

File No.-15/32/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change
(National Authority)
Email:- adhoc-campa-mef@nic.in

Block No.3, 4th Floor,
Hall No.1, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated the 25rd August, 2021

To,

Principal Secretary
Department of Forests
Government of West Bengal
Kolkata

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation for the financial year 2021-22 of West Bengal State CAMPA.

I am directed to refer to letter no. 757/CAMPA/2C-04/21-22 dated 12.03.20201 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-West Bengal (2021-22) at a total cost of **Rs.28.20 crores** (Rupees twenty-eight crores and twenty lakhs only) out of remaining activities of worth **Rs.29.40 crores** recommended by the State Steering Committee for carrying out approved activities during the current financial year from the "State Compensatory Afforestation Fund – West Bengal" created under Section 4 of CAF Act, 2016.

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.

The details of approval of remaining activities are as under:

(Amount Rs. in Crore)				
Sl. No.	Activities	Physical Target (Area in Ha/Km)	Financial Target	Remarks
1. Proposed Activities as per Rule 5(2) under NPV 80%				
A.	Protection of plantation & forest.	2000 No.s	3.00	
a.	Survey and demarcation of boundaries in forest villages and setting up of forest boundaries			
b.	Digitalization of forest boundaries in collaboration with Dept. of S&T, GoWB, through WP &GIS			
B.	Improvement of Wildlife habitat as provided in the approved Wildlife Management Plan or Working plan	600Ha	15.00	
	a. Wildlife Management, Habitat			

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	Management like cut back of grass land, construction of waterhole, etc b. Engagement of JFMC to help staff in forest protection, elephant management			
C.	Establishment, operation and maintenance of animal rescue centre and veterinary treatment facilities for wild animals a. Development of Mangroves interpretation center b. Effective communication and dissemination of knowledge	1 No	2.70**	Rs. 1.50 Crore Approved. To be set up a state of art, education, awareness, research and conservation center
	Subtotal		19.50	
2. Proposed activities as per Rule 5(3) under NPV 20%				
A.	Purchase and maintenance of equipment or devices used for communication and information technology for the purpose of protection of forest and wildlife	101 nos.	1.70	
B.	Construction, up-gradation and maintenance of inspection paths, forest roads in forest area, fire lines watch towers, check posts and timber depots		1.10	
C.	Construction of residential and official buildings in forests for front line staffs deployed for protection of forest and wildlife		5.90	
	Subtotal		8.70	
	Deferred		1.20	
	Grand total approved		28.20	

3. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- i. 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.
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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.


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- iv. The monitoring and evaluation report of the works done upto the year 2020-21 be ready by September, 2021, and similarly report on activities taken up in 2021-22 must be made available in time by September 2022.
- v. 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.
- vi. 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 2016, shall be invariably submitted with the proposal for approval of the APO by the EC of NA.
- vii. 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.
- viii. 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.
- ix. 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.
- x. 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.
- xi. State Forest Fire Action Plan proposed in the Supplementary APOS/APOS shall be a "standalone" activity.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. 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.
- xv. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development are permissible only as per approved site-specific schemes.
- xvi. 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 Dums, 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.
- xvii. 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

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- Authority shall make necessary changes in the APO accordingly with the permission of the State Executive Authority.
- xviii. 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.
- xix. '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.
- xx. 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.
- xxi. 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


(Ajeeta Longjam)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests
National Authority

Copy to:

1. Chief Executive Officer, State CAMPA West Bengal, Kolkata;
2. Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata;
3. Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata;
4. Accountant General, West Bengal, Kolkata.

Copy also forwarded to:

1. Director General of Forests & 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, Ministry of Environment, Forest and 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 Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhubaneswar;
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. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File;
9. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on the official website of MoEF&CC.