BDC1/98 HMP

OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS CENTRAL CIRCLE ★ THRISSUR-5 ★ Date 9401

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Office of the
Chief Conservator of Forests (WL)
Thiruvananthapuram
Dated 01/06/01

From

The Chief Conservator of Forests (WL)
Thiruvananthapuram

To

The Conservator of Forests
Central Circle
Thrissur

Sir,

Central Circle TCR

AA	
JS	
SS	

Copy to me

Sub: KFP – Special Habitat Management Programme – reg.

Ref:
1. BDC-1/98 dt.08.04.99
2. Guidelines for special habitat management programme
3. Minutes of Review Meeting Dated 28.04.99
4. BDC-1/98 dt. 26.05.99
5. BDC-1/98 dt. 28.07.99
6. D.O.Lr. No.BDC-1/98 dt. 20.11.99
7. Wireless Message dt. 27.11.99
8. BDC-1/98-IV dt. 06.12.99
9. BDC-1/98 dt. 22.12.99
10. BDC-1/98 dt. 15.04.00
11. Wireless Message dt. 14.05.00
12. BDC-1/98 dt. 28.06.00
13. D.O.Lr.No.BDC-1/98 HMP dt. 26.07.00
14. BDC-1/98 HMP dt. 26.07.00

Your personal attention is invited to the references cited above, wherein you were directed to submit the following details about the special habitat management programme being implemented in your jurisdiction.

In compliance also

a. Revised proposal of the scheme(s) based on the critical evaluation reports of the Biodiversity Consultants along with fund required.
b. Status report since the year of implementation clearly explaining the achievements (physical and financial), monitoring details, etc.

It is noted with displeasure that inspite of issuing clear instructions, guidelines, formats, discussions, consultations, meetings and reminders, the performance of special habitat management programme is par below to the expectations of the project objectives. It is felt that field-implementing officers are not taking any special or serious effort in implementing the programme, which require technical inputs.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (D&P) in his letter (ref-1) directed that the schemes should be based on already available research findings. Meanwhile, a guideline was also

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prepared and circulated to the field-implementing officers (ref-2). It is clearly mentioned in the guideline that the objective of the programme is to conserve critical species and unique ecosystem through the testing and application of new cost effective and innovative management techniques on experimental basis. It is also mentioned in the guideline as well as in the minutes of the review meeting (ref-3) that the routine habitat management activities such as eradication of weeds, improvement of natural regeneration, water sources, etc., would not be funded under this programme since these activities are already being funded through the regular Annual Plan of Operation. This was communicated to the field-implementing officers vide ref-4 and subsequently reminded (ref-5). Inspite of providing clear instructions and guidelines, most of the schemes were submitted without proper baseline information and identified success indicators. This was pointed out by the undersigned vide ref-6, and the implementing officers were asked to rectify the defects.

Most of the schemes could not provide appropriate monitoring details due to lack of proper monitoring indicators. There were several letters and reminders sent to the implementing officers to furnish proper monitoring indicators (ref-7, 8, & 9) along with status report. A proforma was subsequently prepared and communicated to the implementing officers to furnish the status report (ref-10) and reminders were also sent through wireless and letters (ref-11, 12 & 13). Meanwhile technical assistants of Biodiversity Consultants were inducted to the Biodiversity Cell for providing technical support for implementing the biodiversity component of KFP. The consultants reviewed the proposals and status reports and provided their comments for improving the same. The comments were communicated to the implementing officers (ref-14) for collecting necessary details and revising the proposals. Subsequently the consultants visited the field and provided necessary technical inputs to the field-implementing officers for improving of the schemes. It was also presented that the activities proposed in the schemes should be sustained after the project period.

Since the schemes need to be monitored for its effectiveness, it was also directed (ref-11) that before implementing the scheme baseline information should be collected for future comparison and evaluating the scheme. But in most of the schemes implementing officers have failed to collect proper baseline information as yet. The monitoring details were asked along with the status reports for submission to the World Bank Review Committee to prove the success of the programme. The Biodiversity Consultants pointed out all these defects and suggested modifications during their field visit and subsequently communicated through Review Report.

