

पंजी क्रमांक/ File No. NA-1/16/2023-NA

भारत सरकार/Government of India

राष्ट्रीय प्रतिपूरक वनरोपण निधि प्रबंधन एवं योजना प्राधिकरण
National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

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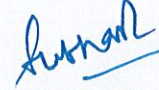
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दिनांक \Dated: 25.09.2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Please find enclosed the minutes of the **meeting held on 02.09.2024 (Monday)** under the Chairmanship of the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary on review of progress of Compensatory Afforestation, for kind information and necessary action.

Encl: Minutes of the meeting on review of progress of CA



(Subhash Chandra)
Chief Executive Officer

To:

1. The Chief Secretaries, All States/UTs.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & HoFFs/Head of Forest Department, All States/UTs.
3. The Additional Director General of Forest (FC), MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
4. The Chief Executive Officer, All States/UTs CAMPA.
5. All Participants (as per list enclosed).

Copy for information to:

1. The Director General of Forest & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, for kind information.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2024
UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF DGF&SS, FOR REVIEW OF
PROGRESS OF COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION**

Venue: Teesta Hall, 1st Floor, Vayu Wing, Indira Paryavaran, Bhawan

Date: 2nd September, 2024

A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of the DGF&SS to review the progress of compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA activities implemented by States/UTs. The list of participants is attached at **Annexure I**.

2. The Chief Executive Officer, National CAMPA welcomed the DGF&SS and other participants of the meeting and briefed about the Agenda of meeting.
3. The discussion held on various Agenda items and the decision taken is given below:

4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION AND OTHER CAMPA WORKS

- (i) The DGF&SS reviewed the progress report of CAMPA activities. He reiterated that the Compensatory Afforestation is the primary duty of the State/ Union Territory (UT) Governments for compensating the loss of forest land and ecosystem services due to diversion of forest land under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980. The Forest Departments are only the executive arm of the States/UTs to carry out the works. The State/UT Governments should facilitate and monitor the progress of implementation of compensatory afforestation and ensure timely availability of CAMPA funds to Forest Department.
- (ii) The CEO National CAMPA requested all CEOs of States/UTs CAMPA to furnish the information on Mandatory & Site-Specific activities carried out each year from 2018-19 to 2023-24 alongwith details of site specific kml files.
- (iii) The States and UTs should also send progress report on activities carried out from NPV from 2018-19 to 2023-24 within 10.10.2024.
- (iv) The kml files of site-specific activities should be uploaded on eGreenwatch Portal and sent to Forest Survey of India for monitoring.

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5. AGENDA ITEM NO.2: STATUS OF FUND RELEASE & UTILISATION

- (i) The States/UTs were requested to inform the dates of release (2018-19 to 2023-24). The information received earlier should be verified by the respective States/UTs, as the matter is being heard in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- (ii) The CEO, national CASMPA reiterated that CAMPA funds are additional and special funds for ensuring timely implementation of compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA activities.
- (iii) The DGF&SS informed the officers present that this year the National Authority has timely approved all APOs received from the States/UTs before the start of working season. As half of the financial year is almost over, the PCCF & the CEO of State/UT Authorities should take up with the State Government for timely release of funds if the funds are yet to be released by their State/UT Government so that seasonal forestry activities are carried out immediately.
- (iv) The CEO, National CAMPA requested States/UTs to furnish information on fund released by State Government to State Forest Department and fund Utilised by States/UTs for the financial year 2024-25 till 31.08.2024.
- (v) The CEO of State/UT Authorities were requested to prepare a detailed Note on the steps/ procedure followed in their State/UT for the release and utilisation of CAMPA Funds alongwith an analysis of the time consumed in each step. The problems faced in various steps and the suggested remedies may also be furnished in the Note.

6. AGENDA ITEM NO.3: ANNUAL PLAN OF OPERATIONS OF 2024-25 & OF NEXT YEAR 2025-26

- (i) The DGF& SS urged the States/UTs that in case of pending approvals, the respective States/Union Territories should promptly communicate these matters to the National Authority for consideration and approval.
- (ii) The DGFF&SS advised the States/UTs to start formulating Annual Plan operation of the next financial year 2025-26 so that it is sent to National Authority by 31st December, 2024.



