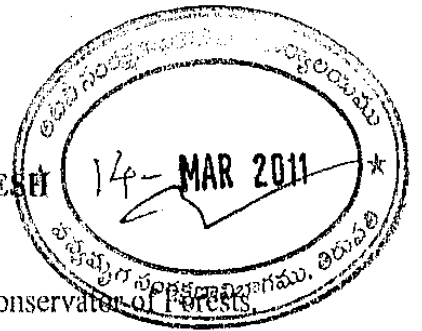


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14.03.11

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT



Re.No.21827/2010/ WL-3

Dated: 4.3.2011

Office of Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests,
Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad.

*Sri Hitesh Malhotra, I.F.S.,
Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &
Chief Wildlife Warden (A.P)*

Sub:- F.D. -- WL -- Certain guidelines for submitting proposals -- issued.

Ref:- PCCF Circular No. 2/2007/WL-3 communicated vide PCCF Re. No. 40355/07/WL-3 dated 31.12.2007.

* * *

It is observed that in most of the cases, whenever any proposals are submitted by the circle offices for financial assistance for taking up ecotourism activities, they are not submitted in complete shape and precious time is lost in correspondence for getting the proposals in the right shape. Therefore the following guidelines are issued for submitting proposals for seeking financial assistance for taking up eco-tourism activities.

- Under ecotourism emphasis should be to harness non-consumptive use of natural and aesthetic resources.
- The quality of experience shall be given preference over the number of visitors.
- Ecotourism activities can be taken up in Forest areas as well in Protected Areas.
- When ever ecotourism activities are proposed for Protected Areas it has to be necessarily community based.
- Whereas ecotourism activities in forest areas can be community based or otherwise.
- Ecotourism can also be taken up without involvement of communities, but efforts should be made to involve the communities.
- Detailed guidelines were issued vide the ref. cited (Copy enclosed) for implementing community based ecotourism in reserve forest areas and Protected Areas of Andhra Pradesh.
- For forest areas, development of tourist facilities would amount to non-forestry activity and will require due clearance under the Forest(Conservation) Act,1980. Hence no permanent structures should be constructed for ecotourism in the forest areas. For accommodation /toilet facilities , only temporary structures like huts/collapsible structures may be used after obtaining due clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act.
- There shall be a complete ban on disposables like plastic /non biodegradable material by tourists inside the forest areas/protected areas, and proper arrangements for waste disposal should be ensured.
- The impact of each and every activity in the natural resources and local community shall be monitored and kept within acceptable limits.
- The provisions of the Indian Forest Act 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, etc., and the directions and guidelines issued by the Central Government from time to time shall be strictly followed.
- Accommodation should be in the form of tents or of prefabricated material.
- Every proposal should be in the form of a project and work plan for next five years duly indicating the year wise infrastructures to be created, financial requirements and year wise revenue expected to be generated.

- If further financial assistance is sought for any existing CBET / Ecotourism site, full justification for additional requirement should be given. However complete project proposals should be prepared even for these projects and the existing infrastructure should be indicated and subtracted from the total requirements. For existing projects the information sought vide PCCF Rc. No. 24326/07/WL3 dated 28.01.2011 should also be enclosed in the project proposals. A small write up should be given for each of the proposed items /activity duly indicating if the location falls inside the PA /Forest area/Revenue land / Other Govt. lands etc.
- The Proposals for ecotourism should contain location of works with Lat / Long on a map. Correct quantities of work should be specified with unit cost based on FSR /SSR. Works proposed as "LS" or "As per actuals" will not be permitted. Justification should be given for works proposed.
- Economic sustainability of the Eco-tourism project should be furnished with income from various sources and expenditure on manitainance. The projects proposed shall be self sustaining as continued Government support will not be feasible.
- An indicative list of items for which funds can be sought for taking up the ecotourism activities is enclosed at Annexure -I
- An indicative list of items/ activities which could be of attraction for the visitors in eco-tourism sites is at Annexure -II
- An indicative list of Income generation items / activities/opportunities for the local host communities to engage themselves in ecotourism projects is at Annexure -III
- An indicative list of items / activities on which information should be enclosed in the project proposals is at Annexure -IV.

All the CCFs/CFs of Territorial and wildlife circles are requested to submit proposals for ecotourism as per the guidelines issued. The proposals already submitted by various circles for 2011-12 shall also be submitted as per the guidelines now issued in format given in Annexure-IV. All proposals for ecotourism shall reach this office by 10th March 2011 positively as the proposals have to be consolidated in the form of Annual Action Plan for 2011-12 and placed before the CAMPA Steering Committee for approval. This may be treated as most urgent.

Encl: Annexure -I to IV

Sd/- Hitesh Malhotra
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &
Chief Wildlife Warden

To

All the Chief Conservator of Forests / Conservator of Forests (Territorial & Wildlife)

Copy to all the Divisional Forest Officers (Territorial and Wildlife)

//t.c.b.o//


Superintendent

Annexure-I

Indicative items for which funds can be sought for taking up eco-tourism activities.

