



**Government of West Bengal**  
**Office of the Chief Project Director**  
**Project for Forest and Biodiversity Conservation**  
**for Climate Change Response in West Bengal**  
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No.: 611 / WFBCCCR / 5-5(3) 124

Dated: . 13.05.2024

To

1	Shri Niraj Singhal, IFS PCCF & HoFF, West Bengal & Chairperson WBFBC Society	10	Shri. Nilanjan Mallick, IFS APCCF & Director, Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal - Member
2	Shri Sandeep Sundriyal, IFS PCCF, General & Vice-Chairperson WBFBC Society	11	Shri Ujjal Ghosh, IFS APCCF, Wildlife, Forest Directorate, West Bengal - Member
3	Shri Debal Ray, IFS PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW - Member	12	Shri Rajesh Kumar, IFS APCCF, North Bengal, Forest Directorate, West Bengal - Member
4	Dr Kana Talukder, IFS PCCF, Research, Monitoring & Development - Member	13	Shri Dharmdeo Rai, IFS Chief Environment Officer, Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal - Member
5	Shri Piar Chand, IFS PCCF, CAMPA - Member	14	Mrs. Tripti Shah, IFS Member Secretary, West Bengal Biodiversity Board, Government of West Bengal - Member
6	Dr Vipin Kumar Sood, IFS Managing Director, West Bengal Forests Development Corporation Ltd. - Member	15	Shri. P Kamalakanth IFS Chief Conservator of Forests, Finance, Forest Directorate, West Bengal - Member
7	The Joint Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Finance Department - Member	16	Smt. Sumana Bhattacharyya, IFS Project Director, WB-FBCCCR - Special Invitee
8	Smt. Pratibha Raj, IFS APCCF, HRD, Forest Directorate, West Bengal - Member	17	Shri Kumar Vimal, IFS, Additional Project Director, WB-FBCCCR - Special Invitee
9	Shri. Raju Das, IFS APCCF, Finance, Forest Directorate, West Bengal - Member	18	Shri Ajoy Kumar Das, IFS CCF, WP & GIS Special Invitee

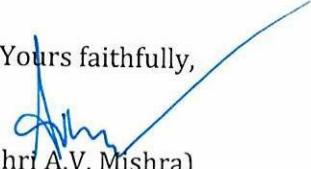
Sub.: Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Governing Body of the West Bengal Forest & Biodiversity Conservation Society held on 03.05.2024.

Sir/Madam,

With reference to above, Kindly find enclosed herein the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Governing Body of the West Bengal Forest & Biodiversity Conservation Society held on 03.05.2024 at 12:00 PM at Aranya Bhawan for your perusal and necessary action.

Encl: As stated

Yours faithfully,

  
(Shri A.V. Mishra)  
Member Secretary  
WBFBC Society



## **MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE WEST BENGAL FOREST & BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Governing Body of the West Bengal Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society was held in Aranya Bhawan at 12.00 PM on 03.05.2024. The meeting was chaired by Shri Niraj Singhal, Chairperson of the Society. The following members / Special Invitees were present.

1. Shri Niraj Singhal, PCCF & HoFF , Govt. of W.B. Forest Deptt. & **Chairperson WBFBC Society**
2. Shri Sandeep Sundriyal, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, General & Vice-Chairperson, WBFBC Society- Member
3. Dr. Kana Talukder, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & RMD- Member
4. Shri Piar Chand, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, CAMPA-Member
5. Dr Vipran Kumar Sood, IFS, Managing Director, WBFDC Ltd-Member
6. Shri A.V.Mishra, IFS, Chief Project Director & Member Secretary, WBFBC Society
7. Shri Raju Das, IFS, APCCF & Finance –Member
8. Shri Nilanjan Mallick, IFS, APCCF & Director, SBR- Member
9. Shri P Kamalakanth, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Finance-Member
10. Shri Ajoy Kumar Das, IFS, CCF, WP & GIS- Spl. Invitee
11. Smt Sumana Bhattacharyya, IFS, Project Director (AFC)- Spl. Invitee
12. Shri Kumar Vimal, Addl Project Director (AFC)- Spl. Invitee

The Chief Project Director, WBFBCP Project & Member Secretary of the WBFBC Society presented each agenda followed by discussion. The agenda-wise presentation and decisions are given below:

### **1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023**

Governing Body was informed that no communication in respect of minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Governing Body was received.

#### **Decision:**

- i) Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Governing Body stand confirmed.

#### **Action:**

**No Action required.**

### **2. Discussions on the Action Taken Report on the resolutions of the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023.**

The CPD explained Action Taken on each of the decision taken during 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Governing Body.

