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प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक का कार्यालय

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS**

वन सदन, हैडो / **VAN SADAN - HADDO**

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पोर्ट ब्लेयर / Port Blair, दिनांक / Dated 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

सेवामें / To,

The Chief Editor,  
Govt. Press,  
Port Blair

विषय / Sub: Publishing of Press Release -reg.

महोदय / Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the Press Release (both hard and soft copy) with the request to publish in Daily Telegram on 05.02.2022 as a prominent news item.

भवदीया / Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above



(संजय के वराडकर, भा. व. से)

(Sanjay K. Waradkar, IFS)

वन संरक्षक / Conservator of Forests

(मुख्यालय / Headquarters)

वन सदन, पोर्ट ब्लेयर / Van Sadan, Port Blair

## **Press Release**

The Steering Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, A& N Islands has deliberated the Annual Plan of Operation (APO) proposed for the year 2022-23 during the meeting held on 2.02.2022 at Conference Hall, Secretariat and approved the activities worth of Rs. 15.89 crores to be taken up by the Department of Environment & Forests under CAMPA for the year 2022-23. The department acknowledges the guidance, support and directions provided by the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration in formulating the APO with several new and key activities.

An amount of Rs. 1.50 crores have been earmarked for creation of new CA plantation in 56.16 ha and maintenance of 66.83 ha of old CA plantations.

Realizing the importance of food and nutritional security, an impetus is given to raise 26 lakhs seedlings of fruit bearing seedlings of different species such as Bel, Sita pal, Kaju, Jack fruit, Amla, Jamun, Drumstick, Chiku, Papaya, Lemon, etc in Andaman and Nicobar Islands through the forest nurseries and also planting of 6 lakhs fruit bearing seedlings during 2022-23 at an estimated cost of Rs. 5.32 crores to improve the food and wood availability in the islands besides increasing the green cover outside the notified forest areas. This will go a long way to ensure food and nutritional security in the Island Territory.


Conservation of wildlife and management of Protected Areas have been accorded a top priority and an amount of Rs. 3.72 crores is earmarked for taking up various measures which include consolidation of Wildlife Protected Areas, strengthening the protection measures in WLS, Habitat improvement and management, research and monitoring, species conservation programme, education and outreach.

Another significant component of APO is measures to improve the infrastructure for protection and strengthen the communication network for protection of coastal forest areas for an amount of Rs. 4.00 crores. These include creation of inspection paths in inaccessible forest areas in South Andaman particularly, Northbay to Shoalbay, Manjeri to Badabalu and Bhadakahradi to Jhajidera in Rutland Island and establishment of protection camps and inspection huts in remote areas of South, Middle and North Andaman Islands. These measures will not only ensure improved

surveillance and monitoring of forests by the department, but also provide accessibility and connectivity to remote areas. Further to enhance the forest / wildlife protection efforts, the Steering Committee approved field vehicles/machineries/equipments worth of Rs. 1.00 crore for frontline staff/field functionaries of the department. An amount of 0.28 crore has been earmarked for State CAMPA.

The Steering Committee further decided to send the approved Annual Plan of Operation (APO) for the year 2022-23 to the Executive Committee of the National Authority for final approval.

Recognising the need for infrastructure development in the Environment & Forest Department particularly at Divisional level, the Chief Secretary has assured for more infrastructure facilities in the form of vehicles and boats for the department.

  
(Dr. K. Ravichandran)  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
CRZ& FC  
VanSadan, Haddo, Port Blair