

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

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019

To

The Pay & Accounts Officer  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj  
New Delhi-110003

**Subject: Release of 1<sup>st</sup> instalment under the National Mission for a Green India (GIM) for the approved Annual plan of Operation of Kerala State to carry out creation work, maintenance works and distribution of alternative fuel energy devices in FY 2019-20: reg.**

Sir,


I am directed to convey the sanction of the President of India to release **Rs. 1631.814 Lakh** (Rupees Sixteen Crore, Thirty-One Lakh, Eighty-One Thousand and Four Hundred only), as Grant-in Aid (as per details given in Para 4 below) to the State Government of Kerala for onward release to the State Forest Development Agency, Kerala (SFDA) in FY 2019-20 under GIM for carrying out creation work, maintenance works and distribution of alternative fuel energy devices as per the approved targets of FY 2019-20.

2. The Competent Authority has approved the Annual Plan of Operation (APO) of Kerala State with a financial implication of Rs. 51.3415 Crore (Rupees Fifty-One Core, Thirty-four Lakh and Fifteen Thousand only) during 2019-20. However, the ministry has decided to release funds for the Creation, maintenance work, alternative fuel energy devices and corresponding support activities cost with a financial implication of Rs. 38.85270 Crore (Rupees Thirty-Eight Core, Eighty-Five Lakh and Twenty-Seven Thousand only) during 2019-20, to be shared between Central and State Government in the ratio of 60:40 (as per details given in Para 4 below) as per the approved funding norm communicated by Department of Expenditure (DoE), Ministry of Finance (MoF), vide D.O Letter No. 32/PSO/FS/2015 dated October 28, 2015. For proposed advance work, funds will be released on a later date depending upon the availability of funds and progress of work. The L2 Landscape-wise work plan, details enlisting the physical and financial targets are given in **Annexure-I**.

3. As per the Government of India O.M. No. 55(5)/PF.II/2011 dated January 6, 2014 issued by the DoE (MoF); the Central and State share would include Flexi fund @ 10% of total liability. Conformity with the Guidelines for Flexi Funds within Centrally Sponsored Schemes issued by the DoE will be adhered to by the Centre and the State Government.

4. The fund release for FY 2019-20 has been sanctioned based on the prevailing State Wage Rate i.e. Rs. 450.0/day. In case of any revision in the State Wage Rate, the corresponding additional amount will be provided along with the next instalment. The funds shall be released in the following manner:

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(विजय प्र. द्विवेदी)  
(VIJAY P. DWIVEDI)  
अवर सचिव/Under Secretary  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन विभाग  
M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली 110003  
Govt. of India, New Delhi-110003

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount (in Rs. Lakh)
		APO cost without Advance Work
(a)	Total cost of approved APO without Advance Work	3885.270
(b)	Amount to be released as Central Govt's share [60% of (a)]	2331.162
(c)	Amount to be met by State Govt. as State share [40% of (a)]	1554.108
(d)	Amount proposed for 1st instalment [70% of (b)]	1631.814
(e)	Less: Unspent balance	0.00
(f)	Adjusted proposed for 1st instalment (d)-(e)	<b>1631.814</b>
(g)	Amount to be released as 2nd instalment [30% of (b)]	<b>699.349</b>

5. The Grants-in-Aid shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions contained in GIM Implementation Guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi (MoEF&CC). The Grants-in-Aid is also subject to the Chapter 9 of the General Financial Rules (GFR) 2017, as amended from time to time, based on the Government of India's decisions incorporated there under, and any other guidelines which may be issued in this regard, and in particular subject to the following conditions: -

