

Republic of the Philippines
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)
Manila

June 24, 1977

DEPARTMENT ORDER
No. 29, s. 1977

DEC TREEPLANTING ACTION PROGRAM (TAP): IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Chiefs of Services and Heads of Units
Schools Superintendents
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. Conformably to the provisions of P.D. No. 1153 requiring every citizen of the Philippines at least ten (10) years of age, actually residing therein unless physically and mentally disabled to do so, to plant at least twelve (12) trees a year for five (5) consecutive years, there is hereby published the implementing guidelines for the information, guidance and compliance of all concerned.
2. To effectively carry-out the provisions of this Decree, there shall be organized the regional, provincial/city school division and district committees to undertake the DEC Treeplanting Action Program (TAP) as provided in the inclosed guidelines. To further ensure better coordination of on-going school programs and activities, the YCAP Coordinating Committee in the regional, division, district and school levels shall exercise leadership roles in the implementation of the program and serve as members of the PROFEM Coordinating Committee in various levels. Vocational, agriculture or industrial arts supervisors/teachers or whoever were designated to handle the tree-planting activities in the area may serve as members of the committees.
3. Inclosed are the implementing guidelines on the DEC Tree-planting Action Program (TAP) and P.D. No. 1153.
4. Regional directors, schools division superintendents, and heads of institutions are enjoined to ensure the effective implementation and the full participation of those involved in the DEC Treeplanting activities. Reports on status of implementation will be required from time to time.
5. The full cooperation of all concerned regarding this matter is enjoined.

(SGD.) JUAN L. MANUEL
Secretary of Education and Culture

Incls.:
As stated

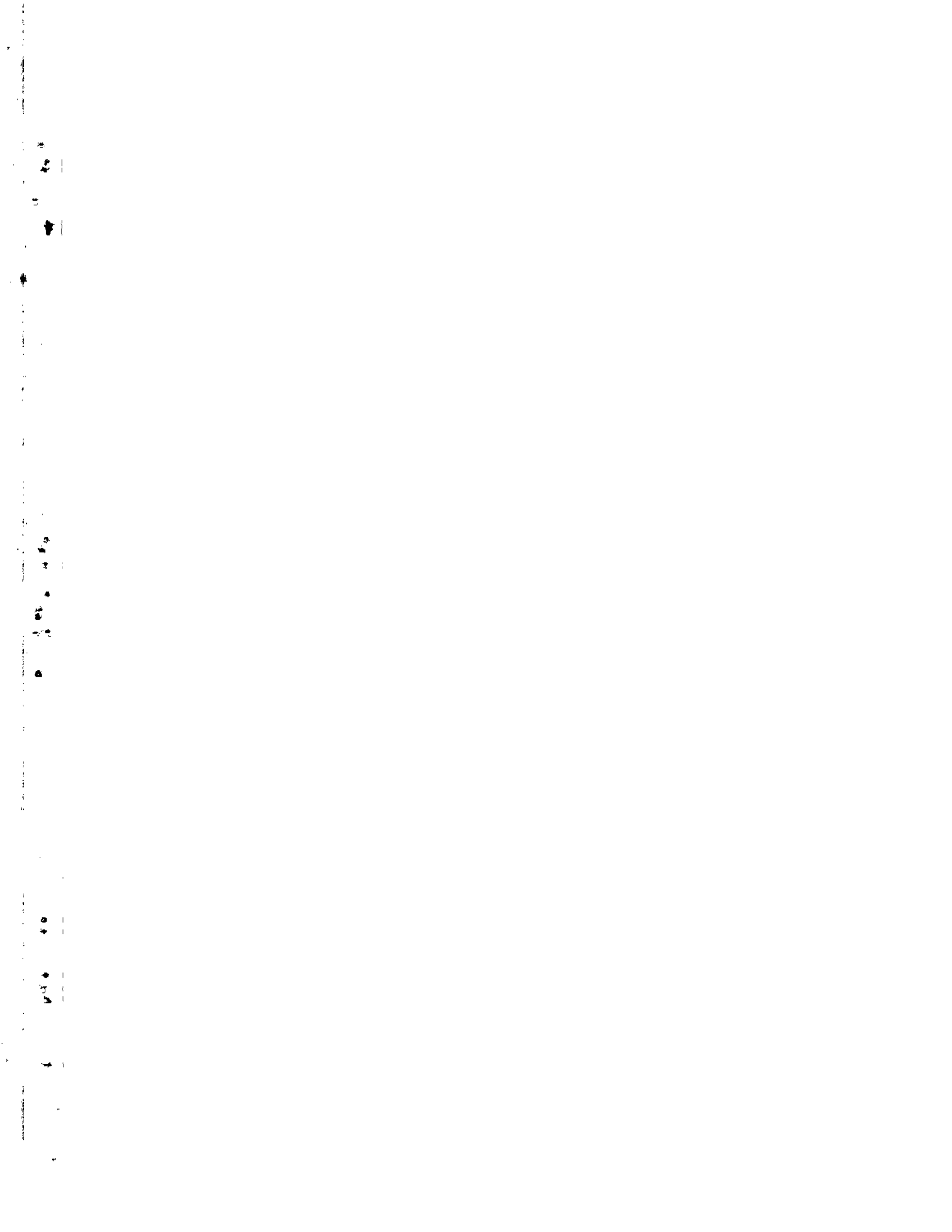
References:

Department Order: No. 18, s. 1977
Department Memorandum: No. 230, s. 1976

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

COMMITTEES
DECREE
OFFICIALS
PROGRAM, SCHOOL
REPORTS
SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENTS
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



(Inclosure to Department Order No. 29, s. 1977)

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES ON P. D. 1153 DEC
TREEPLANTING ACTION PROGRAM (TAP)

The following guidelines on the implementation of P. D. 1153 are hereby outlined for information and guidance of all concerned:

