

F.No.7-8/2014-FP(Vol.2)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(Forest Policy Division)

V-646, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003.

Dated the 30th November, 2017.

To
The PCCFs & HoFFs,
All States/UTs.

Subject: - Increasing area coverage under agro-forestry and tree plantations on non-forest land and for arranging high quality seedlings for plantations in agricultural farms and non forest areas.

Sir,

The National Forest Policy 1988 has highlighted the importance of increasing tree cover outside the forests, especially in the agricultural farms and in other non-forest areas. The National Agro-forestry Policy 2014 has also highlighted the importance of growing trees in the farm lands as well as in available cultivable waste lands. In this context, Ministry have issued an Advisory on 18th November, 2014 for liberalizing the felling and transit regime for promotion of cultivation and utilization of commonly used agro tree species. In response to the Advisory, more than 24 States/UTs have liberalized the felling and transit regime to a great extent.

2. In this context, the States are advised to consider supply of high quality seedlings from the Central Nurseries of the State Forest Departments to the farmers and other interested individuals for cultivation of trees in their homesteads and farmlands. Supply of high quality seedlings to farmers and others interested in tree cultivation would go a long way in promotion of trees outside forests so that the pressure on forests could be reduced to a great extent. The increase in timber supply from farm lands would result in reduced dependence on import of wood and wood products thereby saving valuable foreign exchange by the country. In addition, promotion of trees outside forest would increase the green cover of the country leading to more carbon dioxide sequestration to mitigate the Impacts of climate change in the country.

3. The State and UT Governments are once again requested to consider supply of high quality seedlings of major agro forestry tree species to farmers and other interested individuals and facilitate promotion of tree cultivation outside forests. The action taken in this regard may kindly be reported to the Ministry at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,


(Noyal Thomas)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (FP)

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary (Forests), all States/UTs.
2. Joint Secretary, NBM & Agroforestry, Deptt. of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.