- Simple, adequate boarding & lodging facilities, in tune with the environment & the general setting of the landscape.
- Road network within the identified tourism zone.
- Self – guided Nature trails.
- Transportation options.
- Interpretive Centres.
- Way-side exhibits.
- Sign boards and hoardings.
- Observation towers.
- Garbage disposal facility.
- Periodic training programmes on eco-tourism for tourism administrators, planners, operators, EDC /VSS members.
- Energy & water saving devices should be used apart from controlled sewage disposal.
- Control of noise pollution, chemical pollution and air emissions.
- Reduced use of environmentally unfriendly items like asbestos, CFS, pesticides, inflammable material.
- Respecting the historic & religious sites in the area
- Local participation.
- Boarding, hospitality, tour guides.
- Fair weather road network
- Tracks, self – guided nature trails
- First aid facility
- Training for skill development,
- Rock climbing, tree machans
- Printing pamphlets for dos and don'ts, entry permits.
- Revolving funds
- Amphitheatre
- Boats, Cycles
- Wilderness Safari ,Wildlife viewing through elephant back / hides
- Over night camping at designated camping sites in forest area.

Annexure -II

**Indicative items attraction which can be created for the visitors in
eco-tourism projects. :**

- Interpretation /Eco centres/ Orientation centre.
 - Nature trail.
 - Visitors centre.
 - Museum, Amphitheatre, Road-side exhibits.
 - View line clearance, slat licks and water saucers along view lines.
 - Road-side Markers.
 - Literature.
 - Light & sound display.
 - Vehicular excursions.
 - Picnic spots.
 - Canoeing / boating.
 - Pony rides.
 - Village visit.
 - Ethnic / Folk dance.
 - Bird club.
 - Souvenir shops.
 - Cycle trail.
 - Wilderness Safari
 - Wildlife viewing through elephant back / hides.
 - Over night camping at designated camping sites in forest area.
- (Infrastructure , whether temporary or permanent other than interpretation centre should not be created inside the Forest area without getting clearance under the Forest Protection Act, 1980.)

Annexure –III

Indicative Income Generating Activities /Opportunities for local host communities to engage themselves in Eco-tourism Projects:

- Creation & management of low cost accommodation for tourists.
- Providing guide service to visitors for jungle excursions.
- Providing sale outlets for local herbal medicine.
- Management of eco-tourism inputs like :
 - Canoeing / boating.
 - Cafeteria.
 - Pony ride.
 - Wildlife viewing by jeeps.
 - Souvenir making & sale.
 - Organizing folk dances.
 - Picnic spots.
 - Nature trail.
 - Cycle trail.
 - Organizing visit to a typical host community village & exposure to country culture.
 - Wilderness Safari
 - Over night camping at designated camping sites in forest area.

Annexure-IV

Project Proposal for Eco-Tourism Development in.....

1. Introduction.
2. Description of the area with legal status.
3. Details of the local communities to be involved in the project.
4. Details of infrastructure needed for the eco-tourism purpose. (Pl. gives the details of already existing infrastructure and infrastructure needed to be created duly giving the location, as to whether the proposed site is in the protected area/ forests/revenue land /private land etc.)
5. Utility / Operationalisation of each of the above mentioned infrastructure / component , (Pl. give details like. # who will control it /operate it (whether will be operated by individual or group or community /fee structure etc.)
6. Sources of income/revenue generation.
7. Proposed expenditure.
8. Benefit sharing.
9. Time period when the project is expected to become self sustained.)

(For both, new and existing projects. For existing projects where further financial assistance is required the proposals should contain all the details of already existing infrastructure and the history of the project, including the expenditure incurred and income generated so far besides the benefits which have been ploughed back to the community.)

GOVT. OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Re.No.4039/2010/M6,
Dated.14-03-2011.

Office of the Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife Management Circle, Tirupati.

Sri P.V. Chalapathi Rao, IFS
Conservator of Forests

Copy communicated to the Divisional Forest Officers, WL Chittoor East, WL Rajampet and WLM Tirupati, for information and necessary action. They are requested to submit their Division proposals for Eco-tourism activities for the year 2011-12 under CAMPA as per the guidelines issued therein should reach this office by 18.03.2011, without fail, for submission of report to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad. Treat this as Most Urgent.

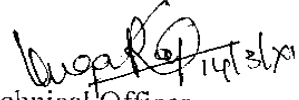
Sd/- P.V. Chalapathi Rao,
Conservator of Forests,
WLM Circle, Tirupati.

To

The Divisional Forest Officers, WL Chittoor East, WL Rajampet & WLM Tirupati.

Copy to File No.2003/2009/M7.

//T.C.B.O.//


Technical Officer