I. Rationale:

It is the policy of the State to call upon every citizen of the Philippines to help as a duty and obligation, to conserve and develop the resources of the country;

More abundant natural resources, particularly forest resources, will prevent floods, droughts, erosion and sedimentation, and will increase our water supply needed to generate more power, expand farm productivity, and meet the ever-increasing demand for domestic consumption of our exploding population;

To achieve a holistic ecosystem-approach to forest resource management, to prevent irreversible consequences of human activities on the environment, and to promote a healthier ecosystem for our people, the state calls on every citizen of the Philippines at least ten (10) years of age, actually therein, unless physically and mentally disabled to do so, to plant one tree every month for five (5) consecutive years. (P. D. 1153)

In order to carry-out its commitments, the Department of Education and Culture, responsible for organizing the studentry to plant and care for fruit-bearing trees as well as other activities which will contribute to the efforts in greening the nation has organized the DEC Treeplanting Action Program (TAP).

II. Objectives:

1. To mobilize the national studentry and school personnel in the massive treeplanting action program in cooperation with other agencies;

2. To instill in the minds of the Filipino students the value of our forest and other natural resources through classroom instruction, involvement in relevant projects, actual planting activities;

3. To integrate the operation and management of school nurseries, orchards and seedbanks; and

4. To institutionalize forest ecosystem management principles and practices in all levels of the educational system.

III. Provision for Organizational Structure (Committees)

A. The DEC Regional TAP Coordinator

1. Composition:

The DEC Regional Director shall serve as the Department's TAP Coordinator at the Regional Level. He shall be assisted by the Regional YCAP Coordinator and at least two (2) staff members who shall be appointed primarily to perform the various activities of TAP at the regional level.

2. Functions:

a. General:

To implement at the regional level the DEC-TAP activities.

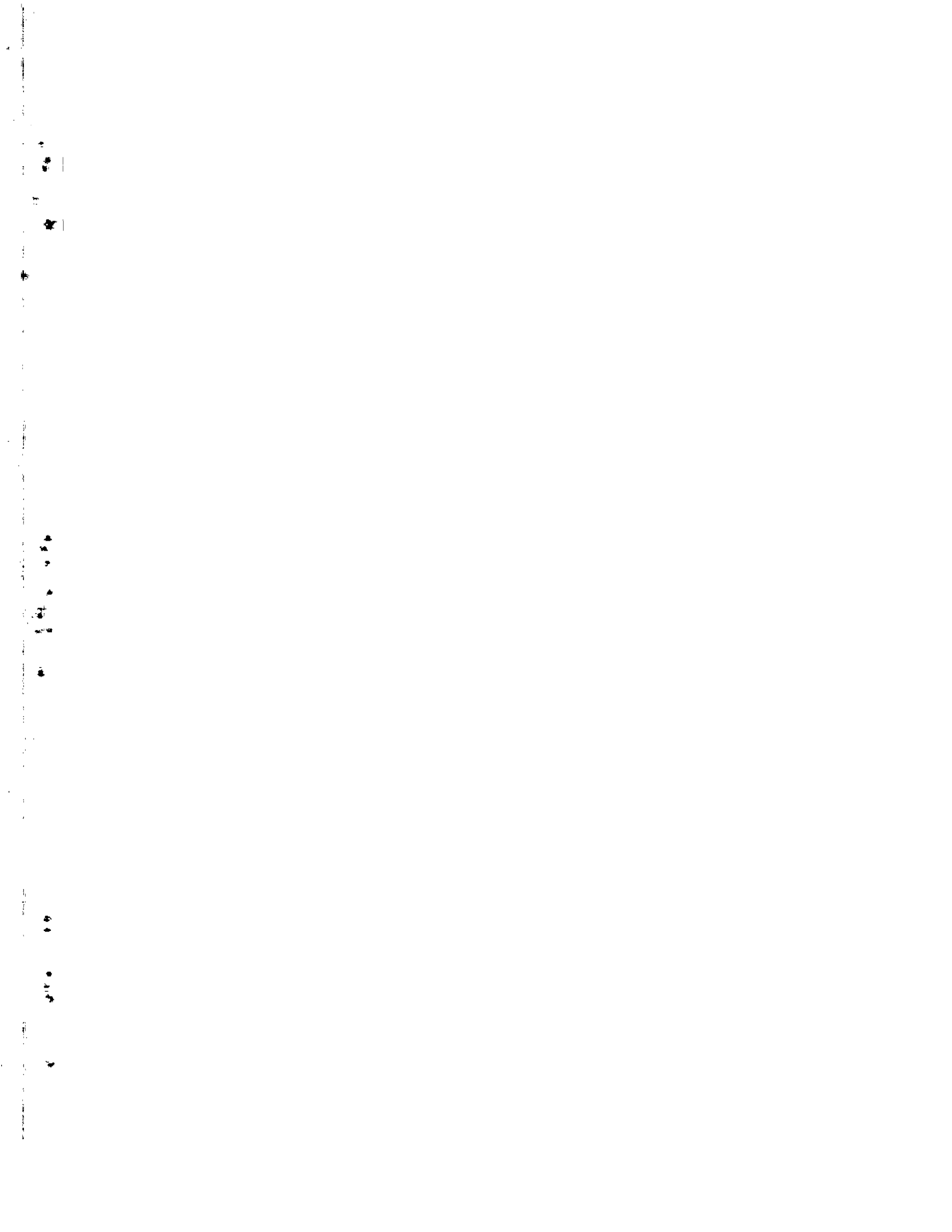
b. Specific:

The Regional TAP Coordinator shall perform the following functions:

- 1) Establish necessary linkages in the Regional level with the TAP participating agencies;
- 2) Ensure smooth coordination of DEC activities with other agencies at the regional level;
- 3) Submit recommendations to the National TAP Committee on matters relevant to the program;
- 4) Get reports from its member-Divisions on the progress/development of DEC program implementation/operation in the provinces and submit regular reports of the same to the National TAP Committee;
- 5) Coordinate the activities of the Division TAP Coordinator within the region; and
- 6) Perform other such functions necessary for the successful implementation of the program at the regional level.

