

No. 4-1(18)/2014-PT
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Project Tiger Division

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Dated the 20th May, 2014

To,

The Sr. Pay & Accounts Officer,
Ministry of Environment & Forests,
New Delhi.

Sub: Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme 'Project Tiger' Administrative Approval for funds release to Similipal Tiger Reserve, Odisha during 2014-15.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the administrative approval of the competent authority to the continuance of the Scheme 'Project Tiger' in Similipal Tiger Reserve, Odisha at the cost of **Rs. 679.93 Lakhs (Rupees Six hundred Seventy Nine lakhs and Ninety Three thousand only)** as per details given in the annexure. Of the total cost of the scheme, Rs. 393.68 lakhs being the recurring cost of the scheme will be shared on 50:50 basis by the **Government of India** and the **Government of Odisha**. The remaining cost of the scheme will be treated as 100% Central Assistance by the Government of India.

2. I am also directed to convey the sanction of the President to the payment and release of an amount of **Rs. 203.9376 lakhs (Rupees Two hundred Three lakhs Ninety Three thousand Seven hundred Sixty only)** including of 10% flexi-fund to the State Government towards the Grants-in-aid to Government of Odisha during the current financial year 2014-15 (1/3rd of release made during the previous financial year). The balance amount of the Central Assistance will be released in due course after a review of the progress of expenditure/work is undertaken.

3. The grants-in-aid will be regulated in accordance with the provisions contained in the memorandum of the Centrally Sponsored Project Tiger Scheme. The Grants-in-Aid is also subject to the Chapter 9 of the General Financial Rules 2005, as amended from time to time, read with the Government of India's decision incorporated there-under, and any other guidelines which may be issued in this regard, and in particular to the following conditions:-

- (i) All relevant information and documents/certificates as required under GFR 209(I) have been received.
- (ii) The pattern of assistance of rules governing such grants-in-aid have received the approval of the Ministry of Finance, as required under Government of India decision No. (1) under DFPR-Rules 20.
- (iii) Terms and conditions of the service of the employees employed in the **Similipal Tiger Reserve** under the Project Tiger Scheme are not higher than those applicable to similar categories of employees of Central Government and where it is not in accordance with above, the relaxation of Ministry of Finance have been obtained for such discrepancies as required under GFR 208(6)(iv)(a).

- (iv) Assets acquired wholly or substantially out of Government Grants shall not be disposed off without obtaining the prior approval of the sanctioning authority of Grants-in-aid.
- (v) The **Government of Odisha** agrees to make reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or OBC in the posts or services under its control on the lines indicated by Govt. of India.
- (vi) The accounts of the **Similipal Tiger Reserve** shall be audited by C&AG or by any person authorized by him on his behalf in accordance with the provisions laid down in Section 14 of the C&AG (DPC) Act, 1972 as amended from time to time.
- (vii) The accounts of the Project Tiger Scheme shall be open for inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India under the provision of C&AG (DPC) Act, 1972 and internal audit party by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry whenever it is called upon.
- (viii) The Utilisation Certificate against the earlier funds released under Grants-in-aid have been received and accepted by the competent authority.
- (ix) Government of Odisha in respect of **Similipal Tiger Reserve** may furnish their performance-cum-achievement report alongwith Utilisation Certificate in prescribed format on or before 31.7.2014.
- (x) **Similipal Tiger Reserve** will spend Grants-in-aid exclusively in pursuance of the objectives envisaged in rules/memorandum of the Centrally Sponsored 'Project Tiger Scheme' and for the purpose it is being sanctioned.
- (xi) Grants-in-aid to **Government of Odisha** is subject to the Economy Instructions issued from time to time by the Ministry of Finance or by the Competent Authority.
- (xii) Grants-in-aid shall be utilized before the end of the current financial year 2014-15 and unspent balance, if any, will be refunded by **Government of Odisha** to the **Govt. of India**.
- (xiii) Government of Odisha in respect of **Similipal Tiger Reserve** will maintain a separate account and will present their annual accounts in the standard format as required under GFR 209(xiii).
- (xiv) Grants-in-aid shall be utilized for **Similipal Tiger Reserve** strictly as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Environment and Forests, acting through the National Tiger Conservation Authority, Field Director (Similipal Tiger Reserve) and **Government of Odisha**.
- (xv) Monitorable outcomes on the item of works contained in the sanction letter both in physical and financial terms are required to be furnished in the monthly report regularly. Compliance status on Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding is required before submission of additional or ensuing year's Annual Plan of Operation (APO).
- (xvi) The expenditure should be limited to the amount released and in no case should be done in anticipation of further release by the Ministry.
- (xvii) **The payments of daily wagers should be done through account transfer / account payee Cheques only.**

