

No. Ft. (PF)-6/2018/HPC & Governing Body Meeting/Vol-1
Himachal Pradesh Forest Department

From: Chief Project Director
Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh
Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods

- To:
1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) (Co-Chairperson)
 2. Chief Wild Life Warden/PCCF (WL)-cum-CEO HPNRMS Solan (Member)
 3. Managing Director of the HP Forest Development Corporation (Member)
 4. APCCF (Finance, PFM & FDA) (Member)
 5. APCCF (Management) (Member)
 6. APCCF (Administration) (Member)
 7. APCCF (Projects) (Member)
 8. APCCF (IT, MIS/GIS) (Member)
 9. APCCF (Working Plan) (Member) at Mandi
 10. APCCF (Research) at Sundernagar
 11. Member-Secretary, State Biodiversity Board HP (Member)
 12. Director, (Ayurveda) Member
 13. Chief Conservator of Forest Shimla, in field posting (by rotation) (Member)
 14. Convener, SLBC or its representative
 15. Representatives for NABARD Member
 16. Project Directors in PMU Members

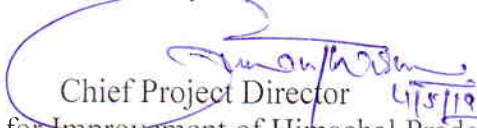
Dated Shimla, the

4 MAY 2019

Subject: Proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of Governing Body of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P. JICA assisted "Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods".

Sir,

Enclosed please find herewith, the proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of Governing Body of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P., of JICA assisted "Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods" Chaired by ACS (Forests) to the GoHP, held on 30.04.2019 at 6 p.m. at Shimla, for your information and further necessary action please.


Chief Project Director 4/5/19
Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh
Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods

Encl: as above.

Endst. No. Ft. (PF)-6/2018/HPC & Governing Body Meeting Dated Shimla, the

1. PS to ACS (Forests)-cum-Chairman Governing Body of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P. for favour of information, please.
2. Joint Secretary (Forests) for information and further necessary action, please.

Chief Project Director
Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh
Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods

**PROJECT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST
ECOSYSTEMS MANGEMENT & LIVELIHOODS**

(SOCIETY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS MANGEMENT & LIVELIHOODS IN H.P.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2ND GOVERNING BODY MEETING OF SOCIETY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS MANGEMENT & LIVELIHOODS IN H.P., HELD AT SHIMLA, ON 30-04-2019 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SH. RAM SUBHAG SINGH, IAS, ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY (FORESTS) TO THE GOVT. OF HIMACHAL PRADESH.

The 2nd Meeting of Governing Body of the Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P., held at Shimla, on 30-04-2019 under the Chairmanship of Sh. Ram Subhag Singh, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh. The list of the participants is annexed as **Annexure-A (Page-1)**.

At the outset, the Chief Project Director-cum-Member Secretary Governing Body welcomed the Chairman and other members of the Governing Body. She gave a detailed presentation on the Project components, achievements (of 2018-19) and future planning of the Project for 2019-20.

Thereafter, with the permission of the Chair, agenda items were taken up for deliberations and decisions as under:

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review of the agenda items of the 1st Meeting of Governing Body of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P. created for implementation of JICA assisted Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods held on 06.08.2018.

Sr.No.	Agenda/Decision	Action taken
1	Project introduction	Informatory, item dropped
2	Responsibilities of Governing Body	Informatory, item dropped
3	Permission for opening Bank Accounts	Complied, allowed to be dropped.
4	Manpower requirement & Deployed from HPNRMS or elsewhere	Partially complied. Also taken up separately as new agenda no. V.
5	Staff to be deployed by HPFD/Finance Department	Being pursued. APCCF Admin directed to take necessary action immediately.
6	(a to d) Decision regarding expenditure on workshops/conference, office building, operational plan of the project, expenditure projection of 2018-19 (e) Staff for Jadi-Buti Cell.	Decision regarding a to d Complied, items dropped. Taken up separately as new agenda no. IX.

The proceedings of 1st meeting of the Governing Body of the Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods in H.P., held at Shimla, on 06-08-2018 were confirmed.

B. NEW AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item No. I: Review of the Project progress for financial year 2018-19.

Expenditure projection for 2018-19 was discussed and approved in the first Governing Body Meeting of the Society. Accordingly an expenditure of Rs. 11.58 crores was made in the year 2018-19.