3. Organizational Procedures:

- a. An Office Order prescribing the mobilization of the Regional Office to perform additional functions, duties and responsibilities relative to the DEC-TAP shall be issued by the Regional Director.



- b. A member of the National TAP Committee Secretariat may from time to time visit regional offices to familiarize the Regional Director and his staff on the TAP, especially on the reporting, monitoring and coordination scheme as well as the linkages it has to establish as regards TAP implementation.

B. The Division TAP Coordinator

1. Composition:

The Schools Division Superintendent of Schools of a province or city shall be designated as the DEC-TAP Coordinator in the division. He shall be assisted by the Division YCAP Coordinator whom he may further designate as Assistant Division TAP Coordinator. To be able to maximize the Division's involvement in TAP activities and pinpoint persons responsible for the various TAP activities within the Division at least one (1) full-time Staff Assistant shall be hired for the purpose. He shall be placed under the direct supervision of the Division YCAP Coordinator.

2. Functions:

a. General:

To implement the DEC Program and activities at the provincial level.

b. Specific:

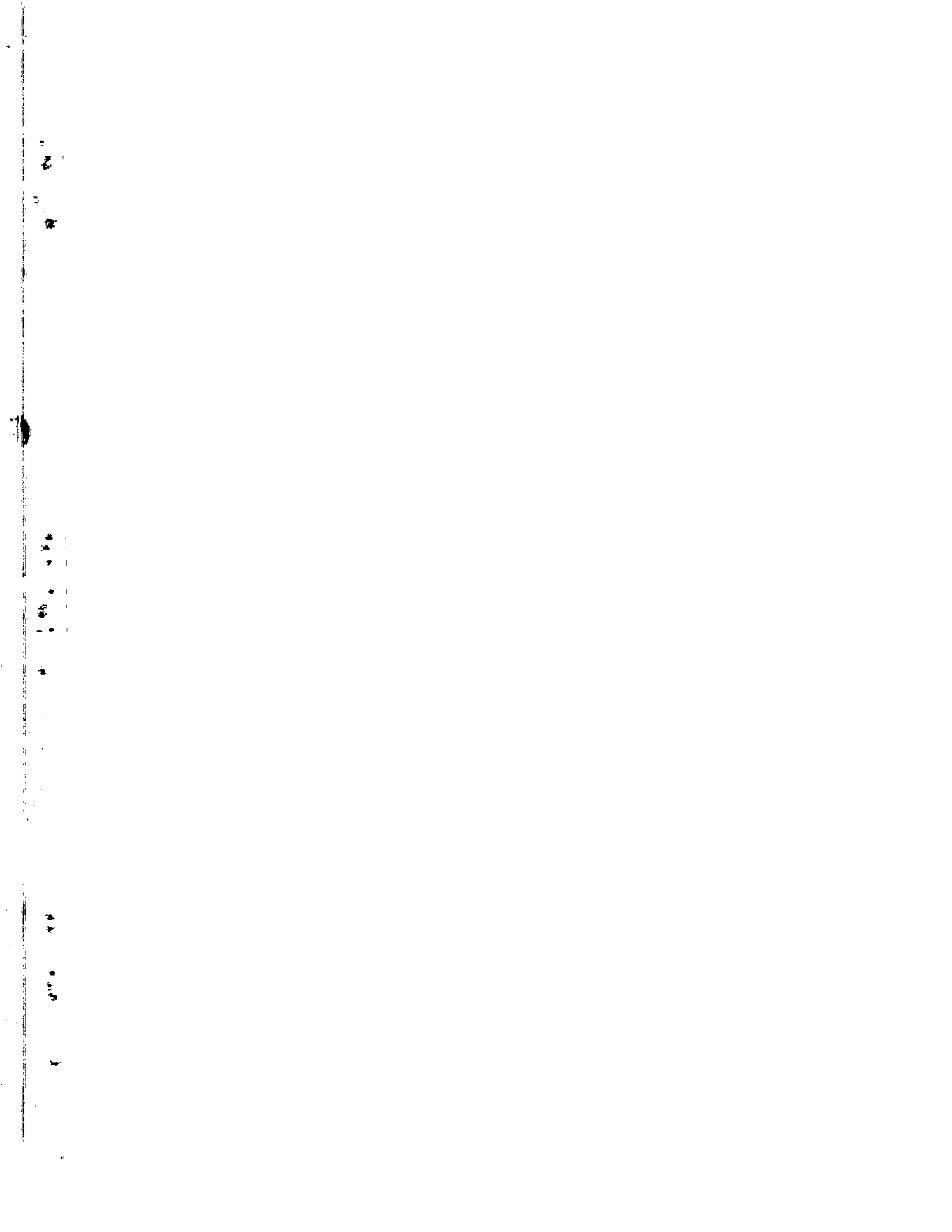
The Division TAP Coordinator shall perform the following functions:

- 1) Translate into operational terms all plans, programs and projects developed by the National TAP Committee;
- 2) Prepare/develop the implementing details of DEC-TAP for adoption;
- 3) Determine targets for districts and schools;
- 4) Organize and mobilize committees that will take charge in the implementation of such projects as:
 - a) nursery development and seedbanking;
 - b) orchard development and expansion;
 - c) development of the Municipal Profile on Natural Resources; and
 - d) division's participation on massive treeplanting activities.