4. As the annual budget of the Scheme is approved by the Central Government, the Government of Odisha is not required to furnish bond and sureties, in accordance with the Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 14(1)-EII(A)/64 dated 23.6.1965.

5. The payment sanctioned above is provisional and is subject to the adjustment on the basis of the audited figures of expenditure. Other terms and conditions of the payment are as under:

- (a) The grant is in accordance with the pattern of financial assistance approved by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance.
- (b) The grant sanctioned is subject to the adjustment on the basis of the terms and conditions approving the scheme.

6. No deviation from the approved items of expenditure as enumerated in the annexure shall be made without prior concurrence of the Government of India. The guidelines for implementation of National Tiger Conservation Authority shall be fully adhered to. The Chief Wildlife Warden and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the State Government should be directed to ensure that the field works are in accordance with the Management Plan and the Annual Plan of Operation by the field inspections from time to time.

7. The State is requested to resubmit a revised APO again, indicating items already approved for the year 2014-15, with physical and financial achievements of 2013-14, utilisation certificate and status of compliance of the tripartite MOU.

8. Further, Ministry of Finance, D/o of Expenditure, Plan Finance-II Division, vide O.M.No.55(5)/PF.II/2011 dated 06-01-2014, has introduced a flexi fund component within the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to achieve the following objectives:

- i) To provide flexibility to States to meet local needs and requirements within the overall objective of each programme or scheme;**
- ii) To pilot innovations and improved efficiency within the overall objective of the scheme and its expected outcomes;**
- iii) To undertake mitigation/restoration activities in case of natural calamities in the sector covered by the CSS.**

The flexi-fund will be utilized by the State Government as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, read with guidelines of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger in vogue, for utilisation in the tiger reserve.

9. In accordance with the revised procedure, the Central Accounts Section, Reserve Bank of India, Nagpur, may kindly be advised to pass on credit to the books of the State Government of Odisha under intimation to this Department.

10. The expenditure involved will be met from within the Sanctioned Budget Grants of Centrally Sponsored Project tiger Scheme under Demand No. 31, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Major Head 3601 – Grants-in-aid to the State Governments, 3601.02- Grants-in-aid for State Plan Scheme, 3601.02.659-Environmental Forestry and Wildlife – Wildlife Preservation, 3601.02.659.03- Project Tiger, 3601.02.659.03.00.31- Grants-in-aid for the year 2014-15 (Plan).

11. This issues under the powers delegated to the Ministry and with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide Dy. No. 601/AS & FA dated 01.05.2014.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjay Kumar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (PT)

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary (Forests), Govt. of Odisha. A copy of the detailed sanction letter issued by the State Government in respect of this scheme for 2014-15 may kindly be furnished to this Ministry immediately.
2. The Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Odisha.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Odisha.
4. The Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve, Odisha.

5. The Accountant General, Odisha.
6. The Director of Audit, Scientific Department, AGCR Building, IP Estate, New Delhi.
7. The AIG, NTCA Regional Office, Bangalore.
8. Forest Finance Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
9. Plan Finance Division (PF-II), Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.
10. Guard file/Spare copies.

