

## **CHAPTER - 9**

### **FORESTRY**

9.1 Rajasthan, being the largest state in the country, has a geographical area of 3.42 lakh sq. kms which is 11% of country's geographical area. There is marked difference in the physiographic features of the State. The Aravallis, one of the oldest mountain systems, divides the State into two unequal parts. The Aravallis cover over 30% area of the State. A vast expanse of arid and semi-arid tract lies in the west of the Aravallis.

9.2 Rajasthan has the distinction of having the largest population of cattle, sheep and camels. The livestock constitute an important component of State's economy, particularly in its western parts, where nearly two third of the population is engaged in animal husbandry and allied activities. The ratio of livestock to human population in the state is approximately 1:1 as against the national average of 1:2. This indicates the excessive biotic pressure on the limited forest resources of the State and is also a threat to agriculture.

9.3 State Government is committed to sustainable development and will motivate afforestation especially through private sector participation; make efforts to resolve the problems of tribals living in forest area; motivate forest labour cooperative societies for marketing of forest produce, strengthen Joint Forest Management (JFMS); strengthen fame sanctuaries & parks, promote participatory role of local people and panchayats in Tourism and wild life management; appoint Van Mitras, issue pattas to tribals under Forest Conservation Act etc.

9.4 Against the provision of ₹197.00 crores for the 11th Five Year Plan, ₹ 54.12 crores were spent during the year 2007-08, ₹ 45.58 crores were spent during the year 2008-09 and ₹ 55.75 crores were spent during the year 2009-10. ₹ 101.65 crores are likely to be spent during the year 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 198.17 crores is proposed for the year 2011-12. Scheme wise details are as under.

#### **Biodiversity Conservation including Eco- tourism activities**

9.5 The focus on Biodiversity conservation is for protection of species and ecosystem both within the Protected Area Network (PAN) and outside as well as undertaking conservation measures in-situ and ex-situ to sustain a viable population of threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna. Awards are also given to people and organizations engaged in protection and conservation activities.

9.6 A new scheme of "Van Mitra" has been formulated and introduced in 2009-10. These Van Mitra will be extension workers and will facilitate/motivate the VFPMCs, panchayats and local people about Forest & Wildlife Protection and Environmental Conservation which are

very important components of forestry. ₹ 434.30 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 451.30 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Consolidation, Demarcation & Settlement**

9.7 Consolidation, Demarcation & Settlement is an important component in forestry sector as it demarcates the forest boundaries and enables the custodians of the forests to know the land under their possession. The possibility of encroachments on forestlands and boundary disputes can be reduced by effective demarcation. ₹ 122.77 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 19.60 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Reforestation of Degraded Forests**

9.8 Under Reforestation of degraded forests, degraded areas are enclosed and in-situ soil & moisture conservation structure are made to give a boost to natural regeneration. Further maintenance of activities of RFBP is being carried out under state plan from 2008-09 onwards as per commitment of the State Government. ₹ 679.34 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 57.50 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Communication and Building**

9.9 For regular upkeep of the buildings of the department and for the construction of new Office, Jodhpur in place of the old ones handed over to Army, provisions are being proposed under this scheme. ₹ 251.50 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 100.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Environmental Forestry / Urban Forestry**

9.10 This scheme has been started with the main object to develop and afforest the public places so that the people of cities and towns may develop inclination and awareness towards Environmental Conservation. Green belts developed and created in cities not only act as their lungs but act as avenues for recreation of urban people. ₹ 96.78 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 55.18 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Preservation of Wild Life**

9.11 Rajasthan has very rich flora and fauna. The State Govt. gives due priority to Wild life Conservation in the State. The maintenance activities in various sanctuaries and zoos of the State like anicuts, buildings, wireless systems & census operations of wild animals are being done. Fire fighting and publication of posters, stickers, booklets etc for creating awareness in the public at large, holding of function during Wild Life Week and giving away prizes for wild life conservation etc. are taken up under this scheme.

9.12 Special effort will be made to develop and strengthen the two internationally important Ranthambhore & Keoladeo National Parks and other sanctuaries such as Sariska, Kumbhalgarh, Talchappar etc. Tourism department will be associated to these protected areas so that sustainable eco-tourism circuits could be developed thus there will be greater involvement of local people and panchayats in protection of wildlife. ₹ 634.40 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 705.06 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12 for wild life preservation activities.

### **Farm Forestry**

9.13 Under this scheme, seedlings are raised in departmental nurseries for distribution to farmers, schools, panchayats and the urban areas, institutions and government departments for planting on their land. A special drive to increase the tree cover with the involvement and participation of panchayats, VFPMCs and private institutions by using the seedlings raised under this scheme will be taken up. ₹ 361.26 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 492.05 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12 and a token provision of ₹ 0.01 lakhs are kept for farm forestry (Panchayat Raj)

### **Integrated Forest Protection Scheme**

9.14 It is a centrally sponsored scheme for forest protection. Central and state government shares the funds in the ratio of 75:25. ₹ 44.85 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 75.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Bhakra and Gang Canal Plantation**

9.15 To replant the felled areas of the Bhakra and Gang Canal by the Irrigation Department, out of the revenue generated by the felling and disposal of the old plantations this work has been taken from 2008-09. ₹ 293.76 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 292.05 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Thirteenth Finance Commission**

9.16 Construction of boundary pillars and pucca boundary walls is being undertaken from grant, Nursery development, Bambeo culture operation, Afforestation and eco-restoration preparation of working plan, development Biological Park/Zoos and Macaws Safari Park received as per recommendation of TFC. Infrastructure development, and e-governance is also under taken under TFC. ₹ 1104.00 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11 and the same amount of ₹1104.00 lakhs are proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **CAMPA Fund**

9.17 To meet out the payment of NPV for the various government department projects in lieu of forestland under the provisions of Forest

Conservation ₹ 130.00 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 85.25 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Goverdhan Drain**

9.18 For providing water for the prestigious Keoladeo National Park, Ghana Bharatpur, Additional Central Assistance was sought from Planning Commission in the year 2008-09 to the tune of ₹ 6500.00 lakhs. ₹ 4476.00 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. An amount of ₹ 3622.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Loan from NABARD**

9.19 National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has provided loan assistance of Rs. 3894.51 lakhs under Rural Infrastructure Fund-XV (RIDF-XV) for construction of water harvesting structures in sanctuaries. Amount to be contributed by the State Government is ₹ 204.97 lakhs. ₹ 775.03 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11. ₹1600.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.

### **Rajasthan Forestry and Bio-diversity Project**

9.20 The ongoing Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project was to be completed by 2007-08 but the same has now been extended till 2010-11. On the approval of the project by JBIC, the pending construction activities in two Biological parks has been taken up. Special effort for strengthening the VFPMCs and SHGs is being taken up so that they are empowered to manage the plantations raised in their areas. ₹ 761.00 lakhs are likely to be spent during 2010-11.

### **Rajasthan Forestry and Bio-diversity Project (Phase II)**

9.21 The ongoing Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project are likely to be completed now by 2010-11. Second phase of the project has been formulated and posed through DEA to JICA for funding. The project is accepted and sanctioned, it may start in 2011-12. An amount of Rs. 11158.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2011-12.