- 5) Coordinate with the provincial counterpart of the PROFEM participating agencies as regards areas of cooperations and other forms of linkages needed for program implementation;
- 6) Develop/prepare necessary reporting/monitoring networks together with the required forms/formats;
- 7) In coordination with the District Forester allocate/assign the target areas under the Division to its different districts.
- 8) Cause the procurement and distribution of seeds seedlings and other logistical materials to the different districts within the Division;
- 9) Prepare/develop and make recommendation to the National TAP Committee through the Regional Level;
- 10) Collect reports on the progress/development of the TAP operation in the various districts within the Division and make a corresponding report to the DEC-TAP Regional Coordinator.

3. Organizational Procedures:

- a. The Provincial Division Superintendent of Schools, acting as the Division TAP Committee Coordinator shall issue a directive informing all concerned about the TAP. Attached to the directive are copies of P. D. 1153, all available PROFEM informational materials, DEC Department Orders and Memorandum Circular, DEC PROFEM program, manual of operations, and other pertinent papers;
- b. The Provincial Division Superintendent of Schools shall designate the Division YCAP Coordinator as his Assistant Coordinator;
- c. The Division TAP Coordinator shall organize project committees corresponding to the major activities/projects which the Division will undertake, prescribing thereon the duties, function and responsibilities of the individual committees and the members who will constitute each committee thus formed.
- d. He shall establish necessary linkages with the Provincial PROFEM Council prescribing thereon the areas of coordinations and cooperations;
- e. Recruit/select personnel from within the Division who will undergo PROFEM training on program management and operations;



- f. Coordinate with other agencies, government or private, within the Division (Provincial) level for various types of assistance to the project; and
- g. Coordinate with President/s and/or Heads of Private Colleges, Universities and Schools within the Province as regard their participation in the TAP, target setting, reporting/monitoring requirements and the resources which the participating units may avail of and how to procure the same.

C. The Division Project Committees

The Division Project Committees shall be organized based on the number of projects the Division will undertake. These are: (1) Seed Collection and Seedbanking; (2) Nursery Development; (3) School Orchards and Agro-Forest Parks; and (4) School Participation in Community Mass-Tree Planting.

The various Division TAP Project Committees shall be responsible to the Division Superintendent as regard the dissemination/allocation of District targets and supervise the implementation of these projects. They shall, however, submit their report to the permanent TAP Staff of the Division TAP Coordinator. As such, the Division TAP Project Committee Coordinator shall be entitled to transportation/travel allowances and per diems commensurate to their position in the department.

D. District TAP Coordinator

The District TAP Coordinator shall be the District Supervisor to be designated by the Division Provincial Superintendent. As such, he shall be entitled to transportation/travel allowances and per diem necessary in the performance of his duties.

1. Functions:

a. General:

The District TAP Coordinator coordinates the actual implementation and operations of the DEC TAP at the district level.

b. Specific:

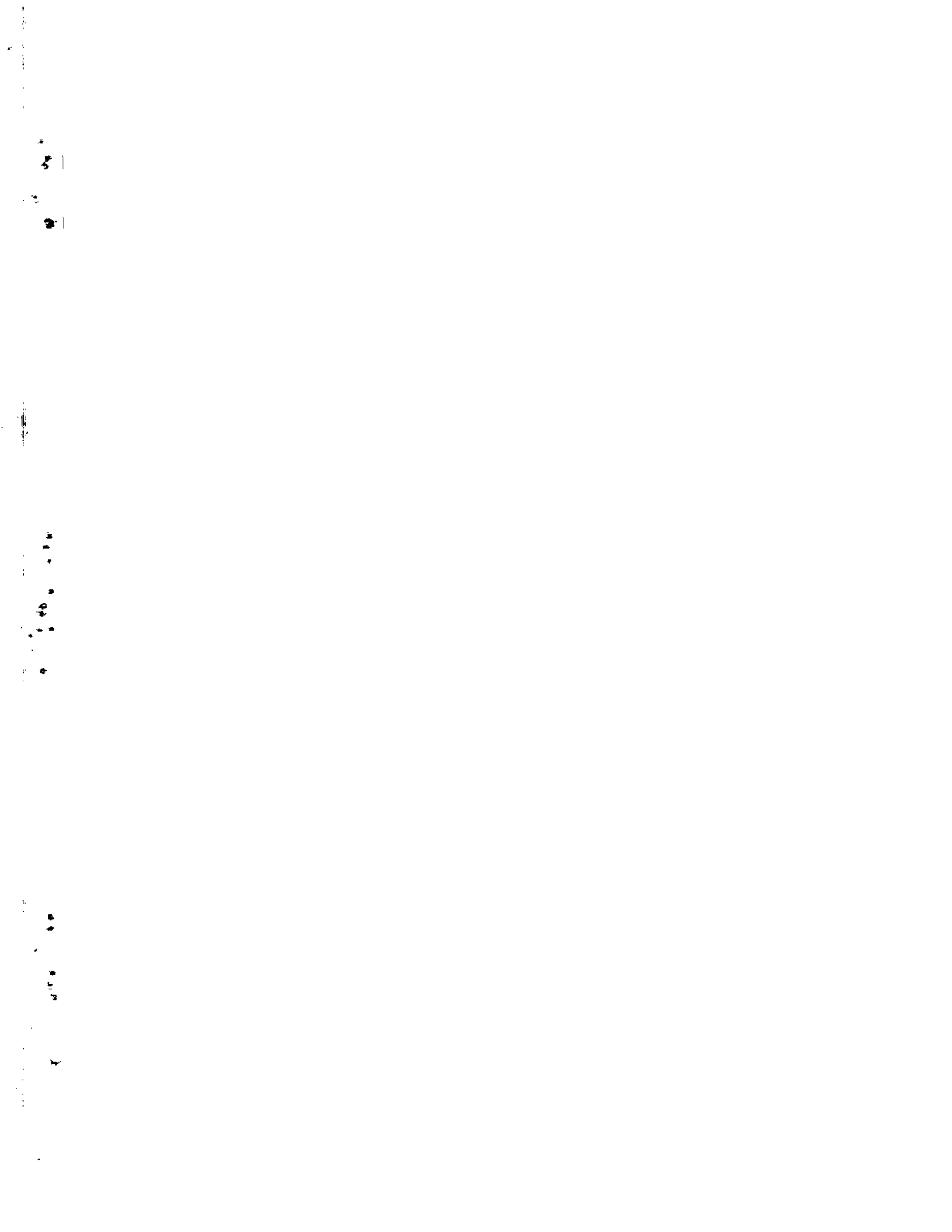
- 1) Implement all programs and projects detailed out by the Division TAP Coordinator for the district;
- 2) Coordinate with the Division TAP Coordinator as regards financial and logistical requirements as well as area allocation for orchard and nursery development;

