

File No. 15/32/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority
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Hall No.1, 4th Floor
Block No. 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated 4th May, 2023

To,

The Principal Secretary,
Department of Forests,
Government of West Bengal,
Kolkata

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation for the financial year 2023-24 of West Bengal State CAMPA.

Ref: letter No. 846/CAMPA/2C/04/23/24 dated 13.02.2023 dated 6.03.2023

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned letter, it is to convey the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Authority in its 22nd meeting under section 15 (1) (i) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 for the State Annual Plan of Operation –2023-24 for an amount of **Rs 64.27 crores** (Rupees Sixty four crores and twenty seven lakhs only) against the proposed outlay of **Rs. 86.90** crores (Rupees Eighty six crores and ninety lakhs only) for carrying out CAMPA activities including the mandatory and time bound. The amount under NPV has been restricted to 25% of the NPV funds available with the State.

2. As per the decision taken in the Executive Committee meeting, the NPV component of CAMPA fund has been rationalized to less than 25% for continuation and sustainability of CAMPA activities aimed for improvement of quality of forest and wildlife habitat and essential measures required for forest fire prevention and control.

3. The West Bengal Annual Plan of Operation 2023-24 with financial outlay of Rs. 86.90 crores was discussed in detail by the Executive Committee of the National Authority during the 22nd Executive Committee meeting of the National Authority.

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| 1. Date of Receipt by NA | : 15.12.2022 |
| 2. Date of approval of EC of State/UT | : 18.01.2023 |
| 3. Date of approval of the Steering Committee | : 24.02.2023 |
| 4. Total Amount/Outlay | : Rs. 86.90 crores *(furnished by State) |
| 5. Amount of Approved APO | : Rs. 64.27 crores |



4. The details of considered component-wise activities are as follows:

(Amount in Rs. Crore and Area in Ha.)

S.No	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed outlay		Green Employment to be generated (in Mandays)	Remarks
			Phy. Target	Fin. Target		
1.		Site-specific activities as per Section 6(a) of the CAF Act, 2016				
	Mandatory Activity	Compensatory Afforestation				Approved
	i	Advance Work	91.923	0.12		
	ii	Advance cum creation works	7.4354	0.07		
	iii	Creation of plantation work	321.658	3.48		
	iv	Maintenance of older plantations	772.512	1.55		
		Sub Total		5.22		
		Catchment Area Treatment Plan	-	-	-	
		Integrated wildlife Management Plan				
	i	Jhanjara Coal Mining Project under Durgapur Division Re-digging of ED-water harvesting structure for elephant, construction of Earthen Dam	LS	0.21		Approved
	ii	Wildlife management plan 1000 MV Turga pumped storage project	LS	0.24		
	iii	Wildlife management plan Sevok, Rangpo Railway Project	LS	15.13		Deferred. Details of activities and approved WMP
		Sub Total		15.58		
		Other	-	-	-	
		Total site specific activities under CA		20.80		
2. Activity as per Rule 5(2) of CAF Rules, 2018						
	5(2)a	ANR	-	-	-	
	5(2)b	AR				
	i	Advance work	280.39	0.29		Approved
	ii	Advance work for avenue/Strip planation in non-forest areas	1.68	0.22		
	iii	Creation of plantation	320.46	2.80		
	iv	Maintenance of plantations (re-	569.67	0.84		

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		stoking & refilling work)				
	v	Maintenance of older Gap plantation	359	0.19		
		Sub Total		4.33		
	5(2)c	Silvicultural Operations	-	-	-	
	5(2)d	Protection of Plantations and forests				
	i	Engagement of labour from JFMC to help staff in forest protection, purchase of searchlight and battery, hiring of vehicles for patrolling	LS	2.19		Approved
	ii	Setting up forest boundary	1618	0.60		Approved
	iii	Digitization of boundary by Dept. of Science, Technology & Biotechnology	LS	0.12		Approved
	iv	Procurement of Motorcycle for frontline lady staff & frontline staff of urban areas	300	3.00		Approved
		Sub Total		5.91		
	5(2)e	Pest and disease control in forests	-	-	-	
	5(2)f	Forest fire prevention and control operations				
	i	Maintenance of firelines	1330 Nos.	1.24		Approved for Rs. 1.5 crores of Rs 3.17
	ii	Engagement of fire watcher	40211 Nos	1.14		
	iii	Purchase of fire fighting equipment	99 Nos.	0.79		
		Sub Total		3.17		
	5(2)g	Soil and moisture conservation works	-	-	-	
	5(2)h	Voluntary relocation of villages from protected areas	246 family	36.90		Approved (Subjected to clearance from NTCA)
	5(2)i	Improvement of wildlife habitat	As per APO			
	i	Cut back of grass land, solar power in remote protection tower, water retention structure, Advance cum creation of grass fodder planation, overwood removal	LS	1.774		Approved for Rs. 0.50

