ABSTRACT

Establishment – Forest Department – Constitution of the State CAMPA (COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUND MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING AUTHORITY) with the Governing Body / Steering Committee and Executive Committee – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (FR.10) DEPARTMENT

G.O. (Ms.) No. 127
Dated: 24.09.2009

Read:


ORDER:

The forest lands are being diverted for non-forest uses after getting prior approval of Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. Compensatory Afforestation is one of the important conditions stipulated by the Central Government while approving proposals for diversion of forest lands. Further as per Supreme Court order dated 30.10.2002 in I.A. No. 566/WP (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines of Government of India, Net present value (NPV) of the forest land is being collected from the user agency, and deposited with the national adhoc CAMPA, New Delhi. The Government of India have decided to establish State CAMPA and put in place a funding mechanism for enhancing forest and tree cover by utilizing funds collected under Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value (NPV) currently available with adhoc CAMPA, New Delhi. After discussion with the Chief Secretaries and Principal Chief Conservators of Forests of the States, draft guidelines for establishing CAMPA in the States were prepared and after receiving the suggestions of the States and
obtaining the orders of the Supreme Court the Government of India have notified the guidelines on State Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority. The Government of India have communicated the guidelines to the States requesting them to immediately constitute the Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee of the State CAMPA as provided in the guidelines to make the State CAMPA operational.

2. The State CAMPA guidelines approved by the Government of India as per the directions of the Supreme Court envisage the following:-

1. The State CAMPA is intended as an instrument to accelerate activities for preservation of natural forests, management of wildlife, infrastructure development of the forest sector.

2. State CAMPA would receive money from user agency towards compensatory afforestation, Penal Compensatory Afforestation, Net Present Value (NPV) and other amounts.

3. The State CAMPA would administer the funds received from the Adhoc CAMPA and utilize the money collected for all the welfare activities of the Forest. The Adhoc CAMPA, as the name suggests is a purely temporary arrangement. It will liquidate itself once all systems are in place and CAMPA has become fully functional in the frame work contained in Supreme Court order of 10th July 2009.

4. State CAMPA would serve as a common repository of funds accruing on account of Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value.

5. State CAMPA would provide integrated framework for utilizing multiple sources of funding. It provides a scope for training of the forest officials of various level with an emphasis on training of the staff at cutting edge level (forest range level). The amount received by it will be utilized for residential accommodation to the field staff and necessary machines and equipments to them. These include appropriate arrangement for their conveyance during inspection and protection. The Department would be modernized to protect and regenerate the forests and wildlife habitat.

6. The State CAMPA may decide to utilize a minor part of the funds for contractual engagement of personnel wherever there is shortage of personnel.

7. The State CAMPA would also promote a voluntary movement of youth and students for supporting conservation activities initiated / ongoing in the State Forest Department.
3. THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES are as follows:-

a. Conservation, protection, regeneration and management of existing natural forests;
b. Conservation, protection and management of wildlife and its habitat within and outside protected areas including the consolidation of the protected areas;
c. Compensatory Afforestation;
d. Environmental services, which include provision of goods such as woods etc.
e. Research, training and capacity building;

THE FUNCTIONS OF STATE CAMPA are as follows:-

i. Promoting compensatory afforestation;
ii. Wildlife conservation;
iii. Maintaining a separate account in respect of the funds received for conservation and protection of protected areas;
iv. creating transparency for the programme;
v. earmarking up to two percent (2%) of the funds for monitoring and evaluation;

4. The following FUNDS are credited into the account of State CAMPA.

i. Amount transferred to it by the ad-hoc CAMPA;
ii. Receipt of all monies from user agencies;
iii. The unspent funds already realized by States from user agencies;
iv. The funds recoverable from user agencies;
v. Net Present Value of the forest land diverted for non-forestry purposes;
vi. Grants or aid received if any;
vii. any loan taken by the Authority or any borrowings made by it, and;
viii. any other sums received by the Authority by way of benefaction, gift or donations;

The monies received in the State CAMPA shall be kept in interest-bearing account(s) in nationalized bank(s) and periodically withdrawn for the works as per the Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) approved by the Steering Committee.