- 3) Supervises and coordinates the development of the Municipal Profile on Natural Resources. It is likewise charge with the function of establishing linkages and access to data with the local government units and representatives of national agencies.
- 4) Supervises and coordinates the conduct of the information campaign as an effort to move the people to actively participate in the national PROFEM program;
- 5) Assist the PROFEM municipal trainers in administering the training program prescribed for School TAP Brigade coordinators;
- 6) Establish a data bank on resources of all schools within the municipality which can be utilized for TAP activities;
- 7) Secure technical assistance from existing agricultural colleges and universities concerning the development of nurseries and orchards;
- 8) Monitors TAP activities of Schools within the district and submit reports to the Division TAP Coordinator on progress and development of the District's participation in the program; and
- 9) Coordinate with other agencies, government and private, within the District (municipal) level for various types of assistance to the project.

3. Organizational Procedures:

The District Supervisor, in his capacity as the designated District TAP Coordinator shall designate the District YCAP Coordinator as his assistant and organize the District in the following manner:

- a. The District Supervisor shall convene all officials and personnel concerned;
- b. Brief/orient the members on DEC-TAP and other related matters;
- c. Organize committees on projects, project implementation and geographical area allocations;
- d. Prescribe area/activity responsibilities to members and the manner of coordination/cooperation and reporting;
- e. Specify available resources in terms of fund sources and other support mechanisms which the district can avail itself of;



- f. Delineate/delegate duties, functions and responsibilities to members of his technical staff who are inducted into the Council;
- g. Recruit personnel from among the Committee members for training on PROFEM activities;
- h. The Council shall prescribe, where there are available Agricultural Colleges and Universities, the system of mobilizing its faculty and students for providing technical support in terms of conducting training, demonstrations and actual assistance in project implementation; and
- i. It shall also prescribe the type of involvement/participation of existing student campus organizations.

E. School (Barangay) TAP Committee

1. Composition:

The School TAP Committee shall be headed by the school principal as school Head Teacher to be assisted by the School YCAP and other coordinators, whose unit shall compose the work force of the school, namely:

- a. Seed Collection and Seedbanking Coordinator
- b. Nursery Development Coordinator
- c. Plantation Care and Maintenance Coordinator
- d. Coordinator on the School's Participations on Community Mass Tree Planting

School Volunteer TAP Committee shall also be organized based on the above-enumerated groupings, to be composed of students and campus organizations headed by a teacher.

2. Functions

a. General:

The School TAP Committee shall be charged with the primary functions of operationalizing the DEC-TAP program. Actual implementation of the various projects and programs shall be done in this level.

b. Specific:

1) Seed Collection and Seedbanking

- a) Organize the teachers to handle seed collection and seedbanking;

- b) Coordinate with the local BFD and BPI representatives on the mechanisms of seed collections and seedbanking;
- c) Coordinate with the Nursery Development Coordinator as regard the school nursery seed requirements;
- d) Collect at least five (5) seeds/seedlings a month from each student for ten (10) months;
- e) Conduct preliminary classification of seeds according to specie;
- f) Store collected seeds; and
- g) Maintain a record of the entire project activity and make report to the school principal.

2) Nursery Development

- a) Organize the School Volunteer TAP Committee on Nursery Development;
- b) Coordinate with the School Principal as regard material and other logistical requirements procurement;
- c) Coordinate with local agricultural colleges and universities as regard technical assistance and other areas of cooperations;
- d) Coordinate with the seed collection and seed-banking coordinator as regard seed requirements;
- e) Conduct the construction of nursery; nursery area, nursery plots, seed boxes, etc;
- f) Conduct composting in the school;
- g) Conduct actual seed planting (sowing);
- h) Conduct the necessary care and maintenance of the nursery;
- i) Conduct barerooting and actual potting;
- j) Conduct the necessary care and maintenance of barerooted and potted seedling;

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- k) Coordinate with the plantation coordinator as regard seedling requirements for the school Agro-Forest and Orchard Development; and
- l) Maintain records of the over-all nursery development activity and make report of the same to the principal.

3) Orchard and Agro-Forest Development

- a) Organize the School Volunteer TAP Committee on Orchard and Agro-Forest Development;
- b) Coordinate with the School Nursery Coordinator as regard seedling requirements of the Agro-Forest and School Orchards;
- c) In coordination with the local BPI and BFD representatives, conduct site inspections, surveys, soil analysis and other technical requirements of the planting;
- d) Conduct site cleaning;
- e) Conduct digging of holes;
- f) Prepare fence and other protective mechanism requirements and install the same;
- g) Cause the transport of seedlings to the plantation site/s;
- h) Conduct actual tree planting;
- i) Conduct plantation care and maintenance; and
- j) Make report of the total orchard and agro-forest park development activities to the school principal.

4) School Participation in Community Mass-Tree Planting

- a) Organize teachers and students and appoint a coordinator thereof for the School Volunteer TAP Committee on Community Mass Tree Planting;
- b) Brief/orient participants on the type and scope of school participation; and
- c) Coordinate with the Barangay Chairman as regard area allocation.