The details of expenditure incurred under different components, is given below:

Component No.	Component Name	Activity	'Total Expenditure 2018-19
1.	Sustainable Forest Ecosystem Management	Nursery Development/Raising	6,54,64,000
	Sustainable Forest Ecosystem Management Total (A)		6,54,64,000
4.	Institutional Capacity Strengthening	OE/IT related (Equipment Support)	1,19,13,955
		Rent, rate & Taxes	24,56,000
		Communication & Publicity	1,85,700
		Office Furnishing	63,55,997
		Workshops/remuneration of outsourced staff, etc.	89,99,965
		Office Maintenance	65,05,596
		Motor-Vehicle	41,45,019
	Institutional Capacity Strengthening Total (B)		4,05,62,232
		Activity	'Total Expenditure 2018-19
	Administrative Expenses	Salary	93,12,432
		TA	84,107
		ME	4,58,117
	Administrative Expenses (C.)		98,54,656
	Total (A+B+C)		11,58,80,888

Decision: The details of component and SOE wise expenditure, circle/division wise expenditure, list of nurseries being developed, details of equipments/items purchased and trainings/workshops conducted given in Annexure-A (pages 2 -15) was perused, discussed and approved.

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Agenda Item No. II Status of Reimbursement Claims.

The position of re-imburement claims filed and received is as under:

Reimbursement Claims filed for the month	Reimbursement Claim Filed (in Rs.)	Reimbursement Claim disbursed by JICA	Reimbursement Claim Received (in Rs.)
June-October 2018	57,22,997	December 2018	57,22,997
November 2018	11,40,735	January 2019	11,40,735
December 2018	13,32,757	January 2019	13,32,757
January 2019	64,04,648	March 2019	64,04,648
February 2019	91,40,440	April 2019	91,40,440
March 2019	7,53,25,849	Yet to be received	
Total	9,90,67,426	Total	2,37,41,577

Decision: The Governing Body showed satisfaction with respect to Reimbursement Claims.

Agenda Item No.III: Approval of APO for Financial year 2019-20.

- Budget outlay of Rs. 29.71 crores has been received on April 26, 2019 against the total requirement of Rs. 45 crores. The matter of allocation of additional amount of Rs. 15.29 crores is under correspondence.
- Accordingly APO has been prepared in two parts i.e. APO I (for 29.71 crores) and APO II (Rs 15.29 crores). The component wise details of both APOs is given below:

Sr. No.	Component Name	APO I (INR)	APO II (INR)
1	Sustainable Forest Ecosystems Management	12,38,83,513	4,48,39,490
2	Biodiversity Conservation	2,38,92,461	1,36,16,325
3	Livelihood Improvement Support	1,22,21,760	2,86,65,100
4	Institutional Capacity Strengthening	11,67,09,880	6,36,77,523
	Salaries	2,00,00,000	10,00,000
	TA	2,00,000	5,00,000
	ME	1,92,386	6,01,562
	Total	29,71,00,000	15,29,00,000
Grand Total (APO I+ APO II)		45,00,00,000	

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The Chairman inquired about the various activities to be carried out in various components. CPD JICA informed about the various activities as per the approved schedule in the project document. She further informed that the total requirement as per the approved schedule of activities for 2019-20 would be Rs. 45 Cr. including State share, however, as the budget outlay of Rs. 29.71 Cr. has been received on April 26 2019, the APO I of Rs. 29.71 Cr. has been proposed and remaining Rs. 15.29 Cr. has been proposed in APO II.

Decision: PCCF (HoFF)-cum-Co-Chairman informed that since HPFPP project has been closed on 31.03.2019, the allocation made to that project can be provided to JICA project. Accordingly it was decided that total APO of Rs. 45 Cr. is approved for FY 2019-20 for JICA assisted Project.

The consolidated APO of Rs. 45 Cr. for FY 2019-20, details of component wise expenditure to be incurred for major activities, Training Plan and Consultancies Plan (2019-20) is placed at **Annexure-B (Page -)**.

Agenda Item No. IV: Approval of Contract of Project Management Consultancy (PMC)

Contract for Project Management Consultancy for JICA assisted Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods needs to be signed between Himachal Pradesh Forest Department (HPFD) through Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods in HP "Client" and, on the other hand, a Consortium Partner consisting of the following entities, each of which will be jointly and severally liable to the Client for all the Consultant's obligations under the Contract, namely, [Societe Francaise de Realisation, d'Etudes et de Conseil (SOFRECO) – Lead Member] and [JPS Associates (P) Ltd (India) – Consortium Partner] "Consultant".

