

acknowledge you fully in the book!

30 January 1994

Dear Ravi Sankaran,

Thank you very much for your letter of 10 January. By now you should have heard from the OBC conservation officer, Melanie Heath, about your £500 award from the OBC to study Lesser Floricans. It is a pity you were applied too late to be considered for our annual Forktail Leica Award (£1000). I wish you every success with finding more funds.

Tim says yes thank you very much he did receive your *Birds of Nanda Devi National Park* paper and he sent you an edited version in November or December of last year. Presumably this must have gone astray in the post and he is now sending you another copy.

Many thanks for offering to comment on the accounts of floricans in our field guide. We will be pleased to send you these in a few months time. I will write to Dr Vijayan at Coimbatore for a copy of your megapode report. We are particularly interested in the Nicobar bird species list which is included in the report as this will be useful for our book. Tim and I would much appreciate a copy of the article on the Andaman and Nicobar islands, which you mentioned in your letter you hoped to write at the end of your survey. Please let us know if there are any articles/publications which you need and which we can obtain for you in exchange.

Wishing you every success with your work.

Best wishes from Tim and me.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Inskipp (Mrs)

1 HERNESIDE  
MARCH ROAD  
WELNEY, WISBECH  
CAMBS. PE14 9SB, UK  
Tel. Welney 035471/531  
Fax. 035471/505

p.s. As Melanie has already written in her letter to you please do apply to the OBC Conservation Committee later in the year if you still need funds for the Lesser Florican workshops. (I'm a member by the way) for this year

as you suggest

and we will of course



Dr Sankaran

I tried to fax this letter to you - for over a week, with no result.  
Could you please tell us your fax number, in case we have it wrong.

I thought I had got through this morning, but no-one spoke English,  
and the fax machine was not switched on - that is, if it was the correct  
number!

Joanna Barnes  
Secretary to Asia Division

Wellbrook Court Girton Road Cambridge CB3 0NA UK Tel 0223 277318 Fax 0223 277200



Wellbrook Court  
Girton Road  
Cambridge CB3 0NA UK  
Tel +44 223 277318  
Fax +44 223 277200

Ravi Sankaran  
Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology  
and Natural History  
Kalampalayam P.O.  
Coimbatore  
641 010 India

22/IN/1  
RG/acd

12 May 1994

**LESSER FLORICAN**

Dear Ravi

Many thanks for your letter of 6 April 1994.

You will shortly be hearing from Paul Goriup of the Grassland Birds Specialist Group. I've asked Paul to take the lead in overseeing the use of the BirdLife Grant for the Lesser Florican project. You should be hearing from him shortly.

On a separate note, we have written to Shell with regard to the refuelling depot on Great Nicobar Island. If you have any further details, please let us know.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

*Richard Grimmett*

Richard Grimmett  
Senior Programme Officer  
Asia Division

cc Paul Goriup



# Oriental Bird Club

c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, U.K.

Ravi Sankaran  
Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology  
Kalampalayan P.O.  
Coimatore 641 010  
INDIA

OBC 1994

16 May 1994

OBC

Dear Dr Sankaran

Thank you for your letter - I hope by now you will have received the letters I have sent to you over the last few weeks. May I remind you to please send all bank details if you have not already done so.

Also please find enclosed an application form and leaflet.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards

Melanie Heath  
OBC Conservation Officer

MESSAGE CONFIRMATION

07-05-94 15:10

PHONE NUMBER : 0223 277300

SESSION NO. : 620

PAGES : 00

START TIME : 07-05-94 15:09

ELAPSED TIME : 00' 49"

TYPE : STANDARD

MODE : 2400/STD/MS

RESULTS : LINE ERROR

MESSAGE CONFIRMATION

07-05-94 15:15

PHONE NUMBER : 0223 277200

SESSION NO. : 621

PAGES : 01

START TIME : 07-05-94 15:12

ELAPSED TIME : 02' 41"

TYPE : STANDARD

MODE : 4800/STD/MF

RESULTS : O.K

## **SALIM ALI CENTRE FOR ORNITHOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY**

(An autonomous Centre aided by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India)  
KALAMPALAYAM P.O. COIMBATORE - 641 010 INDIA

5 July 1994

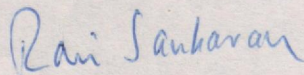
To  
Mr Richard Grimmet  
Senior programme officer  
Birdlife International  
Wellbrook Court  
Girton Road  
Cambridge CB3 0NA  
U.K.

Dear Richard,

The funds promised by Birdlife International has still not reached us. My tickets to commence the survey have been booked for 12 July 1994. I will be unable to proceed on survey if the funds do not reach me immediately.

So far only funds from OBC, £ 500 have reached me. Please ensure that funds are sent by telegraphic transfer to SACON's account immediately.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely



R Sankaran



# Oriental Bird Club

c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, U.K.

Ravi Sankaran  
Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History  
Kalampalyam P.O  
Coimbatore 641 010  
INDIA

FAX - 091 422 38232

27 July 1994

LESSER FLORICAN PROJECT

Dear Ravi

I hope that by now you have received the funds from OBC for your Lesser Florican Project. We asked for them to be transferred at the beginning of June. Please could you confirm receipt of the money and similarly if the funds have still not arrived contact me immediately so I can ask our treasurer to chase things this end.

