

8. Forest Publicity, Education, Working Plan and Research.

a. 3 State Plan Schemes namely “Forest Publicity, Public Relation, Extension and Training”, “Preparation of Working Plans” and “State Forest Research Centre” have been merged and renamed as “Forest Publicity, Education, Working Plan and Research”.

b. **Financing pattern:** The proposed outlay for the scheme during 2016-17 has been kept at Rs. 300 lacs.

c. **Aims and objectives:**

- (i) To create awareness among people about protection and conservation of forests, wildlife and environment and the effects of climate change. This will be done through celebrating Van mahotsavas in the state.
- (ii) To carry out publicity and extension of tree plantation schemes of the department to make tree plantation activity a people’s movement. This will be done through celebration of important forestry / environment related occasions like Taru Diwas, World Forestry Day, Earth Day, Environment Day, Bio-diversity Day etc. Van Chetna Yatra will be undertaken throughout the state.
- (iii) For easy access of forestry information, pamphlets, periodicals, documentaries etc will be prepared. About one lacs pamphlets / posters / magazines / stickers etc will be made.
- (iv) Regular Forestry training is proposed to be imparted to left out Forest Guards in the training institutes of the department located at Pinjore (Panchkula district) and Sohna (Gurgaon district). 40,000 farmers / women / students will be imparted forestry training through organizing training camps.
- (v) Forest areas are managed as per approved Working Plans prepared every 10/15 years for each Forest Division. A working plan includes the management prescriptions for the forest areas falling under a particular forest division. Working Plans for left over divisions will be prepared.
- (vi) Research will be carried out to bring improvement of planting stock and production of improved quality seeds to enhance tree productivity in the forests and on farmlands.

d. **Financial targets for the year 2016-17:** An outlay of Rs. 300 lacs has been proposed for the year 2016-17.

e. **Quantum of funds likely to be borne by Government of India or by any other external agency:** It is a continuing plan scheme to be funded by the State Govt. from plan funds.

f. **Benefits of the scheme:** District level and State level functions of Taru Diwas / Van Mahotsava, Wildlife Week, Fire Protection Week etc. will be organized to fully involve maximum number of citizens of the State in forest and environmental awareness in order

to realize the objectives of State and National Forest Policies of conservation of natural resources and bringing about increase in Forest and Tree Cover in the state. Regular forestry training will be imparted to Deputy Rangers/Foresters/left out Forest Guards.

Since the preparation of Working Plans is a continuing activity in the department and all the forest areas are worked as per Working Plan prescriptions, this will help in the planning process.

In view of limited area under forests in the State, the option available to increase the production from forests is by increasing its productivity through genetic improvement and better management of forestlands. The other option available for production of enough wood in the state is through diversification of agriculture with tree crops.