(Sanjay Kumar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (PT)

ANNEXURE**APO 2014-15 FOR SIMLIPAL TIGER RESERVE, ODISHA**

S. No.	Item	Para No. of CSS-PT Guidelines	Current year 2014-15 proposal		
			(Rs. In lakh)		
			Location	Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6
A	NON RECURRING				
1	Anti-poaching Activities				
a	Anti-poaching Sqiad: STPF salary of 1 ACF, 3 Range Officers, 81 Forest Guards / 27 Watchers, Infrastructure, maintenance	4.1	In side STR	1 Force (112 men)	250.00
b	Wireless network: Establishment of VHF fixed stations, walki talkies, vehicular units, solar charging units for walki talkies	4.1	In side STR		3.00
c	Secret fund: Intelligence units	4.1			0.25
2	Staff Development and Capacity Building				
a	Project Allowance	4.15	Field Director	1	13.50
			Dy. Director	1	
			ACF	1	
			Range Officer	3	
			Forester & equivalent	32	
			Forest Guard	81	
			Ministerial & equivalent	16	
		Group D	11		
	Total Non-Recurring				266.75
B	RECURRING				
1	Anti Smuggling Squad				
a	Anti-poaching Watchers: Each squad will have 6 daily wage persons located in sensitive areas prone to timber smuggling & poaching . 63 camps; 378 persons @ Rs. 150/- per day + 13.5% PF	4.1		63 Anti poaching camps	200.78
b	Provision of uniform, gear, camp equipment for anti poaching squad	4.1			2.00
c	Maintenance of Dog Squad	4.1			2.88
d	Legal Support	4.1			0.20
2	Maintenance of infrastructure within Tiger Reserve				
a	Maintenance of VHF and office equipment	4.2 & 4.14			2.00
b	Maintenance of Motor Vehicles & POL including hiring charges	4.2			10.00

3	Providing Basic infrastructure / continuous monitoring of Tiger outside Tiger Reserve				
	Data Entry Operators, GIS Analysis, census and monitoring	4.12	STR Hqrs.		2.40
4	Habitat improvement and water Development				
	Prevention and control of fire, fire monitoring system including fire line, watch tower, fire Surveillance, awareness and fire fighting squads, fire watchers, fire fighting equipment	4.3	In side STR		20.00
	Elephant Squad: Feeding and medicine charges of captive elephants and wages of Mahouts	4.1		5 Elephants	13.00
	Reward: Reward for meritorious work	4.1			0.25
5	Staff Development and Capacity Building				
	Supply of uniform and field gears to frontline staff	4.1			2.00
	supply of medicine to staff and protection assistant and provision of first aid kits	4.16			1.00
	Total Recurring				256.51
C	NON RECURRING (BUFFER)				
1	Anti Poaching Activities				
	Secret fund, Intelligence units	4.1			0.25
	Legal Support	4.1			0.25
2	Staff Development and Capacity Building				
	Project Allowance (DFO@ 1500/- ACF@ 1300/-, Ros & Dy. RO @ 100 Fr/ FEO @ 900/- FG / Min. staff @ 700/- Gr. D @ 400/-)	4.15	Buffer area staff		19.00
	Total Non-Recurring (Buffer)				19.50
D	RECURRING (BUFFER)				
1	Anti Poaching Activities				
	Anti Poaching Smuggling Squad: Anti poaching watchers: Each squad will have 6 daily wage persons in sensitive areas. 31 buffer areas camps, 10 camps in corridor area, 246 persons @ 150 per day + 13.5% PF	4.1	Anti poaching camps in buffer and corridor	31 buffer area camps & 10 corridor area camps	130.67
2	Maintenance of Infrastructure within Tiger Reserve				
	Maintenance of Motor Vehicles & POL including hiring charges	4.2 & 4.14			5.00
3	Awareness Programme				
	Health Camp, Intervention or Prevention and Control of malaria		buffer area villages	15	1.50
	Total Recurring				137.17
	Total Non-Recurring (C ore + Buffer)				286.25
	Total Recurring (C ore + Buffer)				393.68

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	Items	Sanction	Central Assistance
1.	Non-Recurring	286.25	286.25
2.	Recurring	393.68	196.84
3.	Total	679.93	483.09
4.	10% Flexi-fund		53.676
	Grand Total		536.766

Ceiling of 1/3rd of BE, of central share to Similipal Tiger Reserve = Rs. 183.5439 lakh
10% flexi-fund to State Government = Rs. 20.3937 lakh
Total = Rs. 203.9376 lakh

* Ecodevelopment initiatives should be based on normative guidelines of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India issued earlier based on village level, site specific, participatory micro plan with reciprocal commitment between the tiger reserve and the local people.