

F.No. NA-15/35/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change
(National Authority)

Hall No. 1, 4th Floor,
Block No. 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated the 22nd March, 2021

To,
The Additional Chief Secretary
Forest, Ecology and Environment Department
Government of Karnataka
M.S. Building, Bengaluru

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of Karnataka State Authority-reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter No. APCCF(CAMPA)/CR-18/APO/2018-19 dated 28th July, 2020 and subsequent letters of Karnataka Forest Department [the last being letter No. APCCF/(CAMPA)/BUD/CR-41/2020-21 dated 29th January, 2021] on the above mentioned subject and to convey the revised 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 – Karnataka (2020-21) at a total cost of ₹212.94 crore (Rupees two hundred twelve crore ninety four lakh only) out of proposed outlay of ₹269.16 crore recommended by the State Steering Committee, for carrying out the approved activities during the current financial year from the “State Compensatory Afforestation Fund – Karnataka” created under Section 4 of CAF Act, 2016.


2. The APO was discussed in the 8th, 9th and 10th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority held on 25th August, 2020, 12th January, 2021 and 3rd February, 2021 respectively. The component wise approval accorded by the Executive Committee is as under:

In Rs. Crore					
Annual Plan of Operation (2020-21): Karnataka State Authority					
S. No.	Activity	Earlier Approved Outlay	Outlay approved in 10 th EC	Total	Admissibility as per CAF Act/Rules
1	2	3	4	5 (3+4)	6
Site-specific Activities:					
1	Compensatory Afforestation	3.65	0.00	3.65	Mandatory Activities

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2	Protection and improvement of Wildlife habitat and Development of Kamasamudra WL sanctuary under the funds released by the user agency	2.00	0.00	2.00	
3	CA spill over	9.38	0.00	9.38	
4	CATP spill over	0.30	0.00	0.30	
5	SSA spill over	3.26	0.00	3.26	
	Sub-total Site-specific Activities	18.59	0.00	18.59	
Activities as per Rule 5 (2) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
6	NPV Spill over activities including Pending Payment	86.81	0.00	86.81	
7	Assisted Natural Regeneration(ANR) Advance work (including raising of Nursery)	34.36	0.00	34.36	5(2) (a)
8	Artificial Regeneration Advance work (including raising of Nursery)	5.46	0.00	5.46	5(2) (b)
	Protection of plantation and forest				
	(i) through CPT	0.00	10.83	10.83	
9	(ii) through Barbed Wire fencing	0.00	0.45	0.45	5(2) (d)
	(iii) Survey and Demarcation of RF and boundary consolidation	0.00	7.00	7.00	
10	Forest fire prevention and control operation				
	(i) Fire Watchers and Others (Food to watchers, their training and awareness) ^[*]	0.00	1.20	1.20	5(2) (f)
	(ii) Purchase of equipment for forest fire prevention and control operation ^[†]	0.00	0.74	0.74	
	Improvement of wildlife habitat as prescribed in the approved wildlife management plan/working plan				
11	(i) Grassland rejuvenation	5.00	0.00	5.00	5(2)(i)
	(ii) Upgradation, excavation and maintenance of Elephant proof Trench	0.00	6.00	6.00	
	(iii) Erection and Maintenance of Solar Fencing	0.00	0.50	0.50	
12	Establishment, operation and maintenance of Animal Rescue Centres				5(2) (k)
	(i) Establishment of Elephant	0.50	0.00	0.50	

