

**Ref : WB(W) 265/32/01**  
**Group: 12**

**6 March 2002**

**Works Bureau Technical Circular No. 7/2002**

**Tree Planting in Public Works**

**Scope**

This Circular affirms the advocated policy on tree planting which adopts a flexible and balanced approach in the planning and design of public works.

**Effective Date**

2. This Circular shall take immediate effect.

**Effective on Existing Circular**

3. This Circular has no effect on existing Circulars. It replaces the interim circular memorandum advocating the policy vide S for W's memo ref. WB(CR) 55/20/01 dated 13 August 2001.

**Background**

4. In his 2000 Policy Address, the Chief Executive urged that there should be increased effort in greening, especially the planting of more trees and flowers in the urban area. Both the Chief Secretary and the Financial Secretary are also very supportive of this initiative. The Co-ordinating Committee on

Greening (CCG) chaired by the Secretary for Environmental and Food, and with the keen support of other bureaux and departments, has been setting out a host of greening targets in both the public and the private domains.

5. Tree planning has been identified as one of the priority areas for greening. Visual enhancement aside, tree planting exhibits a wide range of civic values and bioengineering applications. It has always been the norm to incorporate landscaping plans in architectural and new town development. For other engineering works, tree planting has only been included on a project-by-project basis.

## **Policy**

6. To strengthen the Administration's commitment to greening, works departments should adopt a flexible and balanced approach for tree planting in the planning and design of public works projects. Every practical opportunity should be explored for tree planting in the feasibility, planning and design stages. At least equal, if not higher, priority should be given for tree planting when compared with other technical and planning requirements in works projects. Works departments should also encourage more flexibility in considering tree planting. Works Bureau has reviewed the relevant Works Bureau Technical Circulars to remove any unnecessary restrictions on tree planting and works departments are required to follow suit in reviewing their own circulars.

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Deputy Secretary (Works Policy)