- (i) The Grants-in-Aid to the State Government for onward release to SFDA is subject to the Economy Instructions issued from time to time by the Ministry of Finance or by any Competent Authority so designated.
- (ii) No staff is to be provided specifically for the Scheme.
- (iii) Assets acquired wholly or substantially out of Government Grants shall not be disposed of without obtaining the prior approval of the sanctioning authority of Grants-in Aid.
- (iv) SFDA shall maintain and shall present their Annual Accounts in the standard format as required under GFR 2017 (GFR).
- (v) The entire funds should be utilized by the end of the current financial year following the provisions of GFR. The SFDA shall furnish Utilization Certificate (UC) as per GFR 19-A format giving the unspent balance and interest accrued, stating the reason for non-utilization of funds if any, along with its request for the release of next instalment of the Grants-in-Aid certifying that the fund released to them, for which UCs have been issued, has been utilized exclusively in pursuance of objectives envisaged in the Rules/Memorandum of SFDA and that the Grant has been spent as per the instructions/ rules and with the approval of Competent Authority in each case.
- (vi) The Accounts of SFDA, as mentioned in Para 6 (b) below, shall be open for inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India 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) 1971 as amended from time to time and Internal Audit Party by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry or Department whenever it is called upon to do so.
- (vii) The auditing of accounts of the SFDA/FDAs, as mentioned in Para 6 (b) below, operated for GIM shall be carried out through a reputed Chartered Accountant who is also on the panel of C&AG. The audit report must be submitted along with the UC.
- (viii) The Grants-in-Aid shall be utilized before the end of the current financial year i.e. 2019-20 and unspent balance, if any, shall be refunded by SFDA to the Government of India as per the relevant provisions of GFR 2017.

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- (ix) Detailed progress report of the activities taken up by SFDA under GIM shall be submitted to MoEF&CC soon after the end of financial year, along with photographs (with date) prior to commencement and after completion of each activity.
- (x) The performance achievement report by SFDA/State Government along with photographs should be uploaded in their website for public access.

6. The project shall be implemented by SFDA strictly in conformity with the Implementation Guidelines 2014 of Green India Mission including the following: -

- a) The activities under the Mission shall be implemented in the areas as indicated and in the project proposal and approved by the GIM Directorate.
- b) The funds received by the SFDA shall be deposited in its exclusive and separate bank account in a Nationalized Bank, which would be operated jointly by its Chairperson and the Member Secretary. The interest amount if any, accrued on the deposits of these funds shall be treated as part of the SFDA's additional resources and would be adjusted towards further instalments of the grant/assistance in the same financial year.
- c) Within a period of seven days of receipt of funds from the State Government of Kerala; the SFDA shall transfer the amount earmarked to the concerned FDAs for carrying out proposed activities in different L2 landscapes.
- d) The funds received by the FDA from SFDA shall be deposited in its exclusive and separate bank account in a Nationalized Bank, which would be operated jointly by its Chairperson and the Member Secretary. The interest amount if any, accrued on the deposits of these funds shall be treated as part of the FDA's additional resources and would be adjusted towards further instalments of the grant in the same financial year.
- e) The FDAs shall release the amount to the JFMCs/EDCs within 15 days of receipt of funds from the SFDA preferably by Electronic Clearance System (ECS).
- f) The respective JFMCs/ EDCs shall deposit the funds thus received from the FDA in their exclusive and separate bank account in a Nationalised Bank/ a Cooperative Bank or a Post Office, which would be jointly operated by the President and the Member Secretary. The interest amount if any, accrued on the deposits of these funds shall be treated as part of the JFMC/EDC's additional resources and would be adjusted towards further instalments of the grant in the same financial year.
- g) FDA/ JFMCs shall maintain a record including georeferenced location of all assets created under the project as per GFR 151 and furnish CST in case of purchase of leviable goods.
- h) Contractors / middlemen/ intermediate agencies are not permitted to be engaged for execution of any of the works under the scheme so as to ensure that the full wages are paid to the workers.
- i) Payment towards wages/remuneration as well as contractual obligations should be made through bank accounts of recipients and not through cash payments. The copy of PF and ESI in respect of contractual employees to be submitted in compliance with DBT scheme.
- j) The State will comply with DBT Mission conditions and will also submit details of all beneficiaries as per the prescribed format to the GIM Directorate.
- k) Evidence of deposit of TDS/ Service Tax in case of contract payments and CST in case of purchase of leviable goods should be submitted to the Ministry.
- l) A quarterly statement of accounts and progress of works carried out in the L3 level landscapes shall be submitted by each JFMC/ EDC to the FDA which, in turn, shall compile its own progress report for onward submission to SFDA.