	rescue centre				
	(ii) Establishment of Animal Rescue Centre for Bears, leopards and wolves at Sri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Zoological Park, Kamalapura, Dist Ballari	1.50	0.00	1.50	
	(iii) Establishment of rescue centre for Large carnivores at Bannerghatta	1.50	0.00	1.50	
	(iv) Assistance to ZAK towards maintenance of animal rescue centre at Koorgally village (Mysuru)	2.00	0.00	2.00	
	Sub Total 5(2)	137.13	26.72	163.85	
Activities as per Rule 5 (3) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
13	Establishment, up-gradation and maintenance of modern nurseries and other planting stock production facilities for production of quality planting materials	2.40	0.00	2.40	5(3) (a)
14	Research Activities ^[†]	0.00	0.93	0.93	
15	Biodiversity Board for preparing PBRs	5.00	0.00	5.00	5(3) (b)
16	Construction, up-gradation and maintenance of inspections paths, forest road in forest area, fire lines, watch towers, check posts, timber depots	5.00	0.00	5.00	
17	Maintenance of Road network in protected Areas as per wildlife management plan ^[§]	0.00	0.50	0.50	5(3) (d)
18	Maintenance of existing Fire line and creation of Fresh Fire line ^[**]	0.00	3.12	3.12	
19	Improvement/construction of Elephant Camps and Anti-Poaching Camps ^[††]	0.00	2.00	2.00	
20	Construction of residential and official buildings in forests for concerned staffs up to the rank of RFO deployed for protection of forest and wildlife	0.00	6.00	6.00	5(3) (e)
21	Concurrent monitoring and evaluation of works including third party monitoring of works undertaken from State Fund	0.75	0.00	0.75	5(3) (h)


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22	Publicity cum Awareness for forestry and allied activities undertaken by the forest department.	0.60	0.00	0.60	5(3) (i)
23	Strengthening of Training Institute for Capacity building (refresher courses)	1.00	0.00	1.00	5(3)
	Sub Total 5(3)	14.75	12.55	27.30	
	Total NPV	151.88	39.27	191.15	
Activities as per Rule 6 (a) & (b) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
24	Recurring and non-recurring expenditure (RMOE) ^[**]	1.00	0.00	1.00	6(a)(iv) and 6(b)(i) to (iv)
25	Other contingencies for management of the State Authority, with the approval of the steering committee of the State Authority	1.00	0.00	1.00	6(b)(v)
26	Maintenance of Kalkere Research Station at Bengaluru	0.50	0.00	0.50	6(b)(vi)
27	Orchidarium at Bangalore	0.40	0.00	0.40	6(b)(vi)
28	Comprehensive study on carrying Capacity of Development Projects in Western Ghats of Karnataka	0.10	0.00	0.10	6(b)(vi)
29	Conservation Programme of Golden Mahaseer in River Cauvery	0.20	0.00	0.20	6(b)(vi)
	Sub Total Rule 6	3.20	0.00	3.20	
	Grand Total (CA+NPV+Interest)	173.67	39.27	212.94	

[*] Also includes establishing fire watcher camps, supply of food to watchers, their trainings, publicity and awareness-not permissible under the sub-rule. The total amount needs to be reduced accordingly.

[†] Also includes purchase of diesels for department vehicles-not permissible under the sub-rule. The total amount needs to be reduced accordingly.

[‡] Advance work for CSO, SSO, STP/PT. This also includes payment of Rs 91,08,061 for seed collected and distributed during 2019-20 in anticipation of funds from CAMPA and Rs 10,99,000.00 towards IWST instalment, for which no details have been furnished. Hence, these are deferred.

[§] Includes formation of new road also.

[**] Also includes expenses of (i) Establishment of Fire Protection Camps, (ii) Training of Staff, (iii) Quick response vehicles, (iv) Publicity and Awareness, (v) Purchase of firefighting equipment, (vi) Fire watchers- not permissible under the sub rule. The total amount needs to be reduced accordingly.

[††] Also includes providing basic amenities, solar lights, repair of existing solar lights, paintings and other works-not agreed to. The total amount needs to be reduced accordingly.

[‡‡] Disbursement of salary and allowances of members and staff of the State Authority is permissible under Rule 5(a)(iv).

3. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to implementation of approved APO, 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

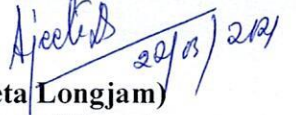
- management plan. The State EC will also ensure that there is no overlapping of activities with other schemes;
2. Compensating the loss of ecological services due to forest diversion for non-forestry purposes is the main objective of Compensatory Afforestation Fund. Regeneration and development of forests should, therefore, be given priority. Also, priority should be accorded to labour intensive activities for regeneration and development of forests;
 3. State Forest Fire Action Plan proposed in the APO shall be a 'standalone' activity;
 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 Authority 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 and release money so that approved activities could be implemented in time;
 7. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development are permissible only as per approved site-specific schemes;
 8. Soil and moisture conservation work shall be carried out in an integrated manner under watershed approach from "ridge to valley" only in degraded forests. This shall focus on assisted natural regeneration and supplemented by artificial seeding with quantifiable monitoring parameters. 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. Since this component (SWC for regeneration of forests) is a very large work, the efficacy of the design and the activities shall be concurrently monitored by a reputed independent agency. Actions will be, accordingly, taken during the lifetime of each project. The overall impact on improved forest regeneration shall be shared with NAEB, MoEF&CC on an annual basis;
 9. Elephant proof trench design must ensure that this does not result in any critical soil/water erosion. Further, The State Forest Department in consultation with WII will explore how the EPT structure could be further strengthened/used to improve fodder and water in the contained area;
 10. Necessary clearance of CZA may be sought for establishment, operation and maintenance of animal rescue centres and veterinary treatment facility. Estimated cost and basis of cost estimation not submitted. The State may fund procurement of vehicles and engagement of contractual staff (Driver, Attendant, Experts) from other sources and not from CAMPA;
 11. 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;
 12. 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

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- exhibition on various schemes being implemented by the State Authority shall be done as per provisions of CAF Rules, 2018 only;
13. 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;
 14. 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 or the relevant Centrally Sponsored Scheme;
 15. Maintenance of computers and other peripherals shall be limited to the equipment purchased from CAMPA funds;
 16. Expenditure on items such as maintenance of 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.;
 17. 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;
 18. The Executive Committee of the State Authority shall ensure that there is no mixing of money with any other Scheme under implementation from any other budget as per Explanation 2 below Rule 5 of CAF Rules, 2018;
 19. The State Authority shall ensure that adequate numbers of Geographical coordinates/ Geo-tags of all the site-specific activities proposed in the Annual Plan of Operation are available. All the physical works undertaken under this APO and the financial progress shall be uploaded timely on the e-Green watch portal along-with photographs of the area before and after the execution of the work;
 20. '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;
 21. 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;
 22. The EC of the State CAMPA shall revise the physical target of each activity in accordance with the approved financial target. The validity of APO (2020-21) shall expire on 31.03.2021. Further continuation of the incomplete activities shall be permissible only if they are included in the APO (2021-22) and are approved;
 23. The APO should comply with the 80:20 conditions explained in the opening para of the 9th EC minutes;
 24. The approval of APO (2021-22) shall be considered only after the State Government/UT Administration submits a compliance report as per the guidelines regarding utilization of unspent balance of the Ad-hoc CAMPA issued vide letter no. NA-15/1/2020-NA dated 15.07.2020 of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

4. This supersedes sanction letter of even number dated 16th September, 2020 and communication sent through e-mail on 27.02.2021 regarding APO (2020-21).

Yours faithfully


(Ajeeta Longjam)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF(HoFF)-cum-Chairperson, the Executive Committee of Karnataka State CAMPA, Bengaluru
2. Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru
3. Chief Executive Officer, Karnataka State CAMPA, Bengaluru
4. Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru
5. Accountant General, Karnataka, Bengaluru.

Copy also forwarded to:

1. Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi
2. Special Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi
3. Chief Executive Officer, (National Authority), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi
4. ADG FC/WL/NTCA, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi
5. Mission Director, National Mission for Green India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi
6. Deputy Director General of Forests (All), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bengaluru
7. IGF FC/WL/FPD/SU/PE/FP/NAEB/NTCA, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi
8. Principal Director (Audit), Scientific Department, AGCR Building, New Delhi
9. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File
10. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on PARIVESH and e-Greenwatch.