7. AGENDA ITEM NO.4: STATUS OF MONITORING & EVALUATION OF CAMPA WORKS

- (i) The DGF&SS stressed that the CAMPA activities undertaken by the States, UTs should not be restricted solely to plantation efforts, but for proper eco-restoration. The DGF&SS emphasized the importance of States and Union Territories adhering to well defined and precise protocols for monitoring and evaluation. The respective States/UTs Executive and Steering Committees should duly approve monitoring protocols.
- (ii) The CEO, National CAMPA mentioned that the compensatory afforestation and assisted natural regeneration activities aim at ecological restoration of degraded forests/sites. The States/UTs should follow an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism to capture the progress on various parameters of ecological restoration i.e. growth of local floral species representative to forest types suited to edaphic and climatic factors, enrichment of biodiversity, improvement of forest/ soil productivity, soil and water conservation in their internal and third party monitoring.
- (iii) The States were requested to provide their Internal Monitoring, Third Party Monitoring Reports.
- (iv) The CEO of States/UTs were requested to share the monitoring & evaluation mechanisms followed in their State/UT with the National Authority for preparing compilation of best practices for sharing with all States/UTs.

8. AGENDA ITEM NO.5: RECONCILIATION OF COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION SINCE 1980.

- (i) The DGF&SS advised States/UTs to furnish reconciliation of project wise information on forest land diverted and the corresponding status of CA against approvals of forest land diversion granted by the central government under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980.
- (ii) While noting the slow progress of vetting by the Integrated Regional Offices DGF&SS directed DDGs and Heads of Regional Offices to expedite vetting of reconciled data of CA against various forest diversion proposals/approvals.

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(iii) It was decided that the CA reconciliation of project wise information should be finalized in following categories:

- a) Since enactment the CAF Act, 2016 and Rules, 2018 (2018-19 onwards)
- b) After Ad-hoc CAMPA (2009-10 to 2018-19 before the CAF Act, 2016)
- c) Before Ad-hoc CAMPA (before 2008-09)

The reconciled data should be verified and vetted by the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.

(v) The CEO, National CAMPA reiterated that the Rule 5(2) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018, mandates that not less than 80% of the Net Present Value (NPV) funds must be earmarked for afforestation and related activities and the maximum of 20% of NPV funds may be allocated for essential infrastructure support and capacity building, provided these activities directly impact the extension and qualitative improvement of forest cover and wildlife habitats. The NPV funds are intended for improving forest cover quality, restoring degraded forest land, and enriching biodiversity to enhance ecosystem services.

(vi) The CEO, National CAMPA emphasised that the utilization of NPV funds under Rules 5(2) and 5(3) requires strict fiscal discipline. The States/UTs should prepare a Perspective Plan for at least 5 years duration after assessment of available NPV funds and its long-term requirement. The Perspective Plan should be approved by the Steering Committee, which will help in preparation of APOs of the prescribed period and their expeditious approval by the National Authority.

(iv) The CEO, National CAMPA emphasised that, according to Rule 6(a) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Rules, 2018, not less than 60% of the interest component must be utilized for offsetting the increased cost of compensatory afforestation and other mandatory activities and expenditure on salary & allowances of the State CAMPA officials. Therefore, the requirement of Interest Funds should be properly assessed for meeting enhanced expenditure in future on creation and maintenance of pending/ ongoing CA and activities under CAT Plan and IWMP. This can also be part of the Perspective Plan.

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9. AGENDA ITEM NO.6: RAISING OF SUFFICIENT SAPLINGS FOR MEETING REQUIREMENT FOR “EK PED MAA KE NAAM” AND EXTENSIVE PLANTATION CAMAPAIGN

- (i) The CEO, National CAMPA informed that Governing body of National CAMPA in its 5th meeting has decided that State/ UTs should plan in advance for raising sapling of local tree species in the nurseries to meet the requirement of people under the tree plantation campaign “**Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam**”. The Member of Parliament, Member of legislative Assembly, representative of Panchayati Raj Institutions of the area may also be consulted while assessing requirement of saplings for the campaign and other plantations. Self Help Groups may also be involved in the process. States/ UTs were advised to take necessary action in this regard.
- (ii) The DGF&SS reviewed the progress of plantation under the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” campaign in the states/UTs and also requested the officers present to extend their maximum possible support to the recent initiatives of the Ministry viz. Green Credit Programme, Nagar Van Yojana etc.

10. AGENDA ITEM NO.7: FOLLOW UP ON THE COURT CASE IN I.A. No. 5891 of 2019 (W.P. Civil 202 of 1995 T.N. Godavaraman vs Union of India & others.)

The CEO, national CAMPA invited the attention of the officers present on the ongoing Court Case in I.A. No. 5891 of 2019 in the W.P. Civil 202 of 1995 T.N. Godavaraman vs Union of India & others, in which the Hon’ble Supreme Court has directed Chief Secretaries of all States/Union Territories to file affidavits and requested to provide following information:

- i) As to how much amount has been spent by the respective State Governments/Union Territories on afforestation and allied activities.
- ii) The reasons as to why the balance CAMPA funds has not been utilized.
- iii) The purposes for which the said fund has been utilized.
- iv) As to whether the Steering Committee, as contemplated under Section 11 and 18 of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 have been constituted and what functions they have discharged in the last five years.