Thank you also for the additional sheet on the workshop. Could you please send further details as they become available. As you know Richard Grimmett passed me a copy of his fax to you of 5 July 1994. I am in agreement with his suggestion of further extending the workshop beyond a one day event.

OBC hopes to discuss possibilities of further funding of the workshop at our September Council meeting so please send further details if they are available before then.

Many thanks

With kind regards

Melanie Heath  
OBC Conservation Officer



# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Washington, D.C. 20240

ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

In Reply Refer To:  
FWS/IA

August 24, 1994

Mr. Paul Goriup  
Secretary  
Steppe and Grasslands Bird Group  
c/o The Nature Conservation Bureau  
36 Kingfisher Court  
Hambridge Road  
Newbury RG14 5SJ  
United Kingdom

Dear Paul:

Thanks for your letter of 17 July 1994 concerning the lesser florican workshop in Baroda, India 19 November. Unlike the situation in bygone days, there are a lot more restrictions on the use of the Indian rupees we have access to for conservation work in India. Much of this restriction has been imposed by the Government of India itself. Under this situation, we are unable to support your proposed travel to the florican workshop.

Thanks for sending the information on the workshop and the survey. Has the survey gone ahead? What about the aerial portion of it? I have correspondence from Asad Rahmani that says he would be helping Ravi in November. Has the workshop been extended?

Steve Landfried has kept me up to date on several of your activities. It is good to hear of your successes. It was nice hearing from you and I am sorry we could not help.

Yours sincerely,

David A. Ferguson  
SFC Coordinator  
Office of International Affairs

cc: A.Rahmani, Aligarh  
R.Sankaran, SACON

20 October 1994

To  
Ms Melanie Heath  
Conservation Officer  
Oriental Bird Club  
c/o  
The Lodge, Sandy,  
Bedfordshire,  
SG19 2DL, U.K.

Dear Melanie,

My apologies for this delay in writing to you. The recently concluded survey of western M.P., eastern Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kutch to assess the status of the lesser florican brings a ray of hope. I was able to locate 147 floricans (127 males & 20 females), and if I include birds reported (but not seen by me) in the areas surveyed then the total is 184 (161 male and 23 female). A preliminary estimate places the lesser florican population at about 2200 birds. Clearly there is still time to prevent the extinction of this species.

Please find enclosed:

1. Preliminary report on the Status of the Lesser Florican in 1994.
2. Report on progress made on the workshop
3. Statement of accounts
4. Registration form for the workshop.

As you will see, an additional funding of £ 500/- will be required as the workshop costs have gone up due to an increase in duration from 1 to 1.5 days, extendable to 2 days. I am writing to Mr R Grimmett at BLI as well about this, and it will be good if additional funding can be found. Please do let me know, either way, so that I can accordingly cut costs. If funding is available, I would prefer that it reaches me at Coimbatore by 25 November.

I consider that the OBC funding of £ 500/- has been utilised during the survey. Is there any particular way that you would expect details, expenditure etc. to be submitted to fulfil requirements at your end, or will these enclosures suffice? Please do let me know about this.

I do hope that you will be able to participate in the workshop, and that I will have the pleasure of meeting you then.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran

encl: aa

20 October 1994

To  
Mr Richard Grimmet  
Birdlife International  
32 Wellbrook Court, Girton Road  
Cambridge CB3 0NA  
U.K.

Dear Richard,

My apologies for this delay in writing to you. The recently concluded survey of western M.P., eastern Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kutch to assess the status of the lesser florican brings a ray of hope. I was able to locate 147 floricans (127 males & 20 females), and if I include birds reported (but not seen by me) in the areas surveyed then the total is 184 (161 male and 23 female). A preliminary estimate places the lesser florican population at about 2200 birds. Clearly there is still time to prevent the extinction of this species.

Please find enclosed:

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2. Report on progress made on the workshop
3. Statement of accounts
4. Registration form for the workshop.

As you will see, an additional funding of £ 500/- will be required as the workshop costs have gone up due to an increase in duration from 1 to 1.5 days, extendable to 2 days. I am writing to Ms M Heath at OBC as well about this, and it will be good if additional funding can be found. Please do let me know, either way, so that I can accordingly cut costs

As much of future expenditure is to be in Baroda, I doubt if there will be much credit given to me. I would be grateful if the balance of £ 1000/= can be sent to us in a single instalment and at your earliest convenience.

I do hope that you will be able to participate in the workshop, and that I will have the pleaser of meeting you once more.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran

encl: aa

21 October 1994

To  
Mr Paul Goriup,  
Steppe & Grassland Bird Group  
c/o The Nature Conservation Bureau  
36 Kingfisher Court, Hambridge rd.  
Newburg RG14 5SJ  
U.K.

Dear Paul,

The recently concluded survey of western M.P., eastern Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kutch to assess the status of the lesser florican brings a ray of hope. I was able to locate 147 floricans (127 males & 20 females), and if I include birds reported (but not seen by me) in the areas surveyed then the total is 184 (161 male and 23 female). A preliminary estimate places the lesser florican population at about 2200 birds. Clearly there is still time to prevent the extinction of this species.