After carrying out the Evaluation of Technical Bids of the short listed firms concurrence of JICA was sought and received on December 06, 2018. Subsequently after carrying out the Evaluation of Financial Bids, by the committee constituted for the purpose, concurrence of JICA was sought and received on February 05, 2019. Thereafter Contract negotiations were held with representative of SOFRECO on February 14, 2019. Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests)-cum-Chairman Governing Body of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods in HP has accorded the approval on February 15, 2019 for signing contract for Project Management Consultancy (PMC) for JICA assisted Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods and had advised to seek concurrence of JICA.

The Minutes of Contract negotiations were sent to JICA for seeking final decision and the same was received on March 07, 2019. After incorporating the issues decided by JICA in the final contract, the contract document was sent to JICA for concurrence. JICA vide letter dated April 05, 2019 has advised to send the signed copy of Contract on Form 5 stipulated in the Loan Agreement.

Accordingly, now the contract needs to be signed with representatives of SOFRECO-JPS and 15% advance payment (i.e. around Rs. 70,00,000/-) for Project Management Consultancy (PMC) has to be made. Apart from this an amount of around Rs. 80,00,000/- is also required for the remuneration and reimbursable expenses for PMC.

Decision: It was decided to send the signed contract to JICA, so that the PMC can be put in place as early as possible.

Agenda Item No. V: Position of Staff deputed by HPNRMS, NRTC and pending staff requirement.

Vide Government Notification No. FFE-A (B) 2-3/2018 dated 26-07-2018, a total 156 nos. of posts of various categories was approved for JICA assisted Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods. Details attached as **Annexure C (pages -)**.

Total Sanctioned Posts	Govt. Officials posted in Project	Provided by HPNRMS Solan	Outsourced through NRTC Parwanoo	Staff in Position	Balance	Remarks
Govt. official- 16	14	-	-	14	02	Finance officer/ Supdt. Gr-I, clerk at Kullu yet to be posted a) 13 out of 34 posts advertised through NRTC Parwanoo joined. Rest (21) will be recruited/join after MCC including 2 Programme Managers, 14 SMS, 1 Steno, 1 Accountant, 3 Clerks. b) HPNRMS Solan requested to provide the remaining 41 including 30 FTU Coordinators, 8 Computer Operators/ Accountants, 1 SMS, 2 Peon/Chowkidar
HPNRMS/ Outsourced- 140	-	65	13	78	62	
156	14	65	13	92	64	

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Therefore,

- a. HPNRMS has been requested to either deploy staff (41 numbers) at the earliest or give NOC regarding non availability of requisite staff so that procurement of staff is made from NRTC or any other outsourcing agency.
- b. A decision may be taken so that staff deployed from HPNRMS may not be allowed to return back to HPNRMS to be deployed in IDP.

The Chairman inquired from CEO HPNRMS that why the remaining staff is not being provided to JICA assisted Project. Chairman also suggested that if the Society does not have the requisite suitable staff as per the requirement of JICA project, the society should hire the same and provide the same to the JICA project or give NOC to CPD JICA Project so as to hire the same from other source. CEO HPNRMS informed that the society has to first adjust the already existing staff and only after that if required new people would be hired.

Decision: After the review of the staff position, it was decided by the Chairman that a separate meeting would be held in this regard with PCCF (HoFF), CPD IDP-Cum-CEO HPNRMS, CPD JICA, APCCF (Projects) at the earliest.

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Agenda Item No. VI: Research/Studies/Consultancies to be awarded in 2019-20.

