

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Project Tiger & Elephant Division

NER

F.No. 4-1(24)/2023-PT&E

Dated: 30.08.2023

To,

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

Sub: Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger & Elephant' Administrative Approval for funds release to Government of Mizoram, during 2023-24 -1st installment - reg.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the administrative approval of the competent authority to the continuance of the Scheme 'Project Tiger & Elephant' in Mizoram at the cost of **Rs. 330.00 Lakh (Rupees Three Hundred Thirty Lakh Only)** as per details given in the table at Annexure.

2. I am also directed to convey the sanction of the President to the payment and release of an amount of **Rs. 69.75 Lakhs (Rupees Sixty Nine Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Only)** as the 1st installment of Central Share towards the Grants-in-aid to Government of Mizoram during the current financial year 2023-24. 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 under the **Project Tiger and Elephant 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 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.




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- v. The **Government of Mizoram** 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 **Project Tiger and Elephant Scheme** 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 and Elephant 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 **Mizoram** in respect of **Project Tiger and Elephant Scheme** may furnish their performance-cum-achievement report on or before 31.03.2024.
- x. **Tiger/Elephant Reserves** will spend Grants-in-aid exclusively in pursuance of the objectives envisaged in rules/memorandum of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger & Elephant' and for the purpose it is being sanctioned.
- xi. Grants-in-aid to **Government of Mizoram** 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 Mizoram** to the **Govt. of India**.
- xiii. Government of **Mizoram** in respect of **Project Tiger and Elephant Scheme** 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 **Dampa 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 (**Dampa Tiger Reserve**) and **Government of Mizoram**.
- 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 Elephant** and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as 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.

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- 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)/CSS Guidelines.
- xxvi. Compensation for loss due to wildlife is to supplement the State Government fund as per the rules of State Government.
- 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. All guidelines under the project is to be followed scrupulously.
- xxxvii. 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.
- xxxviii. The measurable outcome under the project (quantified) in terms of number of tigers/ elephants in reserves, eco-tourism in tiger/ elephant reserves, %age decrease in man-animal conflict etc., may also be submitted in the progress report.
- xxxix. All labour payments strictly by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- xl. The guidelines of Project Tiger and Elephant Scheme are followed by **Tiger/Elephant Reserves** and Expenditure Evaluation Report on the expenditure incurred vis-à-vis proposed activities and result achieved may be furnished.

3. As the annual budget of the Scheme is approved by the Central Government, the Government of **Mizoram** is not required to furnish bond and sureties, in accordance with the Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 14(1)-EII (A)/64 dated 23.06.1965.

4. The 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.


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5. 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.

6. 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 **Mizoram** under intimation to this Department.

7. 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 2023-24:

Scheme	Budget Head	Tiger	Elephant	Total Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant	3601.06.101.02.05.31 (Grant-in-Aid General)	69.75	0.00	69.75
Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant	3601.06.789.02.05.31 (Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger & Elephant	3601.06.796.02.05.31 (Tribal Area Sub Plan/STC)	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	69.75	0.00	69.75

8. This issues under the powers delegated to the Ministry and with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide Unique Dy. No. 87/IFD/2023 dated 29.08.2023. **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,


(Hemant Singh)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (PT&E)

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary (Forests), Govt. of Mizoram. A copy of the detailed sanction letter issued by the State Government in respect of this scheme for 2023-24 may kindly be furnished to this Ministry immediately.
3. The Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Mizoram.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Mizoram.
5. The Field Director, Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram
6. The Accountant General, Mizoram.

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Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Government of India, New Delhi

RECORDED
INDEXED
10/08/2023

7. The Director of Audit, Scientific Department, AGCR Building, IP Estate, New Delhi.
8. The IGF, PT&E, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
9. The AIGF, NTCA Regional Office, Nagpur.
10. Forest Finance Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
11. Plan Finance Division (PF-II), Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.
12. Guard file/Spare copies.


(Hemant Singh)

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(I) PROJECT TIGER

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No	Items	Sanction	Central Assistance (90%)	State Share (10%)
1	Non Recurring (90:10)	70.87	63.78	7.09
2	Recurring (90:10)	259.13	233.22	25.91
	Total	330.00	297.00	33.00

S. No.	Subject	Contents	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	Total cost of APO	A	330.00
2	Central Share in APO	B	297.00
3	Amount to be released in 1st installment (50% Central Share)	C=50% of B	148.50
4	Less unspent balance of previous year	D	78.75
5	Net release as 1st installment	E=C-D	69.75

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Annual Plan of Operation Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram under Centrally Sponsored Scheme - Project Tiger for 2023 - 2024													
Sl. No	Item of Work	Para No. of CSS - PT Guidelines		Location/GPS coordinates	Previous Year 2022-23 Details			Current Year 2023-24 Proposal			Justification/Remarks		
		CSS-PT Guidelines	TCP		Physical Target/Achievement	Financial Target/Achievement	Location/GPS coordinates	Physical Target	Unit Cost	Amount (Financial Target)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
NON - RECURRING (NR)													
CORE													
Fostering Tourism/Ecotourism in tiger reserves													
1	Upgradation and development of Tourist Zones in Dampa Tiger Reserve	16.17	7.2.1.3	-	1	-	8.00	-	Included in KML Folder	1	LS	4.00	Saithah Community Forest had long been maintained by the NGOs of Saithah village. To develop a participatory community-based tourism strategy in collaboration with local community to ensure long-term local community benefit sharing and activities run by local communities, the upgradation and development of the existing Saithah Community Forest is proposed.