Please find enclosed:

1. Preliminary report on the Status of the Lesser Florican in 1994.
2. Report on progress made on the workshop
3. Statement of accounts
4. Registration form for the workshop.

As you will see, an additional funding of £ 500/- will be required as the workshop costs have gone up due to an increase in duration from 1 to 1.5 days, extendable to 2 days. I have written to Mr R Grimmett at BLI and Ms Melanie Heath at OBC and hope that additional funding will be available.

I had hoped that you would participate in the workshop, and am sorry to know that you are unable to do so due to prior commitments.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AS ON 15 OCTOBER 1994

Project: Status survey and conservation planning for the lesser florican in western India

1. Project budget		Rs
		190520.00
Travel etc.	94200.00	
Wages	9000.00	
Miscellaneous	10000.00	
Workshop	60000.00	
SACON Adm. overheads (10%)	17320.00	

2. Funds secured	£	Rs
	4000.00	192050.00
Amount received		
Oriental Bird Club	500.00	23410.00
Birdlife International	2500.00	120640.00
Amount to be received		
Birdlife International	1000.00	48000.00

3. Expenditure incurred as of 15 October (Rupees)

	Incurred	Budgeted	Balance
Travel etc.	59030.00	94200.00	35170.00
Wages	7190.00	9000.00	1810.00
Miscellaneous	2848.00	10000.00	7152.00
Workshop	3622.00	60000.00	56378.00
SACON 10%	7269.00	17320.00	10051.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>79959.00</b>	<b>190520.00</b>	<b>110561.00</b>

4. Projected expenditure (Rupees)

	Projected	Balance	Deficit
Travel	25000.00	35170.00	10170.00
Wages	1810.00	1810.00	0
Miscellaneous	7151.00	7151.00	0
Workshop	92500.00	56378.00	-36122.00
Logistics	40000.00		
Travel	20000.00		
Lodging	7500.00		
Materials	25000.00		
SACON 10%	10051.00	10051.00	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>136512.00</b>	<b>110560.00</b>	<b>-25952.00</b>
Difference in funding (2 - 1 above)			1530.00
Net deficit			-24422.00

5. Funds required in addition	24500.00
to the £ 1000 yet to be received	£ 500.00

Report on progress made on the workshop

## Report on progress made on the workshop

The salient points of work done so far on the workshop is given below.

1. Preliminary meetings were held with forest officials and others at Baroda to prepare the ground for the lesser florican survey and workshop.
2. About 150 circulars, stating issues regarding the lesser florican, the link between lesser florican conservation and benefits to rural agrarian livelihoods and our plans for the survey and workshop, were despatched to various Government officials, Non Governmental Organisations and individuals.
3. Collaboration with the Gujarat Ecology Commission, Govt. of Gujarat and support from the Gujarat Forest Department and Madhya Pradesh Forest Department was secured. Official participation in the workshop has been verbally assured.
4. Seminar venue has been fixed and reservations made.
5. Various NGOs and individuals were contacted during the lesser florican survey to secure participation in the workshop and to form action groups at the district level.
6. A few people have been invited to give lecture but I am unsure as to whether they will do so.
7. A post survey letter and the registration form for the workshop has been despatched to about 100 people. A participation of 40 - 50% of those is hoped for.

### Jobs to be done.

1. It is hoped that printed material on the lesser florican will be ready before the workshop. A background paper specifically dealing with the workshop is to be despatched by the 15th of November. (25 % done)
2. A poster to be prepared in three languages. (to be done)
3. Final round of meetings with officials at Baroda and Bhopal, to secure participation of target officers. (Proposed to be done around 15 November).
4. Logistics at Baroda; transport, accommodation and food: (25 rooms have been tentatively reserved, food and transport will be arranged during visit to Baroda around the 15th of November). (Gujarat Ecology Commission will coordinate much of this).
5. Preparation of final report. (To be done after the workshop).

20 October 1994

To  
Ms Melanie Heath  
Conservation Officer

Dear Melanie,

You must have received my letter dated 20th October 1994 with the enclosed reports. The background paper for the workshop will be reaching you shortly.

There is barely 3 weeks left for the workshop, and I need to know urgently whether OBC has sanctioned the additional funds requested by me. Please do let me know immediately. I am leaving on the 13th of November to Baroda and Bhopal to finalise arrangements for the workshop, and to have a last round of discussions with the forest dept. officials. I will be back on the 19th morning. I will be leaving for Baroda once more on the 27th and so if additional funds are to be sanctioned please ensure that it reaches me by the 25th of November.

Please do expedite things at your end this time as well.

I do hope that you will be attending the workshop.

With best wishes,  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran  
Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History



# Oriental Bird Club

Ref no. 28

Dear Ravi

Thank you for your letter and report. It certainly sounds as though the work is going very well.

Thank you also for your application regarding the workshop. OBC was very keen to fund this as we feel that it is an extremely useful and beneficial. However, this year we have had the highest ever number of applications for grants and with limited funds we are unfortunately unable to sponsor the workshop this year.

