



SCHOOL NURSERY YOJNA



Plant a  tree
for
Sustainable Future



Let's
plant a tree
to make our Nation
Green & Clean

Teens adopt greens

SCHOOL NURSERY YOJANA

"To observe, learn, grow and nurture your plant"

SCHOOL NURSERY:

The nursery provides caring beds where seeds germinate, plants take roots, and grows into a saplings which are later transplanted at suitable sites. School Nursery proposed here will be a small nursery with facilities for raising of saplings for use of students and schools.

A School Nursery is supposed to be a small open space of minimum 100 sq meter space for preparing beds for raising of saplings and for nursery related activities viz. preparing planting mixture of good earth, soil, manure etc., filling of polybags, earthen pots etc., storage of seeds, Each School Nursery is expected to create 1000 saplings every year.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?:

- Students of classes six to class nine.
- Schools to have at least 100 sq. meter of open space for developing nursery and green activities.
- Schools to have Eco Clubs.
- School Principals to agree to maintain the nursery for at least 5 years.
- Schools to have provision of or create facilities for using treated waste water for irrigation.
- 1,000 schools will be selected every year, which will act as Lead Schools and guide other schools in such activities in subsequent years.

ACTIVITIES:

- Students to grow saplings in nursery as part of practical exercise for Biology classes and extra- curricular activities for students of other streams.
- Excursions to nearby parks and gardens for observations and collection of specimens viz. flowers, fruits, seeds etc.
- Preparation of herbarium.
- Carry out tree census in school and locality.
- Prizes to good performers.
- Composting and vermi-composting.
- Rainwater harvesting.

HOW TO APPLY?:

- Interested Schools to apply to the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests/ Divisional Forest Officer as per the prescribed format, who will submit the proposal after scrutiny to State CAMPA for consideration.
- The proposal should include:
 - i. Map of the School with area earmarked for nursery.
 - ii. A development cum Management Plan.
 - iii. Commitment to continue the management of nursery.
- State CAMPA will submit the consolidated proposal to NCAC Steering Committee for approval and providing grant.
- National CAMPA Steering Committee after approval will provide funds to State CAMPA for releasing the Grant to Schools.
- Selected schools will create a model nursery and submit their annual report certified by the principal alongwith relevant photographs on the activities.
- State CAMPA will monitor the Scheme and try to create an Online Interactive Web Portal for disseminating information on Nursery raising and place reports/ information received from schools.
- A list of forest officials and other experts will be maintained by the State CAMPA/ DFOs to whom the schools can contact for professional guidance.

GRANT AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOL NURSERY:

- Each School will receive initially a first time financial grant of Rs. 25,000/- for creation of Nursery with essential facilities.
- These schools will receive a grant of Rs. 10,000/- during next two years for continuation of programme subject to satisfactory performance.
- The grant will cover the initial expenditure on creation of nursery beds, watering arrangements, pipes, soil, manure, earthen pots, polybags and other inputs.
- State Forest Departments to guide and provide technical support to schools selected under this scheme.

HOW TO RAISE A NURSERY?

Why a School Nursery?

Setting up of school's own nursery has the following objectives:

- An opportunity for students to learn about nature & work with soil.
- Students develop organic linkage with and positive emotions for environment.
- Having one's own nursery ensures that the schools and neighborhoods are green.
- Enabling schools to distribute saplings to students to plant in their homes and surroundings.
- Create an army of young green warriors.

Setting up a Nursery

(a) Site requirement: Nursery should be

- Located near a source of water supply
- On flat well drained land
- In a partially shaded area and fenced for protection of saplings.

(b) Materials for Preparation

- **Scoop:** appropriate tool for stuffing soil into plastic bags
- **Sieve :** a wire net (1x1 cm – hole size) and fitted into a square wooden frame.
- **Plastic bags :** Punctured disposable plastic cups / plastic bags or milk pouches etc. can be reused.
- **Seeds :** can be obtained from a government nursery or collected from field trips
- **Watercan,** water pipes and Hoe

(c) How to prepare the soil

- Filter soil, sand and compost by sieve for removing stones and garbage
- Mix top soil, sand and compost in the ratio of 1:1:1 or use ready mix coco peat.
- Stuff the mixed soil into a plastic bag which has holes so that water can drain off.

(d) How to sow the seeds

- Take out seeds from the ripened pods/ fruits.
- Dry the seeds in the sun immediately after the collection.
- Select only healthy and mature seeds.
- Seeds must be treated before sowing.
- The sowing method varies, according to the size of the seed.

(e) Small Size seed (equal to rice grain or smaller)

- Soak the seed in water overnight before sowing.
- Sow the treated seed in the seedbeds or seed trays.
- Cover the seed with thin layer of sand and sprinkle water softly.
- When the bud comes out, transplant it in a plastic pot.

(f) Medium Size seed (bigger than rice grain, but not more than 1 cm)

- Soak the seed in water overnight before sowing. However, a seed with a very hard shell should be soaked in warm water for an hour.
- Sow two seeds in a plastic pot. Cover the seeds with a thin layer of soil.
- When the seeds germinate, pick out one bud and re-plant it in another pot.

(g) Big size seed with a very hard shell (bigger than 1 cm)

- Soak in water for 12 hours.
- Sow directly in a plastic pot.