- i. The Chairperson enquired about the Delegation of Financial powers as approved by the HPC. The CPD informed the members that as per Operations Manual approved in the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the High Power Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, the Governing Body has full powers and the CPD has a power up-to ₹ 50.00 lakh.
- ii. The Chairperson enquired about the process followed for ensuring GST remittance by the vendors and expressed that there should be a system to

verify this. The CPD responded by saying that the society will study the issue and take appropriate action in this regard.

- iii. The Governing Body, in their 1st meeting held on 22nd June, 2023 had decided to form a committee under Chairpersonship of Additional PCCF, Wildlife, HQ to decide upon the size of Root Trainers and their proportion. The committee decided on the size and proportion of Root Trainers to be 750 cc and 1000 cc and to be procured in 1:2 ratio in each nursery. The GB accepted the report vide circular resolution No. 02 vide memo No. 576/WBFBCCCR/5-5(3)/23 dated 01.08.2023 and accordingly, nursery upgradation work has been taken up. The Chairperson of the GB suggested that best nursery practices in India for each individual species to be grown in the state should be explored and a committee involving field staff and even persons outside Forest Directorate having practical knowledge and exposure be constituted. The CPD, while expressing a need to continue with current practice as nursery upgradation work has already been taken up, proposed that Forest Directorate may set up the said study by a committee as proposed above.

**Decision: Action taken report is accepted**

### ***3. Presentation of the Annual Report of WB-FBCCCR for the year 2023-2024***

Project Director, Administration, Finance and Co-ordination made a presentation on Annual Report of WBFBCCCR for 2023-2024.

- i) The Chairperson explained a need for reorganisation of JFMCs as several anomalies have come to his notice. Moreover he stated that Usufruct share of JFMCs should never be paid in cash. CPD, WBFBCCCR responded by saying that since the boundaries of implementing JFMCs are being digitized as part of the project implementation, it will be very easy to incorporate changes as and when required. PD, AFC explained that reorganisation of the JFMCs selected for the project implementation is being done as per design of the project.

**Decision: The members accorded their approval on Annual Reports for the year 2023-2024**

### ***4. Approval for APO for 2024-25***

Additional Project Director, Administration, Finance and Co-ordination presented an Annual Plan of Operation for the project for 2024-25, the following observations were made by the members of the body:

- i) PCCF, General observed that the efforts to control ritual hunting should be properly documented. Director, SBR suggested that small documentaries may be made for awareness generation.
- ii) The Chairperson as well as the PCCF, General suggested that there should be co-ordination between PMU and Finance wing of Forest Directorate.
- iii) An item on Elephant Proof Trench in South Bengal has been proposed in the MoD and accordingly been incorporated in the APO. However, CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the house that this activity will not be taken up and

instead, suitable activity will be proposed in Mid Term Review and members agreed to this.

- iv) There was a discussion regarding the item of work on "Support to Local Traditional Healers" and the Chairperson suggested that there should be survey and assessment of NTFP resources. The CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the body that there is a provision for Baseline Survey of Forest Resources in the project and it will be taken care accordingly.

The overall APO for the year 2024-25 for total amount of ₹ 9408.78 lakh including ₹ 8211.78 lakh under Reimbursable Head and ₹ 1197.00 lakh under Non Reimbursable Head as per details vide Annexure-IV of the Agenda notes was approved by the members of the General Body with remarks as above.

**Decision: The members accorded their approval on APO for 2024-2025.**

**5. Revalidation of Unspent Balance of 2023-24 be utilized during 2024-25**

The APO for 2023-24 as approved by the GB was for an amount of ₹42,79,70,045 (including ₹31,18,44,103 Reimbursable and ₹ 11,1,25,942 Non Reimbursable). Utilization of Reimbursable component during 2023-24 was ₹1,20,86,199 leaving an unutilized balance of ₹ 8,56,11,425. On the other hand out of an approved APO for ₹31,18,44,103, an amount of ₹9,76,97,625 was allotted to DMUs and therefore approved APO of ₹21,41,46,478 was carried over unallotted to 2024-25.

The members of the Body approved revalidation of an amount of ₹29,97,57,904 i.e. unutilized balance of ₹ 8,56,11,425 and carried over unallotted amount of ₹21,41,46,478) to be utilized during 2024-25.