I look forward to hearing how your work on the Lesser Florican continues and the results of the workshop. I would also like to add that OBC welcomes further applications from you in 1995.

Very best wishes for 1995.

With kind regards

Melanie Heath  
OBC Conservation Officer

# SALIM ALI CENTRE FOR ORNITHOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY

(An autonomous Centre aided by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India)

8 February 1995

To  
Mr Richard Grimmet  
Birdlife International  
32 Wellbrook Court, Girton Road  
Cambridge CB3 0NA  
U.K.

Dear Richard,

The project 'Status survey and conservation planning for the lesser florican in western India' has been concluded with the publication of the Action Plan. Please find enclosed:

1. Management and Restoration of grasslands for people and the lesser florican Action Plan. 10 copies.
2. A summary report of the work done.
3. Final Statement of Accounts.

Due to the delay in our receiving funds, I could not print and distribute a poster on the lesser florican as was planned. However, this needs to be done and I propose to do so by June 1995, just prior to the monsoon, and it will form part of the conservation action to be taken this year. The balance funds, approximately £ 500/=, will be used for this purpose.

I would like to thank BirdLife International for their financial support that made the survey and workshop possible. I would particularly like to thank you for the keen interest that you have shown in the lesser florican and its conservation.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran

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KALAMPALAYAM P.O., COIMBATORE - 641 010, INDIA.

Telegram : SACON Ph : 091 (422) 32273, 38232 Fax : 091 (422) 38232  
e-mail (Internet) : centre@sacon.ernet.in

Summary of work done

May 1994 - January 1995

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| May                    | Discussion at Aligarh with Dr A.R. Rahmani and at Baroda, Anand and Ahmedabad with Forest Department Animal husbandry and rural development officials. |
| June                   | Preparation and circulation of announcement of workshop. Finalisation of survey plans, and preparation of background paper for the workshop.           |
| July 12 - September 22 | Status survey of lesser florican and meetings with Forest Department and other officials, NGOs and conservationists.                                   |
| October - November     | Finalisation and distribution of background paper on the lesser florican. Arranging workshop and communicating with potential participants.            |
| November 27-December 4 | Organised and conducted the workshop.  |
| December - January     | Preparation and production of Action Plan.   |
| February               | Circulation of Action Plan.  |

Final Statement of Accounts

Project: Status survey and conservation planning for the lesser florican in western India

Funded by: Bird Life International, Oriental Bird Club & Steppe and Grasslands birds specialist group

In Rupees

Heading total

1. Project budget		216920.00
Travel etc.	94200.00	
Wages	9000.00	
Miscellaneous	10000.00	
Workshop	60000.00	
SACON Adm. overheads (10%)	17320.00	
Additional funds requested (workshop)	26400.00	

	£	Rupees
2. Funds secured	4500.00	216920.00
Amount received		
Oriental Bird Club	500.00	23410.00
Steppe & Grasslands specialist group	300.00	14574.00
Birdlife International		
1st Instalment	2500.00	120640.00
2nd Instalment	500.00	24290.00
Final Instalment	700.00	34006.00

3. Expenditure incurred (Rupees)

	Incurred	Budgeted	Balance
Travel etc.	87089.00	94200.00	7111.00
Wages	7190.00	9000.00	1810.00
Miscellaneous	10104.00	10000.00	(-) 104.00
Workshop	68948.00	86400.00	17452.00
SACON 10%	17320.00	17320.00	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>190651.00</b>	<b>216920.00</b>	<b>26269.00</b>

Committed expenditure (Posters & Postage)	26269.00		0
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16 July 1995

Mr Paul Goriup  
Steppe & Grassland Bird Specialist Group  
c/o The Nature Conservation Bureau  
36 Kingfisher Court, Hambridge Road  
Newbury RG14 5SJ, U.K.

Dear Paul,

Please find enclosed 10 copies of a poster on Lesser Florican Conservation that has been printed in Gujarati and Hindi (5 each) and which is being widely circulated both within the Forest Department as well in villages in all important florican areas this monsoon.

I had failed to acknowledge the £ 300/- that the Steppe and Grassland Bird Specialist group had given us for Lesser Florican Conservation. As I had written to you earlier, I did not know about this until during the Red Data book workshop held here in February 1995! As the Action Plan had been printed by then, I was unable to suitably acknowledge it. However, as the funding by Steppe and Grassland Bird Specialist group almost exactly covers the cost of printing this poster, I have suitably acknowledged it in the poster on lesser florican conservation. I do hope that this arrangement is satisfactory.

While looking up your address just now, I also seem to have blundered while acknowledging Steppe & Grasslands Bird Group, and have called it a part of IUCN and not as part of BLI. I am sorry about this and will rectify it during further printing of this poster.

Please do let me know if you will require any more copies.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran

cc Richard Grimmet

16 July 1995

Ms Melanie Heath  
Oriental Bird Club  
c/o The Lodge, Sandy  
Bedforshire SG19 2DL, U.K.

