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Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

"සම්පත්පාය", අංක 82, රජමල්වත්ත පාර, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.
 "சம்பத்பாய", இல 82, இராஜமல்வத்த வீதி, பத்தரமுல்ல, இலங்கை.
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Environment Circular – 01/2017

All Secretaries of Ministries,
 Chief Secretaries of Provincial Councils,
 District Secretaries,
 Heads of Departments,
 Divisional Secretaries,
 Heads of Statutory Boards /State Companies,

“Wana Ropa” Program – October 2017

01. Objective

- 1.1. His Excellency the President as the Minister-in-charge of the subject of Environment, “Wana Ropa”, national tree planting programme has been initiated with a view to increase the forest cover in the county up to 32% at the end of 2018 and the month of October every year has been named as the “Wana Ropa” national month for tree planting. Accordingly, arrangements have been made to hold the said programme from 01st to 31st October this year and the principle programme presided over by His Excellency the President will be held on 11th October in Delthota, Kandy District.
- 1.2. The objective of this programme is to promote, preserve and maintain the forest cultivation in specific environmental systems in order to preserve them, development of greeneries by planting trees contributing to creation of tree canopies near public settlements and ensuring that people enjoy their benefits, replacement of degraded lands through specific methodologies of tree planting.
- 1.3. Further, it is also expected to increase newly forested area of land and to upgrade the quality of the existing forest cover following methodologies of forestry and to implement tree planting work in identified land areas to multiply the areas of greenery in specific areas of lands, i.e. mountain tops, upper stream catchment areas, other degraded lands and coastal lines.

"මේ මහාභූමිය සහ භෞමික ජීවීන්ට මෙහිම අත්පත් විය යුතුය. මෙහිම ජීවත් විය යුතුය. මෙහිම ජීවත් විය යුතුය. මෙහිම ජීවත් විය යුතුය. මෙහිම ජීවත් විය යුතුය."
 "இப் பூமியும், மரஞ் செடி கொடிகளும் மனிதனுக்குப் போன்றே வானில் பறந்து திரியும் பறவைகளுக்கும், பூமியில் வாழும் உயிரினங்களுக்கும், அனைத்து விலங்குகளுக்கும் ஒருமித்துச் சொந்தமானது"
 "This great earth and the flora on it equally belong to the man and the birds flying in the sky, the quadrupeds and all creatures living on earth"

02. Strategies

- 2.1 It is suggested that it is appropriate to motivate plantation of self-generated plants creating positive attitudes among the general public on planting of trees through a multi-faceted subject oriented approach and the creation of nurseries to match with the characteristic plants and needs of the residents of the area. I request you to make use of this programme for voluntary motivation of people towards planting of trees and further emphasize that you may also plant trees to celebrate special days of your life or your family members lives and days of national importance. You may make this programme meaningful by acts such as exchange of valuable plants cultivated by you with your friends, offering them as gifts etc.
- 2.2 This programme could be more efficiently, effectively and sustainably conducted by getting active co-operation of three forces and civil security force to launch tree planning programme. Further it is appropriate to take action to cultivate plants adaptable to your area and climatic zone on the lands of camp areas and lands that had been utilized previously for any purpose and presently remaining in a degraded condition.
- 2.3 Through forming “Environment Circles” in public institutions and preparing nurseries adaptable to those areas it would pave the way to enhance their service satisfaction motivating them to be engaged in cultivating nurseries during their off duty periods.
- 2.4 This programme must be taken as an opportunity of handing over multiple benefits to the nation by taking steps to establish a forest cultivation enriched with various strata of tree canopies at every location ranging from home gardens to other places with facilities for planting trees.

03. Methodology

- 3.1 It is requested all District Secretaries and Chief Provincial Secretaries to submit information regarding the tree planting programmes proposed to be implemented in each Divisional Secretariat of the District and each Local Government Territory of the province to this Ministry without delay. I emphasize that you would take every possible measures to receive co-operation of community organizations in the area and active contribution of the entire community of pupils.
- 3.2 According to the rainy season in our country it is further requested to operate this programme all island through out the year commencing from the coming month of tree planting.
- 3.3 Action should be taken to implement this programme at National, Provincial and Local level in collaboration with all state institutions and you may receive plants required for the programme from the Department of Forest and State Timber Corporation. (Particulars on plants could be obtained are attached herewith.) You are also requested to discuss about further particulars on relevant matters in District

Environment Committee Meetings and to appoint District Forest Officer as the Secretary to the Committee in order to assist District Secretaries in the implementation of “Wana Ropa” programme in collaboration with other institutions.

3.4. Apart from that, you are kindly requested to give necessary instructions to implement awareness programmes on preservation of environment at Provincial, District, Divisional and village levels parallel to the above programme by your institution during the period of month from 01st to 31 October, 2017.

3.5. It is highly important to look after, maintain and keep records on every plant cultivated under this tree planting programme and I propose that it would be apt for the institutions taking part in this mission to continue a process of follow-up.

04. Co-ordination

4.1. Particulars required to co-ordinate “Wana Ropa” national tree planning programme on national level could be obtain from the Director, Forest Resources Management of this Ministry. Contact details of the Unit are given below.

Telephone No. & Fax No. : 0112878806

E-mail address : dirfr@environmentmin.gov.lk

Anura Dissanayake

Secretary

Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

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|---|------------------------|--|
| 01. Secretary to the President | - for your information | } To
give
necessary
cooperation |
| 02. Secretary to the Prime Minister | - for your information | |
| 03. Auditor General | - for your information | |
| 04. Director General of Forest Conservation | | |
| 05. Director General of MASL | | |
| 06. Director General, Coastal Conservation and Coastal Resources Management Dept. | | |
| 07. Chairman, Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau | | |
| 08. Chairman, Central Environmental Authority | | |
| 09. Chairman, State Timber Corporation | | |
| 10. Chairman, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau | | |
| 11. Chairman, National Gem & Jewellery Authority | | |
| 12. Chairman, Technical Institution of Gem & Jewellery Research | | |
| 13. Chairman, Marine Environment Protection Authority | | |