

No. 4-1(21)/2022-PT
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Project Tiger Division

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Dated the 28th October, 2022

To,

**The Pay & Accounts Officer,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
New Delhi.**

Sub: Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme 'Project Tiger' Administrative Approval for funds release to Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam during 2022-23 –reg.


Sir,

I am directed to convey the administrative approval of the competent authority to the continuance of the Scheme 'Project Tiger' in Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam at the cost of **Rs. 865.04 Lakhs (Rupees Eight Hundred Sixty Five lakhs Four thousand only)** as per details given in the table at Annexure. Of the total cost of the Scheme, **Rs. 203.52 Lakhs (Rupees Two Hundred Three lakhs Fifty Two thousand only)** being the recurring cost of the scheme will be shared on 90:10 basis by the **Government of India and Government of Assam**. The remaining cost of the scheme will be treated as 90% Central Assistance by the Government of India and 10% assistance by the State Government of Assam.

2. I am also directed to convey the sanction of the President to the payment and release of an amount of **Rs. 194.635 lakhs (Rupees One Hundred Ninety Four lakhs Sixty Three thousand five hundred only)** as the 1st installment of Central Share towards the Grants-in-aid to Government of Assam during the current financial year 2022-23. 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 2017, 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 **Manas Tiger Reserve** under the Project Tiger Scheme are not higher than those applicable to similar categories of


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- 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 230(12)(I).
- 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 Assam** 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 **Manas 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, 1971 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, 1971 and internal audit party by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry whenever it is called upon.
 - viii. The Utilization Certificate against the earlier funds released under Grants-in-aid have been received and accepted by the competent authority.
 - ix. Government of Assam in respect of **Manas Tiger Reserve** may furnish their performance-cum-achievement report on or before 31.3.2022.
 - x. **Manas 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 Assam** 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 2022-23 and unspent balance, if any, will be refunded by **Government of Assam** to the **Govt. of India**.
 - xiii. Government of Assam in respect of **Manas Tiger Reserve** will maintain a separate account and will present their annual accounts in the standard format as required under GFR 230(5).
 - xiv. Grants-in-aid shall be utilized for **Manas Tiger Reserve** strictly as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, acting through the National Tiger Conservation Authority, Field Director (**Manas Tiger Reserve**) and **Government of Assam**.
 - 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 duly linked with Aadhar Number.
 - xviii. It may please be ensured that there is no duplication of nature and items of work being proposed in the same area under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Project Elephant, Eco-development and IDWH Schemes etc.
 - xix. The cost estimates worked out by the Field Director should be based on approved schedule of rates of the State Government, with due approval of the competent authority.
 - xx. Approval of the competent authority be obtained and acceptance of UC may be ensured by PD.
 - xxi. The expenditure is incurred as per the allocation of funds.
 - xxii. Payments are made by bank transfer and no cash payment is to be made.
 - xxiii. Funds for POL / maintenance of vehicles would be admissible only for the vehicles purchased from CSS funds.
 - xxiv. **Funds will not be diverted for any item other than specified herein.**
 - xxv. **Funds to be spent only on items approved in Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP).**
 - xxvi. Compensation for loss due to wildlife is to supplement the State Government fund as per the rules of State Government.

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- xxvii. GFR is followed by implementing agency alongwith the economic instructions issued by Government of India from time to time.
- xxviii. Satellite photo with date and latitude and longitude nodes after completion of work depicting the work carried out before and after the work.
- xxix. Evidence of deposit of TDS/Service Tax in case of contract payment and CST in case of leviable goods are sent along with UC.
- xxx. In case of employment through contract, copy of PF & ESI contributions of employees shall be obtained wherever applicable.
- xxxi. All measurable outcome of this grant must be mentioned in the sanction order and UC is to be submitted as prescribed in GFR 2017 – Form GFR 12-C.
- xxxii. If the implementing agency does not use the fund for the purpose for which it was given, it has to refund the same with interest.
- xxxiii. There should not be any overlapping of activities under the projects with the activities of ongoing schemes under CSS/CS/State Government Scheme.
- xxxiv. The sanction order must mention measurable physical parameters and all measurable parameters are to be adhered to.
- xxxv. The fixed asset created out of this grant shall not be disposed off without concurrence of this Ministry.
- xxxvi. A separate bank account shall be opened for the purpose and the account shall be open for audit by Central Government or C&AG.
- xxxvii. All guidelines under the project is to be followed scrupulously.
- xxxviii. The UC with physical progress report and satellite photo with physical deliverable with date and latitude – longitude coordinates before and after completion of work be obtained of each tiger reserve and uploaded on the website of the implementing agency as well as the Ministry for public access.
- xxxix. The measurable outcome under the project (quantified) in terms of number of tigers in tiger reserve, eco-tourism in tiger reserve, %age decrease in man-animal conflict etc., may also be submitted in the progress report.
- xl. All labour payments strictly by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- xli. **All guidelines of Project Tiger Schemes are followed by concerned tiger reserve and Expenditure Evaluation Report on the expenditure incurred viz. proposed activities and result achieved may be furnished before release of 2nd installment.**