Dear Melanie,

Thank you for your letter dated 24 June 1995. I had intended to print the florican survey report at the time I was printing the Megapode report, but was unable to do so. Immediately after that, I left for the Nicobar islands to assess the impact of nest collection on the edible-nest swiftlet. I had sent in 3 copies of the report on the status of the Lesser Florican along with a statement of accounts, and a covering letter explaining all that I had done in October / November '94. I will however, recap. briefly.

1. £ 500/- from OBC. This money was spent entirely in the status survey. I did not know until your current letter that the sponsor was CYGNUS Wildlife! Output: status report.
2. £ 3200/- from BLI. Some of this money was spent on the status survey, while the rest of it was used to conduct the Florican Workshop. Output: Action Plan, Status Report.
3. £ 300/- from Steppe and Grassland Bird Specialist group. I did not know about this until during the Red Data book workshop held here in February 1995! As the Action Plan had been printed by then, I was unable to suitably acknowledge it. However, they have been acknowledged in the poster on lesser florican conservation. Output: Poster.

I will not be printing the report on the status of the Lesser Florican like I did with the one on megapodes, as it costs much too much money (about Rs 15000/-), and as whatever funds are available to me will be better utilised to actively advocate lesser florican conservation. However, I intend to produce an inexpensively bound report of the status of the lesser florican (the same report which I have already sent to you), and will send it in shortly.

This year we have begun implementing some of the conservation action that was identified during the workshop. The poster is being circulated widely both within the Forest Department as well in village in all florican areas, through the Florican Watch. Articles and advertisements are to appear in local language news papers. I plan to visit western India this monsoon to ensure that our activities takes off properly.

In the meanwhile, I will send you the report as soon as possible.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely

R Sankaran

cc Richard Grimmet



# Oriental Bird Club

FAX MESSAGE

To: Ravi Sankaran 0091 422 398 232

From: Melanie Heath 00 44 1 223 277 200

23 August 1995

Dear Ravi

I hope you have received my fax of 6 August - please let me know if you didn't.

Richard Grimmett passed me your funding proposal to advocate Lesser Florican Conservation and restoration of grasslands.

The OBC Conservation Committee have considered this proposal and feel that we would like to further fund this important and worthwhile project with a sum of £500. This OBC Grant will be through the support of Per Underland (I will put the details in writing to you for acknowledgement).

As the project dates given in the proposal (to 31 August) have now passed please could you let me know if this money will be required within 1995 or 1996.

I enclose two grant agreement forms. Please sign both and return one to me with details of project dates etc. *(also sent by post)*

With kind regards

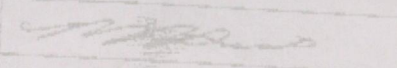
*Melanie*

Melanie Heath  
OBC Conservation Officer

cc. Nigel Redman  
Richard Grimmett

*30/8*

3. You agree to acknowledge safe receipt of the grant by writing within four weeks to the Treasurer of the OBC. In the event that payment is not received by you for any reason, OBC shall not be under any obligation to resend it or otherwise to compensate you.
  4. You agree that, if your project proceeds as described by you in your application to OBC, you will spend the grant on the project and for no other purpose. If your project is substantially different to that described to OBC, you will not spend the grant on it without further prior written approval from OBC. If you do not spend all of the grant, or the project is cancelled, or the project has not commenced within twelve months of the date of this agreement, you will return all unspent money to the Treasurer of the OBC. If requested by OBC, you will provide OBC with an explanation of how the grant has been spent.
  5. You agree that, in carrying out your project, you will comply with all applicable laws and instructions from any relevant authorities. You agree to obtain all necessary permissions and approvals for your project.
  6. You agree that in carrying out your project you will comply with all internationally accepted standards and codes of conduct and that you will have no adverse impact on the local fauna, environment or culture. You will not collect bird specimens or otherwise do anything which might result in adverse publicity or criticism.
  7. You agree that your project is not being carried out on behalf of OBC and that you are not an agent or representative of OBC and you will not suggest the contrary to any person. You will not use the name of OBC in relation to your project, other than to indicate that OBC has awarded the grant to you. In particular, you will not use the name of OBC as a means to secure access to any place, institution or person.
  8. You agree to ensure that each person participating in your project complies with 5, 6 and 7 above as if each of them had signed this agreement and was bound by it.
  9. You agree to provide a preliminary report to OBC on your project within one month of completion. A full report is to be provided within six months of completion and copied to the appropriate local organisations, to be accompanied in the case of OBC by at least two colour slides or negatives suitable for use by the OBC. You agree that OBC has the royalty-free right to use the materials supplied by you as it thinks fit to further OBC's aims, provided that copyright remains with you and OBC does not have any right of commercial exploitation.
- You also agree to consider writing an article relating to your project for Forktail or the OBC Bulletin.
10. OBC agrees that you are not restricted from publishing any material relating to your project other than via OBC, provided that you agree that you will clearly state in any such publication that (i) you received a grant from OBC; and (ii) any opinions expressed are yours and not those of the OBC.
  11. You agree that you undertake your project at your own risk. OBC accepts no responsibility or liability under any law for any loss, accident or injury arising out of your project.

Signed by: 

Date: 25.8.95

For and on behalf of OBC.

