

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board

SCHOOL NURSERY YOJANA

पाठशाला की पौधशाला

“To observe, learn, grow and nurture your plant”

A scheme to educate school students in raising, planting and post planting care of the seedlings and to enlighten them about the importance of trees and shrubs.

Objectives

The School Nursery Yojna aims to provide an environment for the students to understand and appreciate the significance of plants in maintaining and sustaining the natural ecosystem. The underlying principle of the scheme is the concept of ‘Plant and Grow seedlings’ and it has following objectives:

- i. To create awareness about plants and environment and promote plantation activity through involvement of students.
- ii. To connect young students with plants, create sense of belonging and oneness with nature, develop sensitivity towards plants and living environment.
- iii. To educate young students about the techniques of raising seedlings/saplings of different varieties.
- iv. To feel the happiness of raising the saplings and watch them grow into a tree and understand the importance of soil, water, air and sunlight in living body.
- v. To learn the process of planting the saplings and post planting operations. To identify the trees and provide an opportunity for students to learn the important properties of different parts of plants
- vi. To encourage students to use plants grown by them for plantations wherever they like, or for distribution to visiting dignitaries and public for plantations.

Salient Features and Guidelines

Salient features of the School Nursery Scheme are elaborated below:

- i. The Scheme will be implemented for a period of five years and all public and private schools recognized by State Boards /Central Government Boards shall be eligible to implement the scheme. Students of class Sixth, Seventh and Eighth may be actively involved in developing nursery, raising and planting seedlings as part of extra-curricular activities. However, schools may also engage a mali (gardener) for various supporting activities. State Forest Department will identify and select the schools based on their willingness. Availability of sufficient open space (around 100 sq.m), proper fencing / boundary of the premises and availability of permanent water source or rain water harvesting facility in the school are essential prerequisites to be eligible under this scheme.
- ii. 1,000 Schools will be selected every year and each school will raise 1000 seedlings. However, if the school wishes to raise seedlings/saplings in excess of 1000 in numbers, the same can be done provided the utilization of these seedlings has been pre-planned either through planting by students of the same school/other schools or any other organization taking up plantation.
- iii. Good quality seedlings of different species like forest trees, medicinal plants, horticultural and fruit trees etc. should be raised and planted. Mother/ Plus Trees should be used for collection of seeds for seedling raising with the help of forest department.
- iv. Each school will be provided financial assistance for establishment of nursery to cover the cost of procurement of various tools, implements and other consumables etc. However, if any school, which has already created nursery, wishes to continue raising fresh seedlings in the subsequent years also, the financial assistance will be restricted to cover the cost of consumables and cost of hiring Mali. All activities related to creation and establishment of nursery should be completed by December and the seedlings raised by students should be planted during the next planting season, in the designated place or students may plant them in a place of their choice and maintain it.
- v. Each school will designate a Teacher in-charge to supervise and coordinate nursery and plantation activities. List of students along with number of seedlings raised and planted by each student to be maintained. Schools should display proper sign boards at both nursery and plantation site, showing details of the activity.

Activities under Scheme

- i. The selected Schools will maintain records of saplings raised as per the format enclosed.
- ii. Students should be actively involved in various activities to learn about the process of nursery development, like:

- a. Drying of seeds, making cuttings, grafting etc. for plant propagation, and preparation of potting mixture from soil, sand and manure or coco- peat, Polybags/earthen pots filling by potting mixture.
 - b. Sowing of seeds, maintenance of young saplings, watering, weeding, transplanting and planting etc.
 - c. Preparation of herbarium, record their observations, collect fruits, seeds etc.
- iii. Schools will organize plantation programme in coordination with Range Forest Officer (RFO). The seedlings raised by the students can be taken by students at the time of passing and may be planted at any place they desire and should be nurtured and maintained by them. Planting can be done on vacant land in the school, other institutions, public or private land, home gardens etc. It can also be planted during Van Mahotsav or through dignitaries with involvement of students. Land for planting should be identified well in advance.
- iv. The schools will also coordinate with local forest officials and take students for field study to established nurseries and to nearby parks/gardens etc. at appropriate time to understand the nursery activities and to observe morphological characteristics of trees and its parts like- leaves, bark, branching patterns, flowering, colour of flowers and young leaves, fruits, seeds etc. Transport for such studies will be arranged by schools. Students will also learn identification of plants and trees.

Scheme Targets

- i. Every year 1000 schools will be selected and each school will raise 1000 seedlings / saplings. State-wise proposed targets for the first year of the scheme is attached as annexure. The targets are indicative and numbers will be finalized based on proposal from the state governments.
- ii. Targets for subsequent years will be finalized based on the proposal from schools and State Forest Departments.

Procedure and Funding

- i. Each School will submit a detailed proposal elaborating all activities for raising at least 1,000 saplings of suitable plant species in the prescribed format to the concerned Range Forest Officer (RFO) of the area who will forward the proposal to Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF)/ Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), who after examining the proposal, will forward it to State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) with proper recommendations.
- ii. SFDAs will then forward the consolidated proposal of all the schools to National Afforestation & Eco-development Board (NAEB) in the Ministry for further consideration. NAEB, after appropriate examination will forward the proposal to National Authority, CAMPA for release of funds.
- iii. The funds for implementation of the scheme will be released from funds of National CAMPA, directly to SFDAs, who will then transfer it to Schools through the concerned DFOs/RFO.

