

To,

The Pay & Accounts Officer,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
New Delhi.**Subject: Assistance to State Govt. of Maharashtra for the Annual Plan of Operation (TSP Works) of financial year 2022-23 under the CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management - Release of 1st installment: reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to convey the administrative approval of the Annual Plan of Operation for financial year 2022-23 of **State of Maharashtra** under **CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme**, at a total cost of **Rs. 2264.55 Lakh** (excluding flexi funds) (Rupees Two thousand two hundred sixty four Lakh and fifty five thousand only) on 60%: 40% cost sharing basis as Central Share and State Share.

2. I am further directed to convey the approval of the competent authority for sanction of **Rs. 339.68 Lakh** (Rupees Three hundred thirty nine Lakh and sixty eight thousand only) (**25% of Central Share**) and **net release of Rs. 335.27 Lakh** (Rupees Three hundred thirty five Lakh and twenty seven thousand only) as release of 1st installment of Annual Plan Operation 2022-23, **after adjusting unspent balance of Rs. 4.41 Lakh of revaluated amount during 2021-22 (TSP works) under CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme** to the **State of Maharashtra** during 2022-23.

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

Scheme	Budget Head	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)
Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme	3601.06.796.01.02.31	279.61
	3601.06.796.01.02.35	55.66
Unspent balance available with the State of revaluated amount of (General Works) during 2021-22		4.41
TOTAL		339.68

4. The various works are to be executed as per the Sanctioned Schedule of Rates applicable in the area. The aforesaid amount may be spent in accordance with the Plan Operation sanctioned as given in **Annexure** and **no deviation from the approved items of expenditure** shall be made **without prior concurrence** of Government of India.

5. **The fund should be utilized only in the forest areas vulnerable to forest fires in the tribal population dominated areas.** In this regard, it is also advised to assess the vulnerability of forests to forest fire in scheduled caste population dominated areas and to prepare the map of the same based on the degree of vulnerability to forest fire for focusing the works on priority basis.



6. This release amount is to be utilized subject to adherence of following terms and conditions:

- i. The sanction is provisional and is subject to adjustment on the basis of the audited figures of expenditure.
- ii. State Government should make adequate Budget provision to contribute its share as per the revised funding pattern as communicated by the D/o Expenditure vide D.O. No. 32/PSO/FS/2015 dated 28.10.2015. The funding pattern (matching share of states) as per the category of states, is as below:

Category of States/UTs	Central Share	State Share
Union Territories	100%	0
NE States and Special category States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand	90%	10%
Rest of the States	60%	40%

- iii. **The details of benefits to the tribal population in terms of No of tribal people benefitted by way of No. of man days of employment, amount of wages given etc. has to be submitted along with the utilization certificate, progress report etc.**
- iv. A separate bank account shall be opened for the purpose and the account shall be open for audit by C&AG.
- v. The GFRs 2017 is followed along with the economic instructions issued by Government of India from time to time.
- vi. Payments are to be made by bank transfer and no cash payment is made.
- vii. The payment for the engagement of labour for various works such as fire watchers, creation & maintenance of fire lines etc. should be made only through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and the details of the same with the supporting documents should be submitted along with the utilization certificate and progress report.
- viii. In case of employment through contract, copy of PF & ESI of employees shall be furnished, wherever applicable.
- ix. Evidence of deposit of TDS/Service Tax in case of contract payments and CST in case of purchase of leviable goods are obtained along with Utilization Certificate and compliance of DBT scheme has to be ensured.
- x. The UCs (as prescribed in GFR-19A), Progress Report along with satellite photographs of physical deliverables with date and latitude-longitude coordinates before and after implementation shall be submitted in time.
- xi. Strict economy should be observed so as to keep the actual expenditure to the minimum. The works are to be executed as per the Sanctioned Schedule of Rates applicable in the area.
- xii. The expenditure is to be incurred as per the allocation of funds. There shall be no diversion of earmarked funds from one item to another one except in case of unavoidable circumstances and only with the prior approval of MoEF&CC. 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.
- xiii. There should not be any overlapping of activities under the scheme with the activities of other ongoing schemes of Central / State Govt.
- xiv. The programme is to be monitored by State regularly and the **quarterly progress report** shall be submitted by the State on the progress of implementation of the scheme in format given in Annexure - VII of the Operational Guidelines of the Scheme, for every quarter of the year.
- xv. The infrastructure created will be fully utilized for the purpose for which they have been sanctioned and all recurring cost in respect of all items sanctioned will be borne by the State Government.
- xvi. For the proposed infrastructure works including construction of water tanks, location of the site along with the details of GPS details may be submitted to this office.


Asst. Inspector General of Forest
Department, 04 04 2017
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Govt. of India, New Delhi

- xvii. The fixed assets created out of this grant shall not be disposed off without concurrence of this Ministry.
- xviii. The outcome of the money released under the Scheme should be submitted as per the format given below:

Outcome	Indicator	Periodicity	Data Source/Method	Responsible Agency
Less fire incidences	Number of forest fires	Annual	Satellite data	FSI, Dehradun
Reduction in damage to forest resources	Total estimated area affected due to forest fire	Annual	Satellite data and Information from States/UTs	FSI, Dehradun and States/UTs
Capacity development for forest fire fighting	Number of field forest staff and members of JFMCs / villages trained.	Annual	State / UT Forest Departments	State / UT Forest Departments

- xix. The State shall carryout monitoring & evaluation of the works undertaken. Proposal for 2nd installment should also include the details of mid-term monitoring & evaluation report, number of alerts, actual fire incidences and the losses due to the forest fire.

7. The accounts of the Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme shall be open for inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India under the provision of CBAG (DPC) Act, 1971 and internal audit party by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry whenever it is called upon.

8. In accordance with the revised procedure the Reserve Bank of India may please be advised to pass on the credit to the Central Accounts Section, Nagpur for transferring the funds to the accounts of Government of Maharashtra and to debit the amount to the Account of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

9. This issues with the concurrence of Internal Finance Division vide their **Dy. No. E-136861 dated 20.02.2023** under the powers delegated to the Ministries/Departments.

Yours faithfully

Annexure: Approved Annual Plan Operation 2022-23.



(Shivanand S. Talawar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FPD)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
2. The Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
3. The Secretary, Forests Department, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
4. The Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Central Accounts Section, Nagpur
5. Director Audit, Scientific Deptt. AGCR Building, New Delhi
6. Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Expenditure, Plan Finance Division, New Delhi
7. PPS to AS&FA, MoEF&CC
8. Consultant (IT), MoEF&CC (for uploading on Ministry's website)
9. Sanction folder.

Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme (FFPM)

Annual Plan Operation for the year 2022-23 (TSP Works)

Name of the State / UT : Maharashtra

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Items	Proposed by State Govt.				Recommended by Ministry	
		Unit	Unit Cost	No. of Units	Total Cost	No. of Units	Total Cost
1	Controlled burning, fire line creation and maintenance (20 man-days per Km wage Rs. 350/- day cutting & burning)	km	0.06	13724.6	823.48	13724.6	823.48
2	Engagement of fire watchers	Mandays	9.45	130.71	1235.21	130.71	1235.21
	Total				2658.69		2658.69
	Imprest Money (guidelines at Annexure-I) (5%)				102.93		102.93
	Monitoring and review (guidelines at Annexure-II), 2%				41.17		41.17
	Short term research/survey on forest fire related issues (guidelines at Annexure-III), 3%				61.76		61.76
	Total				2264.55		2264.55
	*Prest Fund				0.00		0.00
	Grand Total				2264.55		2264.55

* Not proposed by State Govt.

Central share (60%) : 1358.73 lakhs
 State share (40%) : 905.82 lakhs
 Total : 2264.55 lakhs

Approved for the State/Union Territory
 Director, Forests
 Government of Maharashtra
 Mumbai
 Date: 28/07/2022
 Signature: [Signature]
 Name: [Name]
 Designation: [Designation]