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v) The updated status on the amount released by the States/UTs government and utilised in the current financial year has been utilized for the afforestation and allied activities and details thereof.

In compliance of the above order, many States/ UTs have submitted information in the form of affidavit to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Supreme Court issued two orders dated 21st August 2024 and 29th August 2024.

Decision: Following decisions were taken:

(i) The States/UTs were requested to provide the copy of the affidavit to National CAMPA alongwith the status of compensatory afforestation since 1980, updated survival reports and monitoring reports.

(ii) The CEO of State/UT Authorities were requested to also provide the details of the meetings of Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee of State CAMPA held since 30.09.2018 till date and the minutes of these meetings.

The meeting ended with the thanks to the Chair.

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List of participants:

1. Shri Jitendra Kumar, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC (In chair)
2. Shri Subhash Chandra, CEO, National Authority, MoEF&CC.
3. Shri B.K. Dikshit, PCCF(HOFF), Karnataka.
4. Shri Ms Shomita Biswas, PCCF&HOFF, Maharashtra.
5. Shri Sudhanshu Gupta, PCCF&HOFF/CEO CAMPA, Tamil Nadu.
6. Shri Anurag Bajpai, PCCF&HOFF, Manipur
7. Shri B.K Singh, PCCF&HOFF, Jammu and Kashmir
8. Shri Mahendra Singh Dhakad, PCCF&CEO CAMPA, Madhya Pradesh.
9. Shri Piar Chand, PCCF&CEO CAMPA, West Bengal.
10. Shri K C Meena, PCCF cum CEO CAMPA, Haryana.
11. Ms A. Radha Devi, PCCF/CEO CAMPA, Karnataka.
12. Shri O.P Yadav, APCCF&CEO CAMPA, Chhattisgarh.
13. Shri Uday Shankar, APCCF&CEO CAMPA, Rajasthan.
14. Shri Saurabh Gupta, APCCF& CEO CAMPA, Punjab.
15. Shri Satyendra Singh, APCCF& CEO CAMPA, Assam.
16. Shri Rama Shankar Sinha, Joint CEO, National Authority, MoEF&CC.
17. Shri Kamal Jeet Singh, Deputy CEO, National Authority, MoEF&CC.
18. Shri Arvinder Singh, APCCF & CEO CAMPA, Bihar.
19. Shri Ravi Ranjan, APCCF & CEO CAMPA, Jharkhand.
20. Shri Umakant, APCCF & CEO CAMPA, Goa.
21. Shri P.P. Singh, APCCF& CEO CAMPA, Uttar Pradesh.
22. Shri Pravin Chavan APCCF&CEO CAMPA, Maharashtra.
23. Shri Rahul Pandey, APCCF& CEO CAMPA, Andhra Pradesh.
24. Shri M. Yogajyanand, CEO CAMPA, Odisha.
25. Shri B. Wahlang, CCF/FC&CAMPA, Meghalaya.
26. Shri Samuel V. Pachuav, CF, Kerala.
27. Dr. Sandeep Kumar, CCF, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat.
28. Shri Saurabh Kumar, CCF&CEO CAMPA, Chandigarh.
29. Shri Udai Gurung, CEO CAMPA, Sikkim.
30. Shri P. Viswakannan, CCF, Delhi.
31. Shri K. Kannan, Jt CEO CAMPA, Punjab.
32. Shri Ranjan Talmale, DFO CAMPA, Maharashtra.
33. Shri Amol Chamte, Finance Manager, Maharashtra.
34. Shri Raman Sharma, DCF cum, Dy CEO CAMPA, Himachal Pradesh.

35. Shri Nisheeth Saxena, Senior Consultant, MoEF&CC
36. Dr. Priyanka Tripathi, Consultant (F&W), MoEF&CC
37. Dr. Shah Mohammed Belal, Consultant (F&W), MoEF&CC
38. Dr. Anita Devi, Consultant, (F&W), MoEFCC.
39. Ms Apoorva Gupta, Consultant (GIS&MIS), MoEF&CC.
40. Ms Saifali Dhyani, Young Professional, MoEF&CC.
41. Ms Deeksha Gangwani, Young Professional, MoEF&CC.
42. Ms Monica Konjengbum, Young Professional, MoEF&CC.
43. Ms Rasika Sanjay Jadhav, Young Professional, MoEF&CC.