List of Research/Studies/Other Consultancies						
Research Activities						
Component No.	Component Name	Total Funds Allocated (INR)	Implementation Schedule	Fund Requirement for 2019-20 (INR)		Mode of Procurement
				APO-I (INR)	APO-II (INR)	
Sustainable Forest Ecosystems Management						
1.1.3	Surveying and Mapping of Intervention areas (VFDS)	1,00,00,000	2019-20	1,00,00,000	-	Direct Contracting/ QCBS
2.4.1	Surveying and Mapping of Intervention areas (BMC/BMC sub Committees)	15,00,000	2019-20	15,00,000	-	Direct Contracting/ QCBS
1.6	Research					
1.6.2	Monitoring Data Accumulation for Effective Pasture Management	30,00,000	2019-2025	1,00,000	3,00,000	QCBS
Biodiversity Conservation						
2.1.2	Introduction of Rotational Grazing Reserve Concept (Study)	15,00,000	2019-22	2,00,000	3,00,000	Direct Contracting
2.1.3	Species/Area specific Human wildlife conflict mitigation/ management (Baseline Survey)	15,00,000	2019-22	3,00,000	-	SSS through WII
2.1.5	Recovery Program for Endangered Wildlife (Baseline survey to clarify the current status of conservation breeding efforts and activities)	30,00,000	2019-22	3,00,000	-	QCBS
2.3	Research					
2.3.1	Pilot Project on Biodiversity Corridor (Baseline Survey)	1,54,00,000	2019-2022	8,00,000	2,00,000	SSS through WII
2.3.2	Basic study for designing Biodiversity Assessment	1,41,20,000	2019-2021	2,75,000	7,25,000	QCBS
Livelihood Improvement Support						
Research						
3.1.5	Pilot Project on Hydro Cultural Fodder Production	12,76,000	2018-2020	2,00,000	6,50,000	QCBS
Institutional Capacity Strengthening						
4.3.1.2	Baseline Surveys - Socio-economic/ Gender and Physical	39,38,000	2019-21	4,00,000	9,12,000	QCBS

Tentative/Indicative TORs of all proposed consultancies have been made. However, the TORs will be further fine tuned after consultation with PCCF Wildlife and other concerned experts.

The Chairman inquired about the various Research/Consultancies/Studies to be awarded in 2019-20 and the mode of procurement for the same. The CPD informed that as per information provided above the various consultancies will be awarded in 2019-20. The tentative and indicated TORs are ready which are attached as **Annexure-D (pages -)**.

Decision: It was decided that the Consultancies on component No. 1.1.3 Surveying and Mapping of Intervention areas (VFDS) and component No. 2.4.1 Surveying and Mapping of Intervention areas (BMC/BMC sub Committees) should preferably be centralized and procured through QCBS. It was also decided that all Research/Consultancies/Studies should be preferably awarded on the basis of QCBS but where there is Institute of repute in Government sector, single source selection may be done after seeking permission from JICA. The Governing Body approved the procurement of all above mentioned consultancies.

Agenda Item No. VII Engagement of Ward Facilitators and GP Mobilisers (BMC)

During the Financial year 2019-2020 , 75 Village Forest Development Society and 10 BMCs (30 Biodiversity Management Committee Sub committees) will be constituted or reconstituted at Ward level or group of Wards level and GP level keeping in view the local field conditions. For efficient and effective community involvement in the project implementation process, there is provision of one male and one female ward facilitator at each VFDS level and one GP Mobiliser at BMC level is there under this project. Total 150 Ward Facilitators and 10 GP Mobilizes are required for 1st Batch of VFDS and BMCs. TORs for Ward Facilitators and GP Mobilisers is given in **Annexure E (pages -)**. Selection of the Ward Facilitators and GP Mobilisers will be done by a committee chaired by concerned DFO and concerned RO and President of concerned VFDS/BMC or concerned Panchayat Pradhan as members.

Decision: The engagement of Ward Facilitators and GP Mobilisers as proposed were approved. It was also decided that the committee chaired by concerned DFO and concerned RO and President of concerned VFDS/BMC or concerned Panchayat Pradhan as members will engage the Ward Facilitators (VFDS) and GP Mobilisers (BMC).

Agenda Item No. VIII: Hiring of Experts

(a) Environmental and Social Consideration Experts

ESAF has identified a number of environmental and social safeguard issues and provided overall guidance on their avoidance, management and mitigation. In order to fully respond the requirement of ESAF, i.e. JICA Guidelines and relevant legal framework in India and HP state, following additional

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experts are required to be employed by PMU for the provision of more detailed and specific guidance, capacity development and follow-up during project implementation.

The following TORs provide a basic summary of the key tasks for the Environmental and Social Consideration Expert (ESCE) and Environmental and Social Consideration Field Expert (ESCFE).

1. Environmental and Social Consideration Expert (ESCE)

ESCE will be mobilised from the initial Preparatory Phase, before the procurement of the Project Management Consultant (PMC). The expert is expected to work on the following key aspects:

- a) To facilitate and coordinate with various implementation and line departments for smooth implementation of ESAF/VSTPF (Vulnerable Scheduled Tribes Planning Framework)
- b) To update and finalise ESAF/VSTPF,
- c) To develop appropriate training materials on environmental and social safeguards, following the requirements in ESAF,
- d) To provide training courses and capacity enhancement of selected participants, at the different levels of stakeholders who will be designated with additional responsibility to ensure implementation of environment and social safeguards, and
- e) To supervise/ manage the project activities to ensure that the required procedures indicated in ESAF are followed properly. The expert may also be required to follow-up in the field where particular issues are identified and report to the ESCS.

Qualification: PhD degree in Forestry/Natural Resource Management/Sociology with 20 years experience in relevant field.

Emoluments: Approx. 3 lac per month

Duration: 28 months as per schedule in the Project plan

2. Environmental and Social Consideration Field Expert (ESCFE)

ESCFE will be required to assist ESCE for the above identified tasks, especially for the preparation of the relevant capacity development programme. Considering the wide coverage of project targeted area and the requirements to ESCS, this position is highly required for smooth implementation of the ESC relevant activities.

Qualification: Masters degree in Forestry/Natural Resource Management/Sociology with 10 years experience in relevant field.

Emoluments: Approx. 1.4 lac per month

Duration: 15 months as per schedule in the Project plan

Year wise Man Months (MM) Schedule from 2019-27										
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Environmental and Social Consideration Expert (ESCE)	4	5	5	3	3	2	2	2	2	28

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Environmental and Social Consideration Field Expert (ESCFE)	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
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Component No.	Component Name	Total Funds Allocated (INR)	Implementation Schedule	Fund Requirement for 2019-20 (INR)		Mode of Procurement
				APO-I (INR)	APO-II (INR)	
4.1.5	Environmental and Social Considerations (ESC)					
	Environmental and Social Consideration Expert (ESCE)	1,14,00,000	2019-2028	9,00,000	21,00,000	QCBS
	Environmental and Social Consideration Field Expert (ESCFE)	34,20,000	2019-2028	5,40,000	7,20,000	QCBS

(b) Gender Specialist

In the project, Gender Expert required for preparation of Gender Action Plan, Gender Monitoring System and Gender Training Plan. The TORs for the same are given in Annexure-F (Page).

Component No.	Component Name	Total Funds Allocated (INR)	Implementation Schedule	Fund Requirement for 2019-20 (INR)		Mode of Procurement
Institutional Capacity Strengthening						
4.1.4	Preparation of Gender Action Plan	9,00,000	2018-2019	5,00,000	4,00,000	QCBS

Since it seems impractical to engage the experts with their services spread over a long time period, it is requested that the Project may be allowed to hire consultancies for the above services rather than hire individual experts. Accordingly, on approval by Governing Body, the issue will be referred to JICA for approval.

Decision: It was decided that Project may hire consultancies for the above services rather than hiring individual experts, after seeking permission from JICA office.

Agenda Item No. IX: Staffing for Jadi-Buti Cell

In the 1st meeting of the Governing Body, vide agenda 6 (e) it was decided that the PMU will seek the approval from the Government for any additional staff to be recruited for the Jadi-Buti Cell. Accordingly the matter was taken up with Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) to the GoHP on dated 10.08.18 and 1.11.2018. Vide letter dated 02.02.2019 of ACS (Ft) it has been intimated that "the matter was examined in consultation with Finance Department who have concurred in the Forest Department's proposal of Jadi-Buti Cell subject to the condition that these professionals should be engaged and kept within the already approved overall manpower structure of 156 (one hundred fifty

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six) by re-designating where ever required. These persons would be engaged for a defined period with clear role and responsibility with deliverable goals.

However the same may not be possible as against the agreed strength of 381 posts of various categories in the Project document, only 156 posts have been allowed. Therefore, the posts of Director, Manager (Enterprise Development), Manager (Marketing) and MIS Associate are urgently required. It is requested that in the meanwhile the Project may be allowed to hire the staff by keeping 4 posts out of sanctioned 156, in abeyance.

It is therefore also requested to recommend the matter to HPC for hiring of staff for Jadi Buti cell as this aspect of the Project is very important to enrich the lives of Medicinal Plant Collectors of the area.

Decision: The proposal of hiring 4 experts in Jadi Buti Cell was approved. It was also decided that CPD would separately submit a proposal for fixing their emoluments to ACS (Forests) for approval.

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Agenda Item No. X: Provision of Budget in the form of Grant in Aid

The Operation Manual of the Project, which has been approved by High Power Committee chaired by Chief Secretary to Govt. of Himachal Pradesh (on dated 01.08.2018) and concurred by JICA, stipulates that the Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods in HP shall receive funds from the State Govt., Govt. of India or from any other source as permitted by the Governing Body/State Government by way of Grants for Project. This society was registered on 09.07.2018 under HP Societies registration Act 2006 for implementation of JICA assisted Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods, which is to be implemented in society mode as per the Terms and Conditions of the project signed by Govt. of India, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh and JICA. All funds received by the Society shall be deposited with one or more Nationalized Banks. Accordingly the account of PMU (Project Management Unit) of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods in Himachal Pradesh has been opened in Bank of India at Shimla and all the 7 FCCUs (Forest Circle Coordination Units) and 18 DMUs (Divisional Management Units) have also opened the Societies' account in different banks.

3. However, vide memo No. Fst.1651-1/2018-19 (budget), dated 21.04.2018 and memo No. Fst.1651-1/2018-19 (budget), dated 19.05.2018 the budget of Rs. 15 Cr. under various SOEs was allotted to Chief Project Director for JICA assisted Project for the financial year 2018-19. The SOEs pertaining to (01-salary), (03-T.E.), (05-O.E.), (06-M.E.), (30-Motor Vehicle) are being regulated through treasury system and for other SOEs the funds as per requirement are being transferred from Government DDO account of CPD JICA assisted Project to the account of Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods in Himachal Pradesh.

4. The institutional arrangement approved for the Project stipulates that to have efficient flow of funds as per the annual plans and for the timely submission of reimbursement claim, adequate authority has to be invested with the project personnel who are responsible for managing and implementing the project activities. Moreover, Rule 155 of the HP Financial Rules 2009 stipulates that Grant in Aid may be sanctioned by Govt to a public body as an institution having a distinct legal

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entity in HP, autonomous bodies and Societies registered under the HP Societies Registration Act 2006 etc. Society for Improvement of Forest Ecosystems Management and Livelihoods in Himachal Pradesh was registered on 09.07.2018 under HP Societies registration Act 2006 for implementation of JICA assisted Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystems Management & Livelihoods. It is pertinent to mention here that all transactions in the registered Society are carried out by RTGS/cheques/drafts etc.

The request for providing budget in the form of Grant in Aid has been already sent to ACS (Forests) to the GoHP vide letter dated 22.04.2019.

Joint Secretary (Forests) informed that the matter needs to be taken up with Finance Department, Tribal Affairs and Director SCSP as the Grant in Aid is to be provided in Demand No. 16,31 & 32.

Decision: After discussing the issue Chairman directed Joint Secretary (Forests) to take up the matter with Finance Department, Tribal Affairs and Director SCSP immediately.

Agenda Item No. 11. Allocation of One Additional Post of Project Director in JICA Office, Kullu

Govt. of H.P. vide notification No. FFE-A(B) 6-8/2018 dated 16-05-2018 posted Ms. Meera Sharma, as Assistant Project Director JICA Kullu and further vide Govt. of H.P. notification No. FFEA (B) 2-3/2018 dated 26-06-2018 did partial modification in the earlier order by re designating the post as Project Director JICA Kullu. Whereas, Govt. of HP vide its notification no. FEE-A(B)2-3/2018 dated 26-07-2018 allocated one post of Project Director at Shimla office and two posts of APDs in Kullu and Rampur offices respectively, whereas one additional post of Project Director is required at Kullu office also. Therefore, keeping in view the requirement, one additional post of Project Director may be allocated to JICA Office Kullu or the APD post allocated to Kullu office may be redesignated as Project Director Post.

Decision: It was decided that the matter regarding re-designation of the sanctioned post at Kullu from APD to PD would be taken up with Finance Department.

Agenda Item No. XII: Any other item with permission of chair

The Project Director (Admn.) JICA raised the issue of hiring of Programme Manager (Audit) which has to be a full time Chartered Accountant as per the Project document. The advertisement for the same was floated however no one appeared for the interview which was taken by NRTC. It seems that it is difficult to get a Chartered Accountant for Rs. 60,000/- per month as approved in 1st Governing body Meeting. It was requested that considering the situation the services for the same may kindly be allowed to be hired on outsource/contract basis.

Decision: It was decided that the services be outsourced, subject to permission of JICA.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

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