4. As the annual budget of the Scheme is approved by the Central Government, the Government of Assam 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 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 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 of National Tiger Conservation Authority should 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 Tiger Conservation Plan and the Annual Plan of Operation by the field inspections from time to time.

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7. 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 Assam under intimation to this Department.

8. The expenditure incurred is adjustable to the Demand No. 28 (Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change) under the following heads during the Financial Year 2022-23:

Scheme	Budget Head	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger	3601.06.101.02.01.31 (Gen)	194.635
Total		194.635

9. This issues under the powers delegated to the Ministry and with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide Dy. No. 115/IFD/2022 dated 27.10.2022. **Compliance of all the guidelines/instructions regarding release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and monitoring utilization of funds released, Issued by Dept. of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) vide OM No 1(13)PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23.03.2021 must be ensured.**

Yours faithfully,



(Md. Sajid Sultan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (PT)

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Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Government of India

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary (Forests), Govt. of Assam. A copy of the detailed sanction letter issued by the State Government in respect of this scheme for 2022-23 may kindly be furnished to this Ministry at the earliest.
2. The Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Assam.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Assam.
4. The IGF, NTCA RO, Guwahati.
5. The Field Director, Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam.
6. The Accountant General, Assam.
7. The Director of Audit, Scientific Department, AGCR Building, IP Estate, New Delhi.
8. Forest Finance Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
9. Plan Finance Division (PF-II), Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.
10. Guard file/Spare copies.

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No	Items	Sanction	Central Assistance
1	Non Recurring (90%)	638.91	575.02
2	Recurring (90%)	226.13	203.52
	Total	865.04	778.54

S. No.	Subject	Contents	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	Total cost of APO	A	865.04
2.	Central share in APO	B	778.54
3.	Amount to be released in first installment (25% of center share)	C=25% of B	194.635
4.	Less: Unspent balance of previous year	D	0.00
5.	Net release	E=C-D	194.635

Note: Eco development initiatives should be based on normative guidelines of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India issued earlier based on village level, site specific, participatory micro plan with reciprocal commitment between Tiger Reserves and the local people.



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Proposed Annual Plan of Operation under CSS-Project Tiger for Manas Tiger Reserve for the year 2022-23

