

Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of Forests.

No FFE-B-F(5)1/2019 Dated: Shimla-2, the 20th September, 2019

NOTIFICATION

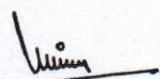
The Governor, Himachal Pradesh is pleased to notify the Scheme i.e. *Ek Buta Beti ke Naam* as per enclosed **Annexure-X** (Pages 1 to 10). This scheme shall be implemented with immediate effect.

By Order,

Ram Subhag Singh
Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Endst. No. As above Dated, Shimla-2, the 20th 9-2019
Copy forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

- 1) The Addl. Chief Secretary (Finance) to the GoHP, Shimla-2.
- 2) The Under Secretary (GAD) to the GoHP w.r.t. Cabinet Item No. 39 dated 16-09-2019.
- 3) The Pr.CCF (HoFF) Shimla-1. He is requested to circulate this scheme to all the CCFs/CFs/DFOs(WL& T) in H.P.
- 4) The Pr.CCF(WL), Talland, Shimla-1
- ✓ 5) The CF(IT) o/o Pr.CCF(HoFF) with the request to upload the above scheme on the official website of the Department.
- 6) Guard File.


(Sat Pal Dhiman) 20-9-2019
Joint Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Ph.No. 0177-2621874

20/9/19

Hon'ble Chief Minister's Budget Speech 2019-20(Para 70)

"EK BUTA, BETI KE NAAM"

**A Scheme
of
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of Forests**

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HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

“Ek Buta, Beti ke Naam”-Yojna

Hon'ble Chief Minister's Budget Speech 2019-20(Para 70)

1. Introduction

Rapidly increasing population, urbanization and industrialization has placed great stress on our natural resources. Forests being one of the important natural resources have also not been left unaffected from this pressure. In fact, forests are probably bearing the most brunt of this all round development and increased demands on our natural resources.

As per the National Forest Policy, one- third of the total land area of the country should be under forest and tree cover in order to prevent erosion and land degradation and also to ensure the stability of the fragile ecosystem. However, currently only 28.60% of State's geographical area is under forest and tree cover. Thus, we are faced with challenge of not only preserving our existing forest and tree cover but also to enhance the same as per the requirement of the National Forest Policy amidst the challenge of meeting ever increasing demands for forest land and forest resources due to increasing population.

A need is, therefore, increasingly being felt to involve all sections of society in management and protection of forest and wild life and also to educate the masses to develop an understanding as to how natural resources are important, why we need to conserve these and how such awareness can be created. It is believed that once this understanding develops, people will start actively participating in programs of forest and environmental conservation. In this direction it is imperative the action oriented programs are launched aimed at different sections of the society.

Also, the society need to be made aware of the rights of girl child and need to minimize the gender gap. The scheme envisages linking the sentiments of the communities to foster their commitment to nurture both the girl child and the plant (sapling).

2. The Scheme- Goal & Objectives:

It is believed that by planting a sapling in the name of a girl-child and with the effort of nurturing each sapling into a tree, communities would be sensitized to be more committed towards the rights of the girl-child leading to realization of her full potential.

3. The Major components of the scheme are:

- a) To gift a sapling to the family of each girl-child born anywhere in the state.
- b) Sensitizing communities, about both the fragile gender balance and the ecological balance.
- c) Motivating communities to pledge to nurture both the girl-child and the sapling, giving them opportunity to grow to their full potential.
- d) Increase the green cover of the State through plantation of saplings every year.

4. The salient features of the scheme are as follows:

- a) Upon the birth of a girl-child anywhere in the State, the Forest Department will gift five saplings to the family, to be planted in their homestead/land or adjoining forest land or *Samriti Vatika*. The Department would also provide a 'kit' to the family containing instructions for plantation and maintenance, a plant guard (as per requirement), a package of vermicompost, and a name plate with new born's name painted on it.



- b) The families of new born girl child may opt for multiple value or commercial tree species for plantation in the name of newly born girl child.

5. Implementation Mechanism:

(i) Identification of the new born Girl Child

The representative of Forest Department would contact the Panchayat/Municipality officials in first week of every month to access details of the new born. The list would be compiled at the Forest Range level, till such time the plantation actually begins.

(ii) Supply of seedlings

Robust and healthy tall plants (saplings) of identified species would be gifted to parents of newly born girl-child during the planting season. It is estimated that currently there are about 37,500 births of girl-child annually in the State which is expected to grow annually @ 1.1%. Hence 1,87,500 seedlings would be provided to parents of new born girl-child @ of five seedlings each during the first year of initiation of the Scheme. Subsequently this number would grow year after year depending on growth rate of girl child. This effort would contribute towards enhancing the green cover of the State.

(iii) Choice of Species

The parents of the new born would be consulted for the choice of species. However, native, fast growing and species of multiple values like khair, daru, bamboo, walnut etc. would be raised in nurseries for this purpose.

(iv) Plantation of Saplings

To foster ownership of the plant, the planting would be done by the parents of the new born child. However, technical support like

providing a 'kit' containing good-quality tall plants (saplings), instructions pamphlets, plant guards, vermicompost package and name plate would be provided by the Forest Department. The plantation may be carried out once or twice in a year i.e. during monsoon or winter as per suitability of the locality.

(v) Site of Plantation

The plantation would be carried out in the homestead/land of the family of the new born girl child. In case the parents wish to plant trees in adjoining forest area, planting may be done in nearby "*Smriti Vatikas*" or adjoining forests.

