Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (National Authority) *********

> Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj New Delhi-110003 Dated 2nd September, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the minutes of the 8th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority held on 25th August 2020, at 1100 hrs through videoconferencing under the Chairmanship of Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for information and necessary action.

Encl. As above.

Sd/-(Brijendra Swaroop) Dy. Chief Executive Officer, National Authority

Distribution:

- 1. Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India- Chairperson;
- **2.** Additional Direc2. Additional Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India Member;
- **3.** Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India Member;
- **4.** Mission Director, National Mission for Green India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India Member;
- **5.** Financial Adviser, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India Member;
- **6.** Head of all Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India Member;
- **7.** Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India Member;
- **8.** Chief Executive Officer of National Authority Member Secretary;

Copy also endorsed to-

- Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Forest, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Haryana, Telangana, Rajasthan, Odisha and Bihar;
- 2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forests, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Haryana, Telangana, Rajasthan, Odisha and Bihar;
- **3.** CEO, State Authority, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Haryana, Telangana, Rajasthan, Odisha and Bihar;
- 4. Director, IIFM, Bhopal;
- **5.** Inspector General of Forests (SU), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India;
- **6.** Inspector General of Forests (NAEB), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India;
- 7. DIG, ROHQ, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

Minutes of Meeting

8th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority

Venue: Through video conferencing <u>Time:</u> 1100 hrs. onwards

Date: 25th August 2020

List of members and other participants who attended the meeting is attached.

At the outset CEO, National Authority welcomed DGF&SS, the members of the Executive Committee and other participants who attended the meeting through Video conferencing. DGF & SS in his opening remark referred to the remarks of Hon'ble Minister, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India in the meeting of State Forest Ministers regarding utilization of CAMPA funds. He mentioned that CAMPA funds, which are accruing due to loss of forests, should be treated as additionality and not as a substitute to the regular budget provided to State Forest Departments. CAMPA funds should appropriately and optimally be used for compensating loss of forests, trees, wildlife and loss of ecosystem services in activities like afforestation, regeneration of forest etc rather than in taking up activities, which are required to bridge the gap required infrastructure of State Forest Departments.

AS & FA emphasized on the issue of effective monitoring in view of huge outlays of APOs. He requested that in future the Executive Committee of National Authority may also be briefed about the activities of 'Monitoring Group', which has been constituted as per the provisions of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016. Members of the Executive Committee were briefed about monitoring & evaluation being carried out at the State Level through internal mechanism and also about third party monitoring & evaluation of CAMPA works. The Committee was also briefed about the Monitoring Protocol and the Web based GIS platform for monitoring of CAMPA works being developed by the Forest Survey of India through a scheme funded from the National Fund.

With the permission of the chair, the agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Agenda Item No.1

Confirmation of Minutes of 7th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority:

The minutes of 7th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority

were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.2 Confirmation of Action Taken Report of 7th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority.

The Action Taken Report on the decisions of 7th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority were perused and noted. Doubt regarding delayed communication of APO approval was clarified. The Committee was informed that minutes of EC meetings are conveyed to all the State Authorities through email and informal posting in related WhatsApp group on the date of approval but individual sanctions/approvals are being issued after processing the minutes in the respective e-files of the states. Issue of shortage of manpower and subordinate staff working on roaster basis due to pandemic was also highlighted. **The Executive Committee asked for initiation of action on hiring of consultants and allied manpower to reduce the delays.**

General observations of the Executive Committee

Before taking up the APOs of individual states/UTs, the Executive Committee deliberated on the common issues/concerns of most of the APOs in detail and decided that the approvals of APOs shall be subject to following conditions:

- 1. Prior to implementation of approved Annual Plan of Operations, the Executive Committee of the State Authority shall ensure that a certificate is available with them to the effect that the activities that are proposed to be taken up by them, are being taken up after due consultation with Gram Sabha and are as per provisions of FRA 2006; activities proposed in forest areas are in consonance with approved working plan; and activities proposed in protected areas (PAs) are in consonance with approved management plan. The State EC will also ensure that there is no overlapping of activities with other schemes.
- 2. Compensating the loss of ecological services due to forest diversion for non-forestry purposes is the main objective of Compensatory Afforestation Fund. Regeneration and development of forests should, therefore, be given priority. Also, in the prevailing unprecedented circumstances of pandemic Covid 19, where loss of job and migration of labour is prevalent, more emphasis is to be given in APOs on creation of employment opportunities. Therefore, while implementing APOs, priority should be accorded to labour intensive activities for regeneration and development of forests.
- **3**. Only 'Standalone' activities of State Forest Fire Action Plan should be proposed in the Annual Plan of Operation.

