items of the meeting held, is annexed at **Annexure B**.

The Agenda Items as listed and circulated beforehand, were discussed at length and the following discussions were held and following decisions were taken:

- It was proposed that **Diamond Harbour, 24 Parganas (South) District** may be the probable site for State level programme of Ban Mahotsav 2019, or any other suitable place in the State which may be selected by Hon'ble Chief Minister, West Bengal. 3 (Three) Sub-Divisions where Sub-Division-level programme will be organized are proposed to be Siliguri, Bishnupur and Jangipur.

For organizing the State-level function, the following Committee was also constituted:

- i) Chairman : Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of selected site.
- ii) Convenor : Concerned Divisional Forest Officer
- iii) Member : Concerned Chief Conservator of Forests
- iv) Member : DFO Publicity Division

Other Local Officers as Members to be decided by the Chairman.

- **Slogan for Ban Mahotsav -2019.**

In the meeting the Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Forests proposed the following FOUR slogans which will be submitted to Hon'ble Chief Minister West Bengal for final selection.

- ✓ সবুজ বাংলা, সবুজ দেশ। বাংলার হাসি দেখতে বেশ।
- ✓ ছোট্ট শিশু, ছোট্ট চারা। পথ দেখাবে মোদের ওরা।
- ✓ সবুজ বাংলা, বাড়ছে শ্রী। পথ দেখাচ্ছে সবুজশ্রী।
- ✓ বনের বাইরে বন, চল সবুজ করি মন।

- **Message of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Message of Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Forests and Message of Hon'ble Minister of State, Forests.**

It was discussed in the meeting that Message for Ban Mahotsav from Hon'ble Chief Minister, West Bengal in the form of 'SHUBHECHHA BARTA' would be implored upon. The Message from the Hon'ble Minister-

n-Charge, Forests and Message of Hon'ble Minister of State, Forests on occasion of Ban Mahotsav was also agreed upon by the Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge during the meeting.

- **Preparing, Printing & Distribution of Publicity Materials in important places in the State:**
 - **Flex Banner/ Hoarding/ Posters, Caps, Leaflet (Hon'ble Chief Minister, West Bengal and Minister-in-Charge, Forests' Message).**

The proposed Agenda was kindly agreed to by the Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Forests during the meeting. The Publicity Division of the Directorate will prepare the publicity materials like posters, leaflets, Cloth cap and banners etc., under the guidance of the PCCF(HoFF) and other senior Officers and these items will be distributed in the entire State from the Headquarter in coordination with the Forest Divisions in the State.

While getting the publicity materials prepared, the slogan selected for the Ban Mahotsav 2019 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister West Bengal should be boldly printed in the background of the poster and banner and the same would also be submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Minister West Bengal for her final decision, prior to printing.

- **Publicity through Electronic & Print Media:**
 - **Ad/Song in FM – (Radio Mirchi, Kolkata and Radio Misty, Siliguri) sung by renowned singer from State and Newspapers advertisement – (Hon'ble Chief Minister West Bengal).**

The proposed Agenda was kindly agreed to by the Minister-in-Charge, Forests during the meeting. It was also decided to send bulk message through SMS for celebration of Ban Mahotsav 2019 specially where such facilities are available in the District. Along with, the Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Forests guided that the Radio programmes as proposed should start from 4th July 2019 for ten days.

The Ban Mahotsav 2019 Banner as finalized will be displayed on hoardings at different parts of Kolkata (Preferrably 100Nos.) Districts (25 Nos. each District) through Information & Cultural Affairs Department of the State.

Audio campaign will also be organized through FM radio channel in Kolkata, Siliguri, Bishnupur, Purulia, and other places as feasible. Electronic display boards at various locations in the State will also be explored for display of publicity materials, by the Forest Divisions.

- **Publication and Release of "Banabithi".**

It was decided that on occasion of Ban Mahotsav special edition of "Banbithi" would be published by the Forest Directorate and timelines would be adhered to for publication by the Publicity Division so that it is released during the State level celebrations proposed to be held on 14th July 2019.

- **Celebration of Ban Mahotsav in all Districts and three Sub-Divisions**

Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Forests decided that the celebrations would be held in all the Districts alongwith three Sub-Divisions viz., Siliguri, Bishnupur and Jangipur. During the celebrations the special edition of "Banbithi" would also be release at these places.

The Committee of Forest Officers, Peoples' Representatives, Sabhadhipatis and other Panchayat functionaries, different institutions who are stationed at Districts will be constituted for advice and programme coordination

by the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests. District administration specially DM & SP Offices should be informed about the celebration of Ban Mahotsav 2019 for their needful preparations and active participation. It is decided that the following Divisional Forest Officers will be the Nodal Officers of the District-level & Sub-Division-level Committees:

S. No.	District/Sub-Division	Nodal Officer
1	Kolkata	DFO, URF
2	Bankura	DFO, Bankura (North)
3	Purulia	DFO, Purulia
4	Purba Bardhaman	DFO, Burdwan
5	Birbhum	DFO, Birbhum
6	Nadia	DFO, Nadia-Murshidabad
7	Murshidabad	DFO, Nadia-Murshidabad
8	Howrah	DFO, Howrah
9	Hooghly	DFO, Howrah
10	24-Parganas (South)	DFO, 24-Parganas (South)
11	24-Parganas (North)	DFO, 24-Parganas (North)
12	Maldah	DFO, Maldah
13	Uttar Dinajpur	DFO, Raiganj
14	Dakshin Dinajpur	DFO, Raiganj
15	Purba Medinipur	DFO, Purba Medinipur
16	Paschim Medinipur	DFO, Medinipur
17	Coochbehar	DFO, Coochbehar
18	Jalpaiguri	DFO, Jalpaiguri
19	Darjeeling	DFO, Darjeeling
20	Alipurduar	DFD, BTR (West)
21	Jhargram District	DFO, Jhargram
22	Paschim Bardhaman	DFO Durgapur
23.	Kalimpong	DFO, Kalimpong
24.	Siliguri Sub-Division	DFO, Baikunthapur
25.	Bishnupur Sub-Division	DFO, Panchet
26	Jangipur Sub-Division	DFO, Nadia Murshidabad

• **Seedling Distribution in Kolkata & Districts.**

Seedling Distribution: Seedling distribution will be done to the general public for 1 (one) week from 14th July to 20th July 2019.