IV. Program Features:

Scope of the Program:

The program is directed towards the actual mobilization of the student population throughout the country. This shall cover all pupils/students in the elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels.

The Treeplanting Action Program shall cover all citizens in school at least ten (10) years of age in all school levels including the pupils and the academic and non-academic school personnel.

A. Elementary Level

1. In the lower primary level, Grade I to Grade III, (approximately 7 to 9 years of age), all pupils shall contribute to the school nursery for propagation at least three (3) fruit-bearing trees seedlings monthly. Such participation shall be credited towards their Youth Civic Action Program requirements.
2. In the upper primary level, Grade IV to VI (approximately ten (10) years of age and above) every pupil shall plant and take care of at least one (1) tree each month or twelve (12) trees in a year.
3. In order to qualify for graduation in the elementary level, a pupil shall present his certificates for planting and survival of at least ten (10) trees planted and properly maintained for school year 1977-1978, etc.

B. Secondary Level

1. In the secondary level, every student shall plant and properly take care of at least one tree each month or twelve trees in a year or forty-eight (48) fruit-bearing trees in four-year period. Provided, however that he should have not yet participated in the TAP in the elementary level.
2. To qualify for graduation in the secondary level, students shall have to present certifications for planting and survival of the trees planted for at least ten (10) trees for graduating class in 1977-1978; for twenty-four (24) trees for students graduating in 1978-1979, etc.
3. Participation in the Treeplanting Action Program shall be accredited to partial completion of Youth Civic Action Program requirement of the student.



C. Post Secondary Level

1. Every student shall actively participate in the TAP by planting at least one fruit-bearing tree each month or twelve (12) trees annually for a period of five (5) years or at least sixty (60) trees to satisfy the requirement of P. D. 1153. Provided, however; that he should have not yet participated in the TAP in the lower levels.
2. To qualify for graduation, a student shall have to present a certification of planting and survival for at least ten (10) trees planted annually beginning the school year 1977-1978, etc.

D. Exemptions

Pursuant to the provisions of P. D. 1153, all physically and mentally disabled citizens are exempted from the provisions of this order; Provided, however that appropriate medical certificates issued by duly authorized government medical practitioners shall be presented to the School YCAP Coordinator.

E. Registration of Students

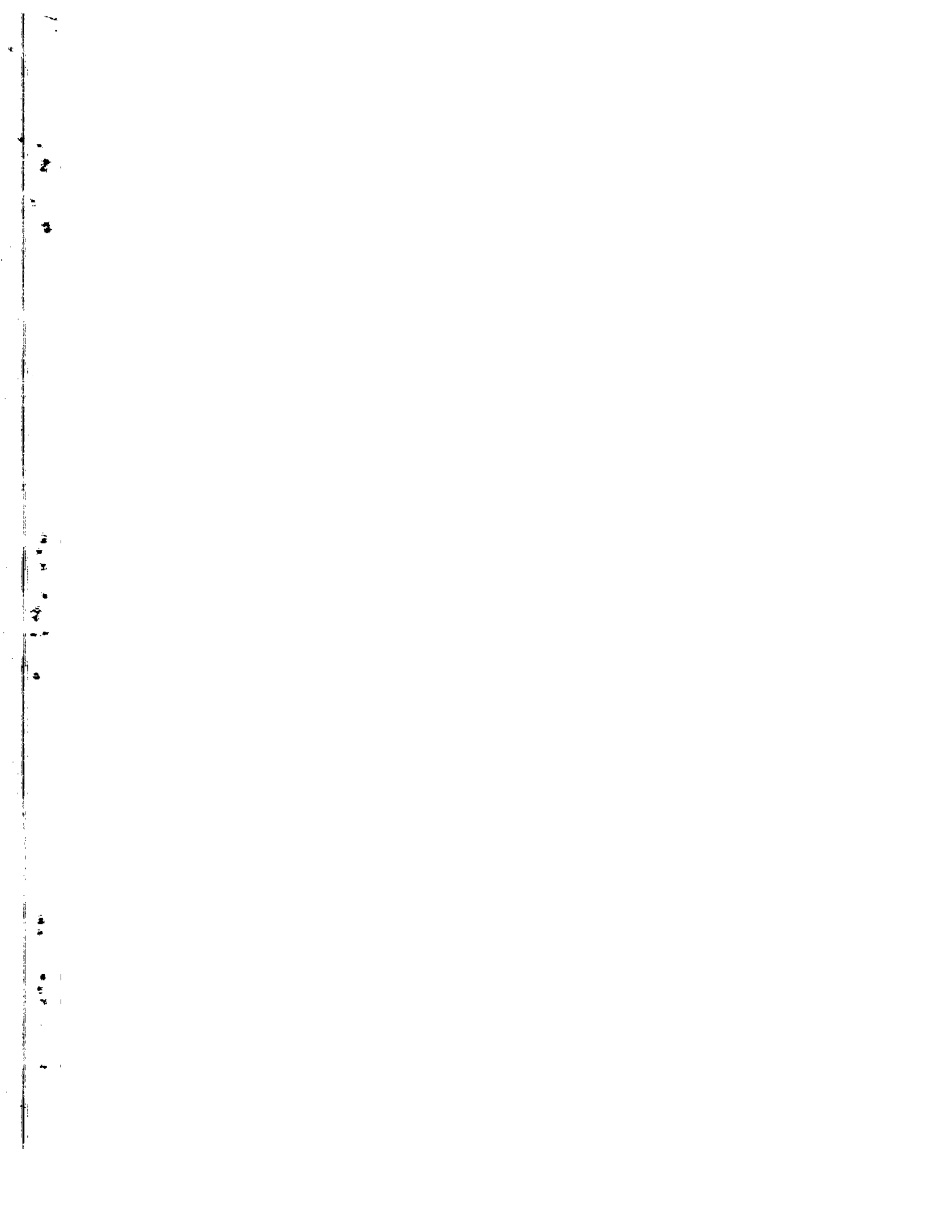
1. Every school child or student in all levels shall register with his/her School YCAP Coordinator who shall monitor all the tree planting activities in the school;
2. Registration shall be effected not later than the end of the second month of each school year. Children who will turn 10 years of age after June 17, 1977 shall register within 30 days after their 10th birthday.
3. Those who failed to register as hereinabove required shall register within thirty (30) days after being penalized for failure to register.
4. Registration shall be accomplished by filling Forms 5 and 5-A as hereby inclosed as inclosure 3 and 4.