- 4. The approved activities shall be carried out as per Rule 4 of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Rules, 2018 i.e. as per the provisions of the State Financial Rules or any such rules applicable from time to time in the State.
- 5. The Executive Committee of the State shall also ensure that proposed activities have adequate forward and backward linkages and are being taken up as per prevailing approved minimum wage rate, schedule of rates, model estimates etc. In future, the APOs that are sent to the National Authority for approval must be accompanied with rationale of activities proposed, information on approved minimum wage rate, schedule of rates, model estimates etc.
- 6. There should not be any reduction in allocation for forestry sector in the regular State Budget due to flow of CAMPA funds to the states. In addition, the State Government shall also make timely and adequate budget provision as per approved APO for 2020-21 and release money so that activities approved under the APO could be implemented in time.
- 7. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development are permissible only as per approved site-specific schemes. As per Rule 5 (2) (g), only soil and moisture conservation work in forests are permissible. Soil and moisture conservation work should be carried out in an integrated manner under watershed approach from "ridge to valley". Construction of Dams, Stop Dam and ponds and their deepening are to be taken up only if they are a part of an integrated soil and moisture conservation plan of the catchment area.
- Maintenance/Improvement of buildings/infrastructure created from regular State budget (except activities permissible under 5(3)(d), CAF Rules, 2018) shall continue to be carried out from regular State budget
- **9.** Engagement of manpower (regular, contractual, through outsourcing or daily wage including Data Entry Operators and drivers etc), capacity building of the personnel involved in utilization of State Fund, publicity-cum-awareness programme and exhibition on various schemes being implemented by the State Authority shall be done as per provisions of CAF Rules, 2018 only.
- 10. The proposed activities in the APO need to be rearranged at some places as per sub-rules of rule 5 and 6 of CAF Rules, 2018, wherever found inappropriate. The State Authority shall make necessary changes in the APO accordingly with the permission of the State Executive Authority. In addition, any increase or reduction in the proportion of Rule 5(2) and 5(3) as well as Rule 6(a) and 6(b) will also need to be adjusted in the next APO.
- 11. The expenditure in respect of managing man-animal conflict such as payment of ex- Gratia, compensation for crop/property damages or damage to life on account of wild life and

payment of reward to informers/helpers shall be paid from regular State budget.

- **12.**Maintenance of computers and other peripherals shall be limited the equipment purchased from CAMPA funds;
- 13.Expenditure on items such as maintenance of vehicles and buildings purchased/constructed previously from CAMPA funds etc. shall also be kept at the barest minimum, shall be for front-line staff only, and must relate directly to the attainment of objectives specified in CAF Act, 2016 and CAF Rules, 2018 i.e. primarily for regeneration of forests etc.
- 14.Purchase of vehicles shall be avoided. Instead, hiring of vehicles shall be the first option. Repair/ maintenance of vehicles shall be limited to the vehicles purchased from the CAMPA funds previously.
- 15. The Executive Committee of the State Authority shall ensure that there is no mixing

of money with any other state scheme under implementation from any other budget as

per Explanation 2 below Rule 5 of CAF Rules, 2018.

- 16.The State Authority shall ensure that adequate numbers of Geographical coordinates/ Geotags of all the site-specific activities proposed in the Annual Plan of Operation are available. All the physical works undertaken under this APO shall be uploaded timely on the e-Green watch portal along-with photographs of the area before and after the execution of the work.
- 17.'Measurable output' of all physical activities and targets of each permissible activity

along with period required for achieving the measurable output shall be monitored by

the State Executive Committee and State Steering Committee.

18. Activities proposing distribution of supply of wood saving cooking appliances and other forest produce saving devices in forest fringe villages {as per rule 5(2) (k) from NPV} shall always be taken up with measurable outcomes and study conducted on impact shall be shared with National Authority.

Agenda No.3:Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of Punjab StateAuthority

The Annual Plan of Operations for 2020-21 of the state has been submitted vide letter no. State Authority/2020-21/SPL/883 dated 11.08.2020. The APO was approved by the State Steering Committee of Punjab Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority in its meeting held on 05.08.2020 under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Punjab. The proceedings of Steering Committee meeting have been issued vide letter No.548-60 dated 11.08.2020. The outlay on various forestry and wildlife activities in APO 2020-21 is Rs. 187.22 crores. CEO, State Authority and PCCF (HoFF) explained various aspects of the APO. Inadmissible activities like purchase of heavy machinery like fire tenders, generators, tractor trolleys etc from NPV fund (amounting to Rs. 1.34 crores) [rule 5(4) (d) of the CAF Rule, 208], management of zoos, zoological parks and safaris namely Deer safari Bhatinda, Patiala zoo, Ludhiana zoo and MC Zoological Park (amounting to Rs. 6.53 crores) [rule 5(4) (k)] and creation of proposed cattle pond of Rs 1.50 crores were not agreed to. While approving the proposal of Rs. 3.267 crores for forest produce saving devices, the Executive Committee desired that impact of such measure shall be studied and reported with APO for the next financial year.

The Executive Committee deliberated and approved the APO of the Punjab State Authority for financial year 2020-21 with reduced financial outlay of Rs.177.85 crores as per following component wise details:

			-	(Rs in Crore)
Sr No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8th EC	Remarks
	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	31.96	31.96	
	Outstanding liabilities of 2019-20	5.50	5.50	-
	Subtotal (1)	37.46	37.46	
	Activities as per Rule 5	of the CAF R	ules, 2018	-
-	I. Min 80% NPV	109.57	100.20	Reduction due to non-admissible activities as per Rule 5(4) (d) &
	II. Max 20% of NPV	18.98	18.98	(k)
	Outstanding liabilities of 2019-20	17.00	17.00	
	Subtotal (2)	145. 55	136.18	
	Activities as per Rule 6	of the CAF R	ules, 2018	
	I. Minimum 60% of Interest	2.81	2.81	
	II. Maximum 40% of Interest	1.40	1.40]
	Subtotal (3)	4.21	4.21	
G	rand Total (1+2+3)	187.22	177.85	

Agenda No.4:Ex post facto approval of Annual Plan of Operation for the year2019-20 of Punjab State Authority

The Annual Plan of Operations of the Punjab State Authority for the year 2019-20 for ex-post facto approval was discussed as agenda item no. 13 in the 6th meeting of Executive Committee of National Authority held on 27th & 28th May, 2020. The decision of 6th Executive Committee meeting is mentioned below:

"A lengthy discussion ensued on the issue of implementation of APO during 2019-20, which was not approved by the Executive Committee of the National Authority as per the provisions contained in section 15(1) (i) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016. The issue of implementation of activities of APO without prior approval of the Executive Committee was not as per provisions of CAF Act, 2016. In view of the fact that forestry activities are spread over a number of years, the Executive Committee observed that only that portion of expenditure can be justified, which has been incurred only on those activities, which were essential and would have affected the continuity of forestry operations. The Executive Committee observed that details of such expenditure shall be sought from the State Authority and only after receipt of details of expenditure on essential activities for financial year 2019-20 from the State Authority, the same shall be examined and considered.

Decision taken in 6th Executive Committee meeting: The Executive Committee deferred the proposal of ex-post facto approval of Annual Plan of Operations of Punjab State Authority for financial year 2019-20 for want of information on essential activities."

The decision of Executive Committee meeting of National Authority on 13th July 2020 was communicated to the State Government of Punjab. The Department of Forest & Wildlife Preservation Government of Punjab has submitted their response vide letter No. State Authority/2020-21/SPL- 693 dated the 22nd July, 2020 and provided reasons for delay in submission of APO for year 2019-20. Reasons for delay cited were that in the meeting of State Governing Body under the chairmanship of by Hon'ble Chief Minister, aligning APO with Sustainable Development Goals was desired. In the process of synchronization of CAMPA activities with SDGs, a committee was formed. Delay in process of synchronization with SDGs had a cascading effect reflecting in convening meeting of State Steering Committee as late as 23rd March 2020. Therefore, the APO for FY 2019-20 with reduced outlay of Rs 102.15 crores from initial outlay of Rs 157.68 crores containing activities, which were essential for maintaining continuity in forestry operations was approved.

Punjab PCCF (HoFF) has informed that the National Authority vide their letter F. No.11-100/2015-FC(Vol.III) dated 05.04.2019 extended the utilization of unspent balance as on 01.04.2019 up to 30.06.2019, which was extended up to 30.09.2019 vide letter No.11-100/2015-FC(Vol-III) dated 26.06.2019 and further extended up to 31.03.2020 vide letter

No.4-64/2019-NA dated 01.10.2019 to execute the essential works related to new afforestation, maintenance of old plantations undertaken in previous year and nursery works as per the proposed APO for the year 2019-20. The expenditure was incurred from the unspent balance and the funds received from the State Government. The expenditure of Rs. 64.73 crores only was incurred against the approved APO of Rs. 102.1581 crores. The Executive Committee advised for special monitoring of works carried out in 2019-20 by Punjab State Authority through a team from 'Monitoring Group' of National Authority.

The Executive Committee deliberated on the response submitted by the State Authority and accorded ex post facto approval of the National Authority on APO of Punjab State Authority for financial year 2019-20 for already incurred expenditure of Rs. 64.73 crores against an outlay of Rs 102.16 crores as per the details provided below:

Sr No.	Item	Proposed Outlay as per approval of State Steering Committee (in Rs Crores)	Expenditure incurred in carrying out essential and mandatory forestry activities (Rs in crores)	Rem arks, if any
1.	Mandatory Activities	29.42	17.85	
2.	NPV (80%)	66.00	42.72	
3.	NPV (20%)	5.11	3.35	
4.	Interest (60%)	1.26	0.80	
To	otal	102.16	64.73	

Agenda No.5: Deferred items of Annual Plan of Operation of Uttar Pradesh State Authority for the year 2020-21.

The Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of Uttar Pradesh State Authority with a proposed outlay of Rs.275 crore was received vide its letter No.1557/2-37-2 dated 19th May, 2020, which was approved by the State Steering Committee on 15th May, 2020. The APO was put up before the Executive Committee of the National Authority for consideration in its 6th meeting held on 27th & 28th May, 2020. Issues related to these activities were discussed with the officers of the State present in the meeting. The State

Authority sent clarifications vide letter No.1594/2-37-2 dated 27thMay, 2020 and letter No.1608 dated 1stJune, 2020. The Executive Committee approved the APO with an outlay of Rs.242.59 crore. An amount of Rs.32.41 crores was deferred in respect of certain activities viz. Enforcement work, Motorcycles for front line staff, Purchase of four-wheel vehicles for front line staff, Protection of forest land from encroachment(corpus), mananimal conflict reduction, establishment of Anti-poaching surveillance and wildlife tracking system in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (Development and maintenance of Bio-diversity hot-spot (Eco- tourism) etc.

The State Authority has submitted their response vide their letters No.1731/2-37-2 dated 25^{th} June, 2020 and No.1737/2-37-2 dated the 27^{th} June, 2020. The State Authority has also informed that above activities are covered under the Section 5(3) (a) of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018. The State Authority has requested to approve the deferred amount of Rs.32.41 crore under the 5(3) (a) of CAF Rules.

The Executive Committee deliberated on the response submitted by the State Authority and accorded approval on certain deferred items of the APO of UP State Authority for financial year 2020-21 as per the details provided below:

Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 6thEC	Approved Amount as per 8 th EC	Remarks
Activities as	per Rule 5	of the CAF Rul	es, 2018	
I. Min 80% NPV	178.37	152.73	176.37	 Formation of corpus for intelligence network is not permissible. Vehicle purchase is not allowed and hiring should be resorted in this regard. Creation of permanent structure under eco-tourism is not allowed.
II. Max 20% of NPV	32.00	25.23	31.00	Activity related to "Strengthening of Research Centre for production of Quality Planting Material" has been considered on basis of explanation provided in the meeting but shall only be taken up after submission of written reply and shall be linked with afforestation activities under CAMPA.
Subtotal (2)	210.37	177.96	207.37	