Subtotal

		& eradication of obnoxious weed				
	ii	Setting up post mortem room * veterinary care centre in Jaldapara wildlife division	LS	0.40		Deferred
	iii	Engagement of elephant trackers, erection of energised fencing, digging of elephant proof trenches, hiring of vehicle including POL, Installation of solar light to reduce human-elephant conflict	LS	3.80		Approved for Rs. 2.50 crore
	iv	Creation of fodder plantation, Teak felling operation, creation of grassland/meadow, water hole creation in Buxa Tiger Reserve	80 Ha	2.17		Approved for Rs. 1.00 crore
	v	Control of mailing bamboo infestation at Sinchal WLS	10	0.20		Deferred
	vi	Procurement of tranquilizing gun, accessories and drugs by wildlife wing	LS	0.40		Approved
		Sub Total		8.74		
	5(2)j	Planting and rejuvenation of forest cover on non-forest land falling in wildlife corridors	-	-	-	
	5(2)k	Establishment, maintenance of animal rescue centre and veterinary treatment facilities for wild animals	As per APO	0.175		Approved
	5(2)l	Supply of wood saving, cooking appliances and other forest produce saving devices.	3 Nos.	0.24		Not Approved
	5(2)m	Management of biological diversity				

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		and biological resource				
	i	Preparation of REDD+ action plan by ICFRE	As per APO	0.10		Deferred (Details to be submitted)
3.		Activities as per Rule 5(3) of the CAF Rule, 2018				
	5(3)d	Construction, upgradation and maintenance of inspection paths, forest roads in forest areas, fire line, watch towers, check posts and timber posts				
	i	Repair of forest roads	144.83 km	0.77	176-179	Approved for Rs. 0.20 crore
	ii	Construction of culvert	26 Nos	0.44	180	Approved for Rs. 0.10 crore
		Sub Total		1.21		
	5(3)e	Construction of residential and official buildings				
	i	Major repair of Group C & D Quarters for front line staff	272 Quarters	1.87		Approved
	ii	Improvised JFMC strengthening activities in Darjeeling Division	1217	0.37		
	iii	Construction of toilets in JFMC in Darjeeling Division	28	0.14		
		Sub Total		2.38		
	5(3)h	Independent concurrent monitoring and evaluation and third party monitoring	As per APO	0.14		Approved
	5(3)i	Publicity cum awareness programme	As per APO	0.05		Approved
4.		Activities as per Rule 6(a) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	6(a)i	To offset incremental cost of CA/PCA at increased wage rate				
	i	Cost escalation of CA/Penal CA/Safety Zone Afforestation	LS	0.05		Approved
	6(a)iv	For disbursement of salary and allowances of members and staff				

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	i	Disbursement of salary and allowances of contractual members & staff of the State Authority	LS	1.25		Approved
	6(a)v	For disbursement of sitting fees and allowances to nominated members		0.02		Approved
	6(a)vi	Activities referred to in sub rule-(2) and (3) of Rule 5				
	i	Training of field staff/CAMPA Staff/FPCs	LS	0.40		Approved for Rs. 0.15 crore
5.		Activities as per Rule 6(b) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	6(b)i	Management of office establishment		0.60		Approved
	6(b)ii	Office equipment including computers and peripherals and its maintenance		0.03		Approved
	6(b)iii	Hiring of staff cars for the use of officers and officials		0.20		Approved
	6(b)v	Other contingencies for management of State Authority		0.01		Approved
	6(b)vi	Any other activity for management of forests and wildlife with the approval of Steering Committee and included in the APO		0.19		Approved
		Grand Total Approved		64.27		

5. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- i. 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.
- ii. Utilization of State Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) shall be done in such a manner that at least 80% is used for afforestation, forest development and wildlife habitat improvement and up to a maximum 20% amount is to be used for infrastructure/capacity building related items.
- iii. All the records of CAMPA activities including amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred should be maintained by State CAMPA since its inception. The records should be properly maintained with Range, Division office and CEO State CAMPA in prescribed formats and placed on their websites.
- iv. The construction and maintenance of Rescue Centre should only be taken up after vetting of Central Zoo Authority (CZA) and when funds are not available from other sources.

