

File No. NA-1/62/20-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority
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Dated: 21st May, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Please find enclosed herewith minutes of the meeting convened vide the MoEF&CC, SU division OM F. No. 17-6/2024-SU dt. 16.04.2024 which was held on 18th April, 2024 at 3:00 PM in physical mode under the Chairmanship of DGF&SS to review the progress of schemes supported by National Fund of the National CAMPA for information and necessary action.

Encl: Minutes of review meeting.



(V.L. Roui Kullai)

Dy. Chief Executive Officer
National Authority

Distribution:

1. ADG (FC), MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
2. ADG (WL), MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
3. Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun.
4. Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
5. Inspector General of Forests (SU/FC/WL/NAEB/GIM), MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Director, NIC, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

Copy to:

1. PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
2. PPS to CEO, CAMPA, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DGF&SS ON REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS OF SCHEMES FUNDED BY NATIONAL CAMPA HELD ON 18TH APRIL, 2024.

Venue: Krishna Conference Room, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi

Date: 18.04.2024

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary (DGF&SS) to review the progress of ongoing schemes/ projects funded by National Authority implemented by various institutions through concerned programme divisions of the Ministry.

1. Upgradation of e-Green Watch

Discussion and Decisions taken:

- (i) DGF&SS expressed his concern that eGreenwatch portal is not able to address the continued monitoring requirement of CAMPA activities and the States are facing issues of uploading of KML files and editing of data/attributes. CEO National CAMPA informed that eGreenwatch portal needs immediate upgradation. FSI is verifying the uploaded KML files and only 20 to 25% KML files have been found correct. The FSI's monthly reports are shared with the State Forest Department for taking necessary action and resubmission of corrected KML files. Still large number of kml files and data is not validated.
- (ii) DG, FSI made a presentation on the eGreenwatch portal and outlined the process followed for verification of the KML files. FSI is currently operating eGreenwatch portal which was developed in 2013-14.
- (iii) Director, NIC informed in PARIVESH 1 there is no validation feature for uploaded KML file, but in PARIVESH 2.0 there is feature for validation of uploaded KML. This bars migration of data for the PARIVESH 1 which are not validated. He informed that on scrutiny of 39,000 polygons uploaded in PARIVESH 1, only about 6400 polygons are found correct. He said that PARIVESH 2.0 data will migrate to proposed eGreenwatch (to be developed) but for PARIVESH 1.0 and earlier data and kml files are required to be uploaded a fresh. It will not be feasible to incorporate kml files from Parivesh 2.0 to exiting eGreenwatch due to technology obsolesce / non-availability of source code.
- (iv) The CEO, NCAMPA stated that it is important to migrate all uploaded data i.e. polygons of diverted land and compensatory afforestation areas from PARIVESH 2.0 to proposed e-Green Watch portal. Subsequently, migration of all kml files of CA sites

of PARIVESH 1.0 and earlier CA sites earmarked against various forest diversion proposals should be migrated to new eGreenwatch portal.

- (v) The DGF&SS advised that NIC team should categories data available in PARIVESH 1 into two categories- Green & Yellow. Green for closed/validated & yellow for unclosed/un-validated kml files. He directed that continuous efforts should be made to resolve the issue of open (unclosed/ not validated) polygons with State Forest Departments which will subsequently be uploaded on PARIVESH 2.0. This process should be initiated immediately. Then the validated data in PARIVESH 2.0 should be migrated to the proposed e-Green Watch Portal.

Decision:

- (i) It was decided that NIC will take necessary action immediately for developing of new Upgraded eGreenwatch Portal as an integral part of PARIVESH 2.0. If necessary, NIC may engage required professional manpower for the purpose.
- (ii) NIC to ensure onboarding of FSI, NCAMPA, FC Division and State Forest Departments with the new eGreenwatch Portal for seamless workflow.
- (iii) FC Division is to ensure that correct KML files of diverted forest land and CA sites earmarked against the proposal of forest diversion are provided to NIC team for migration to the proposed eGreenwatch portal on realtime basis. This exercise should be carried out simultaneously by NIC and FC Division.
- (iv) Since a scheme '**Monitoring Protocol for plantation and Assets created by State Forest Department (SFDs)**' is already being implemented by FSI, NIC in consultation with FSI and National CAMPA should work out the specific component alongwith financial implications for support under this scheme.

