



Government of West Bengal
Directorate of Forests

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force, West Bengal
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No. 3381/CS/2M-989/2018

Dated: 10.07.2019

To : (1) All the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(2) All Addl. PCCFs / Director, SBR
(3) All Chief Conservator of Forests / Field Directors
(4) All Conservator of Forests / Jt. Director, SBR
(5) All DFOs / DCFs / DFDs / Directors, SFTI, Hizli / W.B. Forest School, Dowhill

Sub: Observance of 'SAVE WATER DAY' on 12th July, 2019 – An Advisory.

The Hon'ble C.M, West Bengal has declared 12th July as 'Save Water Day', to be observed every year starting from 2019.

According to Reports, 600 million Indians are facing different degrees of water shortage. Even the quality of water available in India is very poor and the country ranks 120 among 122 on the water quality index. It is estimated that 70 of India's water is contaminated. 90 percent of rural India's drinking water comes from groundwater and 75 per cent of agriculture is groundwater based. Given this high dependence on groundwater, management of water resource in participatory mode, involving local people is essential.

Forest Department, GoWB, since its inception, has been working for soil and water conservation mainly in the rural areas. Construction of Check Dams, Earthen Dams, serial Rock check dams, Rain water harvesting structures are built in the forest areas of various districts under various schemes. Also, large scale Afforestation is taken up by Forest Department every year. On an average, the Department creates about 5000-6000 hectares of plantation every year. Greening outside forest area is also taken up by the Department under Social Forestry schemes. Creation of green cover actually reduces the runoff loss of rain water to a large extent and in a way complements Soil and Water conservation.

Under Jaltirtha Project, Forest Department has been constructing medium to large dams for water harvesting in Bankura, Purulia, Medinipur and Birbhum districts. Since 2017-18 till date, out of 92 approved schemes, 47 have been completed and the rest are ongoing. Forest Dept., may continue the schemes of catchment area treatment with greening programs, check dams, earthen dams, vegetative checks and other small to large water harvesting structures.

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In accordance with declaration of the State Government, all the Govt. Institutions and Offices will be observing 'Save Water Day on 12th July, 2019. Several programs and initiatives will be taken at the state, district, block and village level.

Now, all Circle In-Charges and Divisional Forest Officers should work in close co-ordination with District Administration and participate in all the District Level, Block Level and village level and make them a success. All co-operation to be extended in this regard.

Yours' faithfully,



For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, West Bengal

No.3382/CS/2M-989/2018

Dated: 10.07.2019

Copy forwarded for information to :-

- (1). P.S. to MIC, Forests
- (2) P.S. to MoS, Forests
- (3) Principal Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal, Dept. of Forests
- (4) CCF, MIS & E.Gov. – For uploading in the Website.



For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, West Bengal