

Quantum of Grant:

17. Assistance for nursery costs will be limited to Rs. 1.40 per surviving seedling including 20% extra seedlings for casualty replacement. This includes cost of polythene bags, site development, weeding, watering, fertilizer, wages, etc.

18. Assistance for planting (including land development, pit digging, planting, weeding, fertilizer, wages etc.) and maintenance over a period of 3 years (including casualty replacement) will not exceed Rs. 9,120 per hectare or Rs. 5.70 per plant, whichever is less. This is for a maximum planting density of 1600 plants per hectare. If an agency proposes to take up planting at a higher density (which must be technically feasible), the assistance for nursery and planting will be restricted to the above norms.

19. Assistance towards the administrative costs of the project (including operation of vehicles and staff salaries) essential for the project will not exceed 10% of the nursery, planting and soil and moisture conservation costs admissible.

20. For awareness raising activities essential for the project, the cost will not exceed 5% of the nursery, planting and soil and moisture conservation costs admissible.

21. The Board will not normally support the use of barbed wire fencing for protection of plantations. However, it may consider requests for other methods of protection such as cattle proof trench-cum-mound, live fencing, local watchmen/guards, etc. Assistance for this purpose, if sanctioned, will be limited to Rs. 1100 per hectare (over a period of 3 years) subject to the agency furnishing adequate details of and justification for the items and costs involved and verification thereof.

22. Supplementary efforts to include soil and moisture conservation measures and/or watering may be considered. In case of soil conservation measures, such as contour bunding, contour trenching, gully plugging etc. and/or arrangements for watering, an additional amount of Rs. 1800 per hectare or Rs. 1.15 per plant, whichever is less, over the project duration may be allowed subject to the agency furnishing sufficient justification and details about the items of expenditure and associated costs.

23. For afforestation projects in the hills and desert areas, transportation assistance limited to Rs.200 per hectare, may be allowed subject to the agency furnishing adequate justification.

24. The above norms will apply to afforestation projects on public lands, i.e. panchayat lands and government lands. In case of projects covering private lands, the Board's assistance, subject to the above specifications, will be restricted to:

- (i) Nursery costs as above;
- (ii) Advance work, planting and maintenance over a period of 3 years subject to a limit of Rs. 5,360 per hectare or Rs. 3.35 per plant, whichever is less;
- (iii) Soil and moisture conservation measures subject to limit of Rs. 900 per hectare or Rs. 0.56 per plant, whichever is less;
- (iv) Administrative costs of the project subject to a limit of 10% of the nursery, planting and soil and moisture conservation costs admissible.
- (v) Cost of awareness-raising activities, subject to a limit of 5% of the nursery, planting and soil and moisture conservation costs admissible; and,
- (vi) Transportation costs as given above.

25. In case of agro-forestry projects or projects for longitudinal planting along the boundaries of farms, road sides, canal sides, river sides, urban areas, etc. or where the area to be planted has not been clearly and properly stated, area in hectares for purposes of working out the quantum of overheads and protection assistance will be calculated nominally by using a conversion factor of 1600 plants to one hectare.

26. Activities like grass and fodder development can also be undertaken in combination with afforestation activities (Silvipasture) within the norms of assistance.

27. The Board's assistance for projects involving activities to promote training and extension in isolation shall not be considered.

28. The consideration of the proposal for sanction and quantum of grant for financial assistance will depend upon the strength of the proposal, its pre-appraisal, capability of the Agency, regional distribution and the priority assigned to the proposal by State Forest Department and the Board.