

File No. NA-15/30/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority
E-mail: nationalcampa-moefcc@gov.in

Hall No.1, 4th Floor
Block No. 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated 19th April, 2024

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Sikkim

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation for the financial year 2024-25 of Sikkim State CAMPA-reg.

Ref: State CAMPA of Sikkim's letter no. 6077/FCA/F&ED dated 18th March, 2024

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned letter, the Annual Plan of Operation for the financial year 2024-25 was discussed in detail by the Executive Committee of the National Authority during its 28th meeting. In view of the enforcement of Model Code of Conduct due to ensuing Lok Sabha Elections, it was decided to consider only the activities in the APO which are of mandatory/seasonal/ committed in nature.

2. In this regard, approval of the Executive Committee of the National Authority is conveyed under section 15 (1) (i) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 for the State Annual Plan of Operation 2024-25 for an amount of **Rs 20.19** (Rupees Twenty crore and nineteen lakh only) against the proposed outlay of **Rs. 78.85 crore** (Rupees Seventy eight crore and eighty five lakh only) for carrying out the approved activities as per list A below.

3. The details of approved activities are given in list A which are of mandatory/seasonal/committed in nature.

A List of Mandatory / Seasonal / committed activities:

(Area in ha. Rs. in crore)

S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision	
			Phy Target	Fin Target		
1		Site-specific activities as per Section 6(a) of the CAF Act, 2016				
		Compensatory Afforestation				
	Mandatory Activities	i	Maintenance of existing / older plantation	607.57	1.56	Approved
		ii	New plantation	197.26	6.66	Approved
2		Activity as per Rule 5(2) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	5(2)a	ANR				



S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity		Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision
				Phy Target	Fin Target	
		i	Aided Natural Regeneration (Creation work)	100	0.46	Approved
		i.	Maintenance of plantation	100	0.10	Approved
	5(2)b		Artificial Regeneration			
			Creation of Plantation			
		i	Fodder Plantation	100	0.38	Approved
		ii	Silvi pasture Development	100	0.43	Approved
		iii	Avenue Plantation with bamboo basket (in km)	200	2.11	Approved
		iv	Bamboo Plantation (Large bamboo with Rhizome)	30	0.28	Approved
		v	"Mero Rukh Mero Santati" plantation and awareness drive	LS	1.50	Approved
			Maintenance			
		i.	Maintenance of nursery for production of seedlings for Artificial Regeneration		0.20	Approved
		ii.	Fodder Plantation (Maintenance (1st yr.))	150	0.13	Approved
		iii.	Silvipasture Development (Maintenance 1st yr.)	150	0.12	Approved
		iv.	Avenue Plantation with bamboo basket (in km) (Maintenance 1 st yr.)	25	0.02	Approved
		v.	Bamboo Plantation (Large bamboo with Rhizome) Maintenance (1st yr.)	30	0.02	Approved
3	Activities as per Rule 5(3) of the CAF Rule, 2018					
	5(3)a	i	Independent concurrent monitoring and evaluation and Third Party monitoring of works undertaken from State Fund of various works undertaken from state fund.	LS	0.50	Approved
4	Activities as per Rule 6(a) of the CAF Rule, 2018					
	6(a)i		To offset incremental cost of CA/PKA at increased wage rate		2.07	Approved
	6(a)ii		To offset incremental cost of CAT at increased wage rate		0.14	Approved
	6(a)iv	i.	For disbursement of salary and allowances State CAMPA Authority & Staff.		0.85	Approved
5	Activities as per Rule 6(b) of the CAF Rule, 2018					
	6(b)i	i	Maintenance/strengthening of office of the State Authority		0.40	Approved
	6(b)v		<i>Other contingencies for management of State Authority</i>			
		(b)	POL/HSD and maintenance of vehicles & machineries of state authority offices		0.40	Approved
	6(b)vi		<i>Any other activity for management of forests and wildlife with the approval of Steering Committee and included in the APO</i>			
		(a)	Management and improvement of Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, West Sikkim		1.86	Approved



S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision
			Phy Target	Fin Target	
Total Approved			Rs. 20.19 crore		

B. List of activities under APO other than list A:

(Area in ha. Rs. in crore)

S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision
			Phy Target	Fin Target	
1	Site-specific activities as per Section 6(a) of the CAF Act, 2016				
		Catchment Area Treatment Plan			
		Diversion of 89.4266 Ha. of forest land for construction of 500 MW Teesta Stage-VI HEP by LANCO Energy Pvt. Ltd.	As per programme	3.72	Deferred
		Integrated Wildlife Management Plan (IWMP)			
	i.	Diversion of 52.70 ha of reserve forest land for the construction/improvement of Flaghill-Madhubala-Dokala Road in Latuui RF within the Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary in East Sikkim by 130 RCC (BRO)			
	ii.	Diversion of 2.10 Ha. of forest land for development of Skywalk for Promotion of Wildlife Tourism at Bhaleydhunga, Maenam Wildlife Sanctuary, South Sikkim.	As per programme	2.77	Deferred
		Any Other (Site specific activities in accordance with FC proposal)			
	i.	Diversion of 19.36 Ha. of forest land for construction of ITBP Phase II Road from Muguthang to 20R Link Point under Lachen (T) Range in Mangan district of Sikkim by CPWD	As per programme	0.68	Deferred
	ii.	Diversion of 26.448 Ha. of forest land for widening / improvement of J N Road to NHDL specification from Km 24 to 51.385 km in East District by BRO	As per programme	0.51	Deferred
2	Activity as per Rule 5(2) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	5(2)g	Soil and Moisture Conservation in forests			
		i. SMC works within forest areas	100	0.78	Deferred
		ii. Broom Grass Plantation	100	0.33	Deferred
	5(2)k	Establishment, operation & maintenance of animal rescue centre and veterinary treatment facilities for wild animals			
		(a) Maintenance of animal rescue Centre at HZP	LS	0.40	Deferred
		(b) Improvement and upgradation of HZP	LS	0.40	Deferred
		(c) Veterinary treatment of wild animals	LS	0.20	Deferred
		i. Spill over work/committed liabilities		0.00	Deferred
	5(2)d	Protection of plantation and forests			
		i. Construction of Dry-Stone Wall Fencing	1	0.15	Deferred
			25	2.94	Deferred
		ii. Construction of Catch Water Drain in different locations	2000	1.17	Deferred
		iii. Construction of CCM Wall in land slide in forest areas	1500	1.60	Deferred
		iv. Construction of Sausage Wall/Crate Wall in land slide areas	1700	1.01	Deferred



S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision	
			Phy Target	Fin Target		
		v	Construction of DRSM Wall in land slide areas	2000	0.80	Deferred
		vi	Engineering & vegetative treatment of land slip areas adjacent to Salan RF, Chumlok, Namchi district.		1.50	Deferred
		vii	Development of Bio-diversity Park at Rangpo near Atal Setu		3.00	Deferred
		viii	Development of ecotourism activities -cum- biodiversity park at Rabong RF, Baiguney, Soreng district		3.00	Deferred
		ix	Conservation and rejuvenation of Aritar Lake, Rhenock under Pakyong district		0.40	Deferred
		x	Protection & boundary demarcation of reserve forests with Labrang Gumpa under Kabi Block		0.41	Deferred
		xi	Any other relevant activities		0.00	Deferred
		xii	Spill over work/committed liabilities		0.00	Deferred
	5(2)m	Management of biological diversity and biological resource				
		i	Plantation and creation of nursery in government schools	LS	0.25	Deferred
			Restoring Climate Sensitive Oak Forests	LS	1.00	Deferred
		ii	Human - wildlife conflict management measures in and around PAs	LS	2.00	Deferred
		iii	Wildlife Management & protection of Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary	LS	1.04	Deferred
		iv	Monkey HWC management in Sikkim by Himalayan Zoological Park rescue centre	LS	0.60	Deferred
		v	Development of AR/VR based eco-tourism and biodiversity experience centre at Baiguney, Soreng District	LS	4.00	Deferred
		vi	Quantification of compounds of selected medicinal plants species	LS	0.40	Deferred
		vii	Plantation (introduction) of Agarwood (<i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i>) species at suitable location in Sikkim	LS	0.20	Deferred
		viii	Creation of herbal garden at Gelling, Soreng District	LS	0.30	Deferred
		ix	Creation of patch plantation for Chewri (<i>DiploknemabutyraceaRoxb.</i>)	LS	0.06	Deferred
		x	Procurement of composting agent for all nurseries	LS	0.03	Deferred
		xi	Construction of orchid rescue centre at Gyalshing	LS	0.25	Deferred
		xii	Development of eco-trails at Gyalshing	LS	0.25	Deferred
		xiii	Thinning of exotic <i>Cryptomeria japonica</i> trees	LS	0.50	Deferred
		xiv	Strengthening eco-tourism & conservation of Khangchendzonga National Park	LS	1.00	Deferred
		xv	Demarcation and protection in Fambonglho Wildlife Sanctuary	LS	0.65	Deferred
		xvi	Surface run-off management through bench terracing and stabilization of landslip areas at Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary	LS	0.12	Deferred
		xvii	Ground water recharge and firefighting through Water Harvesting structures in drought prone areas	LS	2.00	Deferred