Signed by: Ravi Sanharan

Date: 5/9/95

Grant recipient.

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# Oriental Bird Club

## ORIENTAL BIRD CLUB - SMALL GRANT

Agreement between the Oriental Bird Club and

Ravi Sankaran

(grant recipient)

In consideration of the Oriental Bird Club (OBC) awarding to you the grant described below, you agree to accept the obligations set out below.

1. OBC awards to you a small grant of £500.00.
2. You agree that the grant will be sent to you at your risk in accordance with the details provided by you as set out below.

Grants to be paid outside the UK are sent by direct bank transfer, either direct to a bank account specified by the grant recipient or to a specified bank branch (for collection on application and identification). Grants paid within the UK will usually be paid by cheque.

You confirm that the details for direct bank transfer are as follows (please type, or complete in block capitals) :-

Name of bank:

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Name of branch:

R-S. PURAM

Address of bank:

STATE BANK OF INDIA

R-S. PURAM BRANCH

R-S. PURAM

COIMBATORE 641002, INDIA

Where to be paid directly into a bank account:

Name of account holder:

CESSER FIDUCIARY PROJECT OF SACOM

Bank account number:

SB/CBI/SAC-18

Or: where to be paid to grant recipient, or nominee, on application & identification:

Name of grant recipient:  
(or other nominated person)

Address of grant recipient:  
(or other nominated person)

It is your responsibility to ensure that the above details are correct. If direct bank transfer is not possible, OBC will consider any reasonable request by you for an alternative means of payment at your own risk, if OBC is satisfied that it will be effective and secure.

Oriental Bird Club, c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL, UK

Registered Charity No. 297242



Wellbrook Court Girton Road Cambridge CB3 0NA UK  
 Tel +44 (0)1223 277318 Fax +44 (0)1223 277200 E-mail: birdlife@gn.apc.org

### F A X M E S S A G E

If you have problems receiving this fax or receive it more than once please contact us on +44 (0)1223 277318.  
 If you prefer to be contacted by E-mail please notify us of your E-mail address.

To: Ravi Sankaran Fax: 00-91-422-398-232  
 From: Richard Grimmett 22/IN/1  
 Pages: 1 24 August 1995

#### LESSER FLORICAN

Dear Ravi

Thank you for your letter of 7 June received here on 21 June,  
 as well as your letter of 16 July received here on 24 July.

I very much regret that I have not been able to assist  
 financially with Florican work for this year. I had been  
 waiting for a proposal from you following our meeting in  
 February, and as I said at the time, it is impossible for me to  
 quickly secure funds for you. Your letter of 7 June therefore  
 arrived too late for me to access any funds for you by 1 July.

I did, however, ask the Oriental Bird Club whether they were  
 able to help, and I know that they have given this  
 consideration, but the notice has probably been too short for  
 them, also.

I remain committed to trying to support this work, but please  
 give me more notice. It would, therefore, make sense if you  
 could outline your activities for 1996 and a budget (just the  
 same as you have done for 1995) and I will then get to work  
 this autumn to try and secure the funds that you need.

The poster looked excellent, and I would be very interested to  
 know whether you have been able to visit Florican areas this  
 summer, and the outcome of any activities that you have been  
 able to pursue.

Do keep in touch. I am sorry that we were unable to help this  
 time round. It's not a lack of commitment, but a lack of time  
 that was the debilitating factor.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

*Joanna Barnes*

PP

Richard Grimmett  
 Senior Programme Officer  
 Asia Division

BirdLife International is a UK registered charity and is a company limited by guarantee  
 Registered in England No 2985746 Registered office as above  
 Chairman: Gerard A Bertrand Director-General: Christoph Imboden

5 September, 1995

To  
Ms Melanie Heath  
Oriental Bird Club  
c/o The Lodge, Sandy  
Bedfordshire, SG 19 2DL, U.K.

Dear Melanie,

I'm afraid I have not received your fax dated 6 August, but I have received your FAX dated 23 August. I am very pleased to learn that OBC has kindly consented to further fund the Lesser Florican Conservation effort with a grant of £ 500/-. Thank you very much for your continued support.

I have already been to western India and back this season in connection with the conservation efforts of the Florican watch. Though modest, a definite beginning has been made. I utilised the balance funds (which I had earmarked exclusively for making the poster) for printing 4000 posters and to fund this brief trip (29 days). The funds sanctioned by OBC will be put to use in the 1996 season, and would be grateful if the funds could reach us by 1st June 1996. Please find enclosed the signed agreement form.

I'm also enclosing a proposal for equipment funding for our study on the megapode. I am still discussing the design of the equipment with Messrs PP Systems, 24/26 Brook Street, Stotford Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 4LA, U.K., and do not know the costs yet but it will be to the tune of £ 1250-1500. Could OBC see fit to part fund that as well? If so, I would appreciate it if the payments are made in the U.K. directly to avoid red tape in India. I have written to WPA, and the megapode specialist group as well, so I am hopeful that with funds from 2-3 sources the equipment needs for my Nicobar project will be achieved. Please do let me know by October 1st about this.

