

F. No. NA-15/18/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(National Authority)

Hall No.1, 4th Floor
Block No.3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003
Dated the 16th February, 2021

To,
 The Secretary/Commissioner (Forests)
 Government of Maharashtra
 Mumbai.

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation for the year 2020-21 of Maharashtra State CAMPA-reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter No. CAMPA/C.R.21(19-20)20 dated 6th May,2020 and subsequent letters and e-mails of Government of Maharashtra, the last letter being letter No. CAMPA/C.R.05/2020-21/452 dated 07.01.2021 of APCCF and CEO, Maharashtra CAMPA on the above mentioned subject and to 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 – Maharashtra (2020-21) at a total cost of ₹599.32 crore (Rupees five hundred ninety nine crore and thirty two lakh) out of proposed outlay of ₹599.32 crore recommended by the State Steering Committee for carrying out the approved activities during the current financial year from the “State Compensatory Afforestation Fund – Maharashtra” created under Section 4 of CAF Act, 2016.

2. The APO was discussed in the 5th, 6th and 9th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority held on 23rd April, 2020 and 27-28th May, 2020 and 12th January, 2021. In its 9th meeting, the EC finally approved the deferred Soil Moisture Conservation works amounting to Rs.65 crore as per revised details submitted by the State CAMPA through their letter No. Desk-CAMPA/C.R.05/2020-21/452 dated 07.01.2021 subject to 80:20 conditions. The component wise approval accorded by the Executive Committee is as under:

(Amount ₹ in crore)

Sr. No.	Major Activity	Proposed Amount	Approved amount as per 5 th & 6 th EC	Approved as per 9 th EC	Total approved Amount	Remarks
	Mandatory works as per FCA approval	90.59	90.59	0	90.59	
	Subtotal (1)	90.59	90.59	0	90.59	
Activities as per rule of the CAF Rules, 2018						
	I. Min 80% NPV	409.95	344.95	65.00	409.95	85%
	II. Max 20% of	74.53	74.53	0	74.53	15%

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NPV					
Subtotal (2)	484.48	419.48	65.00	484.48	

Activities as per Rule 6 of the CAF Rules, 2018						
I. Minimum 60% of Interest		21.80	21.80	0	21.80	89.9%
II. Maximum 40% of Interest		2.45	2.45	0	2.45	10.1%
Subtotal (3)		24.25	24.25	0	24.25	
Grand Total (1+2+3)		599.32	534.32	65.00	599.32	

3. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- i. 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.
- ii. 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.
- iii. State Forest Fire Action Plan proposed in the Supplementary APOs/APOs shall be a 'standalone' activity.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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.
- vi. 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.
- vii. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development are permissible only as per approved site-specific schemes.
- viii. Soil and moisture conservation work shall be carried out only in degraded

forests in an integrated manner under watershed approach from “ridge to valley”. This shall focus on assisted natural regeneration and supplemented by artificial seeding with quantifiable monitoring parameters. Construction of dams, stop dams 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.

- ix. 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.
- x. 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.
- xi. 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.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. Maintenance of computers and other peripherals shall be limited to the equipment purchased from CAMPA funds;
- xiv. 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.
- xv. 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.
- xvi. 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.
- xvii. 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.
- xviii. '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.
- xix. Activities proposing distribution of supply of wood saving cooking appliances

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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.

xx. 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.

xxi. The APO should comply with the 80:20 conditions explained in the opening para of the 9th EC minutes.

xxii. 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 letter supersedes earlier letter of even number dated 14th July 2020

Yours faithfully,


Ajeeta Longjam

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Principle Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)-cum-Chairperson, Maharashtra State CAMPA, Department of Forests, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur
2. Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra State CAMPA, Department of Forests, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur
3. Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai
4. Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
5. Accountant General, Mumbai.

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. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Nagpur
6. IGF FC/WL/FPD/SU/PE/FP/NAEB/NTCA, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi
7. Principal Director (Audit), Scientific Department, AGCR Building, New Delhi
8. Technical Director, NIC, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi with a request to upload the sanction order on the e-Greenwatch
9. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File.