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Jammu & Kashmir Forest Department
Office of the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF
Government of Jammu & Kashmir



Minutes of 25th Meeting of Executive Committee of J&K Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) held on 9 June 2020 at Van Bhawan, Forest Complex, Jammu

The 25th meeting of Executive Committee of J&K CAMPA was held on June 09, 2020 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF/Chairman, Executive Committee of CAMPA to review the physical and financial achievement for the year 2019-20 and discuss implementation of Annual Plan Operations (APOs) of 2020-21. The meeting was attended by several new members which included representatives of Finance Department, Science & Technology Department, Agriculture Production Department, Department of Revenue, Department of Forest, Environment & Ecology, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and Tribal Affairs Department, in accordance with the provisions of Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016. Some of the participants joined through video conference. List of participants is placed at Annexure 1.

2. The PCCF welcomed the participants, specially the new ones, and gave an overview of the regulatory framework of CAMPA and the physical and financial achievements for the year 2019-20 and the activities proposed in the APOs of the current financial year under CAMPA. He explained that the protection afforded to forests through erection of fencing not only protects the plants planted by the Department but also leads to rejuvenation of root stocks, augmentation of natural regeneration; thus leading to further enrichment of forests. PCCF further informed the participants about the initiatives taken by the department to enhance protection of forests lands from encroachment, illegal felling of trees and other forest damages. He also referred to some specific measures taken by the department for protection of forests lands adjoining Jammu city.

3. CEO/APCCF CAMPA, Sh Sarvesh Rai, made a detailed presentation covering the agenda points. This included introduction and background of CAMPA (for the benefit of new members) cumulative achievements under CAMPA, fund position, audit of CAMPA accounts, mechanism in place for audit of CAMPA works including third party audit, placing of information relating to execution of works in public domain to promote transparency and cumulative expenditure under CAMPA.

4. Physical and financial achievement under CAMPA during the last financial year were discussed at length. The Committee were informed that a total of Rs 113.51 crore was spent by Implementing Agencies (IAs) of CAMPA against a total release of Rs 147.09 crore in FY 2019-20. Due to sudden lockdown related to COVID-19 pandemic enforced in 3rd week of March 2020, some of the works executed/procurements made and e-tendered works could not be booked by the end of the financial year (by 31st March). Thus, a total liability of Rs 12.53 crore was created by IAs of CAMPA. Including the liabilities, the expenditure of Forest and allied Departments amounts to 94% of the released money. In case of Wildlife Protection Department, the expenditure in 2019-20 was though a record high compared to earlier years, but due to unspent amount of Rs 15.25 crore of 2018-19, the overall expenditure of the department was 74% of the released amount.

5. As regards liabilities, PCCF directed CAMPA Secretariat to constitute a Committee under the chairmanship of CCF (Planning & Projects) with Sh. M.K. Kumar, Regional Wildlife Warden Jammu and Sh. Irfan Ali Shah, Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Circle as members to ascertain the claims of liabilities as reported by the IAs and submit a report within two weeks' time. The Committee was informed that there is no outlay in the budget of the current financial year for meeting the liabilities, as this could not be foreseen at the time of preparation of budget in October, 2019. Therefore, it is proposed to clear these liabilities from the current financial year's approved outlay of each IA and physical/financial targets approved for the current FY shall be adjusted accordingly. Later, at the time of revision of the budget of J&K Government, additional allocation for liabilities shall be sought.

6. Thereafter, the committee reviewed the physical achievements under CAMPA during the last financial year. Against a target of covering the area of 6046 ha., the area of 6637 ha. has been covered which is 10% more than the target. The additional area has been covered by closing the vulnerable areas in the year to secure them from encroachment by utilizing funds available under exigency. The progress under fencing also has been 10% more than the targets of 20.89 lakhs Rft. The planting target of 40.11 lakh saplings however could be achieved to the extent of 92.5 % as the winter planting which is carried out in March could not be completed in full due to sudden lockdown due to COVID-19.

7. Sh. S.K. Gupta, IFS, Chief Wildlife Warden made a detailed presentation about achievements made by the Department under CAMPA for the year 2019-20. He informed that, interalia, the Department planted 4.49 lakh plants, erected 0.74 lakh rft fencing and boundary pillars, constructed water harvesting structures and inspection path and carried out soil and water conservation works and dweeding of wetlands.


8. The Committee was informed about the status of approval of the APO of current financial year. With the approval of Steering Committee of J&K CAMPA, the APO of the current financial year amounting to Rs 185.73 crore was sent to National Authority, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for approval. The National Authority has conveyed approval of its Executive Committee for amount of Rs 105.76 crore for carrying out essential plantations and related activities, in the first instance. The same has been conveyed to the IAs of CAMPA for immediately starting the plantation related works. As regards the remaining amount of the APOs, the National Authority considered the proposal in its meeting held on 27/28 May 2020. The minutes of the said meeting are still awaited.

9. The Committee took note of the observations made by Sh. Nazir-Be-Nazir as well as Dr. Gurmeet Singh, NGO Members on maintenance and watch & ward of plantations. Besides, Dr. Gurmeet Singh urged the Department to complete the development of Herbal Park at Jammu, as soon as possible.