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Item of Works	Para No.		Previous year details (Rs. In lakh)						Current year proposal (Rs. In lakh)					Justification
		CSSPT Guidelines	TCP	Physical		Financial		GPS		Physical & Financial Target			GPS (Decimal Degrees)		
				Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Lat	Long	Physical Target	Unit Cost (Rs. In lakh)	Amount (Financial Target)	Lat	Long	
NON-RECURRING															
CORE AREA															
1	Antipoaching Initiatives														
i	Payment Wages to Van Mazdoor- 160 nos.		10.4.2	182	145	147.420	111.716			160	0.09	172.80	NA	NA	Payment of wages to existing 160 nos. Van Mazdoors (CL) required for payment of wages who are engaged for anti-poaching activities in Manas Tiger Reserve
ii	Payment of Arrear Wages to Van Mazdoor- 133 nos.									133	0.09	35.91	NA	NA	Payment of arrear wages to existing 133 nos. Van Mazdoors (CL) required for payment of wages who are engaged for anti-poaching activities in Manas Tiger Reserve, for 3 months as only 9 months was sanctioned during the previous FY 2021-22
iii	Armed Home Guards- 140 nos.		10.4.2	140	140	113.400	108.261			140	0.09	151.20	NA	NA	For payment to the wages to 140 nos. Home Guards engaged in protection and anti-poaching activities inside core area in Manas Tiger Reserve due to a nearly 60% staff vacancy
iv	Payment of Arrear wages to Armed Home Guards- 140 nos.		10.4.2							140	0.09	37.80	NA	NA	Payment of arrear wages to 140 nos. Home Guards engaged in protection and anti-poaching activities inside core area in Manas Tiger Reserve due to a nearly 60% staff vacancy, for 3 months as only 9 months was sanctioned during 2021-22
v	Purchase of solar battery for APCs	16.1	10.4.2							50	0.12	6.00	NA	NA	Batteries are required for providing lighting facility in camps as well as charge wireless handsets and mobiles for communication and M-STRIPES
vi	Purchase of charge controllers for solar system		10.4.2							100	0.01	1.00	NA	NA	To effectively charge batteries using solar power, this device is needed as otherwise it results in overcharging and short circuiting
vii	Purchase of extra battery for walky talky handset		10.4.2							60	0.033	1.98	NA	NA	During monsoon season as the sunlight is low, walky talky handsets cannot be charged effectively for which extra batteries are required
viii	Purchase of extra charger for walky talky handset		10.4.2							60	0.04	2.40	NA	NA	During monsoon season as the sunlight is low, walky talky handsets cannot be charged effectively for which extra chargers are required
ix	Construction of mechanized boat for river patrolling		10.4.2							3	2.00	6.00	NA	NA	This is required during monsoons as unscrupulous elements enter the park and fell trees during monsoon besides indulging in illegal fishing
xi	Support for site specific protection measures		10.4.2							1	8.00	8.00	NA	NA	Lump sum amount as during monsoon and other sensitive periods, local workforce has to be deployed in camping locations for which logistic support like tarpaulins, food, vehicle hiring shall be required
2	Strengthening infrastructure within Tiger Reserve														
i	Construction of wireless tower 100 feet		10.4.2							1	3.00	3.00	26.631545°	90.663650°	As the 1st addition has been recently handed over, a wireless tower for effective communication with all APCs and headquarter needs to be constructed
ii	Construction of wireless room		10.4.2							1	1.50	1.50	26.631536°	90.663666°	As the 1st addition has been recently handed over, a wireless control room for effective communication with all APCs and headquarter needs to be constructed
iii	Construction of Arms storage strong room		10.4.2							1	2.00	2.00	26.631536°	90.663658°	The Bhuyanpara range currently does not have a strong room for arms. As the tiger reserve is located in an area sensitive to insurgency, this is urgently required
iv	Construction of latrines for APC staff	16.2	10.4.2							4	1.00	4.00	26.642083° 26.697567° 26.718671° 26.715306°	90.828994° 91.139919° 90.832418° 90.852092°	The latrines of Mwina, Pakhridowa, Simibeel and Palangchi camps have been damaged beyond repair due to elephants as well as partial submergence because of which staff is reluctant to stay. Hence, urgently required to augment protection operations
v	Purchase of water tank, motor and elevated framework for water supply in Bhuyanpara Range		10.4.2							1	3.00	3.00	26.706289°	91.107308°	As the Bhuyanpara Range Office does not have an efficient water supply system currently, a new one needs to be established
vi	Purchase of hume pipes		10.10							2	1.00	2.00	26.745946° 26.723488°	91.103979° 91.110760°	As culverts keep breaking down during the monsoon season, 2 hume pipes need to be kept as spare for emergency repairs
vii	Construction of garage shed		10.4.2							1	1.50	1.50	26.625355°	90.915316°	There is no garage in Kahlitama beat because of which vehicles are exposed to extreme weather resulting in premature wear
viii	Construction of bathroom/latrine in Kuklung range		10.4.2							1	3.00	3.00	26.631545°	90.663650°	The toilet facilities in Kuklung are in a dilapidated state and there is no facility for visiting officers to use Hence, this is essential
3	Addressing man-animal conflicts														
i	Purchase of crackers									60	0.10	6.00	NA	NA	Crackers are required for driving wildlife back into the forest and prevent depredation
ii	Support to teams engaged in anti depredation operations		10.4.2							1	4.00	4.00	NA	NA	Lump sum amount to provide logistics to teams engaged in anti-depredation operations such as food, vehicle hiring and night stay
iii	POL to anti depredation teams		10.4.2							1	4.00	4.00	NA	NA	Fuel is required for vehicles deployed in anti depredation operations
iv	Purchase of drugs for immobilization		7.8.3	LS		0.50				1	1.50	1.50	NA	NA	Lumpsum amount based on average expenditure in previous FY to immobilize animals which are causing conflict