(vi) Felling permission of trees planted in non-forest private land & Usufruct rights on trees planted in Government Forest Land

The trees planted under this scheme in private land will be exempted from seeking felling permission under section 4 read with section 7 of Himachal Pradesh Land Preservation Act, 1978. The felling would normally be allowed after plants attain the age of at least 17 years. However, harvesting of Bamboo species can be done after 4 years. Saplings planted by the parents in the name of girl child in the nearby forest area or *Smriti Vatikas* cannot be felled on attaining maturity, however the girl child and her parents will have usufruct rights on these trees to derive benefits such as fruits, flowers, leaves, fodder etc. obtained without harming the tree.

(vii) Technical Support

The Department shall extend technical support for effective implementation of this scheme and shall earmark some funds in lump sum towards the expenses for the following activities:

a) Outreach and Publicity



The department may organize a State level launch function to launch the scheme and give wide publicity to it through print and electronic media. The Department may also organize outreach programmes in all 44 divisions.

b) Publicity Material

The department shall develop publicity material for distribution amongst the participating families. The Forest Department will print booklets, prepare audio-visual material to disseminate information amongst communities.

c) Web portal

A Web portal shall also be developed by the department and linked to the website of the department. The information along with pictorials about the participating families, details of Girl child, species planted alongwith location and the areas covered by them under this scheme, success stories etc. shall be provided on this webportal.

(viii) Scheduling

Ist Year:-

- i) Launch of scheme and outreach programmes.
- ii) Distribution of 5 tall saplings including plantation kit during planting season of birth year to each of estimated 37,500 families during first year of initiation of this scheme.
- iii) Plantation of the saplings by the respective parents under guidance and supervision of the concerned Forest Guard or Forest Worker.
- iv) Protection and maintenance of plants by respective families of concerned girl child.

- v) Record keeping by the concerned Forest Guard about the girl child, parents, location of plantation (geo-coordinates), species planted and status of their survival during subsequent years.
- vi) The copy of the record shall be transmitted to the concerned DFOs who shall further transmit it electronically to the HPFD HQ for maintaining a Database by the Nodal Officer of the Scheme.
- vii) The Nodal Officer shall be appointed by the PCCF(HoFF) for this scheme who will coordinate and guide the field officers for effective implementation of this scheme. For maintaining database on long term basis, Nodal Officer will take assistance of the IT Cell of the Department and if required a small application can be devised to capture data in uniform format and its easy access.

2nd to 5th Year:-

- i) Distribution of 5 tall saplings including plantation kit during planting season to the parents of girl child born during 2nd Year and subsequent years on similar lines.
- ii) Plantation of the saplings by the respective parents under guidance and supervision of the concerned Forest Guard or Forest Worker.
- iii) Maintenance of saplings by the families during the year of planting and subsequent years.
- iv) Replacement of saplings which shall die during 2nd year of plantation or subsequent years as the case may be.

- v) Record keeping by the concerned Forest Guard as narrated above.
- vi) Maintaining and updating database on regular basis by the designated Nodal Officer.

(ix) Monitoring

The HP Forest Department would maintain record of all such saplings planted and details of beneficiaries as narrated in above mentioned paras. It would be desirable for the Department to have the GPS coordinates of the saplings planted. The Department would also provide technical support to the family for maintenance of these saplings. The plant-survival record will also be maintained electronically at the level of Nodal Officer in the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department HQ.

6. Scheme Period

The period of this scheme will be for five years starting from 2019-20 and subsequent two years will be considered only to supply saplings for replacement of died plants. The saplings would be distributed during each of the first five years and subsequently the only saplings for replacement of died plants shall be provided in subsequent years upto maximum two years. Also, to build in the learning from the implementation of the Scheme, it will be reviewed in the 5th year and necessary modification, if any, would be incorporated and Scheme can be extended further with the prior approval of the Government.

7. Budgetary Outlay for the Scheme

The total likely outlay of the scheme, spread over five years will be approximately ₹ 35.33 Crores. However, as the Scheme will undergo a mid-term appraisal, the costing may undergo change based

on the decision taken after this appraisal. The details of estimated expenditure is given as under:

- a) Assuming annual increase in growth of birth rate of girl child @ 1.10%, about 11.50 Lakhs tall saplings would be required in the scheme. This would entail an expenditure of approximately ₹ 6.33 Crores. The details of estimated number of girl child born during the scheme period and the estimated details of saplings required are given in the table enclosed as **Annexure-A**.
- b) The Cost of kit @ ₹ 1500/- for 191673(estimated no. of newly born girl child during scheme period) families in this scheme would be ₹ 28.75 Crores. The breakup of cost of kit is as under:

Items	Plant Guards @ 5 no. in each Kit	Vermicompost approx.20 kgs.	Name Plate, instructions pamphlet	Transportation costs including Tall Plants with bags
Costs (L/s in Rs)	1000	150	100	250
Note: Costs are indicative which might change as per the requirements on site.				

- c) There would be an expenditure of estimated ₹ 25 Lakhs on launch, publicity and outreach programme under this Scheme. **The total estimated expenditure for the scheme period would be ₹ 35.33 Crores.**
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Annexure-A

Scheme : Ek Buta Beti ke Naam			
Years	Estimated No. of newly born Girl Child each year (@1.10% annual increase)	No. of plants per Girl child	Total Plants (BxC) + Plants provided for replacement of died plants in their following year of planting (assuming 80% survival)
A	B	C	D
1st year	37,500	5	187500
2nd year	37,913	5	189565+37500=227065
3rd year	38,330	5	191650+37913=229563
4th Year	38,752	5	193760+38330=232090
5th year	39,178	5	195890+38752=234642
6th year	0	0	0+39178=39178
Total	1,91,673 (Estimated No. of newly born Girl Child)		11,50,038 OR Say 11,50,000 Saplings