F. Certification

A certificate of planting shall be issued to pupils/students for planting trees. If the tree survives at least two years after its planting, a certificate of survival shall be issued; and a certificate of completion shall likewise be issued to any pupil/student who has completed the five (5) years planting of sixty (60) trees as envisioned by the Decree. These three (3) certificates shall be accomplished in the prescribed forms (DEC-TAP Forms Nos. 1, 2 and 3).

✓ V. Strategy of Implementation

- A. The program shall be implemented utilizing to a great extent the school manpower resources. It shall implement the following projects:
 1. Nursery development
 2. Seed collection and seedbanking
 3. Establishment of school orchards and agro-forest parks
 4. Treeplanting
 5. Curriculum development
 6. Municipal profile development
- B. The trees to be planted shall be fruit-bearing, shade, ornamental or forest trees, and the same shall be taken cared of, for at least two years after each planting and replaced if the same die, are diseased or all defectives.
- C. For the current year (CY 1977) the Bureau of Forest Development, thru its different forest nurseries, shall provide all schools with seedlings of forest trees, the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Bureau of Agricultural Extension shall provide with seedlings of ornamental trees and fruit-bearing trees, the Philippine Coconut Authority will provide with coconut seedlings; and this office thru its school nurseries shall provide seedlings to students.
- D. Starting with coming year 1978, all schools shall, with the assistance of the BFD, BPI, and BAEX on the choice of species and nursery operation practices, raise their own tree seedlings.
- E. Students whose parents own lands, may plant trees in lands or lots owned by their parents. Students whose parents hold a lease contract over a parcel of land may plant trees in the area under lease to them with the consent of the owner thereof.
- F. All other students who are landless may plant trees in lands which are part of public grounds or places such as plazas, schools, markets, roadsides and parks or in lands of public domain designated by the PROFEM Regional, Provincial, City, Municipal or Barangay Council; Provided, That where no PROFEM Council is yet organized in the provincial, municipal, city or barangay level pursuant to Letter of Instructions Nos. 423 and 424, the governor, municipal mayor, city mayor or barangay captain shall act instead of the PROFEM Provincial, Municipal, City and Barangay Council, respectively. If the above-mentioned areas are not available, the BFD district office concerned shall, upon being so informed, set aside sufficient area of accessible open/denuded forest lands for such purpose, and said lands shall either be forest lands, grazing or pasture lands, mineral lands, resettlement lands, civil or military reservations.



G. Treeplanting Plan

1. Within thirty (30) days after the promulgation of the Administrative Order on June 17, 1977 a treeplanting plan shall be prepared by the respective heads of the institutions concerned through their respective school YCAP coordinators.
2. A treeplanting plan shall contain among others, the following:
 - a. List of all pupils/students covered by this Administrative Order in their respective schools including a listing of lands owned or leased by them.
 - b. Map or sketch showing planting site assignments of each person;
 - c. Schedule of planting, replanting and care and maintenance of trees planted;
 - d. Seeds and/or seedling stock collection and acquisition/distribution scheme; and
 - e. Other information pertinent to tree planting activities using as guide when necessary a typical format that maybe prescribed (Form 6).
3. The prepared Treeplanting Plan shall be submitted to their respective PROFEM Council in their area and a copy to the National YCAP Coordinating Center who shall serve as the Secretariat of the DEC, National PROFEM Committee.

