

No. FFE-B-F(5)-5/2016-II
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of Forests.

From

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2.

To

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Himachal Pradesh, Talland, Shimla-171 001.
2. Chief Project Director,
Eco-system Management & Livelihood Project,
JICA assisted, Potter Hill, Shimla-5.

Dated: Shimla-171002 the 11th June, 2020.

Subject:-

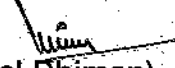
**Meeting regarding Eco-system Management & Livelihood
Project, JICA assisted- Minutes thereof.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to
enclose herewith a copy of minutes of the meeting held on 8th June, 2020 under the
Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) regarding JICA assisted Eco-
system Management & Livelihood Project.


You are, therefore, requested to take further action in the
matter accordingly.

Yours faithfully,


(Sat Pal Dhiman) 11-6-2020

Joint Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Phone No. 0177-2621874

Endst. No. As above Dated: Shimla-171 002, the 11th June, 2020
Copy forwarded to the Section Officer (Forest-A), H.P.
Secretariat, Shimla-2 for necessary action.


(Sat Pal Dhiman)
Joint Secretary (Forests) to the
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Proceedings of the Meeting held on 08.06.2020 at 10:30 A.M. at H.P. Secretariat Chaired by Sh. Sanjay Gupta, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests)-cum-Chairman, Governing Body of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P.

The following officers were present in the meeting:

1. Chief Project Director (JICA-PIHPFEM&L)
2. Project Director, Shimla (JICA-PIHPFEM&L)
3. Joint Secretary (Forests), GoHP.

At the outset, the CPD (JICA-PIHPFEM&L) welcomed the Chairman and the other officers present in the meeting and thereafter a presentation was given by him on the following aspects related to the Project:-

1. The CPD (JICA-PIHPFEM&L) informed about the Project and the genesis of conceiving this Project based on FSI report of 2015 so as to enrich open/scrub to moderately dense and moderately dense to very dense forests. He described about the Aim of the Project i.e. "Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Services for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development in the State of Himachal Pradesh" by focusing on the objectives of Sustainable Forest Ecosystems Management, Biodiversity Conservation, Livelihoods Improvement Support and Strengthening Institutional Capacity thereby contributing to Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development.
2. It was informed that the total Financial Outlay of the Project is INR 800 Cr. out of which 80% i.e. 640 Cr. is the ODA Loan portion to be provided by JICA and 20% i.e. 160 Cr. is the GoHP share. 90% of the ODA Loan portion will be repaid by GoI and 10 % will be borne by GoHP.
3. It was informed that the duration of the Project is 10 years of which the initial 2 years preparatory phase (2018-19 to 2019-20) is over and implementation phase of 6 years has started from 01.04.2020. The last 2 years i.e. 2026-27 & 2027-28 will be the phase out phase.
4. The CPD informed about the Institutional arrangement and Organisational chart of the Project and the various Offices/Units for implementing the Project in the field. It was informed that the Project is being implemented through the 16 Territorial and 2 Wild Life Forest Divisions of the Forest Department. One Regional Office at Kullu has been established to look after the Monitoring & Evaluation and Social Safeguards aspects of the Project. The Regional Office at Rampur is looking after the Community and Institutional Capacity aspect of the Project. At the field level VFDS and BMC Sub-committees are the implementing Bodies.
5. The Project is being implemented in 6 Districts i.e. Kinnaur, Shimla, Bilaspur, Mandi, Kullu and Lahaul & Spiti.

