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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

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Abstract

Thirty First Vanamahotsava - Celebration of - Orders issued.

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AGRICULTURE (FOREST MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT

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G.O.Rt.No.1714/80/A) Dated, Trivandrum, 17..6..1980

Read: G.O.Rt.No.1849/79/A) dated 27-6-1979.



ORDER

The Thirty First Vanamahotsava is proposed to be celebrated during the first week of July 1980. Government desire that the occasion should be celebrated in a manner befitting its importance on the pattern of last year's celebration. Accordingly the following instructions are issued:

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(i) (a) District Collectors should form committees consisting of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, District Agricultural Officers, the Divisional Forest Officers, the District Panchayat Officers and a few enthusiastic non-officials as members to supervise the celebrations in their respective Districts. The Collectors will be the Chairmen of these Committees.

(b) Similar Committees with the Tahsildar as Chairman and the Junior Agricultural Officer and a few non-officials as members should be formed at the Taluk level.

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(c) Committees with Block Development Officers as Chairmen and Officials and non-officials as Members should be formed at the Block level.

(d) Such Committees with the Panchayat Presidents as Chairman and the Village Extension Officers, the Village Officers and a few non-officials as members should be formed at the Village level.

(e) The District Collectors and Heads of Departments should provide all necessary help to various organisations/individuals and others who are interested in implementing this programme. The Chief Conservator of Forests in particular is requested to extend necessary technical assistance and arrange for the supply of planting materials to such organisations and agencies.

(ii) These Committees should take stock of the requirements of seedlings for planting on a large scale.

(iii) These Committees are also authorised to arrange locally with the Agriculturalists to supply seedlings paying nominal cost to cover cost of seeds, watering etc., incurred by the supplier. These arrangements should be made immediately with the approval of the Tahsildars or the Block Development Officers concerned.

(iv) Planting season will be spread over one month i.e., the whole of July depending on the availability of rain.

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(v) All Heads of Departments of Government and the District Collectors are requested to co-operate wholeheartedly and to issue instructions to all their sub-officers to see that atleast one seedling is planted in each office and school compound. The Chief Engineer, Buildings and Roads, will issue instructions for planting avenue trees wherever necessary.

(vi) The Directors of Municipalities and Panchayats will instruct all Local Bodies under them to celebrate the "VANAMAHOTSAVA" in a fitting manner by holding meetings and organising ceremonial planting of seedlings. It should be the aim of every local body to see that the maximum number of seedlings possible is planted in every compound in their area. Similarly the Director of Panchayats to plant as many avenue trees as possible on the sides of the village roads.

(vii) All Heads of Departments are authorised to instruct their subordinate officers to spend a small amount of money required for planting seedlings by debit to their contingencies. The District Collectors, the Tahsildars and the Block Development Officers are also authorised to convene public meeting and to incur the minimum expenditure necessary for the purpose by debit to contingencies.

(viii) The Agriculture Department and the Forest Department will supply seedlings to the different agencies requiring them. In addition to the usual species like mango, tamarind, gulmohur etc., seedlings of 'Murukku' trees and other fast growing softwood trees, which are of economic importance should also be supplied for being planted on the margin of Panchayat roads, obtaining the planting materials from the Forest Department. The District Collectors should fix a target for each Panchayat for planting 'Murukku' for ten years and should see that the above target is achieved. Special attention should be paid to planting quick growing green manure plants like sesbania and glyricidia.

(ix) The Forest Department should concentrate on developing Homestead Forestry and make arrangements for the supply of seedlings and selected species which would be suitable to the soil and agro-climatic conditions of different regions as these will fetch substantial income to the people who would for that reason be much interested in such plantation during this year's Vanamahotsava Festival.

(x) The Chief Engineer of Buildings and Roads and the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) will undertake a special drive for planting of trees along the National High Ways and canal banks. For planting along National High Ways the Chief Conservator of Forests will give priority for such species as would attract central assistance for National High Ways. The Chief Conservator of Forests will discuss this question with the Chief Engineer and select the species.