S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision	
			Phy Target	Fin Target		
		xxviii	Establishing of State Level Herbal Garden for ex situ conservation of medicinal plants in Gangtok District	LS	2.06	Deferred
		xix	Protection and stabilization of slope erosion of Bakcha chu (river) embankment at Tingmoo	LS	0.80	Deferred
		xx	Development of Biodiversity Park at Raj Bhawan premises, Gangtok.	LS	1.50	Deferred
		xxi	Any other relevant activities		0.00	Deferred
		xxii	Spill over work/committed liabilities		0.00	Deferred
3	Activities as per Rule 5(3) of the CAF Rule, 2018					
	5(3)a	Establishment, maintenance of modern nurseries				
		i	Establishment, up-gradation and maintenance of modern nurseries and other planting stock production facilities for production of quality planting materials.	LS	1.00	Deferred
		ii	Radio Telemetry Study of Himalayan Black Bear (<i>Ursus thibetanus</i>) in Sikkim	LS	0.10	Deferred
		iii	Identification and mapping of vulnerable conflict hotspots & cold spots, seasonal cases focussing four key species in Pakyong District	LS	0.08	Deferred
		iv	Purchase and maintenance of equipment or devices used for wireless communication and information technology for the purpose of protection of forest and wildlife.	LS	0.40	Deferred
		v	Construction/upgradation of residential quarters/barrack of Head Forest Guard/Forest Guard and official building in forests for frontline staff up the rank of Range officers.	LS	2.53	Deferred
		vi	Construction and upgradation of patrolling path in forest areas	LS	0.80	Deferred
		vii	Creation of sustainable by products using waste wood, branches and sawdust and development of expo hub at Chuba timber depot	LS	0.60	Deferred
		viii	Casual engagement of local people or labourers to assist regular staff of State Forest Department for protection of forest and wildlife.	LS	1.20	Deferred
		x	Survey and demarcation of forests areas	LS	1.00	Deferred
		xi	Procurement of utility vehicle (Mahindra & Mahindra) 04 nos.	LS	0.50	Deferred
		xii	Advertisement / awareness / IEC / publication / conference under State Authority	LS	2.00	Deferred
4	Activities as per Rule 6(a) of the CAF Rule, 2018					
	6(a)vi	Activities referred to in sub rule-2(2) and (3) of Rule 5				
		i	Reclamation of degraded forest into nature park at Lingkhimtaar, Teesta River bank, Namchi district		1.50	Deferred
		ii	Conservation, management and upgradation of 7 sisters water fall at Phensong, Mangan district		0.50	Deferred
5	Activities as per Rule 6(b) of the CAF Rule, 2018					

S. No.	CAF Act/Rules	Activity	Proposed Outlay (2024-25)		Remark/ Decision
			Phy Target	Fin Target	
	6(b)ii	ii Office equipment including computers and peripherals and its annual maintenance for State Authority		0.05	Deferred
	6(b)vi	<i>Any other activity for management of forests and wildlife with the approval of Steering Committee and included in the APO</i>			
		(b)Construction of transit facilities at Kyongnosla		0.70	Deferred

4. The deferred activities will be placed in the next meeting of Executive Committee for further discussions & decisions.

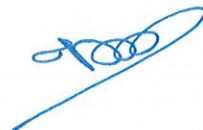
5. The approval indicated in the Remarks / Decision column in list A above for mandatory / seasonal / committed activities proposed in APO for financial year 2024-25 is subject to adherence by State to the Model Code of Conduct in force due to ensuing Lok Sabha Elections.

6. State Government is requested to release the CAMPA funds to the CEO, State CAMPA/State Forest Department immediately for carrying out approved mandatory/seasonal/ committed activities in accordance with the APO 2024-25 approved by the National Authority.

7. 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. 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.
- v. 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).
- vi. 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.
- vii. The monitoring and evaluation report of the works done up to the year 2022-23 must be made available to National Authority (NA). Similarly report on CAMPA activities taken up in 2023-24 should be made available to the NA.

- viii. 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 States/UTs 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.
- ix. 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.
- x. 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.
- xi. 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.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. 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.
- xv. 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.
- xvi. 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.
- xvii. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development should be taken up following relevant rules and guidelines after taking necessary approvals.
- xviii. 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.
- xix. 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.



- xx. The States/UTs CAMPA Authority shall complete 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.
- xxi. 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.
- xxii. The validity of APO (2024-25) shall expire on 31.03.2025. Further continuation of the incomplete activities shall be permissible only if they are included in the APO (2025-26) and are approved by NA.
- xxiii. The State/UT 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 States/UTs. Priority shall be given to the mandatory activities including commitment on maintenance of previous years.
- xxiv. All wage payments should be made through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Yours faithfully,


V.L. Roui Kullai
Dy. Chief Executive Officer
National Authority

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and (HoFF)-cum Chairperson, The Executive Committee of the State CAMPA, Department of Forest, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
2. The Chief Executive Officer, Sikkim State CAMPA, Gangtok.
3. The Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
4. The Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
5. The Accountant General, Sikkim, Gangtok.

Copy also forwarded through email to:

1. The DGF&SS, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, for kind information.
2. The Deputy Director General of Forest (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shillong.
3. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File.
4. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on the official website of MoEF&CC.