Agenda No.6: Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of West Bengal

State Authority

West Bengal State Authority has submitted its Annual Plan of Operations (APO) for the year 2020-21 with proposed outlay of Rs.100.86 crores vide their letter no. 135/CAMPA/2C-04/Pt.VI/ (Vol-II) dated 30.06.2020. Activities contained in APO for 2020-21 were discussed with the CEO, West Bengal State Authority. Inadmissible activities like livelihood generation through 20% equity participation in 'hiring center' for heavy agricultural implements amounting to Rs 10.00 crores {as per explanation- 2 of the rule 5(4)} and development of safe drinking water facilities in Sundarbans amounting to Rs 15.36 crores were not agreed to. CEO, West Bengal also mentioned that activities proposed under 'Aquatic Animal Rescue Centre at Barrack pore' amounting to Rs.1.5 Crores shall not be possible this year. Therefore, the Committee did not recommend these activities amounting to Rs 26.86 crore (10+15.36+1.5). Regarding the activity 'supply of motor bikes' amounting to Rs 6.6 crores, the Executive Committee observed that hiring of appropriate patrolling vehicles should be explored.

The Executive Committee approved the APO of the West Bengal State Authority for financial year 2020-21 with reduced financial outlay of Rs.75.50 crores. Component wise details of APO along with details of earlier approval is as under:

Sr No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8th EC	Remarks
1	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	14.02	14.02	
	Subtotal (1)	14.02	14.02	
	Activities as per Rule 5 o	f the CAF Rule	es, 2018	
2	I. Min 80% NPV	64.66	37.80	Reduction of Rs. 26.86 crore as mentioned above
	II. Max 20% of NPV	16.14	16.14	
	Subtotal (2)	80.80	53.94	
	Activities as per Rule 6 o	f the CAF Rule	es, 2018	
3	I. Minimum 60% of Interest	4.18	4.18	
	II. Maximum 40% of Interest	1.86	1.86]
	Subtotal (3)	6.04	6.04	
G	rand Total (1+2+3)	100.86	74.00	

(Rs in Crore)

Agenda No.7: Deferred items of the Annual Plan of Operation for 2020-21 of Haryana State Authority

Haryana State Authority vide letter No. Haryana CAMPA/2019-20/253 dated 31st January 2020 has submitted Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 having proposed outlay of Rs.211.49 crore. Mandatory and time bound activities amounting to Rs.145.79 crore have already been approved through agenda item no. 3 in 5th Executive Committee meeting of the National Authority held on 23rd April 2020 and the same has been communicated vide letter no. NA-15/6/2020 dated 13th May 2020. Remaining activities contained in the APO of Haryana State Authority for financial year 2020-21 were placed for consideration of the Executive Committee in its 6th meeting held on 27th and 28th May 2020. In the minutes of meeting, following was recorded regarding deferred items of the APO

"As per the decision of 6th meeting of Executive Committee Reduction in outlay is mainly on account of non-admissible activities and allocation of Rs 30.00 crore to meet incremental cost due to increase in wage rate for which detailed information is required. State Authority may provide details and justify allocation of Rs 30.00 crore for approval of the same."

The issue of deferred items was discussed with PCCF (HoFF) and CEO, State Authority. It was told that the reply submitted vide letter No.1870 dated the 2nd July, 2020 and letter no. 2166 dated 6th August, 2020 are still deficient in details regarding Rs. 30.00 crores activity to offset the incremental cost of wage rates. Executive Committee considered the issue and approved Rs. 1.00 crores for "Greening the Vertical Cliffs of Shivalik" as per details provided and also approved incremental cost of wage rates as per actual for which details would be submitted by the State Authority.

In response to discussions held in 8th Executive Committee meeting, PCCF (HoFF) vide letter no. 2226 dated 27th August 2020 through email have submitted details regarding activity to offset the incremental cost of wage rates. As per the details, actual amount of the proposed activity is Rs 21.86 crores in place of Rs. 30.00 crores. This is based on details regarding delayed activities year wise with prevailing wage rates at time of estimation and prevailing wage rate at the time of execution. The details also link the increment in wage rate with individual FCA approvals.

Accordingly, the Executive Committee approved the deferred items of the APO

of the Haryana State Authority for financial year 2020-21 with reduced financial cost of Rs. 22.86 crores.

Agenda No.8:Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of Tamil NaduState Authority

Tamil Nadu State Authority vide their letter no. TS5/56568/2019 dated 6th August, 2020 has submitted their Annual Plan of operation for the year 2020-21 with the total outlay of Rs.75.9843 crores. This APO has been approved in the first Steering Committee meeting of Tamil Nadu State Authority held on 24.07.2020. Issues of limited 'State Fund' of Rs. 113.42 crores vis-à-vis huge outlay of Rs. 75.98 crores of 202-21 APO and issue of maintenance of plantation activities carried out was explained by the State CEO. Activities proposed under 'Others' were deliberated in the meeting and it was advised that activities proposed under 'Urban Forestry Planting' should be taken up under 'Nagar Van Yojana' scheme of NAEB (amounting to Rs 8.36 crores) and 'Research Activities' (amounting to Rs. 1.00 crores) through the State Budget. Raising of good quality timber and NTFP seedlings for distribution in tree growers (amounting to Rs. 4.10 crores) may be taken up.

The Executive Committee approved the APO of the Tamil Nadu State Authority for financial year 2020-21 with reduced financial outlay of Rs. 66.63 crores. Component-wise details of APO along with details of approval are as under:

-		-	(R	s in Crore)		
Sr No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8th EC	Remarks		
	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	6.06	6.06			
	Subtotal (1)	6.06	6.06			
	Activities as per Rule 5 of the CA	AF Rules, 2018				
2	I. Min 80% NPV	44.70	44.70			
•	II. Max 20% of NPV	11.17	11.17			
	Subtotal (2)	55.87	55.87			
	Activities as per Rule 6 of the CAF Rules, 2018					
3	I. Minimum 60% of Interest	0.30	0.30			
	II. Maximum 40% of Interest	0.30	0.30]		
	Subtotal (3)	0.60	0.60			

4. Others	13.45	4.1	
Grand Total (1+2+3)	75.98	66.63	

Agenda No.9:Additional Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of UttarPradesh State Authority

The Additional Annual Plan of Operation of the State of Uttar Pradesh had been discussed in the 7th meeting of the Executive Committee of National Authority held on 30th June, 2020. The State Authority vide its letter No.1710/2-37-2 dated 19th June, 2020 has submitted an additional APO for the year 2020-21 for Rs.342.00 crore in order to carry out additional NPV activities. CEO, State Authority has certified that the additional APO has been approved by the Steering Committee of the State Authority by circulation. The additional APO is in addition to the APO for the year 2020-21 of the Authority with a proposed outlay of Rs. 275 crore. Uttar Pradesh is one of the six States, wherein Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan (GKRA) is under implementation from 20th June, 2020 to October, 2020. It was decided to consider additional APOs from those six States so as to provide additional employment during this period primarily from activities such as afforestation/ reforestation and regeneration, etc. It was observed that the focus of the submitted additional APO of Uttar Pradesh is apparently more on development of infrastructure. It was finally decided in the 7th Executive Committee meeting that the CEO of State Authority, if needed, will consult Joint CEO of National Authority and thereafter resubmit the APO with necessary approval of the State Steering Committee after recasting it.

The Uttar Pradesh State Authority vide their letter No.60/2-37-2 dated 16.07.2020, letter No. 29/2-37-2 dated 08.07.2020 and letter No.17/2-37-2 dated 04.7.2020 has submitted the clarification on the observations made in the 7th EC meeting on additional Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 having proposed outlay of Rs.342.00 crores. The issues were deliberated in the meeting with CEO, State Authority, PCCF (Research & Training), APCCF (Wildlife) of Department of Forests, Uttar Pradesh. It was decided that activities proposed in relation with Dudhawa Tiger Reserve, Amangarh and Pilibhit Reserve having an outlay of Rs 64.59 crores will be prepared and submitted in a separate project to be referred for opinion/comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority. Similarly, proposal for wetland conservation will be referred to Wetland Division of the Ministry for seeking opinion/comments. Activities pertaining to SMC works are allowed and are to be

implemented as per approved working plan prescriptions and submission of site inspection report of the concerned DFO to the State Authority. The Executive Committee did not agree with the activities pertaining to infrastructure development under the components of development of biodiversity park and construction of residential and official buildings due to lack of details and on the reasons that implementation will take place after monsoon.

The Executive Committee approved the additional APO of the Uttar Pradesh State Authority for financial year 2020-21 with reduced financial outlay of Rs. 167.01 crores as per following details:

				(Rs in Crore)
Sr No	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8th EC	Remarks
Acti	vities as per Rule 5 (2) & (3)	of CAF Rul	les, 2018	
1	Soil & moisture conservation works in forests	88.22	88.22	After site inspection of the concerned DFO and as per prescriptions of approved working plan
2.	Silvicultural operations in forests	20.00	20.00	As per the prescriptions of approved working plan
3.	Protection of Plantatior	is and Fore	sts	
3. (i)	Survey demarcation of forests areas and establishment of boundary pillars	22.51	22.51	
3. (ii)	Renovation and Strengthening of forest roads	26.71	26.71	Only those roads which are mentioned in approved working plan
3(ii i)	Excavation of trench/other protective measures for protection of forests	12.57	12.57	
4.	Improvement of Wildlife H	Iabitat		
4(i)	Management/development of Dudhwa, Amangarh and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve	64.56	0.00	A separate proposal will be submitted by the State CEO for examination and vetting of
4(ii)	Management and Development of Sanctuaries	2.02	0.00	National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Division o MoEF&CC.
5.	Bio-diversity Conservatior	1		
5(i)	Development of Wetlands	41.55	0.00	A separate proposal will be submitted by the State CEO for examination and vetting of Wetland Division of MoEF&CC.
5(ii)	Development of biodiversity park	43.86	0.00	Only labor intensive planting activities without civil works will be taken up based on revised

				proposal in this regard.
6	Construction of Residential and Official Buildings Construction of Type-1, Type-2 & Type-3 quarters for frontline staff	20.00	00.00	Location and other details need submission.
	TOTAL(1+2+3+4+5+6)	342.00	167.01	

Agenda Item No. 10: Additional APO of Bihar State Authority for the year 2020-21

The Bihar State Authority, vide its letter No. 648 dated 31st July, 2020, has submitted a supplementary Annual Plan of Operation with a proposed outlay of Rs. 76.95 crore for the year 2020-21 for carrying out activities in 32 GKRA districts of Bihar. The APO has been approved by the Steering Committee of the State. The supplementary APO was placed before the Executive Committee for consideration.

The Executive Committee approved the APO of Bihar State Authority for the financial year 2020-21 with an outlay of Rs. 76.95 crore subject to the condition that the State Forest Department will upload geo-tagged polygons and time-series photographs of the sites before and after the work on the e-Green watch portal of the Ministry. Component-wise details of the approved APO are as under:

			(Rs in Crore)
S. No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8thEC
1	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	1.48	1.48
	Subtotal (1)	1.48	1.48
	I. Min 80% NPV	69.14	69.14
	II. Max 20% of NPV	6.32	6.32
	Subtotal (2)	75.46	75.46
Gi	rand Total (1+2)	76.95	76.95

Agenda No. 11: Annual Plan of Operation (APO) for the year 2020-21 of Telangana

The Telangana State Authority, vide its letter no. 18595/2019/CAMPA dated 27th June, 2020, has submitted APO (2020-21) with a proposed outlay of Rs 603.00 crore and activities amounting to Rs 432.60 crore have been approved in the 7th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National authority held on 30th June, 2020.