(h) Nursing

- Water the seeds twice a day until germination.
- After germination, keep watering once a day in the morning, for 3 months. Thereafter, watering once in 2-3 days is enough.
- Time to time weeding (removal of undesirable plants) for the growth of the saplings. Move saplings from the shade to sun after sometime for faster growth.
- Once the sapling reaches a height of 60 cm- 90 cm or more in 6 months, it is ready for planting.

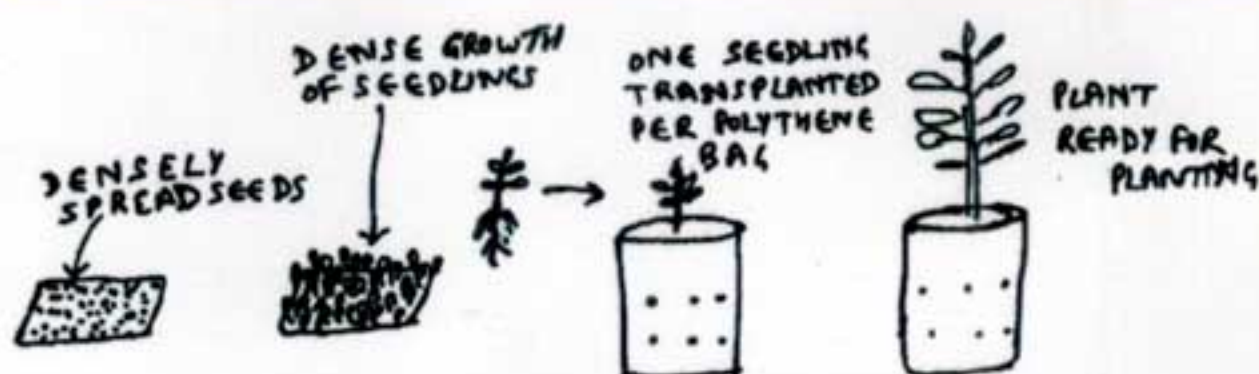


Fig. 1. Steps for raising plants in polythene bags:
For very small seeds or seeds with uncertain germination

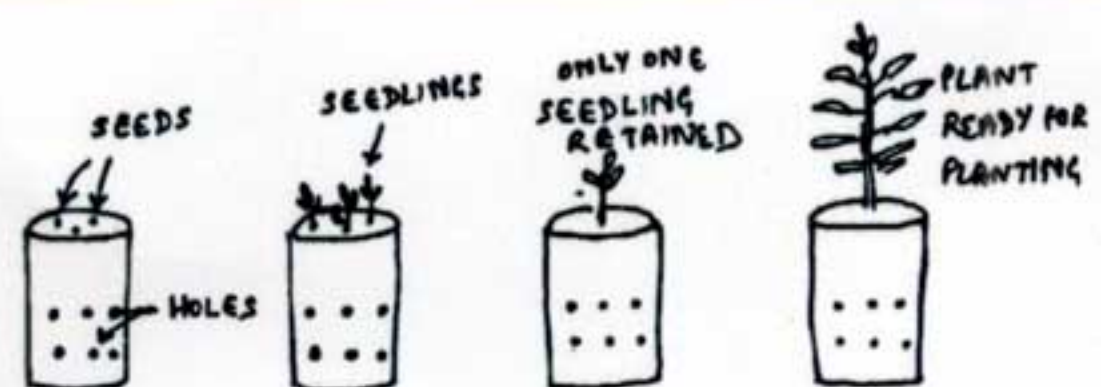


Fig. 2. Steps for raising plants in polythene bags: Normal procedure

The Right Way of Tree Planting*

Before planting saplings, children must be informed about "How" they should plant them. Children need to be closely supervised while they are planting to ensure that they are doing it in the way expected, with complete focus. If saplings are planted in appropriate ways, they lay roots in the new environment much sooner and their survival rate becomes much higher.

Weeding



Cut grass beforehand, and correct the grass for mulching later.

Holing




Dig up a large pit of 45cm X 45cm X 45 cm with a hoe, and arrange the dug out soil along the sides of the dug pit.

Improper holing




Pit is too small and shallow.

Proper holing



The best suited depth of the Pit is in accordance with the height of the root of the saplings.



Refill the pit with dugout soil and manure




Reopen the pit and make hole of the size of the polybag of the sapling

Planting



Remove stone, garbage, litter etc., and cover the sapling with soil.

Stomping



Tread on the soil. It makes the soil around the sapling more firm to prevent the washing away of the soil.

For dry condition



Spoon the soil around the sapling in the place where it becomes dry easily.

For wet condition



Pile up the soil surrounding the sapling at the place where water stagnates easily.

Composting



Scatter compost on the soil, and mix the compost with the soil on the surface.

Watering



Sprinkle the water softly around the periphery of the hole so as not to expose the roots of the sapling.

Mulching



Cover the surroundings of the roots of the saplings with cut grass to prevent their drying up.

Marking & fencing



Set up sticks at the side of the sapling to prevent any miss-cutting. Moreover, set up a fence for protection from domestic animals.

*Courtesy: UPPFMPAP, UP Government



Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Govt. of India, New Delhi-110003