

File No.15-2(12)/2019-NA
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(National Authority)

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 17th December, 2019
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To,

The Additional Chief Secretary/
Principal Secretary/Secretary (Forests)
Government of Gujarat
Gandhinagar

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation (APO) – Gujarat (2019-20): approval regarding.

Sir/Madam,

The undersigned is directed to refer to letter No. Moni/CAMPA/A/2064-65 dated 06.03.2019 and subsequent letters of Government of Gujarat on the above mentioned subject and convey the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Authority under Section 15 (1) (i) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016 for the Annual Plan of Operation – Gujarat (2019-20) at a total cost of **₹256.47 Crores. (Rupees two hundred fifty six crores and forty-seven lakhs only)** for carrying out approved activities during the current financial year from the “State Compensatory Afforestation Fund-Gujarat” created under Section-4 of CAF Act, 2016.

2. The APO was considered in the 3rd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority held on 15.7.2019. The component – wise approved breakup of the APO is provided below:-

S. No.	Description	Components	Financial (₹ in Crores)
1	Site Specific works as per FCA approval	Compensatory Afforestation	35.00
		CAT Plan	
		Integrated WLMP	

		Others	
		Sub Total (i)	35.00
2.	Net Present Value	Works under 80% NPV component	190.26
		Works under 20% NPV component	10.16
		Sub Total (ii)	200.42
3.	Accrued Interest	Works under 60% Interest component	18.55
		Works under 40% Interest component	2.5
		Sub Total (iii)	21.05
Grand Total (i+ii+iii)			256.47
(rupees two hundred fifty-six crores and forty-seven lakhs only)			

3. The above approval is subject to the following observations: -

- i. The approved activities shall be carried out according to Rule-4 of 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;
- ii. The changes in activities as well as changed financial outlay of revised APO for 2019-20 is to be certified and approved by the State Steering Committee;
- iii. Details of compensatory afforestation carried out since 1980 has not been provided in the APO. These details have to be uploaded on the e-green watch portal of CAMPA for monitoring purposes;
- iv. Location details for compensatory afforestation works and other site-specific mandatory works have not been provided. These details are to be uploaded on e-green watch portal of CAMPA for monitoring purposes;
- v. It was clarified that NPV component could only be used for the ecological restoration of the forests lost due to diversion in the state. The NPV component cannot be utilised for creation of eco-tourism activities on forest land which are non-forestry activities in purpose. State authorities were also briefed about explanation 2 of the sub rule 4 of rule 5 of CAF Rules 2018 regarding mixing of monies. Non-permissible activities in garb of forestry activities shall not be allowed by the State CAMPA which is responsible for implementation. The expenditure on development of Arogaya Van,

- Bharat Van and other facilities at tourist destination shall only be for ecological restoration which should not be mixed with other funds from other sources at the same location;
- vi. In case of bamboo development, the state government should prepare comprehensive bamboo development plan to supplement the efforts of National Bamboo Mission of Government of India;
 - vii. Revamping of Interpretation Centre at Sulpaneswar Sanctuary shall be explored from some other funds rather State CAMPA;
 - viii. A provision of ₹20.01/- crores has been made for barbed wire fencing, watch towers, boundary pillars etc. has been made in 80% of NPV component. The state CAMPA should ensure that the forest area in the State are properly demarcated and boundary pillars fixed and GPS coordinates of each boundary pillar are recorded in compliance of the Supreme Court order in Lafarge Judgement;
 - ix. Inadequate provisions have been made for monitoring and evaluation of works under APO which may be enhanced;
 - x. A provision of ₹2.85/- crores has been made for protection from forest fire by constructing forest fire watchtowers. Forest fire prevention and control is permissible and important activity which is to be in consonance with National Action Plan on Forest Fire, which has already been approved by Government of India in consultation with State Government in April 2018. The State Authority should come up with State Forest Fire Action Plan for next five years and propose activities from NPV component accordingly;
 - xi. For the soil and water conservation activity Rs 36.54 crores from 80% of NPV funds have been provided. Geo coordinates of these activities should be recorded and uploaded on e-green watch portal;
 - xii. It was observed that activities under NPV funds & interest component are lacking details and are without mentioning locations. The details with locations along with geo tags shall be recorded and maintained by the State CAMPA of Gujarat while implementing APO for 2019-20 for future monitoring purposes;
 - xiii. As per the provisions of CAF Rules 2018, the APO should be prepared in consultation with the Gram Sabha as prescribed under the FRA before the APO is approved by the Steering Committee of the State Authority. Certificate regarding consultation with Gram Panchayat has not been provided. The State Authority shall provide the same;
 - xiv. The State Authority should ensure that the expenditure from funds vested with State CAMPA shall be done strictly in accordance with

- provisions of CAF Act and CAF Rules, as well as directions issued by any authority or Court in this regard; and
- xv. It was also pointed that State Authorities shall provide certificate regarding non-overlapping of activities with other schemes taken up under CAMPA fund.

Yours faithfully,

(Brijendra Swaroop)
Dy. Chief Executive Officer

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forests, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar
2. Chief Executive Officer, State CAMPA Gujarat, Gandhinagar
3. Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar
4. Secretary, Planning Deptt, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar
5. Accountant General, Gandhinagar

Copy also forwarded to:

1. Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.
2. Chief Executive Officer (National Authority), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.
3. ADG (FC)/(WL)/(NTCA), Environment Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi.
4. Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.
5. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Regional Offices (Bhopal), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
6. IGF FC/WL/FPD/SU/FE/FP/NAEB/NTCA, Environment Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi.
7. The Principal Director (Audit), Scientific Department, AGCR Building, New Delhi.
8. Sanction Folder/ Guard File.

Dy. Chief Executive Officer