6. The Physical and Financial Progress of the Project for 2019-20 was also discussed and it was apprised that an amount of 18.17 Cr. out of approved APO of 29.71 Cr. was spent. The Chairman appreciated that the Nurseries of the Department have been strengthened and good quality seedlings have been raised for plantations.
7. The position of Reimbursement Claims filed and received was also shared and the Chairman showed his satisfaction on the same.
8. For the FY 2020-21, it was informed that an APO of Rs. 41.78 Cr. including 1.78 Cr. left out amount of 2019-20 has been approved by 3rd Governing Body Meeting held on 13.05.2020.
 - i) For Component-1 i.e. Sustainable Forest Ecosystem Management an APO of Rs. 20.73 Cr. has been approved which will primarily focus on Plantations, Nursery Development, Drainage Line Treatment, Selection of Wards and preparation of Micro Plans. This was informed that Plantations of around 834 ha. in PFM Mode and 740 ha. in Departmental Mode will be carried out in this year. Support is being provided for Nursery Development of 5 Circle Level Nurseries (1.06 Cr. Rs. per nursery) and 56 Range Level Nurseries (17.21 Lac per nursery).
 - ii) For Component-2 i.e. Biodiversity Conservation an APO of Rs. 3.27 Cr. has been approved which will primarily focus on Scientific Biodiversity Management, Studies/Consultancies, Micro Planning and Plantations in Wild Life areas.
 - iii) For Component-3 Livelihoods Improvement Support an APO of Rs. 3.75 cr. has been approved which will primarily focus on Community Development, NTFP based Livelihood Improvement through Jadi-Buti Cell and Non NTFP based Livelihood Improvement. It was apprised the Jadi-Buti Cell will be place shortly as the tenders for hiring the outsource agency has already been done. The mandate of Jadi-Buti Cell was discussed at length.
 - iv) For Component-4 i.e. Institutional Capacity Strengthening an APO of Rs. 11.63 Cr. has been approved which will primarily focus on Strengthening of PMU and other Field Level Units (Mobility Support, Equipment Support, Office & Furnishing Support), Human Resource Support (Salaries and Recruitments), Capacity Development (Trainings and Exposure Visits), M&E and PMC. It was informed that the PMC is working since 18.06.2019, however one of the key consultant has not joined as yet. The matter has been taken up with SOFRECO-JPS Associates to provide the same at the earliest.
9. The CPD apprised the ACS (Forests) that under the Mobility Support permission for hiring 32 vehicles has been given by ACS (Forests) which have been provided to Field Units and PMU Offices.
10. It was informed that construction of a new building adjacent to JICA Project H.Q. at Potters Hill is required as the space available is very less in the existing renovated building. The Chairman stated that he would pay a visit to the JICA Project H.Q. at Potters Hill at the earliest so as to see the situation.

11. The CPD informed that out of sanctioned 156 posts of various categories, only 79 are present as shown under:-

S.No.	Name of Post	In place/Approved Post
1	Program Managers	5/6
2	SMS	6/22 (from NRTC)
3	FTU Coordinator	23/61
4	Office/Accounts Manager	2/2
5	Accountant/JOA	4/4
6	Stenographer	0/1
7	Computer Operators/Accountant (Only DEOs Provided by HPNRMS, Solan Required Computer Operator cum Accountant)	13/30
8	Staff on Deputation	16/16
9	Peon/House Keeping/Chowkidar/Security	10/14 (Only MKM provided by HPNRMS Solan)
Total		79/156
8 Officials are under Transfer		


After detailed deliberations, the following decisions were taken.

1. The Chairman assured that directions will be issued to the CEO, HPNRMS for providing staff at the earliest so that progress of the Project does not suffer.
2. Following actionable points for JICA assisted PIHPFEM&L for FY 2020-21 were agreed:
 - ❖ The priority activities are Plantations in the coming rainy season. It should be ensured that 1500 ha. area is planted in both PFM & Departmental Mode under the Project, as per assurance of Hon'ble CM's Budget speech.
 - ❖ Lantana eradication in 108 ha in Shimla, Mandi, Jogindernagar and Suket Divisions be ensured as per guidelines.
 - ❖ Quality Nurseries will be raised. The target of raising about 9 Lac plants will be achieved this year besides maintenance of about 12 Lac Plants raised earlier.
 - ❖ During the year, for Batch-II territorial Ranges, 175 Wards and Batch-III territorial Ranges 150 Wards will be selected and the process of PFM will be initiated.
 - ❖ In Wildlife Divisions, 48 BMC Sub-committees will be constituted.
 - ❖ Rapid Response Teams in 16 Territorial Divisions will be strengthened.
 - ❖ 81 Micro Plans and 12 BMC plans of Batch-I will be prepared by end of August 2020 and thereafter more focus will be laid on preparation of Micro Plans as per the selection of Wards.
 - ❖ At least 50 SHGs/CIGs will be formed in the selected Wards where employment generation activities will be initiated.
 - ❖ Consultancies and studies will be put in place under Component-1 & 2.

- ❖ Jadi-Buti Cell should start functioning by the 30th July, 2020.
 - ❖ Demonstrative Hydrocultural Fodder production unit should be established by the end of August 2020, and possibly be explored that similar plant be adopted by the existing 'Gosadans'.
 - ❖ Trainings and Exposure visits at various levels should be conducted as per training calendar depending on COVID-19 situation.
 - ❖ Office Maintenance, Furnishing and IT equipment support will be provided to 89 Units under the Project.
3. All out efforts will be made to incur at least 70% of the budget by the end of 3rd quarter.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

[This has approval of ACS (Forests))-cum-Chairman, Governing Body, JICA Project].


11-6-2020
**Joint Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh**