

File no. Ad-34012/2/2022-NMCG-NMCG
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
National Mission for Clean Ganga

1st Floor,
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium
India Gate, New Delhi - 110002

Dated: 3rd August, 2022

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Head of Forest Force West Bengal,
Aranya Bhawan, LA-10A, Block III, Salt Lake City
West Bengal, Kolkata 700098

Subject: Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project proposal submitted by West Bengal Forest Department for "Afforestation programme in West Bengal" approved under the "Namami Gange" programme at a cost of Rs. 44.53 lakh (Rupees Forty four lakh fifty three thousand only) for the year 2022-23.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the grant of Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project proposal "**Forestry Interventions for Ganga**" under the "*Namami Gange*" programme at a cost of **Rs. 44.53 lakh (Rupees Forty four lakh fifty three thousand only)** for 3rd year maintenance of plantation in river bank districts/ forest divisions of West Bengal namely; Birbhum, Burdwan, Purulia, Kangsabati North, Howrah, Kolkata URF, Durgapur, 24 PG s. (S), Kangsabati South, Kurseong, Darjeeling WL & Purulia Extension with 100% central funding.

2. The overall objective of the project is to contribute towards clean Ganga, particularly *Anant Van* and *Aviral Dhara* besides maintenance of ecological and geological integrities of the riverscape. The work mentioned in the APO is part of the overall DPR prepared by FRI, Dehradun for the Afforestation of Ganga River bank.

3. The summary of cost for the proposal is given in **Annexure-I** with 100% central funding under the "*Namami Gange*" programme.

4. Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction for the project is granted subject to the conditions as per **Annexure-II**.

5. The period of completion of the proposal under "**Forestry Interventions for Ganga**" will be one year starting from the date of issue of AA&ES.

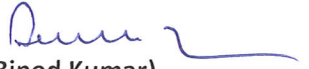
6. The sanctioned cost of the project will be borne from the 'National Ganga Plan - Non EAP budget head of *Namami Gange* Mission -II, and expenditure incurred will be booked under the Ecological Sustainability component. The NMCG /Government of India reserve the right to withdraw the sanction at any stage, if it is convinced that the fund has not been properly utilized or appropriate progress is not being made.



7. In case of violation of any of the conditions of the grant or in case of closure or dissolution of the grantee organization, the Central Government shall take possession of all the assets of the organization acquired out of the Government grants and use them in any manner deemed appropriate or to recover from the organization the value of such assets at its discretion.

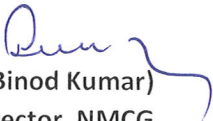
8. This sanction is based on the approval accorded in the 43rd Executive Committee (EC) meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held on 13th July, 2022 as well as with approval of DG, NMCG vide e-office file no. Ad-34012/2/2022-NMCG-NMCG, Note # 46, dated 01.08.2022 and financial concurrence of ED (Finance) vide e-office file no. Ad-34012/2/2022-NMCG-NMCG, Note # 40, dated 30.07.2022.

Yours faithfully,


(Binod Kumar)
Director, NMCG

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to: -

- 1) PS to Secretary, MoEF & CC, Government of India
- 2) PS to Director General, NMCG
- 3) PS to Deputy Director General, NMCG
- 4) Executive Director (Finance), NMCG
- 5) Project Director, SPMG, West Bengal
- 6) Sanction Folder /Guard File/Computer Cell, NRCD/MIS, NMCG


(Binod Kumar)
Director, NMCG

Annexure-I

Summary of cost of the project proposal of “Forestry Interventions for Ganga” in West Bengal under the “*Namami Gange*” programme.

The overall financial outlay for the approved proposal is Rs. 44.53 lakh (Rupees Forty four lakh fifty three thousand only) as per the details provided below.

Total consolidated budget outlay for implementation of Forestry Interventions in West Bengal

APO 2022-23 “Forestry Interventions for Ganga- West Bengal”							
District	Circle	Division	Plantation Model	Model no.	3rd year maintenance area (In Ha.)	Approved Rate (in Rs.)	Fund requirement (in Rs.)
Birbhum		Birbhum	Urban Avenue	UL/A/01	5	6963	34,815.00
			Urban Institutional	UL/I/01	5	6963	34815
Burdwan	South east	Burdwan	QGS	NL/P/13	30	6963	208890
			River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16	25	6963	174075
			Institutional Plantation	UL/I/01	3	6963	20889
			Avenue Plantation	UL/A/01	20	6963	139260
			Urban Avenue	UL/A/01	7	6963	48741
			Urban Institutional	UL/I/01	3	6963	20889
			Howrah	P&G	Howrah	River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16
River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16	10				6963	69630
Purulia	South West	Purulia	River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16	20	6963	139260
			Avenue Plantation	UL/A/01	10	6963	69630
			River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16	20	6963	139260
			Urban Institutional	UL/I/01	2.06	6963	14343.78
		Purulia Extension	Urban Avenue	UL/A/01	24	6963	167112
			Urban Institutional	UL/I/01	16.2	6963	112800.6
		Kangsabati (N)	QGS	NL/P/13	200	6963	1392600
Kangsabati (S)	QGS	NL/P/13	49.4	6963	343972.2		
Paschim Burdwan	South East	Durgapur	River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16	1	6963	6963
Kurseong	Hill	Kurseong	Miscellaneous plantation	NL/H/12	25	6963	174075
Howrah	P&G	URF	Eco Plantation	UL/E/01	5	6963	34815
			Institutional Plantation	UL/I/01	75	6963	522225
			Avenue Plantation	UL/A/01	20	6963	139260
Darjeeling	Hill	Darjeeling WL	River Bank Afforestation	NL/P/16	2	6963	13926
South 24 Pgn.	Jt.Dir.SBR	24 PGs (S)	Avenue Plantation	UL/A/01	16	6963	111408
Division total					603.66		42,03,284.58
Office expenses and Contingencies							250000
Grand total							44,53,284.58

Details breakup of area and cost for APO 2022-23

State	Essential expenditure for the survival of previous year plantations			Plantation			Total	
	Maintenance of 1 st year 2 nd year 3 rd year & 4 th year (area in ha.)	Cost (Rs. in lakh)	Support Activity (cost Rs. in lakh)	Plantation (area in ha.)	Cost (Rs. in lakh)	Support Activity (cost Rs. in lakh)	Area in ha.	Cost (Rs. in lakh)
West Bengal	603.66	42.03	2.50				603.66	44.53

Conditions on Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction for the project proposal submitted by West Bengal State Forest Department on "Forestry Interventions for Ganga" approved under the "Namami Gange" programme for one year.

1. General Conditions:

- i. The State Forest Department is the implementing agency and shall be responsible for effective implementation of the approved Annual Plan of Operation (APO).
- ii. State Government should consider bearing the labour cost for soil work through MNREGA and other available schemes where as NYKS, Ganga Praharis, Ganga Mitras, Ganga Task Force and Ganga Vichar Manch may be involved for providing support for soil work & plantation wherever possible.
- iii. Implementation of the project progress will be closely monitored by NMCG/SPMG to ensure that the project is completed within the stipulated period of time.
- iv. The State Forest Department has to submit the Physical Progress report quarterly followed by a detailed annual report with photographs of the project activities after completion of the project with Project Completion Certificate in the prescribed format provided by NMCG/SPMG.
- v. All project implementation sites should have a proper display board with Logo of NMCG and State Forest Department along with display of the number of plants planted and area in ha. planted. NMCG Logo is enclosed for reference - as **Annexure-IV**. Soft copy of logo is being sent by email.
- vi. The State Forest Department needs to follow all the observation NMCG/SPMG, and Third Party Inspection (TPI) agency, if any, during the project implementation period.
- vii. Parking of allocated funds under this project in separate account is not allowed.
- viii. The State Forest Department West Bengal is requested to implement the following recommendations suggested by IIFM in their Mid-Term Evaluation Report:
 - ✓ Land-use adjacent to the Ganga River is human dominated. There is a need to promote economic tree plantations to encourage agroforestry, horticulture and bamboo plantation in agriculture landscape and externality riverscape as they are beneficial for nature and people both.
 - ✓ Planting monoculture of exotic species Akashmoni (*Acacia auriculiformis*) in the natural landscape needs to be reconsidered.
 - ✓ Careful selection of the plantation site needs to be done supplemented with Google Earth Pro maps.
 - ✓ Cattle proof trench (CPT) needs to be made more effective.
 - ✓ Iron tree guards are needed for plant protection in the urban landscape plantations.
 - ✓ Reuse of iron tree guards in the avenue plantations of the urban landscape by adding the cost of reusing (removing, repairing, transport and fixing in new site) in the cost estimate of new plantations rather than using new iron tree guards at all locations, resulting in overall reduction in cost of works.
 - ✓ Ficus species can be included in the species mix.
 - ✓ In the plantation sites in the natural landscape, soil and moisture conservation works such as creation of water bodies and soil & water conservation structures should be dove-tailed for improving soil moisture conditions.
 - ✓ Delay in wage payments to the chowkidars needs to be addressed.
 - ✓ Should maintain digital record and spatial database for all plantations taken up, photographic documentation of the input, process, output and outcomes should be

regularly done and made readily available in the office for sustenance of landscape and riverine ecosystem.

- ✓ Also, the geo-referenced plantation polygon of the perimeter should be diligently recorded as a KML file (as is done in CAMPA funded plantations) and may be stored with the Division office for future references.
- ix. Any additional component relevant for project or any component require modification or deletion, may be added or modified or deleted as the case may be, only with the prior approval of the competent authority of NMCG.
- x. Staff employed by the State Forest Department under this project are not to be treated as employees of the NMCG.
- xi. The State Forest Department shall ensure that all provisions of the RTI Act 2005 are adhered to as far as information pertaining to the project is concerned.
- xii. Conditions/commitment indicated in the Executive Committee (EC) Memo, Minutes and other documents including those to be fulfilled before start of the programme shall be strictly adhered to in the project implementation and management.
- xiii. The State Forest Department shall ensure conformity to GFRs/Codal procedures/CVC guideline during the execution of the proposed work.
- xiv. All the equipment's/data generated out of the study would be property of Govt. of India and decision as to its storage/ownership and disposal would be undertaken with the approval of NMCG on completion of study.

2. The release of funds is subject to the following terms and conditions: -

2.1 Financial Aspects:

- i. Any cost escalation over and above the sanctioned cost attributable to State Forest Department will be borne by the State Forest Department West Bengal.
- ii. The State Forest Department to take all the necessary legal and executive measures to ensure adequate resources available for operation and maintenance of the assets created under the project to fulfill its mandate.
- iii. The State Forest Department is not permitted to seek or utilize funds for the same purpose from any other organization (Government, semi-Government, autonomous or private) without prior approval of the NMCG.
- iv. The State Forest Department has to submit the Utilization Certificates (UC) every six months as per the specified format provided in the GFR, 2017.
- v. The subsequent allocation of Assignment Limit will be made based on Utilization Certificate/Expenditure Statement of the previously allocated assignment limit.
- vi. All relevant provisions of General Financial Rule, 2017, as amended from time to time, will be applicable to grantee organization.

2.2 Audit:

- i. The books of accounts of the grantee, relating to this grant, shall be open to Audit by the Internal Auditor of the NMCG.

2.3 Flow of Funds:

Funds for the present project will be made available to the State Forest Department, West Bengal by the National Mission for Clean Ganga through allocation of assignment limit as per the Treasury Single Account (TSA) System, based on projected fund requirements. The objective of the TSA is to ensure "just in time release" and eliminate/ reduce parking of funds at all levels of project implementation. Fund flow from State Forest Department, West Bengal to the vendor/contractors etc. may be worked out keeping in view the afore-said



objectives of TSA, and to the extent possible should be on the basis of reimbursement of bills raised/ submitted by the vendor/contractors etc. Since the fund flow is based on "just in time release", there should not be any accrual of interest on grants-in-aid received from NMCG. However, any interest earned on the grant received from NMCG/ GoI should mandatorily be remitted back to NMCG immediately after finalization of accounts for depositing the same to the Consolidated Fund of India.

(a) The assignment limit allocated to State Forest Department, West Bengal will lapse at the end of financial year.

(b) Allocation of assignment limit to State Forest Department, West Bengal will not be counted as expenditure under TSA. Only final payment to a vendor/contractor or executing agency will be counted as expenditure. Hence all Bills/ payments should be settled immediately".

2.4 Submission of Quarterly Physical & Financial Progress Report (QPFPR):

- i. The State Forest Department should report the progress of implementation (both physical and financial progress including expenditure statement) quarterly to NMCG/SPMG with photographs. The report should be signed by at least two designated officers of the State Forest Department, one of whom should be the DFO of the implementing district. The format for submitting the report is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.
- ii. The physical progress report should include the district/division wise plantation detail in hectare as well as the number of plants planted with GPS locations.
- iii. The signing officers will indicate her/his name and designation in full in capital letters and affix official seal under the signature. While the QPFPR submitted by fax/e-mail will be acceptable for commencement of processing the case, ink-signed QPFPR must follow by Post.
- iv. Consistency between physical progress and expenditure shall be maintained and reasons for substantial variations shall be appropriately explained against each item in QPFPR.

2.5 Inspection and Monitoring:

- i. NMCG may depute any person to visit the Implementation area for the purpose of monitoring of its work. Full facilities including local logistics shall be provided by the State Forest Department to the person deputed for inspection.
- ii. Director General, NMCG will monitor the overall progress of the project periodically.

Format for Quarterly Progress Report (Physical & Financial)

S.no.	District	Treatment site name	GPS coordinate (in degree decimal)	Activity/ Model no.	Physical Target		Fund released by NMCG (in Rs.)	Physical progress		Total expenditure (in Rs.)	Man power utilised
					Total area to be treated in ha.	No. of Plants to be planted		Area treated in ha.	No. of Plants planted		
Total											

Note: Photographs of the treatment site should be Geo tagged through "Green Ganga app/ Bhuvan Ganga app".

Namami Gange logo:



A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized initial followed by a horizontal line.