

**Sanction Order No. 33/2023-24/FPD**

F. No. 3-12/2007-FPD (Pt. 2)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Protection Division)

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Agni Wing,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
JorBagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi – 110003  
Dated: 19.09.2023

To,

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

**Subject: Assistance to State Govt. of Kerala for the Annual Plan of Operation (General Works) during 2023-24 under the CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management – Release of 1<sup>st</sup> installment: reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to convey the administrative approval of the Annual Plan of Operation during 2023-24 **State of Kerala** under **CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme**, at a total cost of **Rs. 1766.91 Lakh** (Rupees One thousand seven hundred sixty six Lakh and ninety one 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. 265.04 Lakh** (Rupees Two hundred sixty five Lakh and four thousand only) (**25% of Central Share**) and **net release of Rs. 264.35 Lakh** (Rupees Two hundred sixty four Lakh and thirty five thousand only) as release of 1<sup>st</sup> installment of Annual Plan Operation 2023-24, **after adjusting unspent balance of Rs. 0.69 Lakh of revalidated amount in respect of APO 2022-23 (General Works) under CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme** to the **State of Kerala for the financial year 2023-24.**

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 2023-24 (Plan):

Scheme	Budget Head	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)
Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme	3601.06.101.01.03.31	239.77
	3601.06.101.01.03.35	24.58
Unspent balance available with the State of revalidated amount in respect of Annual Plan of Operation during 2022-23 (General Works).		0.69
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>265.04</b>

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.

डा. शोभिता अग्रवाल / Dr. Shobhita Agarwal  
सहायक वन महानिरीक्षक  
Assistant Inspector General of Forest  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Min of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली  
Govt. of India, New Delhi




5. 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. A separate bank account shall be opened for the purpose and the account shall be open for audit by C&AG.
- iv. The GFRs 2017 is followed along with the economic instructions issued by Government of India from time to time.
- v. Payments are to be made by bank transfer and no cash payment is made.
- vi. 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.
- vii. In case of employment through contract, copy of PF & ESI of employees shall be furnished, wherever applicable.
- viii. 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.
- ix. 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.
- x. 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.
- xi. 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.
- xii. There should not be any overlapping of activities under the scheme with the activities of other ongoing schemes of Central / State Govt.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. 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.
- xv. 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.

  
डा. शोभिता अग्रवाल / Dr. Shobhita Agarwal  
सहायक वन महानिरीक्षक  
Assistant Inspector General of Forest  
परिचालन वन एवं पर्यावरण विभाग, चण्डीगढ़  
Operation and Forest Department, Chandigarh



- xvi. The fixed assets created out of this grant shall not be disposed off without concurrence of this Ministry.
- xvii. 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

- xviii. The State shall carryout monitoring & evaluation of the works undertaken. Proposal for 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 C&AG (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 **Kerala** 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-138414 dated 15.09.2023 under** the powers delegated to the Ministries/Departments.

Yours faithfully

**Annexure:** Approved Annual Plan Operation 2023-24 (General Works).

(Dr. Shobhita Agarwal)

**Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FPD)**

Email:- fpd-moefcc@gov.in

**Copy to:**

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. The Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
3. The Secretary, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
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.