

No. MoE&F/2022/ 968

Date: 13.04.2022

Minutes of Meeting

A meeting was held on 06.04.2022 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Forest Minister to review the status of ongoing projects/schemes of Forest Department.

List of the officers who attended the meeting is enclosed as Annexure 'A'.

PCCF briefed Hon'ble Minister (E, F&W) by way of Power Point Presentation on all the agenda issues and following decisions were taken during the meeting:

1. Summer Action Plan:

With respect to the Summer Action Plan, Department proposed that like previous years, Departmental Units will be kept vigilant for the incidents of open burning of tree leaves etc. Due care will be given to take the suitable measures for the dust pollution emerging out of the pathways/walkways within the city forests and other areas under the Department.

Further, status of development of city forest as World Level Green Spot as desired by Hon'ble CM was also discussed in detail. Department further proposed that out of the 17 city forests, developmental works have been completed in 11 city forests. It was decided that Hon. Minister will inaugurate Garhi Mandu city forest on 25.04.2022.

Hon. Minister further desired that on the progress of developmental works in city forests, a separate detailed presentation be given on 21.04.2022.

2. Plan for tree plantation for the year 2022-23:

The tree plantation target submitted by Forest Department was discussed. It was noticed that the Forest Department has proposed lower tree plantation target for this year as compared to the last year.

The Hon'ble Minister directed that the target for the current year cannot be less than the previous year. He directed to revise the plantation target and to convene a meeting of all the concerned departments to inform them about the enhanced targets. It was also directed by Hon'ble Minister to convene a meeting of all the departments/agencies involved in tree plantation drive on 12th April 2022 so as to know their strategy to achieve the fresh targets and their feedback in this regard, if any.

3. Plan for free distribution of saplings to general public through nurseries.

In order to create awareness in general public, it was decided to organise one big event by the name of 'Harit Utsav' to start the campaign of free distribution of saplings.

Hon'ble Minister directed to PCCF to submit a proposal to organise this event on 5th June 2022 at Chatrasal Stadium. This programme will be organised jointly by Department of Forests and Wildlife and Department of Environment and with active participation of eco-clubs/school children etc. Educational Programs and events like Nukkad Natak, painting competition, departmental kiosks, distribution of awareness literature etc. activities shall be organised on the day of event.

4. Development of city forest as world level green spot as desired by Hon'ble CM:

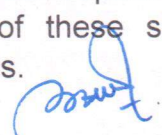
It was informed by VC, Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi (DDCD) that a proposal for receiving ideas to develop City Forests from leading firms specialising in developing green spaces and having knowledge of applicable laws in Forest areas is being prepared and is expected to be submitted by 08/04/2022. A competent consultant is also proposed to be engaged for this purpose. The competition shall be open for 4 City Forests (Jaunapur, Mitraon, Garhi Mandu Pocket A2 & Mukhmelpur).

PCCF informed that at present City Forests at Jaunapur and Mitraon has been identified for upgrading the facilities as per the identified set of facilities by the Department for above mentioned pilot project. Hon. Minister directed that initially 04 city forests (one in each forest division) should be taken up for developing these to world class level city forests.

5. Status report of 3rd party audit of previous plantations/transplantations of Forest and other Departments:

PCCF informed that the 3rd party audit of previous plantation/transplantation of Forest Department has already been completed. For 3rd party audit of other department/agencies, it was informed that in some departments, the work of audit is under process as they have also selected the agency to conduct this survey while in some department process of selection of agency to conduct 3rd party audit is still not finalized. It was also informed by him that status of audit of some of the departments who had small plantation/transplantation target are not available as these departments are not responding.

Hon'ble Minister expressed dissatisfaction on non-completion of Third Party Audit Report by some Departments/agencies and directed that forest department should facilitate one common agency as 3rd party for audit of these small departments who will monitor the progress of audit on a regular basis.



Hon'ble Minister directed to convene a meeting to take stock of the situation on 3rd party audit of plantation drives for the year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 on 12.04.2022 of all the departments/agencies.