I thank you once again for the particular interest that you and OBC have shown in my conservation efforts.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely



R Sankaran

7 October, 1995

To  
Ms Melanie Heath  
Oriental Bird Club  
c/o The Lodge, Sandy  
Bedfordshire, SG 19 2DL, U.K.

Dear Melanie,

Please refer to my letter dated 5 September 1995, in which I had enclosed a proposal for a one time grant to purchase certain key equipment for an ongoing study of the Nicobar Megapode. Please find enclosed the reworked proposal titled 'A study of the incubation conditions in the mounds of the Nicobar Megapode *Megapodius nicobariensis*' which I wish to submit for the Forktail-Leica award if it is not too late, and if it is, for the OBC small grants scheme. Thought the cost of equipment is about £ 2800/-, any funding of £ 500 - 1000 upwards will be most welcome. I would be grateful if your decision is conveyed to me at the earliest. You must have received my swiftlet report by now. Please do send me your comments.

With best wishes  
Yours sincerely



R Sankaran

# WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

2300 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10460 USA • Tel (718) 220-5883 Fax (718) 364-4275

21 June 1994

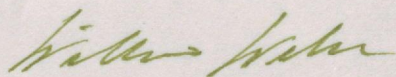
R Sankaram  
Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History  
Kalampalayam P.O.  
Coimbatore 641 010

Dear Dr. Sankaram,

I regret to inform you that at the most recent meeting of The Wildlife Conservation Society's Conservation Committee, members did not vote in favor of funding your proposal: "Status survey and conservation planning for the lesser florican in western India". These decisions, always difficult, are based on a combination of technical, programmatic and financial considerations.

As is customary, I enclose anonymous reviews of your proposal that we requested from professionals in the field. I hope that you may find them useful. I wish you luck with your work and I hope you are successful in finding the funds you need elsewhere.

Sincerely,

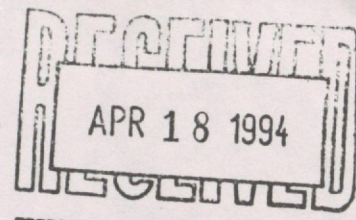


William Weber, Ph.D.  
Director, Research Fellowship Program

# NYZS The WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

THE INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PARK · BRONX, NY 10460-1099 USA

## PROPOSAL EVALUATION



TITLE OF PROPOSAL: Status survey and conservation planning for the lesser florican in western India

APPLICANT: R. Sankaran

### 1. SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH

IN WHAT WAYS WILL THE PROPOSED WORK HAVE AN IMPACT ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION?  
WILL RESULTS LEAD TO BROADER GAINS IN THE FIELD OF CONSERVATION BIOLOGY?

Although the work is narrowly focused around a single threatened species, the workshop approach to land management is useful and should be encouraged. If this technique helps facilitate dialogue, cooperation and thus conservation, then this may be the factor of greatest importance overall.

### 2. RESEARCH DESIGN

ARE THE GOALS REALISTIC AND WELL-DEFINED? CAN THE PROJECT DELIVER WHAT IS PROMISED? DO YOU SEE AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT?

Without seeing details of earlier surveys, I cannot assess the specific field methods. I think the workshop approach has several examples for success, but a skilled facilitator will clearly be needed if the author has little experience in this area. Perhaps more important is that some provision be made to include input from local people in land management issues; without their cooperation and goodwill the set-aside program envisioned may not work as well as planned.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

ARE THE PROPOSED METHODS CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT? ARE THE PROPOSED METHODS HUMANE TO ANIMALS AND/OR SENSITIVE TO THE CULTURE WHERE THE WORK WILL TAKE PLACE?

Again, I cannot assess specific census methods, but I see no reason to worry about issue of humane treatment. Cultural sensitivity will depend on the degree to which local attitudes can be incorporated into the conservation plan.

4. INVESTIGATOR

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE RESEARCHER(S) AS THEY RELATE TO THIS PROPOSAL.  
I am not sufficiently familiar with the work of the investigator to make informed comments.

5. ERRORS

ARE THERE ANY OMISSIONS, MISTAKEN ASSUMPTIONS, OR ERRORS IN THE PROPOSAL?  
None that are glaring. However, as noted above, the workshop requires expert facilitation. Given that this is available, some progress can be expected.

6. BUDGET

IS THE BUDGET WELL JUSTIFIED?  
Some more detail on maximum per diems/expenses of participants should be given, including the organizational affiliations of the persons receiving per diems.

7. OTHER COMMENTS

None

8. SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

I strongly support the workshop approach to studying endangered species/land use conflicts. Given skilled facilitation this workshop could be very useful, particularly if it gets groups together that otherwise do not interact on conservation matters. However, as I am not familiar with the applicant, the other groups involved, or the area, I am not able to evaluate the chances for success.

9. QUANTITATIVE SCORE

BASED ON YOUR EVALUATION OF THIS PROPOSAL, DO YOU FAVOR FULL / PARTIAL / NO FUNDING? (PLEASE CIRCLE). COMPARED TO OTHER PROJECTS WITH WHICH YOU ARE FAMILIAR, PLEASE PROVIDE A COMPOSITE SCORE (1-5) FOR THIS PROPOSAL, WITH 1=LOWEST AND 5=HIGHEST.

