

पंजी क्रमांक/ File No.NA-15/12/2020-NA/Computer No.....

भारत सरकार

Government of India

राष्ट्रीय प्रतिपूरक वनरोपण निधि प्रबंधन एवं योजना प्राधिकरण

National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

तीसरी मंजिल, सुप्रीम कोर्ट मेट्रो स्टेशन बिल्डिंग, नई दिल्ली-110001

3rd Floor, Supreme Court Metro Station Building, New Delhi-110001

Email: nationalcampa-moefcc@gov.in

दिनांक \Dated: 16th May 2025

To,

The Addl Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Kerala,
Thiruvananthapuram

Sub: Approval letter for the financial year 2025-26 of Kerala State CAMPA-reg.

Ref: 1. Kerala State CAMPA vide letter No. KFDHQ/9723/2024-SA&NO/FCS dated 28th March 2025

Sir,

Apropos the matter cited above and in reference to above-mentioned letter dated 28th April 2025, it is to convey that the Annual Plan of Operation of Kerala State for the financial year 2025-26 was considered by the Executive committee of the National Authority in its 34th meeting held on 23rd April 2025.

2. After the due deliberations, the approval of the Executive Committee of National Authority is hereby conveyed under section 15 (1) (i) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 for the State Annual Plan of Operation 2025-26 for an amount of **Rs. 6.22 crore** (Rupees six crore and twenty-two lakh only) against the proposed outlay of **Rs. 8.27 crore** (Rupees eight crore and twenty-seven lakh only) for carrying out approved activities.

3. The details of component wise activities considered in 34th EC are as follows:

(Area in Ha and Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Activities	Unit	Physical Target	Financial Target	Decision of EC
1	Site-specific activities as per Section 6(a) of the CAF Act, 2016				
	Compensatory Afforestation				
	Plantation activities	Block (ha.)	208.7	1.4532	Approved
		Number	1800		Approved
	Post Plantation activities	Block (ha.)	141.79	1.2887	Approved
	Sub-Total of Approved Items shown in Sr. No. 1			2.74	

2	Activities as per Rule 5(2) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	Purchase of equipments relevant to patrolling	Number	LS	0.12	Approved
	Forest Fire Prevention and Control Operations				
	Fire lines (Fire line creation, Fire line maintenance)	Linear (k.m.)	371	0.9275	Approved
	Hiring of fire watchers	Man days	12750	1.0839	Approved
	Purchase of fire prevention/ fighting equipment(s)	Number	2700	0.135	Approved
	Awareness campaign for fire prevention	Number	74	0.074	Approved
	Soil and Moisture Conservation Works				
	SMC structures (Ponds, Trenches, Check Dams, Spur, Retaining walls/ Breast wall, Others)	Number	88	0.44	Deferred
	SMC structures (Ponds, Trenches, Check Dams, Spur, Retaining walls/ Breast wall, Others)	Number	2200	0.22	Deferred
	Details of Rescue Centre/ Veterinary treatment facility for wildlife animals, Maintenance				
	Details of rescue centre/ veterinary treatment facility	Number	LS	0.3295	Deferred
	Management of Biological Diversity and Biological Resource				
	Creation of seedstock/ orchards	Block (ha.)	0.1	0.03	Deferred
	Others	Number	LS	0.07	Deferred
Sub-Total of Approved Items shown in Sr. No. 2				2.34	
3	Activities as per Rule 5(3) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	Modern Nurseries/ Improvement of Nurseries				
	Detail estimate of nursery	Number	LS	0.07	Approved
	Others	Number	LS	0.302	Approved
	Promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity				
	Documentation	Number	LS	0.026	Deferred
	Conference/ workshop	Number	LS	0.0313	Deferred
	Construction of residential and official buildings for front line staff				
	Quarters/ offices for forest guards/ range officers	Number	LS	0.038	Deferred
	Casual engagement of local people or labours to assist regular staff or State Forest				
	Casual engagement of local people or labours	Man days	LS	0.0232	Deferred
	Production and distribution of quality planting material for Govt. land other than forest area				
	Production and distribution of quality planting material	Number	72000	0.211	Deferred
Sub-Total of Approved Items shown in Sr. No. 3				0.37	
4	Activities as per Rule 6(a) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	To offset incremental cost of CA/PCA at increased wage rate		LS	0.02	Deferred
	For disbursement of salary and allowances State CAMPA Authority and staff		LS	0.47	Approved
	For disbursement of sitting fees and allowances to nominated list of members		LS	0.01	Deferred
	Activities referred to on sub Rule (2) and (3) of Rule 5				Deferred
	a. Independent concurrent monitoring and Third party monitoring and evaluation		LS	0.3	Approved
	b. Purchase and maintenance of equipment of devices for communication, information and technology		LS	0.119	Deferred
	c. Publicity cum awareness programme		LS	0.318	Deferred
Sub-Total of Approved Items shown in Sr. No. 4				0.77	

5	Activities as per Rule 6(b) of CAF Rules, 2018				
	Management of office establishment State CAMPA CEO		LS	0.05	Deferred
	Office equipment including computers and peripherals and its maintenance		LS	0.09	Deferred
	Hiring of staff cars for use only for CEO office		LS	0.01	Deferred
	Other contingencies for management of State Authority		LS	0.01	Deferred
	Sub-Total of Approved Items shown in Sr. No. 5			0.00	
	Total Approved		Rs. 6.22 Crore		

4. Accordingly, the State Government is requested to release the CAMPA fund to the CEO, State CAMPA/State Forest Department at the immediate possible for carrying out approved activities in accordance with the APO 2025-26 approved by the National Authority.

