

TELANGANAKU HARITHA HAARAM

Telanganaku Haritha Haaram (TKHH) is the biggest initiative taken by any State Government in the Country for increasing the green coverage. The objective is to increase green cover from 24% to 33% in tune with National Forest Policy, 1988. The strategy to achieve the objective is to take up massive plantation programme in every available open space outside the forests coupled with intensive rejuvenation of degraded forest along with soil and moisture conservation works.

It is aimed to plant 230.00 crore seedlings under Telanganaku Haritha Haaram (TKHH). Out of 230.00 crore seedlings, 120 crore seedlings will be planted outside the notified forest areas, 10.00 crore within HMDA and GHMC area and balance 100.00 crores will be achieved through rejuvenation of degraded forests.

It is aimed to plant 40,000 seedlings in each village and 40.00 lakhs in each Assembly constituency every year.

In order to take up the plantation in mission mode, preparatory works started in the year 2014-2015 itself by raising 38.63 crore seedlings in 3,899 nurseries. TKHH has been launched on 3rd July 2015 by Hon'ble Chief Minister. However, only 15.86 crores seedlings could be planted during 2015 due to adverse seasonal conditions and deficient rainfall.

During 2015-16, Forest Department has spent Rs. 183.60 crore for taking up plantations and rejuvenation of degraded forests. The Rural Development Department under MGNREGS has spent an amount of Rs.365.05 crore on raising nurseries, plantations by farmers and in community lands.

During the 2016 planting season the Hon'ble Chief Minister has launched planting programme on 08.07.2016 on Hyderabad - Vijayawada National High Way. Since we had a favourable monsoon season this year, massive plantations have been taken up and 31.60 crore seedlings have been planted.

During 2016-17, Rs. 155.00 crores has been spent by the Forest Department and Rs. 250.00 crores by the Rural Development Department under MGNREGS so far. Avenue plantations have been taken up on a massive scale along National Highways, State Highways and Panchayat Raj roads. The Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Members of Legislative Assembly and Legislative Counsel and other public representatives have participated

actively in making this programme successful. "Gram Panchayat Harith Rakshana Committee" have been constituted under the Chairmanship of Sarpanch for better coordination at the Village level.

The Chief Secretary to Government has been conducting Video Conference with all the District Collectors and officials at the District and Mandal level on every Tuesday. All the Government departments have participated actively in the massive plantations taken up under Telanganaku Haritha Haaram (TKHH). Latest technology has been used to monitor the plants planted through Geo-tagging. An action plan has been prepared for raising and planting 5.00 crores of Eetha seedlings for providing livelihood support to the community. 50.00 lakhs seedlings have been already planted during 2016 and for 2017 plantation, 2.50 crore seedlings of Eetha are being raised.

To encourage the spirit of competition and to recognize the contribution made in successful implementation of Telangana ku Haritha Haaram (TKHH), the Government have constituted "Telangana Haritha Mithra Awards" to give to different stake holders including individuals, public representatives, NGOs, Government organizations, Corporate, Rural and Urban bodies. The first year awards have been distributed on 15th August 2016.

Human Beings are expected to live as a part of nature do introspection whereas they are being dragged away from the green cover day by day. In this regard, we have to think over of the part and there is dire need to work hard urgently to restore the green cover. We inherit buildings and assets to our children which is not a heritage property.

Telangana State Government, has a deep hope for the future generations to be gifted with surroundings of green cover. Government believe that all the citizens extend their cooperation continuously towards this historic and great work taken up by Telangana State Government. The three crores Telangana people irrespective of their age, both elders and youngsters all of them will take part in the Telangana Ku Haritha Haram programme. Let us hope that the Telangana Ku Haritha Haram becomes a nature's Haram to Telangana thalli.

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