10. The representative of Tribal Affairs Department highlighted the difficulties faced by nomadic tribes during their migration due to poor condition of tracks and inadequate availability of shelters along the track, He informed that the Department of Tribal Affairs have adequate budgetary provisions for such works and can provide funds to Forest Department, if required, for carrying out such works. The CCF Jammu, Sh. K. Ramesh Kumar informed the Committee that the proposal of the Tribal Affairs Department needs to be examined in terms of provision of Indian Forest Act, 1927.

11. Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Government of J&K who witnessed the meeting from her office chamber requested the chairman after the meeting to operationalize devolution of funding to Gram Panchayats in CAMPA works. This was advised by the worthy Chief Secretary, Government of J&K during last meeting of Steering Committee to the Department of Social Forestry and in general also. Further, she requested for convergence with MGNREGA to which Chairman apprised her the limitations under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules 2018 which do not permit the said mechanism. However, Forest Department has submitted projects under convergence to Dy. Commissioners in other schemes.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Sarvesh Rai) IFS
**Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/
Chief Executive Officer (CAMPA)
Member Secretary**

No: PCCF/ CAMPA/1092/1540-60

Dated: 12.06.2020

Copy for information and necessary to the:-

- 1) Financial Commissioner to Government, Finance Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 2) Principal/Secretary to Government, Science & Technology Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 3) Principal/Secretary to Government, Agriculture Production Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 4) Principal/Secretary to Government, Department of Revenue, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 5) Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Department of Forest, Environment & Ecology, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 6) Secretary to Government, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

- 7) Secretary to Government, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 8) Secretary to Government, Tribal Affairs Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 9) PCCF/Director, Soil and Water Conservation Department, Jammu.
- 10)PCCF/Director, Social Forestry Department, Jammu.
- 11)PCCF/Director, Environment, Ecology & Remote Sensing Department, Jammu.
- 12)Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Chief Wildlife Warden, Jammu.
- 13)Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer, FC Act 1980
- 14)Chief Conservator of Forests (P&P)/Nodal Officer, SFDA
- 15)Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.
- 16)Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu.
- 17)Chief Accounts Officer O/o PCCF
- 18)Private Secretary to PCCF & HoFF for kind information of the worthy Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force.
- 19)Sh. Nazir-Be-Nazir, (NGO Member) President National Society for Protection of Water Resources, Wetlands & Forests, Kashmir
- 20)Dr. Gurmit Singh, (NGO Member) President, SAWERA, Jammu
- 21)Ch. Asif Iqbal (Advocate), expert on tribal matters
- 22)Record file.

List of Participants

1. Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, J&K Government (Chairman)
2. Sh. Suresh Kr. Gupta, IFS, Chief Wildlife Warden, Wildlife Protection Department, Jammu (Member)
3. Shri Sarvesh Rai, IFS, Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Chief Executive Officer, CAMPA/Nodal Officer (FCA) (Member Secretary)
4. Shri P.K. Raghav, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Planning & Projects (Member)
5. Sh. Shafiq Ahmed, Additional Secretary, Science & Technology Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu (Member)
6. Dr. H.S. Arora, Director (Planning), Agriculture Production Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu (Member)
7. Sh. Sudershan Kumar, Additional Secretary to Government, Department of Revenue, Civil Secretariat, Jammu (Member)
8. Sh. Om Parkash, Joint Director, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu (Member)
9. Additional Secretary to Government, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Civil Secretariat, Jammu joined meeting through video conferencing (Member)
10. Sh. Salim Malik, Director, Tribal Affairs Department, Jammu (Member)
11. Sh. A.K. Bhatti, Joint Director, Tribal Affairs Department, Jammu
12. Smt. Allia Ifkhar, Chief Account Officer O/o PCCF (Member)
13. Sh. Nazir-Be-Nazir, (NGO Member) President National Society for Protection of Water Resources, Wetlands & Forests, Kashmir (Member)
14. Dr. Gurmit Singh, (NGO Member) President, SAWERA, Jammu (Member)
15. Ch. Asif Iqbal (Advocate) expert on Tribal Affairs/representative of tribal communities (Member)

Special Invitees

16. Dr. (Mrs) Neelu Gera, IFS, PCCF/Director, Environment, Ecology & Remote Sensing Department, Jammu joined through video conferencing
17. Sh. Asaf Mehmood, IFS, Addl. PCCF/Director, State Forest Institute, Jammu joined through video conferencing
18. Sh. S.F.A. Gillani, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir joined through video conferencing
19. Sh. K. Ramesh Kumar, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu
20. Sh. Mohinder Kumar, Regional Director, Social Forestry Department, Jammu joined through video conferencing
21. Sh. Munish Dutta, Dy. Director (Plg), Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu
22. Sh. Mohammad Arif, ASCO (Plg), S&WC Department joined through video conferencing
23. Sh. F.A. Shah, Senior Private Secretary with PCCF, J&K joined through video conferencing
24. Shri Abid Ali Lone, Assistant Conservator of Forests, CAMPA joined through video conferencing
25. Shri Mohammad Ismail Wani, Section Officer CAMPA joined through video conferencing
26. Shri Tahir Munir, Computer Operator CAMPA
27. Sh. Sanjay Dass, Computer Operator CAMPA