(Action: NIC, FSI, FC Division, NCAMPA, State Forest Departments)

2. MEETING OF MONITORING GROUP OF NATIONAL CAMPA:

The CEO, CAMPA informed that meetings of Monitoring Group of National CAMPA are not being convened regularly by FSI. He urged FSI to hold a meeting of monitoring group to review the progress of CAMPA activities in every quarter on regular intervals as per the provisions of the CAF Act and Rules.

3. REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE SCHEMES TAKEN UNDER CAMPA

A) FOREST SURVEY OF INDIA (FSI), DEHRADUN

i) Monitoring Protocol for plantation and Assets created by State Forest Department (SFDs)

Starting Year-2019-20
Project Outlay- 13.14 crore
Project duration/Period- 6 years
Fund Released- 2.90 crore

Decision:

FSI was directed to submit the revised proposal for comprehensive framework for Monitoring and Evaluation of CAMPA activities. FSI in consultation with NIC should start working for integration of e- Greenwatch Portal with PARIVESH 2.0.

(Action: DG, FSI, IG, SU, Director NIC)

ii) ESTABLISHMENT OF FSI CELL IN EACH STATE FOR STRENGTHENING, MONITORING AND FOREST RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Starting Year- 2019-20
Project Outlay- 4.33 crore
Fund Released- 2.59 crore
Project duration/Period- 1 year

Decision:

It was decided that FSI will propose for closing of the scheme as it has not been implemented. The States can have their own IT & Remote Sensing Cell supported from State CAMPA Funds. If required, FSI can be consulted by the State CAMPA. The FSI was directed to return the funds released alongwith accrued interest to National Authority.

iii) SATELLITE SURVEY OF ENCROACHMENT POSITION OF REJECTED CLAIMS AS PER ORDER OF HON'BLE SUPREME COURT IN WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(S) 109/2008 WILDLIFE FIRST & OTHERS VS. MINISTRY OF FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT & OTHERS

Starting Year- 2021-22
Project Outlay- 48.00 crore
Project duration/Period- 6 years
Fund released- 5.66 crore

Decision:

Since, there is very poor utilisation of funds by FSI, DG, FSI was directed to expedite and complete the work and submit consolidated progress report on results of analysis of 60396 polygons under taken by FSI to Ministry.

iv) STRENGTHENING OF E-GREEN WATCH

Starting Year- 2023-24
Project Outlay- 6.32 crore
Project duration/Period- 5 years
Fund released- Not released

Decision:

DG, FSI was asked to merge the scheme with existing scheme of Monitoring Protocol for plantation and Assets created by State Forest Department.

v) WEB GIS BASED DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM (DSS) FOR FOREST CLEARANCE

Starting Year- 2023-24
Project Outlay- 5.00 crore
Project duration/Period- 5 years
Fund released- Not released

Decision: FSI was asked to coordinate with SU Division and FC Division for proper implementation of the Scheme and respond to IFD queries.

vi) Forest Fire Monitoring including burnt area assessment

Starting Year- 2023-24
Project Outlay- 9.00 crore
Project duration/Period- 5 years
Fund released- Not released

Decision:

FSI was asked to coordinate with Programme Division for proper implementation of the Scheme and respond to IFD queries seeking requirement of year wise breakup of requirement of funds so that consolidated fund requirements for CFY 2024-25.

vii) Above Ground Biomass (AGB) Estimation using synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) data

Starting Year- 2023-24
Project Outlay- 2.88 crore
Project duration/Period- 5 years
Fund released- 5 lakhs

Decision:

Sanction has been issued for the release of Rs. 5.00 lakh to FSI.