5. The Governing Body and the Steering Committee of the State CAMPA are requested to monitor the progress of implementation of approved CAMPA activities.

6. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- i. The State Forest Department must ensure that the Compensatory Afforestation and other site-specific activities are carried out in the approved sites as per the forest diversion approval granted by the Central Government whilst maintain the geo location co-ordinates.
- ii. All afforestation efforts under the CA, ANR, AR, Catchment Area Treatment Plans, wildlife Habitat improvement etc. should primarily aim for comprehensive ecological restoration of the area on sustainable basis. Preference of local and indigenous species, especially fruit and fodder species should be given in every afforestation/ regeneration/ plantation and monoculture and planting of exotic species should be avoided.
- iii. The KML files of CA and other plantation (AR and ANR etc.) should compulsorily be uploaded on the e-Green Watch portal and emailed to FSI, Dehradun with copy to National CAMPA official e-mail (nationalcampa-moefcc@gov.in) before taking up the work.
- 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 ratio of expenditure on the approved activities under Rule 5(2) & 5(3) should strictly adhere as mentioned in the Rule 5 (2) & 5 (3) should not be less than 80 percent and not more than 20 percent respectively.
- vi. Please ensure that the annual interest accrued on State CAMPA Fund is credited into the State CAMPA fund so that the activities mentioned in the CAF Rule 6 are effectively implemented.
- vii. The activities towards maintenance of plantation/s should be implemented in such a way that the maximum survival of the saplings is finally achieved with desired growth parameters and are to be monitored.
- viii. 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 at the level of Range offices, Division offices and CEO State CAMPAs in prescribed formats and placed on the respective websites.

- ix. 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 for effective monitoring and transparency. In respect of CA, plantations/ regeneration activities before and after photographs should be uploaded.
- x. If required and approved by National Authority, casual engagement of local people or local labours may be hired 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).
- xi. Monitoring and evaluation of all the afforestation and other CAMPA activities undertaken shall be the highest priority for the State Authorities. The 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.
- xii. The monitoring and evaluation reports of all CAMPA works done upto the year 2024-2025 and all previous years alongwith all the relevant records should be made available to the DG, FSI & Member Coordinator, Monitoring Group annually as well as whenever required by him with copy to National CAMPA.
- xiii. 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 the cases, under section 29 of the CAF Act 2016, shall be invariably submitted with the APO every year seeking approval of the National Authority.
- xiv. 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 as required under the provision of the CAF Rule 5 (3).
- xv. State Government should ensure that the 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.
- xvi. 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.
- xvii. The State /UT Authorities should make a detail record of total forest land transferred and compensatory afforestation carried out/ compensated the loss of green cover/ecosystem services.
 - xviii. The State EC shall also ensure that there is no overlapping of activities / funding from other schemes of the State or Central Government and provide a certificate to that effect.
 - xix. 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 for regeneration and development of forests and wildlife habitat.
 - xx. 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.
 - xxi. There should not be any reduction in allocation for forestry sector in the regular State Budget due to flow of CAMPA funds to the State.
 - xxii. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development should be taken up following relevant rules and guidelines after taking necessary approvals.
 - xxiii. Purchase of vehicles for office use 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.
 - xxiv. Procurement of multi-utility vehicles for meeting the operational requirements of forest front line staff of State/UT Forest departments from the NPV component of State CAMPA is permissible as per approved APO complying the guidelines issued by the National CAMPA vide NA-16/2/2023-NA dated 12th January 2024.
 - xxv. IRO of the regional office of the Ministry shall 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.
 - xxvi. 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.
 - xxvii. The States/UTs Authority are proposing engagement of casual labours for protection of Forests for the entire State. It is 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.
 - xxviii. The validity of APO (2025-26) is valid till 31.03.2026. Further continuation of the balance/ incomplete activities shall be permissible only if they are included in the approved APO.
 - xxix. 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.

xxx. All wage payments should be made through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

7. This issues with the approval of the Chief Executive Officer, National Authority on the e-file.

Yours faithfully

(Suveena Thakur)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

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 Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. The Chief Executive Officer of KeralaState CAMPA, Thiruvananthapuram.
3. The Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. The Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
5. The Accountant General, Kerala.
6. The Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, Member Coordinator, Monitoring Group of National Authority, CAMPA
7. The Deputy Director General of Forest (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Thiruvananthapuram.
8. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File.
9. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on the official website of MoEF&CC.

Copy also forwarded to:

1. The DGF&SS, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, for kind information.