- iv. Each School will receive Rs. 50,000/- as grant under this scheme. Out of this, Rs. 40,000/- will be used by each proposer school for creation of Nursery with essential facilities. Balance Rs. 10,000/- will be utilized for miscellaneous activities like report preparations, field study, photography, awards etc. In addition, another Rs.40,000/- will be paid annually to schools for keeping a nursery trainer/mali.
- v. In case the same school wishes to raise nursery next year or in subsequent years also, the grant of Rs. 25,000/- will be given to meet the cost of consumables like soil, poly bags or earthen pots, compost/manure etc. as the nursery is already established and will require only planting material.
- vi. The grant to school will cover the initial expenditure on creation of nursery beds, watering arrangements, pipes, soil, manure, earthen pots, polybags and other necessary inputs and implements including overhead expenses like stationery, photos, and field studies etc.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- vii. SFDs will guide the schools and all technical support for raising of nursery, plantation and post plantation care to schools selected under this scheme will be provided by them.
- viii. SFDAs proposing to develop 20 or more school nurseries will be entitled to engage one state level coordinator to monitor and coordinate the school nursery activities in the state at a monthly remuneration of Rs. 50,000/- for project duration. In addition, a lump sum grant of Rs. 1.00 lakh per SFDA will be released for overhead expenses.
- ix. A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be set up in NAEB, MoEF&CC for coordinating, monitoring and publicity of the Scheme and a technical consultant at a remuneration of Rs.70,000/- will be hired to operate the PMU. The PMU operation, third party monitoring and evaluation, preparation and publication of documents/ films etc. will be done through empaneled agencies of NAEB based at New Delhi.
- x. The schools selected under this scheme will create a model nursery and will furnish Quarterly progress report to the RFO who will monitor it. Schools shall also prepare comprehensive annual report of all activities, accompanied with photos, every year by December and submit it to the DFO/DCF through RFO which will be sent to NAEB through PCCF/SFDA for further monitoring and consideration for release of fund for the next year.

Scheme Budget

The total cost of the project is given below:

Total Cost

Sl. No.	Item of Works	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crore)
1	School Nursery (Including Creation	45.00

	and cost of gardener)	
2	Grants to States/SFDAs (engagement of coordinators, lump sum grant for monitoring and overhead expenses)	9.50
3	Operations of Project Management Unit, monitoring and evaluation, Publicity, publication of report, films and other administrative expenses etc. for NAEB.	2.50
	Total	57.00

Scheme Outcome

- i. The scheme will create awareness and develop interest in the minds of young students towards trees and afforestation.
- ii. Plantation activities will be promoted on vacant land outside forests thus contributing towards increasing area under tree cover.

APPLICATION FORM FOR SCHOOL NURSERY YOJANA

1. Name of School:
2. District:
3. State:
4. Address of the School:
5. No. of Students in Class- 6th – 8th STD.
6. Area available for School Nursery (in sq. meter):
7. Name of Teacher In -Charge and contact details:
8. Undertaking by the School

I have gone through the School Nursery Yojana and agree to implement the Scheme and undertake to develop a School Nursery as per terms and conditions therein.

Signature of Teacher in charge

Signature of School Principal

Place.....

Date.....

9. Verification Report & Recommendation of Range Forest officer

Signature of RFO Concerned

10. Forwarding by H.O. D./ Authorized Officer of State Government.

REPORT ON PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Place:

Date:

1. Name of School:
2. Address:
3. Grant received for the Year:
4. Progress of Implementation: (Attach Photos etc.)

Target for saplings: 1,000 Nos.

S. No.	Item of work	Physical Progress
I	No of students enrolled	
II	Nursery development	
a.	Area of nursery	
b.	Number of Polybags filled	
c.	Sowing of seeds/Cuttings	
d.	Number of seedlings/saplings raised*	

* Species wise number of seedlings/saplings raised should be given separately

5. Field visit (details be given)
6. Details of Plantation (place of plantation, Area (ha)/ Number of Plants (species wise) Planted, Name of Species)
7. Expenditure (item wise)
8. Signature and Name of Teacher in charge:
9. Signature and Name of Principal:
10. Signature of Inspecting Officer (RFO):

(The Report is to be submitted to State Forest Development Agency through RFO/DFO as on 31st October and 31st March of Every year)

Targets under School Nursery Scheme (1ST year)

Sl. No.	States/UTs and Districts	Proposed nursery targets (1st Year)
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT) (3)	10
2	Andhra Pradesh (13)	40
3	Arunachal Pradesh (25)	25
4	Assam (33)	30
5	Bihar (38)	30
6	Chandigarh (UT) (1)	20
7	Chhattisgarh (27)	25
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT) (1)	10
9	Daman and Diu (UT) (2)	5
10	Delhi (NCT) (11)	20
11	Goa (2)	10
12	Gujarat (33)	40
13	Haryana (22)	40
14	Himachal Pradesh (12)	40
15	Jammu and Kashmir (UT) (22)	20
16	Jharkhand (24)	40
17	Karnataka (30)	40
18	Kerala (14)	25
19	Lakshadweep (UT) (1)	10
20	Laddakh (UT) (2)	2
21	Madhya Pradesh (52)	35

22	Maharashtra (36)	45
23	Manipur (16)	25
24	Meghalaya (11)	25
25	Mizoram (8)	25
26	Nagaland (11)	25
27	Odisha (30)	30
28	Puducherry (UT) (4)	20
29	Punjab (22)	35
30	Rajasthan (33)	35
31	Sikkim (4)	10
32	Tamil Nadu (37)	40
33	Uttarakhand (13)	30
34	Uttar Pradesh (75)	45
35	West Bengal (23)	30
36	Telangana (31)	40
37	Tripura (8)	23
	Total	1000

Note: Figures in () show number of districts in the state.