B) WILDLIFE INSTITUTE OF INDIA (WII), DEHRADUN

i) Endangered Species Recovery Programme (ESRP)- Development of Conservation plan for Gangetic River Dolphin

Starting Year- 2015-16

Project Outlay- 23.00 crore

Project duration/Period- 5 years

Fund Released- 18.20 crore

Project Extension- The Project was given extension till December, 2025

Decision:

National Authority has approved an amount of Rs. 23.00 crore out of which Rs. 18.20 has been released to WII for implementation of scheme. WII was asked to provide year wise breakup of remaining amount of Rs. 4.80 crore for the remaining 7 quarters.

ii) Habitat improvement and conservation breeding of Great Indian Bustard

Starting Year- 2015-16

Project Outlay- 33.85 crore

Project duration/Period- 5 years

Fund Released- 33.85 crore

Project Extension- The Project was given extension for three months from April to June, 2024 and additional amount of Rs. 1.88 crore has been released to WII to support the ongoing activities in terms of feed, collection of eggs from wild, their hatching of collected eggs in controlled condition, nest monitoring and services of technical staff and labours presently involved in project for daily upkeep, running cost of electricity, vehicle transport etc.

Decision:

National Authority has approved an amount of Rs. 33.85 crore which has been released to WII. An additional amount has been sanctioned for Rs.1.88 crore with 3 months' extension of the Scheme till 30.06.2024. The CEO, National CAMPA asked WII to submit project completion report of Great Indian Bustard along with utilisation certificate.

iii) Conservation of Manipur's Brow Antlered Deer (Sangai)

Starting Year- 2015-16

Project Outlay- 19.95 crore

Project duration/Period- 5 years

Fund Released- 10.31 crore

Project Extension- The Project was given extension till December, 2025.

Decision:

WII updated on the physical and financial progress of scheme. National Authority has approved Rs. 19.95 crore out of which Rs. 10.31 crore has been released. WII was asked to provide quarterly requirement of fund alongwith the physical and financial progress of scheme.

iv) Recovery of Dugongs and their Habitats in India

Starting Year- 2015-16

Project Outlay- 23.58 crore

Project duration/Period- 5 years

Fund Released- 14.05 crore

Project Extension- The Project was given extension till December, 2025.

Decision:

The progress of project and noted that the utilisation of fund is not satisfactory. WII requested for purchase of mobile rescue vehicle for rescue of dugongs. WII was asked to provide the estimate for procurement of vehicle for rescue of dugongs to National Authority through Programme Division.

v) Range wide monitoring of dolphin

Starting Year- 2021-22

Project Outlay- 10.15 crore

Project duration/Period- 4 years

Fund Released- 10.15 crore

Project Extension- The Project was given extension till December, 2025.

Decision:

WII has requested for revalidation of Rs. 5.13 crores. The file has been processed for revalidation of Rs. 5.13 crore. Currently the file is with WL Division for clarification of amount to be revalidate. UC for the FY 2023-24 has been received from WII.

vi) UNESCO Category 2 Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia-Pacific Region- WII

Starting Year- 2018-19

Project Outlay- 18.66 crore

Project duration/Period- 3 years

Fund Released- 15.01 crore

Project Extension- The Project was given extension till March, 2025

Decision:

No Cost extension has been approved by DGF&SS till March, 2025. WII request for the release of Rs. 3.65 crores should be expedited.

vii) Pan India Assessment and Monitoring of Endangered Species under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH).

Starting Year- 2021-22

Project Outlay- 19.05 crore

Project duration/Period- 2 years

Fund Released- 11.43 crore

Decision:

Query has been raised by IFD that to clarify amount to be revalidate. The file is currently with WL Division from 08.02.2024.

viii) Establishment of “National Centre for Wildlife Forensics” (NCWF)

Starting Year- 2022-23
Project Outlay- 82.83 crore
Project duration/Period- 4 years
Fund Released- Not released

Decision:

ADG, WL was asked to review and take necessary action on this matter.

ix) Phase II Proposal for Synchronized Elephant Estimation

Starting Year- 2023-24
Project Outlay- 3.00 crore
Project duration/Period- 0.6 years
Fund Released- 1.50 crore

Decision:

Request has been received from WII for the release of final instalment of Rs. 1.50 crore.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.