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SFDA shall prepare a comprehensive Annual Report on the progress of works and utilization of funds in respect of all L2 level landscapes and submit to MoEF&CC, Government of India soon after the end of the financial year.

- m) In case a FDA fails to execute the project in the identified L2/L3 landscapes within the stipulated time, including such extensions as may be granted by the Competent Authority, the Competent Authority may, in its discretion, require the SFDA to refund the grant in whole or in such part on account of the concerned FDA along with interest thereon.
- n) There shall be no diversion of earmarked funds from one L2/L3 landscape to another one except in case of unavoidable circumstances and only with the prior approval of Mission Directorate.
- o) Except for supervening impossibilities, the Chairperson and the Member Secretary of the SFDA/FDA shall be solely responsible and accountable for successful implementation of the project.
- p) The funds released under the scheme shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or his nominated officer. Any other agency/ officer (s) authorized by GIM shall have the right of access to the books and accounts of the SFDA/ FDA/JFMCs and EDCs for the funds received under the project.
- q) The SFDA shall submit non-diversion and non-embezzlement certificate each time a request for release of grant is made to GIM Directorate.
- r) The SFDA shall be responsible for guidance, coordination, supervision, periodical reporting and monitoring the implementation of the project by their constituent FDAs/JFMCs/ EDCs. The project shall also be monitored periodically by the respective State Forest Departments and all assistance for this purpose shall be rendered by the SFDA. In addition to this, MoEF&CC shall supervise the project, as and when deemed required.
- s) The Competent Authority reserves the right to terminate the grant at any stage if it is convinced that the grant has not been properly utilized or appropriate progress has not been made.
- t) The SFDA shall follow strict corruption mitigation strategies while utilizing the funds.
- u) The implementation of the project and maintenance of plantations raised there under that spill over to the next year shall be the responsibility of the State Government unless the GIM scheme is continued.
- v) SFDA shall take necessary steps to ensure raising of quality seedlings and maximum survival of plants under the GIM Scheme. The survival percentage of plantation shall be reflected in the subsequent Quarterly Progress Report submitted to the Ministry along with the details on the progress of activities carried out under the Mission.
- w) SFDA shall also submit a certificate to the effect that all conditions laid down in the Implementation Guidelines and the Sanction Order are being followed each time a request for release of grant is made to GIM Directorate.
- x) The project should be completed within the stipulated time period as reflected in the Perspective Plan and APO. The SFDA shall furnish two (2) copies of detailed report to Mission Directorate within two months of completion of the project.
- y) The expenditure for the purchase of equipment's and creation of capital assets must not exceed 5% of the total cost of the APO.

7. The SFDA shall also ensure the following conditions, prior to seeking the release of the next instalment of funds:


- a) Since the support activities are integral to the scheme and the State has requested for funds for afforestation only, the fund for support activities may be spent from State's own plan outlay which may be indicated in the UC.