Issues related to remaining activities of the APO were discussed in the 8th meeting of the EC and following activities were not agreed to:

Rule 5(2)- Mobility charges to front line staff for protection of forest (Rs 9.1 crore), Ex-Gratia for human death, Compensation for human injuries, Spill over human injuries, Compensation for cattle kills (Rs 1.79 crore), Wages to the Rescue Van Driver (Rs 0.05 crore), Maintenance of control cell for protection of Biological Resources and operational charges (Rs 0.10 crore), Improvement and maintenance of EEC (Rs 0.18 crore). (**Total amount Rs 11.22 crore**). In addition, the component of construction of different types of protection structures in forest blocks as well as urban forest blocks (**Rs 87.82 crore**) was **deferred** as it was felt that these activities should be taken up from the regular State Budget.

Rule 5(3)- Seizures safeguarding, feeding of accused, conduct of raids etc. including cost of seize hammers (Rs 0.06 crore), Eviction of encroachers etc. (Rs 0.03 crore), Balance work of FRO hostel building (Rs 1.68 crore), Internal furnishings of hostel rooms and auditorium for FRO's hostel building (Rs 0.04 crore), Incentivizing villages/communities under participatory forest management (Rs 0.27 crore), Conduction of nature camps (Rs 0.38 crore), Protection and conservation of Long Billed Vulture (Gyps indicus) (Rs 0.24 crore), Establishment & maintenance of Forest Seed Sale Counters (Rs 0.01 crore), Services of Research Assistants, Lab Assistants, Watch and ward, Maintenance of FRH (Rs 0.17 crore), Patrolling charges (Rs 0.13 crore), Children and Forest Environmental Education programmes (Rs 0.01 crore), Procurement of infrastructural maintenance material like electronic equipment, stores and stationary and Auditing charges of CAMPA etc (Rs 0.21 crore), CA Audit fees for external audit of CAMPA (Circle / DFO /FDO) and Spill over (Rs 0.12 crore), Office support for monitoring CAMPA for Circle/ DFO/FDO/RO (Rs 0.90 crore), CA Audit, Office support & Monitoring & Evaluation by officials of TSFD, RO Chennai & MoEF & CC, GoI (Rs 2.14 crore), salary components of e-Green Watch (iCCEMS) data updating (Rs 0.05 crore), GIS-MIS Integration (in house) (Rs 0.27 crore), Data uploading at Range Level (Rs 4.80 crore), Systems and Network maintenance (Rs 0.14 crore), Maintenance of Internet Connectivity, hardware, peripherals, plotters, UPS etc. for Aranya Bhawan (Rs 0.56 crore) are not approved, being non-permissible (Total amount Rs 12.31 crore);

Rule 6(a) - Medchal Yadgarpally RF I & II-Chain-link fencing (Total amount Rs 4.97 crore) and Rule 6(b) - Establishment CAMPA monitoring hall, are not approved, being non-

permissible (Total amount Rs 3.00 crore).

Protection and Conservation of Long Billed Vulture (Gyps indicus) and CA Audit fees for external audit of CAMPA (Circle / DFO /FDO) and Spill over were **approved** under Rule 6(b) **(Total amount Rs 0.36 crore)**.

Thus, activities with an outlay of Rs 483.78 crore were finally approved as per details as under:

		1	In Rs crore
Sr. No.	Major Activity	Amount proposed in the APO	Approved Amount
1.	Mandatory works as per Section 6(a), CAF Act, 2016	183.25	183.25
2.	Activities as per Rule 5(2) of the CAF Rules, 2018	326.20	226.90
3.	Activities as per Rule 5(3) of the CAF Rules, 2018	81.55	69.24
	Total NPV	407.75	296.14
4.	Activities as per Rule 6(a) of the CAF Rules, 2018	7.20	2.23
5.	Activities as per Rule 6(b) of the CAF Rules, 2018	4.80	2.16
	Total Interest	12.00	4.39
	Grand Total (1+2+3+4+5)	603.00	483.78

Agenda Item No.12: Annual Plan of Operation-Odisha (2020-21)

The Odisha State Authority, vide its letter dated 20th April, 2020, submitted APO (2020-21) with a proposed outlay of Rs 803.65 crore and activities amounting to Rs 685.21 crore were approved in the 5th and 6th meetings of the Executive Committee of the National authority held on 23rd April, 2020 and 27th/28th May, 2020. Decision on the remaining activities was deferred.

The State Authority has sent a clarification in respect of the deferred activities vide its letter no. 13119/10F (CAMPA)-23/2020 dated 07th July 2020 through email. The same was placed for consideration of the Executive Committee in its 8th meeting held on 25.08.2020. Issues related to these activities were discussed with the officers of the State present in the meeting and activities, namely Training in Training Schools and College (except refresher training, for which the State Authority may submit a detailed proposal) (Rs 4.00 crore),

Strengthening of Range offices for forest protection where there is no vehicle/ or govt. vehicle exists (Rs 13.13 crore), Involvement of VSS in Forest Protection (Rs 10.00 crore) and Coordination Cells at different Forest Offices (Rs 3.14 crore) were not agreed to as these are activities, which should primarily be undertaken with State's Plan budget resources being core function of State Forest Department. Following activities were approved:

(Rs in crore)