**Decision: The members accorded their approval on Revalidation of Unspent Balance of 2023-24 be utilized during 2024-25**

**6. Making allocations for Advance Work for all types of Plantations to be raised under WB-FBCCCR.**

CPD, WBFBCCCR explained the need for splitting plantation creation budget into Advance and Creation. It would facilitate timeliness in planting operation resulting in better establishment.

**Decision: The members agreed to it and approved the proposal.**

**7. Digitization of JFM Boundaries under WB-FBCCCR by WP & GIS Circle under Forest Directorate –Discussion & approval thereof:**

CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the house that the project envisages digitization of boundaries of 600 selected JFMCs, that WP & GIS wing is well equipped to take up this activity and that CCF, WP & GIS has already agreed to it and started the work.

**Decision: Members of the body expressed satisfaction over this and approved the proposal.**

**8. Assigning works of Baseline Surveys for "Socio Economics" and "Forest Resources" to Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal:**

CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the house that Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal has the requisite expertise and experience for taking up these studies and can be assigned the work.

**Decision: Members of the body agreed to the proposal and approved the same.**

**9. Approval for assigning CAT Planning work to Indian Institute of Soil and water Conservation, Dehradun instead of SLUSI, Kolkata.**

CPD, WBFBCCCR explained the progress in the work since 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the GB on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023 and proposed assigning the work to Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Dehradun. During initial rounds of talks and meetings representatives of SLUSI, Kolkata expressed their willingness to carry out the work and they got approval for the same from SLUSI, India, New Delhi. But, while discussing TOR for signing MoU, they expressed their inability to take up the interventions on the design, location and types of engineering structures based on the findings of the CAT Plan without which the whole exercise would be futile, and suggested the IISWC, Dehradun for taking up such treatment designs and CAT Plan preparation work.

**Decision: Members of the body agreed to the proposal and approved the same.**

**10. Discussion on Research Work on "Asian Flyway" and "Assessment of Aquatic Biodiversity of Sundarbans and Territorial Waters"**

CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the house that the project includes conducting research works on "Asian Flyway" and "Assessment of Aquatic Biodiversity of Sundarbans and Territorial Waters" and that it required guidance of PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW who was outside his headquarters during this meeting.

**Decision: It was decided to discuss the issue in presence of CWLW.**

**11. Approval of Selection of Auditors**

CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the house that NIQs were floated for selection of Auditors for Internal and Statutory Audit of the Society and L1 bidders were selected. He proposed the names of "Abhijit Dutta and Associates" and "N. C. Banerjee & CO" as L1 bidders for Internal Audit and Statutory Audit of the Society respectively for 2023-24.

**Decision: Members of the body agreed to the proposal and approved the same.**

**12. Redesignation of Purulia Extension Forestry Range instead of Planning Extension Forestry Range as FMU under Purulia Extension Forestry DMU**

CPD, WBFBCCCR informed the house that Planning Extension Forestry Range was selected as FMU under Purulia E.F. DMU, but the present DFO and Head, Purulia E.F. DMU has proposed Purulia Extension Forestry Range to be redesignated as FMU instead of Planning Extension Forestry Range in the Division due to field level problems in project implementation.

**Decision:** The Chairperson suggested that the proposal should be recommended by the concerned CCF.

**13. Ratification of Circular Resolution No. 01/2023-24 for revision Delegation Powers of the Operational Manual in respect of WB-FBCCCR.**

Decision: Governing Body ratified the Circular Resolution.

**14. Ratification of Circular Resolution No. 02/2023-24 for the Report of Production of QPM in Central Nurseries under WB-FBCCCR.**

Decision: Governing Body ratified the Circular Resolution.

**15. Ratification of Circular Resolution No.03/2023-24 for the Selection of 90 FMUs and 600 JFMCs in respect of WB-FBCCCR.**

Decision: Governing Body ratified the Circular Resolution.

**16. Ratification of Circular Resolution No 04/2023-24 for the Report of the Constituted Committee for Finalization of Terms of reference for CAT Plan in South- West Bengal under WB-FBCCCR**

Decision: Governing Body ratified the Circular Resolution.

**17. Ratification of Circular Resolution No 05/2023-24 for Approval of the Decisions Taken by the Committee regarding Procurement of Models of Different Categories of Vehicles.**

Decision: Governing Body ratified the Circular Resolution.

**18. Any other issue:**

The newly developed Cloud Hosted Real Time Accounting platform and website for WBFBCCCR were displayed online during the meeting and salient features of the Accounting system were explained by the APD, AFC.

The Chairperson suggested that the website should be having photographs representing faunal and floral diversity of West Bengal.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

  
(Niraj Singhal)  
Chairperson,  
WBFBC Society