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iii	Repair of Bishnupur beat in Kuklung range	10.4.2						1	3.00	3.00	26.645517*	90.762253*	The Bishnupur beat in Kuklung range has suffered extensive damage due to wild elephants and needs to be repaired immediately in the first addition area
iv	Supply of water to camps through tanker							1	1.00	1.00	26.804976* 26.718571* 26.715306* 26.642809* 26.643556*	91.234794* 90.832418* 90.852092* 90.813112* 90.789617*	Lump sum amount as many camps are located in bhabar tract where ground water cannot be utilised and water has to be supplied through tankers (Alabari, Simlibael, Palangshi, Sourang, Lakhijhora)
v	POL for vehicle	10.4.2	LS	LS	6.00	6.00		1	40.00	40.00	NA	NA	The average monthly requirement of POL in the tiger reserve is Rs. 6 lakhs especially in light of the fact that the area is 2837 sq km. The fuel cost is also on an upward trend which need to be factored in
vi	Upkeep of departmental elephants	10.11	46	46	15.00	5.10		30	2.671	80.13	NA	NA	As per standard prescribed in Assam: @Rs 2.8 lakhs/elephant for adults and @Rs. 1.41 lakhs/elephant for calves; there are 5 calves and 49 adults. This will partly be met from State schemes
2 Strengthening infrastructure within Tiger Reserve													
i	Repair of bathroom and latrine in Bhuyanpara Range	10.4.2						1	0.50	0.50	26.706289*	91.107308*	The toilet facilities in Bhuyanpara Range are in a dilapidated state and there is no facility for visiting officers to use. Hence, this is essential
ii	Maintenance of water supply system in Bansbari and Bhuyanpara Range							2	1.50	3.00	26.706289*	91.107308*	Due to high iron content in water in Bhuyanpara, watersupply system needs to be upgraded through repairs
iii	Maintenance of Range Office buildings	10.4.2						5	0.80	4.00	26.650726* 26.706289* 26.596581* 26.631536*	90.997490* 91.107308* 90.831206* 90.863658*	All range buildings are in varying state of wear and tear and need to be maintained periodically which involves repair of different nature
iv	Repair of old staff quarter at Bansbari Range	10.4.2						1	4.00	4.00	26.650726*	90.997490*	This is an old staff quarter which has been abandoned and needs to be renovated before being put in use, due to a shortage of buildings
v	Maintenance of Headquarter beat office complex	10.4.2						1	5.00	5.00	26.490720*	90.967793*	Buildings in headquarter beat are in varying state of wear and tear and need to be maintained periodically which involves repair of different nature. The Beat takes care of the entire forest colony under Manas Field Directorate
vi	Range and Beat office expenses	10.4.2						5	1.50	7.50	NA	NA	Goods of perishable nature such as stationery, printer ink are required to be procured on an ongoing basis
vii	Field Director Office expenses	10.4.2	LS	LS	1.50	1.0898		1	4.00	4.00	NA	NA	Goods of perishable nature such as stationery, printer ink are required to be procured on an ongoing basis
3 Mainstreaming wildlife concerns in tiger bearing forests outside tiger reserve, and fostering corridor conservation in such areas through restorative strategy involving local people to arrest fragmentation of habitats		16.10											
i	Fuel for vehicles deployed in securing corridor areas	10.4.2						1	3.00	3.00	NA	NA	Vehicles need to be deployed for monitoring corridor and adjoining landscapes in respect of enforcement as well as wildlife movement
Sub-Total Recurring-Core =										226.13			
Recurring Buffer =										0.00			
Grand Total Recurring-Core/Buffer =										226.13			
Overall Total (Non-Recurring + Recurring) Rs. =										834.83			
Rs. In Lakhs.													
	S. No	Items	Sanction	Central Assistance									
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	2	Recurring (90%)	226.13	203.52									
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3	Amount to be released in	C=25% of B	194.635
4	Less: Unspent balance of	D	0
5	Net release	E=C-D	194.635



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