Sr No.	Activity	Proposed Amount	Amount approved in 8 th EC meeting	Remarks
a	Special Miyawaki Method of Plantation	1.30	1.30	
b.	Protection, Conservation of Pure Stand and RET species		2.38	
c.	Sowing of Bamboo seeds	0.25	0.25	
d.	Para Protection Squad (10 persons per squad)	28.31	28.31	
	Sub-total Rule 5 (2)	32.24	32.24	
a.	Orchidarium	0.30	0.30	
b.	Root trainer nursery (300 cc-75000 nos and 500 cc-75000 nos.)		2.20	
c.	Raising of 18 months old seedlings	36.64	36.64	The activity is permissible for promotion of trees outside forests on Government land only
d.	Raising of 06 months old seedlings	13.10	13.10	The activity is permissible for promotion of trees outside forests on Government land only
	Sub-total Rule 5(3)	52.24	52.24	
	Total (NPV)	84.48	84.48	
a.	Development	2.20	2.20	The EC of the State Authority shall ensure that necessary procedure is followed.
b.	Research Activities under Wildlife	1.50	1.50	The EC of the State Authority shall ensure that necessary procedure is followed.
	Sub-total Rule 6 (b)	3.70	3.70	
_	Grand Total	88.18	88.18	

Thus, the Executive Committee finally approved the APO amounting to Rs 773.39 crore (685.21 approved earlier + 88.18).

Agenda Item No. 13: Annual Plan of Operation of Karnataka State Authority for the year 2020-21

The Karnataka State Authority, vide its letter No. APCCF (CAMPA)/CR-18/APO/2018-19 dated the 28th July, 2020, has submitted its APO with a proposed outlay of Rs. 269.16 crore. The APO has been approved by the Steering Committee of the State. The APO was placed before the Executive Committee for consideration.

The Committee deferred its decision in respect of the following activities (**Rs. 43.69 crore**) since sufficient details were not available in the APO with regard to these activities:

Rule 5(2):(i) Protection of plantation and forest through CPT/Stone wall/Fencing/RCC pillars (Rs. 14.74 crore); (ii) Protection of plantations and forests (Rs. 7.00 crore); (iii) Forest Fire prevention and control operation (including WL divisions) (Rs. 5.00 crore); (iv)Maintenance of road network in Protected Areas as per Wildlife management plan (Rs. 0.50 crore); (v) Maintenance of Solar Fencing (Rs. 0.50 crore); (vi) Excavation of Elephant proof Trench (Rs. 5.00 crore); (vii) Improvement of Elephant Camps and Anti-Poaching Camps (Rs. 3.00 crore).

Rule 5(3): Construction of residential and official buildings in forests for concerned staff up to the rank of RFO deployed for protection of forest and wildlife (Rs. 6.00 crore).

Rule 6(b): Any other activity for management of the forest and WL non-referred to in subrules (2) and (3) with the prior approval of the Steering Committee to the State Authority (Research Activities) (Rs. 1.95 crore).

The following activities (Rs. 51.80 crore) were not agreed to by the committee:

Rule 5(2) :(i) Elephant Railway Barricade (Rs. 49.00 crore), (ii) Forensic Laboratory (wildlife) at Bannerghatta (Rs. 0.50 crore).

Rule 6(b): (i) Establishment of Marine Park (Rs. 1.00 crore), (ii) Biodiversity Park at Hennur, Bangalore (Rs. 0.40 crore); (iii) Forest Museum at Bannerghatta, Bangalore (Rs. 0.40 crore); (iv) Interpretation Centre on Ecological Values of Forests (Rs. 0.50 crore).

The Executive Committee approved the APO of Karnataka State Authority for the year 2020-21 with a reduced outlay of Rs. 173.67 crore. Component-wise details of the approved APO are as under:

S.No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8 th EC		
1.	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	18.59	18.59		
	Sub Total (1)	18.59	18.59		
2	Activities as per Rule 5 of the CAF Rules, 2018				
	I. Min 80% NPV	222.37	137.13		
	II. Max 20% of NPV	20.75	14.75		
	Subtotal (2)	243.12	151.88		
3	Activities as per Rule 6 of the CAF Rules, 2018				
	I. Minimum 60% of Interest	0.00	0.00		
	II. Maximum 40% of Interest	7.45	3.20		
	Grand Total (1+2+3)	269.16	173.67		

<u>Agenda Item No. 14:</u> Annual Plan of Operation of Sikkim State Authority for the year 2020-21

The Sikkim State Authority, vide its letter no. SA-07 (2020-21)/F&ED 277 dated 0.07.2020, has submitted its Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 with a proposed outlay of Rs. 69.03 crore. The APO has been approved by the Steering Committee of the State. The APO was placed before the Executive Committee for consideration.

The Committee deferred its decision in respect of the following activities (**Rs. 2.02 crore**) since sufficient details were not available in the APO with regard to these activities:

Rule 5(2): (i) Identification, selection and marking of mother trees (Rs. 0.10 crore); (ii) Preparation of standards of operation (SOP) (Rs. 0.04 crore); (iii) Lahnkuri patch plantation (Fraxinus Sikkimensis) (Rs. 0.01 crore); (iv) Malagiri patch plantation (Rs. 0.02 crore); (v) Construction of Patrolling path for protection of plantation and forest (Rs. 1.40 crore); (vi) Awareness camps (Rs. 0.12 crore); (vii) Publicity in print media (Rs. 0.05 crore); (viii) Publicity in electronic media (Rs. 0.08 crore).

Rule 5(3): Forest certification and development of certification standards (Rs. 0.20 crore).

The following activities (Rs. 0.11 crore) were not agreed to:

Rule 5(2) (i) Procurement of drone (Rs 0.10 crore); (ii) Incentivizing village / communities for protection against forest fire under the participatory forest management approach (Rs 0.01crore).

