F.No.NA-15/35/2020-NA Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (National Authority)

Hall No.1, 4th Floor Block No. 3, CGO Complex Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 Dated the 7 November, 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 financial year 2021-22 of Karnataka State Authority- deferred activities reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to letter No. APCCF (CAMPA)/CR- 39 /2021-22 dated 07th July, 2021 of Government of Karnataka 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 Annual Plan of Operation-Karnataka (2021-22) at a total cost of **Rs.67.53 crores** (Rupees Sixty Seven crore fifty three lakh only) for the deferred activities of worth Rs.67.53 crores.

2. The APO was discussed in the 14th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority held on 22nd, 23rd and 30th July, 2021. National Authority has approved APO amounting to Rs.253.56 crores and deferred activities of worth Rs.67.53 crores vide sanction order dated 24.08.2021. The Karnataka State Authority has furnished the details and justification for the activities deferred. The details of approval of activities are as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

		(Timount in 183; Crores)			
Sl. No.	ACTIVITIES	Physical	Financial	Remarks	
		Target	Target		
		(in ha.)			
1.	Activities as per Rule 5(2) of the CAF Rules, 2018				
a.	Artificial Regeneration				
	Protection of plantation and forest through	1439.999	22.13		
	CPT/Stone wall/Fencing/RCC pillars.	KM			
b.	Improvement of wildlife habitat as				
	prescribed in the approved wildlife				
	management plan/working plan				
	Establishment/ maintenance of different	As per	15.00	Rs. 15 crore	
	MAC mitigation measures such as	APO		Approved	
	Elephant Proof Trenches, Solar fencing,			instead of Rs.	
	Tentakal fencing, Rail Barricade, Cable			30.00 crore in	
	barricades etc.			last sanction	
				dated 24th	
				August, 2021	
	Relocation of families residing in Dandeli	As per	20.40*		
	Tiger Reserve	APÔ			

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	Assistance to ZAK towards purchase of As per food & fodder and maintenance of animal APO rescue centre at koorgally village (mysuru), Bannerghatta (Bengaluru), ABVZ Hampi, Shivamogga & Gadag.	7.00		
	Subtotal Rule 5(2)	64.53		
3	Activities as per Rule 5 (3) of the CAF Rules, 2018			
	Construction of residential and officials As per buildings in forests for concerned staffs up APO to the rank of RFO deployed for protection of forest and wildlife	3.00	Rs. 3.00 crore approved instead of rs.6.00 crore in last sanction dated 24 th August	
	Subtotal Rule 5(3)	3.00		
	Grand Total	67.53		

3. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- * Approval granted is subject to compliance of NTCA advisories/guidelines and a condition that the vacated areas shall be notified as core area. Moreover, State Authority shall take necessary steps and devise safeguards to ensure that the vacated forest land is adequately protected so that relocated villagers do not return to vacated forest
- ii. Utilization of State Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) shall be done in such a manner that at least 80 per cent is used for afforestation forest development and wildlife habitat improvement and maximum 20 per cent be used for infrastructure/capacity building related items. The Hon'ble Minister, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India & Chairman of the National Authority letter no NA-1/47/2020-NA dated 22.10.2020 addressed to Hon'ble CM of State Governments/Lt. Governors of UT Administration.
- iii. KML files of afforestation and other major works and their periodic photos (before start of the work and after the completion of the work on an annual basis) shall be uploaded on E-Green Watch portal.
- iv. Casual engagement of local people or labours to assist regular staff of State forest department for works for protection of forest and wildlife undertaken from State fund as per rule 5(3)(f) is subject to the limit of 25% of total cost under the component. These will be standalone and monitorable items of work, and there shall be no mixing of funding for the same work.
- v. Monitoring and evaluation of the works undertaken shall be the highest priority for the State Authorities, and the EC and the Steering Committee of all the State Authorities shall take adequate measures in this regard.
- vi. For third party monitoring state should engage agency who are independently working and it should not be local NGOs/ organisations which is attached/ working with the forest departments.
- vii. The monitoring and evaluation report of the works done upto the year 2020-21 be ready by December, 2021, and similarly report on activities taken up in 2021-22 must be made available in time by September 2022.
- viii. It is to be noted that from now on, a third party (independent) Monitoring Report of major works undertaken in the previous year shall be submitted along with other necessary documents for consideration of APO by the EC of NA.
- ix. A statement that the Annual Report and the Audit Report together with a memorandum of action taken on recommendations contained therein has been laid in each house of the State legislature as per requirements of section 29 of the CAF Act

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2016, shall be invariably submitted with the proposal for approval of the APO by the EC of NA.

- x. Prior to implementation of approved APOs the EC of the State Authority shall ensure that a certificate is available with them to the effect that the proposed activities 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.
- xi. The State EC will also ensure that there is no overlapping of activities / funding with other schemes and may provide a certificate to that effect.
- xii. Local species, especially fruit and fodder species, has to be given preference in afforestation/ regeneration to be carried out; monoculture should not be undertaken, and planting of exotic species shall be avoided.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. State Forest Fire Action Plan proposed in the Supplementary APOs/APOs shall be a *standalone" activity.
- xv. 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- xviii. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development are permissible only as per approved site-specific schemes.
- xix. 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.
- xx. The proposed activities in the APO need to be rearranged at some places as per subrules 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.
- xxi. 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.
- '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.

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- xxiii. The validity of APO (2021-22) shall expire on 31.03.2022. Further continuation of the incomplete activities shall be permissible only if they are included in the APO (2022-23) and are approved.
- xxiv. The final 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.

Yours faithfully

(Siam Khan Muan Guite)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests
National Authority

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.

(Siam Khan Muan Guite)
(Assistant Inspector General of Forests)
National Authority