- b) As the State has already spent flexi funds without following the norms, the State Govt. may take one-time post-facto approval of the State-level Steering Committee for already utilized money under flexi fund.
- c) The State Government shall ensure that the work of preparation of comprehensive micro-level plans is duly carried out after taking into account all the activities/interventions to be implemented with the funds available from various sources/complementary schemes to ensure convergence. The information related to such financial micro-planning in respect of the landscapes showing the details of the break-up of the funds from various sources (e.g. MoEF&CC, CAMPA, MNREGS etc.) that are required to be converged in the ratio approved by the CCEA shall be furnished by the State Government.
- d) The detailed baseline data after preparation of micro-plans for L3 level landscapes in respect to all the monitorable parameters shall be furnished by the State Govt. while submitting the proposal for release of next Instalment.
- e) The timeframe within which each L3 landscape shall be saturated with GIM interventions should also be clearly stated in the micro-plan of L3 level landscapes.
- f) Geo-coordinates along with geo-referenced maps (including soft copy in .shp/.kml file) for each landscape/area where activities under GIM or convergence activities are proposed and being undertaken shall be duly authenticated by an officer not below the rank of a Divisional Forest Officer and furnished by the State Government.
- g) Satellite photographs with dates and lat-long coordinates should be furnished along with the physical progress report in respect of each activity (before initiation and after completion) undertaken under the scheme.
- h) Certification that the maintenance work has been carried out in the area of which geo-references have been submitted for advance work during 2015-16.
- i) Ensure saturation of the selected landscapes sequentially starting with L3s and progressing over L2s and L1s with the requisite interventions in the stipulated time period to avoid duplication.
- j) Ensure State's matching share as per the funding pattern of the scheme which should be reflected in the UC.
- k) The UC and physical progress reports (including photographs) to be uploaded in the website of State Govt. for public access.

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 Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

9. The State Government of Kerala would make provisions in their budget and on receipt of funds from RBI, release the grants of above funds within 15 days of the issue of this sanction letter to SFDA the details of which are given below, under intimation to this office.

Name and Address of SFDA	Name of Bank where A/c of SFDA held	Name and complete address of the bank branch	IFSC/MICR Code / Bank Branch Code	Type of Account	Account No.
State Forest Development Agency, Kerala, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Vanalekshimi, Thiruvananthapuram 695014, Kerala	State Bank of Travancore, Vazhuthacaud Branch	State Bank of Travancore, Vazhuthacaud Branch, TN Towers, Vazhuthacaud, Jagathy P.O., Thiruvananthapuram.	IFSC Code SBTR0000033 Branch Code: 70033 MICR Code: 695009030	Current Account	67127212063

  
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10. The payment sanctioned above is provisional. The final adjustment shall be made after receipt of the item wise physical and financial Progress Report (detailed report), Utilization Certificate and Audited Expenditure figures from the implementing agency at the time of next release.

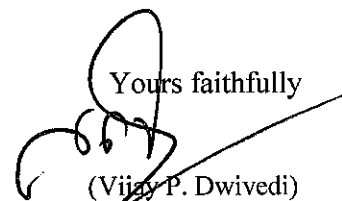
11. The implementing agency is requested to ensure that the Central Assistance being released shall be gainfully utilized in furtherance of the approved APO without any time overrun under the project/scheme. The proposed area coverage under the work programme should not be over-lapping with any other Central/State scheme and there should be no duplication of central / external assistance in any case.

12. The expenditure is debitable to the following Head of Accounts under Demand No. 25 of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (2019-20).

Items	Head of Accounts	Allocation (in Rs. Lakh)
General	3601.06.101.01.01.31	1450.682
SCSP	3601.06.789.01.01.31	148.495
TSP	3601.06.796.01.01.31	32.636
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1631.814</b>

13. The sanction issues with the approval of the Competent Authority under the power delegated to the Ministries/Departments with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide their Diary No. 95711 AS & FA dated 01.10.2019.

Yours faithfully



(Vijay P. Dwivedi)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Encl: as above

**Copy to: -**

1. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
3. The Principal Secretary, Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
4. The Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
5. The Principal Secretary, Planning & Economic Affairs Department, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram,
6. The Accountant General (A&E), Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
7. The State Nodal Officer (GIM), Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
8. The Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (SZ), MoEF&CC, Govt. of India, Bangalore
9. Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
10. Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF&CC, New Delhi
11. Joint Secretary (Climate Change), MoEF&CC, New Delhi
12. Joint Secretary (MGNREGS)-RE-I, MoRD, New Delhi
13. Joint Secretary (PF-11), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.
14. The Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
15. The Principal Director (Audit), Scientific Department, AGCR Building, New Delhi
16. The DDO (Cash), MoEF&CC, New Delhi
17. Account Officer (B&A), MoEF&CC, New Delhi
18. Sanction Folder/ Guard File.