The expenditure of allotted amount for special habitat scheme would be subject to the sanction of Wildlife and Biodiversity Subcommittee. Till then no expenditure should be made against this. In addition, incurring expenditure is also subject to the receipt of the details mentioned in Para I (a) and (b). You are hereby once again requested to submit the details immediately along with fund required for 2001-2002 failure to which entire responsibility rest with you. The abstract of the directions issued in various references is annexed.

Yours faithfully

Encl: As above.

for **Chief Conservator of Forests (WL)**

Copy to the DFO/Wildlife Warden..... for information and follow up action

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Annexure

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Special Habitat Management Programme
Correspondence with Implementing Officers

Reference Number	Abstract of the correspondences
BDC-1/98 Dt. 08.04.99	*Stressing that theschemes should be based on already available research findings pertaining to the area.*
Minutes Dt. 28.04.99	*Decision of Review Meeting - Implementing Officers' understanding on the relevance of the project, meticulous planning, implementation, monitoring and documentation. Should not take up regular routine forestry works.*
BDC-1/98 Dt. 26.05.99	*The decision of minutes of the review meeting held on 28.04.99 was communicated for furnishing revised proposals as directed.*
BDC-1/98 Dt. 28.07.99	*Reminding on the discussions of Minutes Dated 28.04.99*
DO No. PCM2-136/99 Dt. 03.08.99 by CCF (WBP)	*Need of proper proposals*
BDC-1/98 Dt. 12.11.99	*To maintain a register in the Wildlife Divisions with all details of each of the project.*
BDC-1/98 Wireless Message Dt. 19.11.99	*To furnish the details called for approved and new proposals.*
DO No. BDC-1/98 Dt. 20.11.99 by CCF (WL)	*Pointing out that the defects in most of the proposals and asking for furnishing details (missing information and success indicators.*
Wireless message Dt. 27.11.99	*Details of physical achievement/Success indicators.*
Minutes Dt. 30.11.99	*Stressed the importance of Implementing Officers' enthusiasm and ownership. Observation by Mr. Malcom – Scheme should be Programme oriented but not activity oriented.*
BDC-1/98-IV Dt. 06.12.99	*To furnish Bench Marks for the monitoring indicators.*
BDC-1/98 Dt. 22.12.99	*To furnish status report along with monitoring indicators.*
Wireless message 06.01.00	*Status report of the project /success indicators.*
BDC-1/98 Dt. 15.04.00 and subsequent wireless reminder	*To furnish the status report in the prescribed format and the fund requirement for the year 2000-2001.*
Wireless Message Dt. 14.05.00	*To furnish status report along with baseline information for the monitoring indicators fixed.*

BDC-1/98 Dt. 28.06.00	*To furnish status along with monitoring indicators.*
DO No. BDC-1/98 HMP Dt. 26.07.00	*To submit all the information due on special habitat schemes.*
BDC-1/98 dt. 26.07.00	Comments of Biodiversity Consultants' communicated to implementing offices, pointing out the defects of the schemes and revising the proposals.
During August and September 2000	*The review of status reports and proposals by Biodiversity Consultants have been circulated for revising the proposals and status report.*
During August 2000	*The Biodiversity Consultants made a field visit to Northern and Wildlife (Palakkad) Circles for evaluation and discussed with field-implementing officers for revision of the proposals (18 nos.) and status report.*
Minutes Dt. 20.10.00	*Pointing out that only 4 schemes have relevant baseline information.* *To furnish relevant baseline and monitoring details along with status report.*
BDC-1/98 Dt. 23.10.00	*Reminder to the minutes Dt. 20.10.00. Issuing detailed instructions for collecting baseline and monitoring details.*
Discussion at various centralized location by Biodiversity Consultants during 1st week of November 2000	*Rectified the drawbacks in the proposals and status reports, and requested to submit the revised proposals & status report on or before 15.11.00.*
Wireless Message Dt. 24.11.00	*Reminder to the Lr. Dt. 23.10.00 asking for immediate submission of revised project proposals along with baseline information.*
Observation by World Bank Mission in their Aid Memoir (Para 40) (Mid Term Review during January 27 – February 7, 2001)	*Insisting the Critical Review of all Schemes and indicating that several schemes are of similar nature and with routine forestry works.*
During March & April 2001	*The Biodiversity Consultants visited 15 schemes in Southern and Central Circles for Critical evaluation and discussed with field-implementing officers for revision of proposals and status report.*