VI. Penalty Clause:

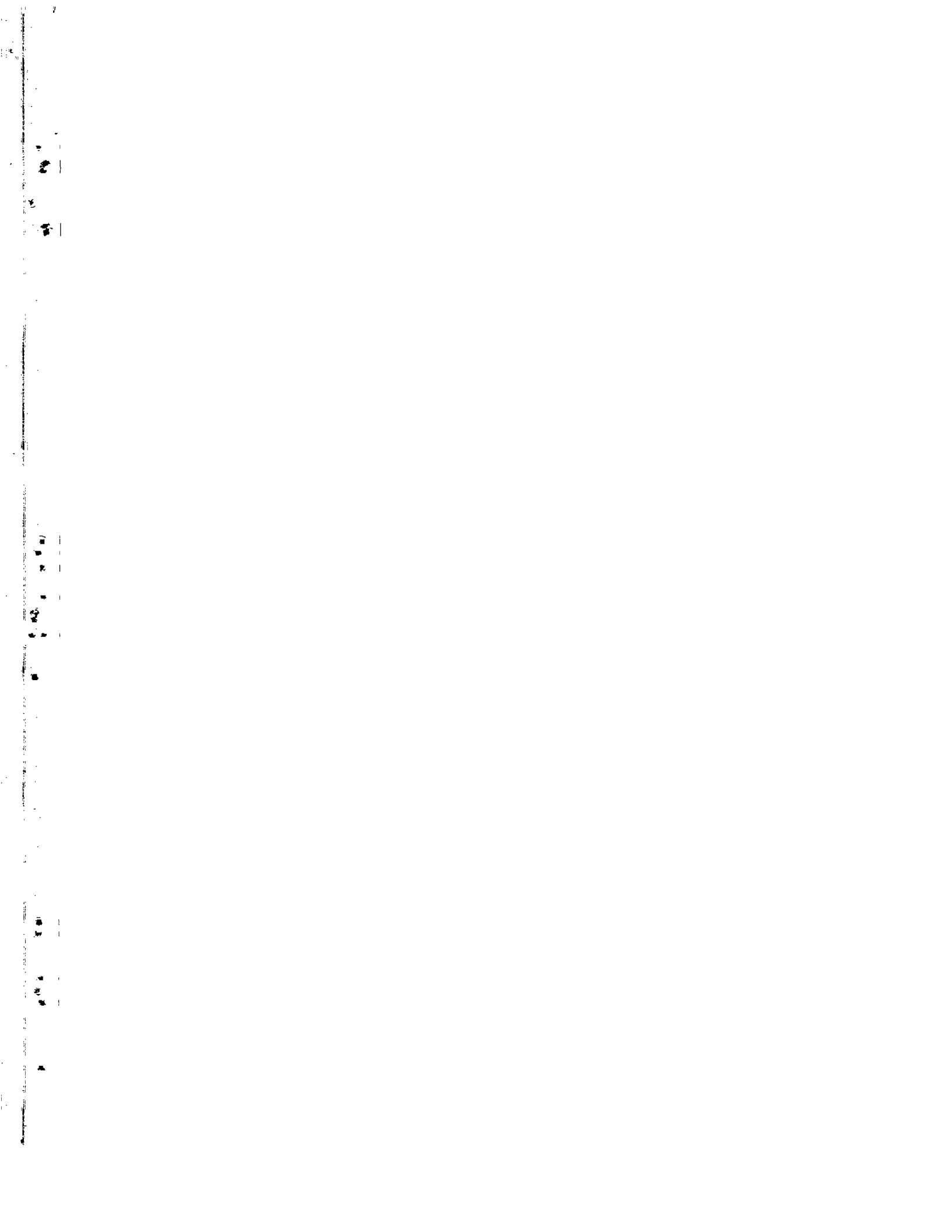
The penalty provided in Presidential Decree No. 1153 shall be imposed upon any student who violates any of its provisions.

Violation is deemed to have been committed if a student:

1. fails to register within the prescribed period;
2. fails to prepare a treeplanting plan within the prescribed period;
3. fails to plant one tree a month or 12 trees a year; and
4. fails to replace a dead tree within two (2) years after planting.



Any person who violates any provision of P. D. 1153 or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder shall be punished with a fine of not more than one thousand pesos or, in appropriate cases, with disqualification to acquire or enjoy any privilege granted exclusively to citizens of the Philippines, such as the acquisition either through sale, free patent, homestead, or lease of public lands, enjoyment of a franchise to own or operate a public utility or the grant of a lease, license or a privilege involving natural resources; and for a period of five years be disqualified to hold public office, to graduate from any educational institution at all levels, to take any bar, board or civil service examination, and to practice any profession licensed and regulated by the Supreme Court or the Professional Regulation Commission. (Sec. 6. P. D. 1153)



MALACANANG
Manila

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1153

REQUIRING THE PLANTING OF ONE TREE EVERY MONTH FOR FIVE
CONSECUTIVE YEARS BY EVERY CITIZEN OF THE PHILIPPINES.

WHEREAS, more abundant natural resources, particularly forest resources, will prevent floods, droughts, erosion and sedimentation, and will increase our water supply needed to generate more power, expand farm productivity, and meet the ever increasing demand for domestic consumption of our exploding population; and

WHEREAS, to achieve a holistic ecosystem approach to forest resource management, to prevent irreversible consequences of human activities on the environment, and to promote a healthier ecosystem for our people, it is time to make an urgent call upon our citizenry to plant trees;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the constitution, do hereby order and decree the following:

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the State to call upon every citizen of the Philippines to help, as a duty and obligation, to conserve and develop the resources of the country.

SEC. 2. In furtherance of said policy, every citizen of the Philippines at least ten (10) years of age, actually residing therein, unless physically disabled to do so, shall plant one tree every month for five (5) consecutive years.

SEC. 3. The planting of such trees shall be done in any of the following places:

- a) In lands or lots owned by his family;
- b) In lands or lots leased by his family with the consent of the owner thereof;
- c) In lands which are parts of public grounds or places such as plazas, schools, markets, roadside and parks; and
- d) In lands of the public domain designated by the Presidential Council for Forest Ecosystem Management, hereafter referred to as the Council, such as appro-



priate forest lands, grazing or pasture lands, mineral lands, resettlement lands, civil and military reservations.

SEC. 4. The trees to be planted shall be fruit-bearing shade, ornamental or forest trees, and the same shall be taken care of for at least two years after each planting and replaced if the same die, are diseased or are defective.

SEC. 5. The Council, in consultation with the appropriate government agencies, shall issue such rules and regulations which may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Decree and Letter of Instructions No. 423 whenever applicable.

SEC. 6. Any person who violates any provision of this Decree or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder shall be punished with a fine of not more than one thousand pesos or, in appropriate cases, with disqualification to acquire or enjoy any privilege granted exclusively to citizens of the Philippines, such as the acquisition either through sale, free patent, homestead, or lease of public lands, enjoyment of a franchise to own or operate a public utility or the grant of a lease, license or a privilege involving natural resources; and for a period of five years be disqualified to hold public office, to graduate from any educational institution at all levels, to take any bar, board or civil service examination, and to practice any profession licensed and regulated by the Supreme Court or the Professional Regulation Commission.

SEC. 7. This Decree shall take effect upon its promulgation.

Done in the City of Manila, this 6th day of June in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-seven.

(SGD.) FERDINAND E. MARCOS
President of the Philippines

By the President:

(SGD.) JUAN C. TUVERA
Presidential Assistant

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