The Executive Committee approved the APO of Sikkim State Authority for the year 2020-21 with a reduced outlay of Rs. 66.90 crore. Component-wise details of the approved APO are as under:

S.No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8 th EC		
1	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	23.48	23.48		
	Subtotal (1)	23.48	23.48		
2	Activities as per Rule 5 of the CAF Rules, 2018				
	I. Min 80% NPV				
		24.85	22.92		
	II. Max 20% of NPV	6.22	6.02		
	Subtotal (2)	31.07	28.94		
3	Activities as per Rule 6 of the CAF Rules, 2018				
	I. Minimum 60% of Interest	8.69	8.69		
	II. Maximum 40% of Interest	5.79	5.79		
	Subtotal (3)	14.48	14.48		
	Grand Total	69.03	66.90		

<u>Agenda Item No. 15</u>: Supplementary Annual Plan of Operation of Rajasthan State Authority for the year 2020-21

The Rajasthan State Authority, vide its letter No.F.()APO2020-21/CAMPA/PCCF/4843 dated the 11 th August, 2020, has submitted a supplementary Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 for a proposed outlay of Rs. 65.34 crore in respect of GKRA districts. The supplementary APO has been approved by the Steering Committee of the State. The APO of the State for 2020-21 for an amount of Rs.215.35 crore was approved by the Executive

Committee of the National Authority in its 6th meeting.

The supplementary APO submitted by the State Authority was placed before the Executive Committee for consideration. The Executive Committee approved the APO with an outlay of Rs. 65.34 crore. Component-wise details of the approved APO are as under:

S.No	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved Amount as per 8 th EC	
1	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	12.46	12.46	
	Subtotal (1)	12.46	12.46	
2	Activities as per Rule 5 of the CAF Rules, 2018			
	I. Min 80% NPV	51.88	51.88	
	II. Max 20% of NPV	1.00	1.00	
	Subtotal (2)	52.88	52.88	
	Grand Total	65.34	65.34	

Agenda Item no. 16- Additional Agenda items with the permission of the Chairman.

a. Pilot projects on Tree outside Forest (ToF) of IIFM (Programme Division NAEB) A proposal to implement pilot projects to promote tree outside forest was placed before executive committee of CAMPA. ToF are increasingly recognized by policy-makers, planners and managers as an essential component of sustainable development. This resource has been part of the daily life and culture of rural populations. They not only add to green cover but can be an effective tool for improving the livelihood opportunities and ensuring food security for farmers and poor people. However, the growth of ToF is restricted on account of several reasons, primarily due to lack of markets, absence of finances and securities etc.

The proposal states that there is an urgent need to improve the effectiveness of forest management and augment forest and tree cover by promoting plantation outside forest areas through various processes like provision of Tree Insurance, promotion of Agro/ farm forestry, availability of credit facilities and markets for tree products.

NAEB has proposed following pilot Projects for this purpose:

• Pilot Project for Introducing Futures/Forward Trading in Timber and NTFPs in India

at a cost of Rs 1.10 crore.

- Project to prepare scheme for Introducing Tree Insurance to Safeguard Tree Growing Community against the Plantation Associated Risks at a cost of Rs 30.12 lakhs
- Pilot Project for Promoting Market-led Sustainable Agroforestry for FRA Beneficiaries and Other Tree Growers in Select Forest Fringe villages at a cost of Rs 53 lakhs.

The proposal was discussed in the executive committee. The Executive Committee observed that while the activities under the proposed pilot projects are considered to be important instruments for promoting tree cover outside forests, the proposals need to be studied further in more detail. IG, NAEB agreed to provide details in this regard as desired by the Executive Committee.

b. 'Monitoring of rejected kml files of pattas under FRA,2006 as per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court'- A proposal of Forest Survey of India, Dehradun (Programme Division SU Division)

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in order dated 13-02-2019 in Writ Petitions(s) (civil) No(s). 109/2008 Wildlife First & Others versus MoEF&CC & others gave directions to the Forest Survey of India to make a satellite survey and place on record the encroachment position and also state the position after the eviction as far as possible. The total number of claims filed under FRA is 29, 76,513 out of which 11, 91,327 is the number of rejected claims on which the status of encroachment positions is to be assessed by FSI using remote sensing technique. Since FSI has limited infrastructure in terms of man power and systems (hardware and software) to implement such a large scale exercise along with its regular mandated activities, the FSI has submitted a financial proposal of Rs. 48.00 Crore for hiring of manpower, infrastructure strengthening, data procurement and miscellaneous expenditure for completion of assignment in time bound manner (details attached).

Since the work is of urgent nature and mandated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, with the permission of Chairperson, IGF (SU) briefed the Executive Committee of National Authority about the proposal and requested for funding of this proposal of FSI from the National Fund.

The Executive Committee considered the proposal and observed that the proposal may be revised with full details of the urgent requirement as well as the geographical spread of the work.

c. Procedure for release of funds for schemes approved under Section 5(b)(iii) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016

of In the meeting issue release of funds various to programme divisions/institutions/organizations/societies/centre of excellence etc. in respect of the schemes approved by the Governing Body of the National Authority was raised. It was decided that the request of release will be processed by the concerned programme division of the Ministry after considering progress of implementation, status of submission of utilization certificates, quarterly and annual progress report etc. The Programme Division will prepare a comprehensive note and submit to the National Authority for examination and release of funds. The National Authority will examine the request and seek concurrence of Integrated Finance Division of the Ministry. After completion this process, approval/sanction will be issued by the National Authority for release of payment/installments. A circular/office memorandum will also be issued by the National Authority in this regard.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.