**Annexure-1: Work Plan giving landscape-wise details for carrying out Maintenance work of FY 2019-20**

**Wage Rate: Rs. 450.0/day**

**Physical Target in Ha. And Financial Target in Rs. Lakh**

S. N.	Submission/Intervention	Category	Type	Admissible Cost Norm (Rs./ha)	Total	
					Phy.	Fin.
<b>A. Cost norms for Sub Missions and Intervention</b>						
1	Sub Mission 1: Enhancing quality of forest cover and improving ecosystem services (4.9 m ha)	a) Moderately dense forest cover, but showing degradation	<b>ANR (Without Plantation)</b>			
			b) Creation	27000	4208	1136.14
			c) Maintenance I Year	12150	1003.77	121.96
			<b>(Type A)</b>			
			b) Creation	28800	896	258.048
			c) Maintenance I Year	12960	380.1	49.26096
		b) Eco-restoration of degraded open forests	<b>(Type B)</b>			
			b) Creation	54000	321	173.34
			c) Maintenance I Year	24300	259	62.937
			<b>(Type C)</b>			
			b) Creation	90000	143	128.7
			c) Maintenance I Year	40500	81	32.805
C) Restoration of grasslands	b) Creation	63000	106	66.78		
	b) Maintenance I Year	28350	40	11.34		
2	Sub Mission 2: Ecosystem restoration and increase in forest cover (1.8 mha)	a) Rehabilitation of shifting cultivation	b) Creation	54000	0.976	0.52704
		C) Restoration of Mangroves	b) Creation	126000	0	
3	Sub Mission 3: Enhancing tree cover in Urban & Peri-Urban areas	Plantation in Urban & Peri-Urban	b) Creation	180000	112	201.6
			c) Maintenance I Year	81000	61.5	49.815
4	Sub Mission 4: Agro-Forestry and Social Forestry (increasing biomass & creating carbon sink): 3 mha	a) Farmer's land including current fallows	<b>Farmer's land</b>			
			b) Creation	36000	281	101.16
			c) Maintenance I Year	16200	45	7.29
			c) Highways/Rural roads/canal	b) Creation	126000	86.05
c) Maintenance I Year	56700	13		7.371		
5	Sub-mission 5: Restoration of wetlands		b) Creation	108000	99	106.92
			c) Maintenance I Year	48600	10	4.86
6	Promoting alternative fuel energy	Biogas, solar devices, LPG, Biomass-based systems, improved stoves	Per House Hold	3300	7536	248.688
<b>Total Advance work Cost</b>						
<b>Total Creation Cost</b>					<b>2281.64</b>	<b>2281.64</b>
<b>Total 1st year Maintenance work cost</b>					<b>347.64</b>	<b>347.64</b>
<b>Cost of Promoting alternative fuel energy</b>					<b>248.688</b>	<b>248.69</b>
<b>Total (A)</b>						<b>2877.96</b>
<b>B. For Support Activities</b>						
<b>Activities Cost</b>						
1	Research (2% of A)					57.56
2	Publicity/Media/outreach activities (1% of A)					28.78
3	Monitoring and Evaluation (1% of A+B)					28.78
4	Livelihood improvement activities, (17% of A)					489.25
5	Strengthening local-level institutions (5 % A)					143.90
6	Strengthening FDs (5% A)					143.90
7	Mission Organisation, operation and maintenance, contingencies and overheads (4% A)					115.12
<b>Total (B)</b>						<b>1007.29</b>
<b>Grand Total (A+B)</b>						<b>3885.25</b>

