

CHAPTER IV

TAMIL NADU HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY(TANHODA)

Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency has been registered as a Society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975. The Governing Council of the Society consists of the Chairman, Managing Director, and six official members.

TANHODA has been conceived as a “*Special Purpose Vehicle*” for the purpose of implementing schemes like National Horticulture Mission, Micro Irrigation, and National Bamboo Mission. TANHODA is implementing the following schemes.

1. National Horticultural Mission
2. Micro-irrigation scheme
3. National Bamboo mission
4. TN - IAMWARM
5. State Horticulture Farms

Restructuring of the departments and strengthening of TANHODA

The Government of Tamil Nadu, has taken pro-active steps to strengthen TANHODA so as to enable it to discharge its duties. TANHODA has been strengthened by inducting one Additional Director for NHM, 3 Joint Directors one each to look after IAMWARM, Micro Irrigation and Bamboo Mission, and State Horticultural Farms. Similarly ministerial staffs have also been allotted.

State Horticulture Farms

The salary of the existing staff in the Horticulture Farms shall be borne by Government. The receipts from State Horticulture Farms by way of sale of planting material and usufructs will be credited to the TANHODA account. TANHODA shall prepare annual plans and budgets and make available funds for maintenance, infrastructure development & for day-to-day expenses of inputs, wages, electricity and other contingencies. An amount in the form of revolving fund will be given as one-time-grant to TANHODA.

I. Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1. National Horticulture Mission (85:15)

The scheme is implemented in 20 districts viz Coimbatore, Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Cuddalore, Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Trichy, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram, Nilgiris, Perambalur, Vellore, Pudukottai, Villupuram, Kanyakumari and Thanjavur. The Scheme covers the crops viz Mango, Aonla, Banana, Cashew, Cocoa, Chillies, Turmeric, aromatic plants and flowers which are promoted through a cluster approach. The scheme was implemented during the year 2007-08 with a financial outlay of Rs.7576 lakhs and will be implemented during 2008-09 with a financial outlay of Rs.12000 lakhs.

The scheme is implemented through District Mission Committees headed by the District Collectors and Deputy Director of Horticulture of the district is the member Secretary of the committee.

2. Micro Irrigation Scheme

With increasing demand on water from various sectors, the availability of water is under severe stress. Agriculture sector is the largest user of water. While irrigation projects (Major and medium) have contributed to the development of water resources, conventional methods of irrigation are inefficient and lead to wastage of water. It has been recognized that the use of modern irrigation methods like drip and sprinkler irrigation are the ways for the efficient use of surface as well as ground water resources.

Under this scheme subsidy of 50% is given to farmers who install drip or sprinkler systems in their fields. The department of Agriculture is the nodal agency for Coconut and sugar cane in private sugar mills. The Department of Sugar is the nodal agency for sugar cane in the co operative sugar mills. Agricultural Engineering Department is responsible for fruit tree crops and the department of horticulture for vegetables, flowers, spices, medicinal plants and banana.

The drip irrigation companies were selected and empanelled in the year 2007-08. With the restructuring of the department and provision of adequate staff this scheme is expected to take off. During the year 2007-08, micro irrigation scheme was implemented with a financial outlay of Rs.6811 lakhs for an area of 12621 hectares.

During 2008-09, the scheme will be implemented in an area of 38000 ha. under Horticultural crops and non-horticultural crops at an approximate cost of Rs. 9000 lakhs.

Schemes Fully Funded by Government of India

3. Bamboo Mission in Tamil Nadu

Bamboos are a fast growing species. Bamboo is a much preferred material because of its qualities and cheaper cost, in sectors like pulp wood industries, housing, arts, crafts etc. Bamboo is estimated to have about 1500 uses.

For this scheme, an amount of Rs. 258.32 Lakhs has been allotted for the year 2007-08. The scheme is being implemented through departments of Horticulture, Agriculture, Forest and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. Tamil Nadu Horticultural Development Agency (TANHODA) is the nodal agency for National Bamboo Mission Scheme. In Tamil Nadu, Bamboo is cultivated in an extent of 1000 ha in non forest area.

During the year 2007-08, an area of 200 ha is brought under bamboo cultivation at 50% subsidy. During the year 2008-09, 750 ha will be brought under cultivation.

During the year 2007-08, 200 farmers have been trained in Bamboo Cultivation at Forest College Mettupalayam. During the year 2008-09, 2300 farmers will be trained under advanced technology bamboo cultivation.

Externally Aided Project

4. IAMWARM PROJECT

The objective of the scheme is to bring Crop Diversification and Area Expansion with high income-generating horticultural crops, in 63 river sub basins of Tamil Nadu.

During the year 2007-08, the 1st Phase of implementation has been taken up in 9 sub-basins viz., Varahanadhi, Upper Vellar, South Vellar, Pambar, Manimuthar, Kottakaraiyar, Arjunanadhi, Palar and Aliyar. During the year 2007-08 an area of 4310 Ha has been covered against the target of 6139 ha. An expenditure of Rs.320 lakhs has been achieved against the target of Rs.858.120 lakhs.

The Project will be extended in the 2nd Phase to another 16 sub-basins during 2008-09 viz., Pennaiyar (up to Krishnagiri), Swethanadhi, Anaivari Odai, Chinnar, Agniar, Ambuliyar, Upper Vaigai, Varattar-Nagalar, Upper Gundar, Therkar. Senkottaiyar, Sindapalli-Uppodai, Nishabanadhi, Kalingalar, Poiney and Koundinyanadhi.

Besides providing planting materials, inputs and development of irrigation infrastructure like Drip & Sprinklers, Marketing facilities, etc will be made available to the farmers by convergence with line-departments.

Progress of Schemes implemented by TANHODA

Physical : ha.

Financial: Rs. in lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2007-08				2008-09	
		Phy.		Fin.		Phy.	Fin.
		Tar.	Achmt. as on 29.02.08	Tar.	Achmt. as on 29.02.08	Tar.	Tar.
1	Micro Irrigation	34382	13597	6811	1463	38000	9000
2	National Horticulture Mission	30920	35514	9800	4843	40000	12000
3	TN IAMWARM	6139	4310	858.120	315.000	6375	886

5. State Horticulture Farms

There are 51 State Horticulture Farms and 4 parks under the control of TANHODA. 1083 labourers of State Horticulture Farms who had put in more than 10 years of service were made permanent on 29.11.2007 with time scale of pay. Pedigree planting materials are being produced from these State Horticulture Farms and distributed to the horticultural crop-cultivating farmers under various schemes. They also serve as "Model Demonstration Farm" to the local growers. The Botanical Garden and Parks serve as "Study Centers" for the students and attract many tourists.

During the year 2007-08, as on 29.02.2008, 75 lakh nos. of planting materials were produced in State Horticulture Farms and distributed to farmers. During 2008-09, it is programmed to produce 115 lakhs Nos. of planting materials of various kinds.

The details of State Horticulture Farms are furnished in the Table - 8