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2	Establishment of Souvenir Shops for the Tiger Reserve at Teirei Forest Complex	16.17	7.2.1.3	-	2	-	10.00	-	Included in KML Folder	1	LS	7.50	At present, there is no specific souvenir shop for the Tiger Reserve. Although tourism is in its infancy in the Tiger Reserve, it is necessary to devote the resources available in the TR to establish a well maintained souvenir shop for portraying and promoting eco-tourism in the TR. Hence proposed.
Staff Development & Capacity Building													
3	Study Tours for frontline field staff to other Tiger Reserve	16.8	8.5	-	-	-	-	-	Kaziranga Tiger Reserve	1	LS	5.00	At least 10 staff may be sent to Kaziranga TR for Study Tour for appraisal of good practices especially protection, monitoring and implementation of MSTrIPES & Phase IV
SUB TOTAL OF Non Recurring (CORE)												16.50	
BUFFER													
Staff Welfare													
4	Supply of medicine to TPF and other field staff and First Aid Kit for APC	16.16	7.2.2.1.12	-	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	LS	LS	2.00	It is essential to provide amenities for staff welfare to attract the best talent in the working age group. Providing basic medical needs for frontline staff is necessary especially those in the smaller villages where medical


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दस्तावेज संख्या: 110003

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													facilities is poor.	
5	Purchase of Field Gear namely: Sleeping Bag, Rucksack, Torchlight	16.2.1	7.2.2.1.12	-	170	6.84	6.84	6.84	170	170	154	80000.00	12.32	Field gears are required by the protection staff for used in patrolling duties as well as for anti-poaching camps. Provision of field gears to field staff for this year is again proposed.
6	Provision of field ration to field staff during the year	16.16	7.2.2.1.12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 Months	0.75	9.00	For better protection of DTR, frequent patrolling within and around the Sanctuary is needed throughout the year. The patrolling staff i.e. Tiger Protection Force (TPF) patrol deep in the forest and camp in the Anti-poaching camps for more than a week within a fortnight as per duty roster. These poor staff need to be supported with rations fooding throughout the year.
7	Subscription of Health & Life Insurance for Frontline Field Staff	16.16	7.2.2.1.12	-	LS	2.00	2.00	-	LS	160	160	LS	2.00	Availing Life Insurance Scheme for the frontline field staff under the Van Rakshak Programme of Wildlife Trust of India is proposed.



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Strengthening of infrastructure within Tiger Reserves													
8	Construction of Retaining Wall at Range Officer Complex, Phuldungsei	16.2	7.2.2.5	-	LS	-	3.00	-	Included in KML Folder	1	LS	3.00	Construction of Retaining wall near Forest Quarter is necessary so as to avoid landslide in the area.
9	Construction of Buildings: Construction of Sermi RCC Staff Quarter at West Phaileng	16.2.1	7.2.2.1.12	-	1	-	14.4302	-	Included in KML Folder	1	LS	20.05	DTR lacks proper housing facilities for both staff and other officers. Building a two-storey building for residential accommodation is absolutely necessary.
10	Construction of Strong Room cum Storage Room at West Phaileng	16.2.1	7.2.2.1.12	-	1	-	2.00	-	Included in KML Folder	1	LS	3.00	Strong room cum storage room is required for keeping confiscated arms, and other seized items.
11	RCC/Improvement of Approach Road at Range Officer Complex, Phuldungsei	16.2.2	7.2.2.5	-	1	-	2.00	-	Included in KML Folder	1	LS	2.00	The approach road to Interpretation Hall at Phuldungsei needs to be upgraded with reinforced cement concrete as it gets slippery during monsoon.
SUB TOTAL OF Non Recurring (Buffer)											53.37		

ADJOINING/TIGER BEARING AREAS

Mainstreaming Wildlife Concern													
12	Monitoring of wild animals in the adjoining tiger bearing areas of Dampa Tiger	16.10	7.2	Adjoining areas of DTR	2	-	2.00	-	Adjoining areas of DTR	1	1.00	1.00	Monitoring of wildlife in the adjoining PAs and Forest Division, in collaboration with the adjoining Forest


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Sl. No	Item of Work	Para No. of CSS -PT Guidelines		Location/GPS coordinates	Previous Year 2021-22 Details			Current Year 2022-23 Proposal			Justification/Remarks			
		CSS-PT Guidelines	TCP		Physical Target	Financial Achievement	Physical Target	Financial Achievement	Physical Target	Unit Cost		Amount (Financial Target)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
SUB TOTAL OF Non Recurring (ADJOINING)											1.00			
TOTAL OF Non Recurring (CORE + BUFFER + ADJOINING)											70.870			

CORE

RECURRING (R)

Anti Poaching													
13	Deployment of TPF for 12 months (April/23 - March/24) for protection activities	16.1.2	7.2.2.1.3	Dampa Tiger Reserve	160	160	74.928	74.928	Dampa Tiger Reserve	160	1873200	224.784	Due to shortage of regular field staff, Wildlife Guards are engaged local community under the aegis of Tiger Protection Force under the minimum rates of wages who are the backbone in protection of DTR Their wages is supported and provided by NTCA.

Addressing Man-Animal Conflict

14	Payment of compensation for cattle lifting, human death/injury and	16.10.3	6.2	Dampa Tiger Reserve	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	1	5.00	5.00	A certain cases of man-animal conflict occurred in the fringe villages of Dampa Tiger Reserve. To minimise these
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Handwritten Signature

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crop depredation by wild animals													incidence, immediate payment of ex-gratia compensation to the victim is required, Early payment of ex-gratia compensation is required to obtain moral support from the victim. Hence, proposed.	
Monitoring														
15 Impelmentation of MSTripes	16.2.14	7.2.2.2	Dampa Tiger Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	LS	LS	3.00	Routine patrolling on regular basis will now be required with the implementation of MSTripes in all Tiger Reserve. For this purpose, necessary logistics including rations need to be covered from this proposal.
16 Conduct of Annual Phase IV Monitoring in the Tiger Reserve	16.12	7.2.2.2	Dampa Tiger Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	1	LS	2.00	In Dampa Phase IV had not been conducted as per protocol hence for use in necessary logistic requirement to conduct annual Phase IV Monitoring, this is proposed.
Strengthening														
17 Maintanance of existing fire- lines	16.2.6	7.2.2.1		-	-	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	LS	LS	6.00	For prevention of large scale forest fire throughout the year as



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												fringe village are still practicing jhumming.
SUB TOTAL OF Recurring (CORE)												240.78

BUFFER

Project Allowance															
18	Provision of Project allowances and staff of Project Tiger	16.15	7.2.2.1.12								Dampa Tiger Reserve	15	LS	0.846	1 FD 1 ACF 1 FRO 1 Dy. F/R 1 Forester 4 Forest Guard 3 Ministerial Staff 3 Office Staff

Staff Development															
19	Wages of Wildlife Biologist under DTR @ Rs 25,000 per month for 12 months	16.7	8.4	1					3.00		Dampa Tiger Reserve	12 months	0.25	3.00	Engagement of Wildlife Biologist in DTR is felt necessary who will take up research task and assist the field staffs in management of the Tiger Reserve.

Antipoaching															
20	Organizing Monthly Vehicular Patrolling	16.1.4	7.2.2.1								Buffer area of Dampa Tiger Reserve	12	0.25	3.00	Monthly (12 times at least) vehicular patrolling will be conducted not only by staff including other local stakeholders, to be arranged by Range Officer as and when necessary. This will require procurement of HSD for vehicle plus fooding hence proposed.

Hemant Singh

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21	Legal support for evidence gathering, advocate fee, support to witness for court attendance on wildlife offence cases	16.1.13	7.2.2.1.3.	Dampa Tiger Reserve	1	-	2.00	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	1	LS	3.00	For better protection of the DTR, the culprit in connection with the wildlife offence should be properly punished as per law. For that purpose correct and reliable information should be available. In the meantime, correct filing of the case alongwith presentation to the Court is required. For that purpose legal expert is required and hence proposed.
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Strengthening

22	Maintenance of existing vehicles	16.2.8	13.8	Dampa Tiger Reserve	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	10	0.35	3.50	10 Hero Honda Splendor Motor Cycles were donated to DTR by Wildlife Conservation Trust which are used by Beat Officers of DTR. They are becoming old thus requires repairing @ Rs 35000/motor cycle.
23	Improvement of FD Office alongwith annual maintenance and other Office requirements including payment of electric,water,	16.2.1	7.2.2.5	Dampa Tiger Reserve	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	1	LS	2.00	For day to day office works and miscellaneous expenditure for running office.


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and telephone bills													
Co - existence agenda in buffer and fringe areas													
24	Celebration of Important Days	7.2.2.7	Dampa Tiger Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	Dampa Tiger Reserve	LS	LS	3.00	To commemorate 50 years of Project Tiger and other important and other important Wildlife related days
Sub Total of Recurring (BUFFER)											18.35		
Total of Recurring (CORE + BUFFER)											259.130		
GRAND TOTAL Non Recurring (NR) + Recurring (R)											330.000		


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