The Bharat Scouts and Guides



Creating Better India

National Headquarters

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To
All the State Secretaries
State Associations of
The Bharat Scouts and Guides
INDIAN UNION



Circular No. 115/2024 Date: 28/06/2024

SUB: - CELEBRATION OF VAN MAHOTSAV UNDER PROJECT CLAP

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters.

Climate change poses significant challenges to our environment, affecting weather patterns, sea levels, and biodiversity. The increasing concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is a major factor contributing to global warming and climate instability. This year, we are all experiencing the effects of climate change more than ever before. As an organization we are committed to the well-being of our planet and BSG has already addressed and working on the Climate Change issues through various projects.

One of the most effective ways to mitigate climate change is through tree plantation. Trees absorb carbon dioxide, one of the major greenhouse gases, from the atmosphere. By planting more trees, we can help reduce the overall concentration of greenhouse gases, thereby stabilizing the climate. Trees also provide numerous other benefits, such as improving air quality, conserving water, preserving soil, and supporting wildlife.

Considering this, we are pleased to inform you that the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters will celebrate the upcoming Van Mahotsav, an annual tree-planting festival celebrated across India. Van Mahotsav will be organized from $01^{\rm st}$ to $07^{\rm th}$ July 2024 by the members of the Bharat Scouts and Guides with the slogan "Each One Plant One" tree.

Like every year this year also, we aim to make the event more impactful by involving State/District Forest Departments and various stakeholders, including educational institutions, non-governmental organizations and local communities.

The proposed schedule for the celebration is from 01st July 2024 to 07th July 2024. During this week, we plan to organize the following activities such as:

- 1. Mass Tree Plantation Drives: Encouraging community participation in planting trees specially Neem as it has been declared as the "Tree of the 21st century" by the UNO and other plants in urban and rural areas.
- 2. Tulsi Plantation Drives: Tulsi, known as Holy Basil, is celebrated for its medicinal properties and its unique ability to release Ozone (O3) into the atmosphere, improving air quality. We invite everyone to plant Tulsi in their gardens, balconies or community spaces. After planting, geotag your Tulsi plants on Google Maps to help us track and visualize the impact of our efforts. Share your plantation stories and photos on social media with the hashtag #VanMahotsavTulsiDrive. Let's plant as many Tulsi plants as possible and contribute to a greener, healthier planet.
- Awareness Campaigns: Conduct awareness rallies at various levels, and exhibitions to educate the public about the environmental benefits of trees.
- School and College Programs: Involving students in essay writing, poster making and debates on topics related to forest conservation and the importance of afforestation.
- 5. **Community Participation:** Engaging local communities in maintaining and protecting newly planted saplings.

All the State Associations are requested to contact State and District Forest officers and request them to provide free-of-cost saplings for Van Mahotsav. We seek your support in facilitating the smooth organization of these activities.

We request all State Associations to issue directives up to the group/unit level for the grand celebration of Van Mahotsav. Together, we can make a significant contribution towards creating a greener and healthier environment for future generations.

Kindly use this link - <u>Van Mahotsav Report Submission</u> and submit your report by 10th July 2024. The best reports will be recognized by the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters.

Let us join hands for Mother Earth and take a step towards a sustainable future.

Yours in Scouting,

Deputy Director of Scouts (Boy Programme)

Copy to:-

- 1. All the NHQ Office Bearers of the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters.
- 2. Chairman/Secretary, Railway Scout and Guide Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 3. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shahid Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi 110016.
- 4. The Commissioner, Novadaya Vidyalaya Samiti, Institutional Area, B-15, Sector 62, Noida- 201309, Uttar Pradesh.
- 5. The Director, DAV
- 6. All the District Secretaries, District Association of Dammam, Riyad, Muscut, Jamiat Youth Club and CWSN
- 7. All the Assistant Directors of the Region to follow up with the states.