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- v. A website of the State CAMPA should be properly developed, if not done earlier. It should have all relevant data, information, plantation maps, KML files of other assets and photographs of various activities carried out under CAMPA. In respect of CA, plantations/ regeneration activities before and after photographs should be uploaded.
- vi. If required and approved by National Authority, casual engagement of only local people or local labours may be hired to assist regular staff of State Forest Department for works for protection of forest and wildlife to be undertaken from State fund as per rule 5(3)(f).
- vii. Monitoring and evaluation of the works undertaken shall be the highest priority for the State Authorities. Executive Committee and Steering Committee of all the State/UT Authorities should ensure adequate measures for regular internal and third-party monitoring and evaluation of CAMPA activities on regular basis. For third party monitoring, State should engage agencies, who are professionally/ technically competent and independent of the State Government.
- viii. The monitoring and evaluation report of the works done up to the year 2021-22 must be made available to National Authority (NA). Similarly report on CAMPA activities taken up in 2022-23 should be made available to the NA.
- ix. A statement that the Annual Report, Annual accounts 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.
- 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 State Wildlife Management Plan, whereas activities proposed in forest fire prevention and control operations should be as per Integrated Fire Management Plan of the state.
- xi. Soil and Moisture Conservation works should be carried out in an integrated manner from ridge to valley approach in degraded forests. This shall focus on rejuvenation of rivers and achievements should be placed as per the DPRs for 13 major rivers released by MoEF&CC recently. APOs in future should indicate the reference of DPRs being implemented. The data of afforestation, aided forest regeneration and efforts for increasing tree cover outside should be shared with FSI for continuous assessment of green cover and evaluation. If not part of the above mentioned DPR, then state should take it up as per planned activity approved by State Government or in working plan.
- xii. The State /UTs Authorities should make a detail record of total forest land transferred and compensatory afforestation carried out/ compensated the loss of green cover/ecosystem services.
- xiii. The State EC shall also ensure that there is no overlapping of activities / funding with other schemes and may provide a certificate to that effect.
- xiv. Local and indigenous species, especially fruit and fodder species should be given preference in afforestation/ regeneration to be carried out; monoculture and planting of exotic species should be avoided.
- xv. 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 in degraded forests as well as non-forest lands. Priority should also be accorded to labour intensive activities for regeneration and development of forests and wildlife habitat.
- xvi. 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.

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- xvii. 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 should be taken up following relevant rules and guidelines after taking necessary approvals.
- xix. Purchase of vehicles is not permitted. Vehicles are to be hired as per approved APO. The repair/maintenance of vehicles shall be limited to the vehicles purchased from the CAMPA funds previously.
- xx. IRO shall also monitor and evaluate CAMPA activities. The State CAMPA Authority shall keep sufficient budgetary provisions for monitoring by IRO, in the State APOs under monitoring head. IRO should submit the Monitoring and Evaluation reports within three to four months to National Authority.
- xxi. The States/UTs CAMPA Authority shall complete for completing the works approved in APO within the year and avoid any spill over for the next year. It is important to complete mandatory activities first and utilize the released funds for maintenance of CAMPA activities under NPV & Interest components before starting new activities.
- xxii. The States/UTs Authority are proposing engagement of Casual labours for protection of Forests for the entire State. It clarified that such item can be considered only for around the forest areas where the land transfer has taken place and need special protection owing to the developmental activities.
- xxiii. The validity of APO (2023-24) shall expire on 31.03.2024. Further continuation of the incomplete activities shall be permissible only if they are included in the APO (2024-25) and are approved by NA.
- xxiv. The States/UTs Authorities shall work out details of funds available with the State CAMPA head-wise under CA/ CAT Plan/ Wildlife Mitigation Plan, NPV and interest components etc. after deducting the expenditure incurred and prepare Annual Plan of operation for next year based on CAMPA funds available with the State/UT. Priority shall be given to the mandatory activities including commitment on maintenance of previous years.

Yours faithfully



(Subhash Chandra)
Chief Executive Officer

Copy to:

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

Copy also forwarded through email to:

1. PPS to DGF&SS, for kind information
2. Chief Executive Officer (National Authority), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi

3. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, West Bengal, Kolkata
4. Principal Director (Audit), Scientific Department, AGCR Building, New Delhi;
5. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File
6. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on the official website of MoEF&CC



(Subhash Chandra)
Chief Executive Officer
National Authority