Seedling Distribution in Kolkata — No free seedling will be distributed in Kolkata including Bidhan Nagar, Newtown & Rajarhat area but the same will be distributed upto 5 seedlings per individual @ Rs.2 per seedling. In addition to this, up to 100 seedlings can be given at a subsidized rate of Re1/- only per seedling to any institution on request for supply of seedlings during the period of Ban Mahotsav 2019 celebrations.

Seedling Distribution in other areas of the State — Up to 5 seedlings per individual can be given free of cost and up to 100 seedlings per institution will be given free of cost.

It was also decided that the upper ceiling of 100 seedlings per institution both for Kolkata and any other area of the State can be increased by the concerned DFOs/DCFs/DFDs in consultation with the local Panchayats or Municipalities, if required. The record of distribution of seedlings during Ban Mahotsav period must be kept at Divisional-level and submitted to the Headquarters for State Level compilation subsequently.

Programmes:

- **Cultural Programmes, Tree Planting Programmes, Competition etc., to be organised.**

There will be 1 (one)-day programme of Ban Mahotsav 2019, which will be celebrated through Tree Planting, Distribution of Seedlings, organizing Sit-n-Draw Competition, Joint Patrolling in Forest with JFMC Members and any other programme as decided by District Committee for Celebration of Ban Mahotsav 2019.

The plantation and greening programme should also include the nearby cities proposed under Urban Greening programme. It was further decided that the discussion on Wildlife conservation and man-animal conflict should be organized during the Ban Mahotsav 2019 at the celebration sites for awareness generation among all.

It was also decided in the meeting that all the territorial DFOs/DCFs/DFDs will organize a tree planting programme in all JFMCs of their Divisions. In such programme, the field-level forest officers namely, Range Officer, Dy. Ranger/Forester, Head Forest Guard, Forest Guard, Ban Mazdoor and Banshramik will be involved.

- **Planting Program by all Members of Legislative Assembly.**

It was decided in the meeting a letter to be sent to Secretary, West Bengal Legislative Assembly for apprising the same. Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Forests, has agreed to send a special note to Hon'ble Speaker of Legislative Assembly and the MLAs of the West Bengal State Assembly regarding the celebrations of Ban Mahotsav 2019.

It was decided in the meeting that each MLA of the State will be provided with 1000 seedlings by the concerned DFOs/DCFs/DFDs during Ban Mahotsav 2019 and MLAs and Zila Parishad will be requested to organize tree planting programme with the seedlings provided by the Forest Department in their respective jurisdictions. However, the DFO/DCF will raise the number of seedlings to be distributed, if required.

- **Budget of the Programme.**

The following budget was approved for celebration of Ban Mahotsav 2019 :

a) For State-level Programme	Rs. 500000
b) For District & Sub-Division-level Programme	Rs. 100000 each (X 26No)
c) Publication of Banabithi and other publicity materials	Rs. 4000000

- **Rebate on Sale of NTFPs including selling of ornamental plants.**

One)-week period, starting from the day of Ban Mahotsav, i.e. 14th July, 2019, to 20th July, 2019, a rebate of 10% will be given during the sale of NTFP and other ornamental plants in the State. The Forest Department will be issuing a Government Order regarding this.

- **Awards:**

- **Best Plantation Award-Committee already constituted, Green JFMC Award- Committee already constituted.**

- o Cash Award- (Rs. 1 Lakh-1st prize, Rs. 75000/- -2nd prize and Rs. 50000/- -3rd Prize along with citation was given to Green JFMCs by WBFDC Ltd.).
- o Proposal for this year already communicated to WBFDC Ltd.

It is decided that best plantation award & green JFMC Award to be declared during Ban-Mahatsav-2019. A Committee has been constituted for selection of such plantation and JFMC as follows:

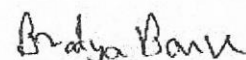
1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO – CAMPA- Chairman
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, North Bengal
3. The General Manager, Headquarter, WBFDC Ltd.
4. The Project Director, Finance, WBFBCP
5. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Monitoring
6. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Headquarter- *Member Convener*

The Committee will finalize modalities, making field visits if required and the selection of such plantation and Green JFMC in the State would be based on reporting, recommendation of Divisional Forest Officers.

The Best plantation award would be given to Officer and staff of concerned Beat and respective JFMC in form of citation. The Green JFMCs will receive award of Rs. 1,00,000/- (1st position), 75,000/- (2nd position), 50,000/- (3rd position) respectively in their common fund. MD/WBFDCI has accorded his consent to provide award money for Green JFMC. The Green JFMC awards have been christened as “Rupashi Bangla Awards” in the meeting by the Minister-in-Charge, Forests.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Date: Kolkata,June 2019


(Bratya Basu)

Minister-in-Charge,

Science & Technology and Biotechnology and Forests

Government of West Bengal