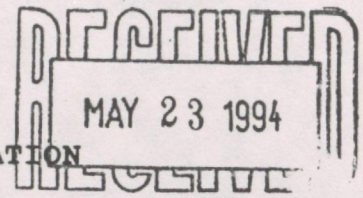
CONSERVATION VALUE:

4

SCIENTIFIC MERIT:

3

*if above concerns are satisfied*



**WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY - PROPOSAL EVALUATION**

**TITLE OF PROPOSAL:** Status survey and conservation planning for the lesser florican in Western India.

**APPLICANT:** R. Sankaran

**1. SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH:** In what ways will the proposed work have an impact on wildlife conservation? Will results lead to broader gains in the field of conservation biology?

The proposed status survey of lesser florican will provide current information on the status of this endangered bird in previously surveyed areas. Broader gains in conservation biology are not expected.

**2. RESEARCH DESIGN:** Are the goals realistic and well defined? Can the project deliver what is promised? Do you see areas for improvement?

The survey goals are realistic and well defined. Since changing land use patterns and tenurial rights in florican habitats is an extremely complex matter, merely holding a one day workshop and presenting results of the new survey to local administrators may not be of much help in changing the status of the habitats. The problem is, as the PI points out, excellent recommendations made by himself and other competent workers earlier have remained unimplemented in the absence of lobbying efforts.

**3. METHODOLOGY:** Are the proposed methods consistent with the objectives of the project? Are the proposed methods humane to animals and/or sensitive to the culture where the work will take place?

Yes

**4. INVESTIGATOR:** Please comment on the background and qualifications of the researchers as they relate to this proposal.

Since the CV of the investigator was not attached to the proposal which I received, I am unable to comment.

**5. ERRORS:** Are there any omissions, mistaken assumptions, or errors in the proposal?

The proposal is not in the format prescribed by WCS, and hence does not cover aspects mentioned in the format.

6. **BUDGET:** Is the budget well justified?

The budget reflects the costs of the proposed activities accurately.

7. **OTHER COMMENTS:**

8. **SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:**

This is a six month project, which pins all its hopes on a one day workshop, to achieve what has not been possible through follow ups on much more detailed field surveys made earlier.

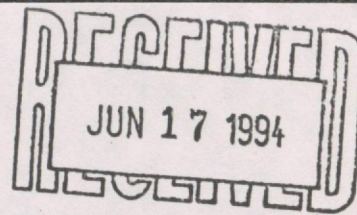
Based on your evaluation of this proposal, do you favor FULL/PARTIAL/NO funding? (Please circle). Compared to other projects with which you are familiar, please provide a composite score (1-5) for this proposal, with 1=lowest and 5=highest.

**Conservation Value: 3**

**Scientific Merit: 2**

# NYZS The WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

THE INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PARK • BRONX, NY 10460-1099 USA



## PROPOSAL EVALUATION



TITLE OF PROPOSAL: Status...Conservation...Lesser Florican...W. India

APPLICANT: R. Sankaran

### 1. SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH

IN WHAT WAYS WILL THE PROPOSED WORK HAVE AN IMPACT ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION?

WILL RESULTS LEAD TO BROADER GAINS IN THE FIELD OF CONSERVATION BIOLOGY?

I can summarize here without having to address the other items because the research seems already completed in 1989. Thus the florican population has been surveyed, the critical grassland areas identified, and the conservation strategy proposed. Now the people in India should convince the government that action should be taken. This is an internal matter outside the role of foreign conservation organizations.

### 2. RESEARCH DESIGN

ARE THE GOALS REALISTIC AND WELL-DEFINED? CAN THE PROJECT DELIVER WHAT IS PROMISED? DO YOU SEE AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT?

### 3. METHODOLOGY

ARE THE PROPOSED METHODS CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT? ARE THE PROPOSED METHODS HUMANE TO ANIMALS AND/OR SENSITIVE TO THE CULTURE WHERE THE WORK WILL TAKE PLACE?

**4. INVESTIGATOR**

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE RESEARCHER(S) AS THEY RELATE TO THIS PROPOSAL.

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**5. ERRORS**

ARE THERE ANY OMISSIONS, MISTAKEN ASSUMPTIONS, OR ERRORS IN THE PROPOSAL?

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**6. BUDGET**

IS THE BUDGET WELL JUSTIFIED?

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**7. OTHER COMMENTS**

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**8. SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION**

This proposal should not be funded because the basic items of the project already have been completed. The recommendations now await implementation by the Government of India.

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**9. QUANTITATIVE SCORE**

BASED ON YOUR EVALUATION OF THIS PROPOSAL, DO YOU FAVOR FULL / PARTIAL / NO FUNDING? (PLEASE CIRCLE). COMPARED TO OTHER PROJECTS WITH WHICH YOU ARE FAMILIAR, PLEASE PROVIDE A COMPOSITE SCORE (1-5) FOR THIS PROPOSAL, WITH 1=LOWEST AND 5=HIGHEST.

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CONSERVATION VALUE:

SCIENTIFIC MERIT: