

F. No. 1-1/2023-PE/ फ़ाइल नंबर 1-1/2023-पीई
Government of India/भारत सरकार
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change/पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
(Project Tiger & Elephant Division / व्याघ्र एवं हाथी परियोजना प्रभाग)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi-110003

Dated 18th August, 2023

To

The Principal Account Office,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
New Delhi.

**Sub: Assistance to the States under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Project Elephant"-
Himachal Pradesh - regarding.**

Sir,

With reference to the proposal received from the PCCF (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Himachal Pradesh on the subject mentioned above, I am directed to convey the administrative approval of the Government of India to implementation of the above scheme during 2023-24 of the current plan period as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The amount approval under the scheme for the State of Himachal Pradesh during the year 2023-24 is **Rs.87.175 lakhs (Rupees Eighty-Seven Lakhs Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Only)**. The State Government is advised to observe economy measures so as to kept the actual expenditure to the minimum.

2. I am directed to convey the sanction of the President to release the payment of **Rs.19.61 Lakhs (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Sixty-One Thousand Only)** to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh during the current financial year 2023-24 as 1st instalment (50% Central Share).

3. The expenditure incurred is adjustable to the Grant No. 28 of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change under the Major Head 3601.06.101 Sub Head 02.05.31-Project Tiger and Elephant during 2023-24.

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

- (i) The grant is in accordance with patterns of financial assistance approved by the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance.



- (ii) The grant sanctioned is subject to adjustment on the basis of the terms & conditions under which the project has been approved.
- (iii) The fund approved for the activities in the year CFY 2023-24 may be utilized within the same year otherwise the remaining fund will be lapse.
- (iv) The Utilization Certificate should be furnished before release of subsequent instalment and in any case not later than 31.03.2024.
- (v) Physical/Financial progress of the scheme should be submitted quarterly and for the year 2023-24 by 31st March, 2024.

5. The grant is sanctioned subject to the conditions that:

- (i) Payments are made by bank transfer and no cash payment is to be made.
- (ii) Funds for POL/maintenance of vehicles would be admissible only for the vehicles purchased from CSS funds.
- (iii) Compensation for loss due to wildlife is to supplement the State Govt. fund as per the rules of State Govt.
- (iv) GFR is followed by implementing agency along with the economic instructions issued by Government of India from time to time.
- (v) Evidence of deposit of GST in case of contract payment and leviable goods are obtained along with UC and compliance of DBT scheme has to be ensured.
- (vi) In case of employment through contract, copy of PF & ESI contributions of employees shall be obtained, where able applicable.
- (vii) UC is to be submitted as prescribed in GFR-2017.
- (viii) 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.
- (ix) There should not be any overlapping of activities under the projects with the activities of ongoing scheme of Central/State Government.
- (x) The fixed asset created out of this grant shall not be disposed of without approval of this Ministry.

6. In accordance with the revised procedure, the Reserve Bank of India may please be advised for debiting the amount to the account of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and passing on the credit to the Central Accounts Section for transfer to the State Government in the books of the later.

7. In areas where Unique Identification Authority (UIDAI) has completed the issuance of Aadhar Numbers to citizens, the release of payments should be made with reference to the Aadhar Numbers of the recipient. In case UIDAI has not completed the issuance of Aadhar Numbers in the area where such activities are undertaken, a certificate should be submitted that reference to Aadhar Numbers is not possible due to pendency of issuance of such numbers to citizens.

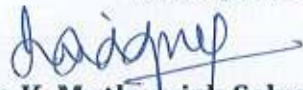
8. The accounts of the Project Elephant Scheme shall be open for inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India under the provision of C&AG (DPC) Act, 1971 and internal audit party by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry whenever it is called upon.



9. The approved land based activities should be undertaken only at the locations mentioned in the APO proposals submitted to the Ministry, which are also specified in the Annexure.

10. This issues with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division of this Ministry vide their diary No. 212977/AS & FA (PP) dated 27/07/2023 under the powers delegated to Ministries/Department and IFD unique No. 76/IFD/2023 dated 04/08/2023.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. K. Muthamizh Selvan)
Scientist 'E' (Project Elephant)
E-mail id: km.selvan@gov.in

Copy to:

- 1-4. The Secretary, Forest Department/Secretary, Finance Department/ Accountant General/PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
5. The Director of Audit, CW&MII, 3rd Floor, AGCR Building, IP Estate, New Delhi-110001
6. The Consultant, Environment & Forestry Division, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
7. Guard File.

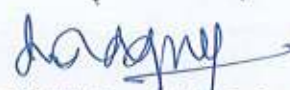
Annexure to F. No. 1-1/2023-PE dated 18th August, 2023 (Himachal Pradesh)

Item proposed for release during 2023-24

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Items of Activities	Amount
Protection of Elephants	
Anti-depredation Squad in Nahan: Range level elephant squad for Kolar and Nahan Ranges to handle anti-depredation duties. Each squad will comprise 1 RO, 1 BO, 4 Forest Guards and 1 trained expert. Hired vehicle, anti-depredation equipment like spotlight, torches, binoculars crackers/sound fun, siren 2 squads @ Rs.3.50 lac each	7.00
Anti-depredation Squad in Paonta Sahib: Range level elephant squad for Majar and Girinagar Ranges to handle anti-depredation duties. Each squad will comprise 1 RO, 1 BO, 4 Forest Guards and 1 trained expert. Hired vehicle, anti-depredation equipment like spotlight, torches, binoculars crackers/sound fun, siren. 2 squads @ Rs.3.50 lac each	7.00
Infrastructure in Nahan- Watch tower installation 3 No @Rs.5.21 lac each 30°48'67.68 77°45'15.52 30°50'58.72 77°33'90.69	15.63
Infrastructure in Paonta Sahib- Watch tower installation 2 No @Rs.5.21 lac each 30°30'23.3 77°27'09.2 30°25'29.7 77°34'47.1	10.42
Eliciting Public Co-operation and Mitigation of Human-Elephant Conflict	

Engagement of Gaj-Mitras volunteers to tackle man-Elephant Conflict during crop season i. Nahan-25 No @ Rs.0.125 lac each ii. Paonta Sahib-50 No @ Rs.0.125 lac each	10.625
Awareness and Sensitization-Publicity & IEC for elephant conservation pamphlets etc.	7.00
Solar power fencing along bata mandi area (main entry point for elephants from Uttarakhand)	5.50
Elephant proof trenches construction (EPT) i. Nahan-1 No @ Rs.5.50 lac each ii. Paonta Sahib-1 No @ Rs.5.50 lac each 30°48'65.14 77°45'35.03 30°49'17.35 77°43'41.72 30°49'25.98 77°42'52.14 30°49'46.42 77°42'36.39 30°49'42.34 77°35'52.31 30°25'30.7 77°33'30.2 30°25'58.8 77°33'28.3 30°26'15.2 77°33'25.2 30°25'05.5 77°34'02.2	11.00
Bee keeping training and apiculture in fringe areas with habitation	1.00
Holding of workshops, meetings, seminars etc for stakeholders Nahan & Paonta Sahib	4.00
Mobile application development for tracking elephant movement and corridor mapping and miscellaneous	2.00
Camera traps/night vision devices for monitoring 8 No @ Rs.0.25 lac each	2.00
Training of offices, field staff in elephant management techniques in Nahan & Paonta Sahib	4.00
Total (Central Share and State Share)	87.175
Central Share 90%	78.4575
Release 1st instalment (25%)	19.61
Less Unspent Balance (2022-23)	0.00
Net release 1st instalment	19.61



(Dr. K. Muthamizh Selvan)
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