6. Development of Neeli Jheel in Asola Wildlife Sanctuary as Tourist Spot:

CCF/CWLW presented the draft proposal for development of Neeli Jheel and mentioned that still some improvements have to be done in terms of design and material. Hon'ble Minister directed Department of Forest & Wildlife, GNCTD, to submit the final proposal for development of Neeli Jheel on 9th May, 2022.

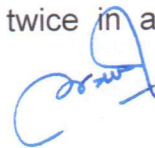
7. Project on Ecological Restoration of Central Ridge through Biodiversity Enrichment:

Present status on the subject was apprised by PCCF in detail mentioning that in view of the series of events took place, it does not appear feasible to get the project completed as per the Cabinet Note. It was decided that the project be completed by the department itself in a fixed time frame. He proposed to submit a Cabinet Note for informing the Cabinet about the execution of the project.

Further PCCF informed that the work of restoration has already been started by the department and requested the Hon'ble Minister to visit the project site. After discussion Hon'ble Minister consented to visit on 27.04.2022.

8. Empanelment of agencies for tree plantations:

1. PCCF informed that till now 4 agencies have been empaneled for taking up transplantation work. Further 3 more agencies have submitted their EOIs for empanelment. A meeting of the Expert Committee was held on 23.12.2021 for finalization the empanelment of the agencies for Tree Transplantation. Accordingly, a proposal for empanelment of agencies was submitted by department of forest & wildlife, GNCTD and same was received back with some observations. Accordingly, file is being resubmitted for the approval of proposal.
2. It was submitted by Forest Department that the cases of transplantation are on rise and there are more requirement of agencies for transplantation in GNCTD. Also, request for empanelment are being raised continuously. Hence it decided that:
 - A. Any agency fulfilling the required conditions can apply for consideration for empanelment at any point of time.
 - B. The Expert Committee shall meet in second week of April and October to consider application submitted for consideration of empanelment, quality of work done by empanelled agencies, recommendation of continuation of empanelled agencies and any recommendation for improving the quality of work by empanelled agencies.
 - C. An advertisement to above effect shall be issued twice in a year for wide publicity.



3. Hon'ble Minister (E&F) directed the Forest Department to monitor the work done by empanelled agencies and the User agencies by collecting the data from User agencies and cross check the same by doing field visits using resources available with the Department in addition to the Third Party Audit proposed by FRI. A meeting has been scheduled on 2nd May, 2022 wherein the overview of Transplantation will be presented by the Forest Department based on data collected in the above process.
4. Hon'ble Minister (E&F) directed the Forest Department to publish report as prescribed in section 6 of Tree Transplantation Policy, 2020. It was further directed that the Expert Committee has to give a clear recommendation about the empanelment of any agency and the evaluation of the agencies has to be done strictly on the technical and financial parameters fixed for the agencies in RFP.

9. Recruitment of Forest Guards/other staff:

PCCF informed that Forest Department has already sent request to National Zoological Park, New Delhi for conducting the Physical Evaluation Test and same will be completed soon and shortlisted candidates will be sent for 8 months training before final deployment.

10. Details of the proposals approved by the department in last 4 years for tree cutting and transplantation:

The data for last 04 years was submitted by the Forest Department and Hon'ble Minister directed to depute the Eco-task force to conduct ground survey of all the plantation/transplantation work done and submit a consolidated report before 30.04.2022. It was also decided to convene a meeting with all the agencies applying for tree felling and transplantation permission and empanelled tree transplantation agencies to review their work on 02.05.2022.

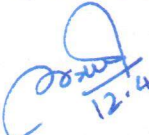
11. Schedule of department for Encroachment removal drive:

PCCF informed that encroachment removal drive could not be conducted in the years, 2020 and 2021. However, in the year 2022, a schedule has been prepared to remove encroachment. Hon'ble Minister directed to follow all extant acts, policies, rules and directions of Hon'ble Courts while conducting Encroachment removal drives.

12. Review of the works under execution in MGICCC:

Hon'ble Minister expressed that a review of the works taken up by MGICCC will be taken after 1 (one) month.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


12.4.22

(Vivek Kumar Tripathi)
Secretary to Minister