Regarding the utilization of money the following are the salient features:-

i. expenditure towards the development, maintenance and protection of forests and wildlife management as per the approved APO;

ii. the non-recurring as well as recurring expenditure for the management of the State CAMPA, including the salary and allowances payable to its officers and other employees;
iii. the expenditure incurred on monitoring and evaluation subject to overall ceiling of 2% of the amount to be spent every year and;

iv. disbursement on such other projects related to forest conservation;

5. Regarding the Disbursement of funds, the following guidelines shall be adhered to:-

i. Site-specific schemes submitted by the State along with the approved proposals for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

ii. After receipt of the money, State CAMPA shall accomplish the afforestation for which money is deposited in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund within a period of one year or two growing seasons after project completion, as may be appropriate;

iii. The money received on account of Net Present Value (NPV) shall be used for natural assisted regeneration, forest management, protection, infrastructure development, wildlife protection and management supply of wood and other forest produce saving devices and other allied activities;

iv. Monies realized from the user agencies in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's orders or decision taken by the National Board for Wildlife involving cases of diversion of forest land in protected areas shall form a distinct corpus and shall be used exclusively for undertaking protection and conservation activities in protected areas of the State;

v. State CAMPA shall release monies to the field officers in predetermined installments as per the Annual Plan of Operation (APO) finalized;

6. There will be a National CAMPA Advisory Council under the Chirmanship of the Union Minister of Environment and Forests Department for monitoring, technical assistance and evaluation.

**THE ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE is as detailed:-**

i. The CAMPA shall prepare its budget for the next financial year showing the estimated receipts and expenditure of State CAMPA;

ii. It shall adopt financial regulations and procedures;

iii. It shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts;

iv. The accounts of the State CAMPA shall be audited by the Accountant General at such intervals as may be specified by him;
v. The Accountant General and or any other person appointed by him in connection with the audit of the accounts of the State CAMPA shall have the same rights and privileges and authority in connection with such audit as the Accountant General;

vi. The accounts of the State CAMPA as certified by the Accountant General shall be forwarded annually to the State Government, the MOE&F and the Adhoc CAMPA by the State CAMPA;

vii. The State Government and the MOE&F shall have the power to conduct special audit or performance audit of the State CAMPA;

viii. The details of various works done and the amount spent;

ix. The details of the amount received;

x. The observations made in the audit report;

The MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE WORKS are detailed below:-

i. An independent system for concurrent monitoring and evaluation of the works implemented in the States utilizing the funds available shall be evolved and implemented to ensure effective and proper utilization of funds.

ii. The National CAMPA Advisory Council shall have the powers to order special inspection and financial audit of works executed by the State CAMPA with utilizing CAMPA money.

iii. If satisfied that the funds released are not being utilized properly, the National CAMPA Advisory Council as well as the State Level Steering Committee shall have the power to withhold or suspend the release of remaining funds or part thereof.

7. As per the orders of the Supreme Court and the guidelines framed by Government of India, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent the proposals for constitution of a Governing body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee for issuing necessary orders and notifying them.

8. The Government have carefully examined the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and decided to establish the State CAMPA (Compensatory
Afforestation Management and Planning Authority) and constitute the Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee as detailed below:

(A) GOVERNING BODY

The Governing body of the State CAMPA, shall consist of the following:

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<th>i.</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Chairperson</th>
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<td>ii.</td>
<td>Minister of Finance</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>iii.</td>
<td>Minister of Forests</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>iv.</td>
<td>Chief Secretary</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>v.</td>
<td>Principal Secretary (Finance)</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>vi.</td>
<td>Principal Secretary (Planning)</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>vii.</td>
<td>Principal Chief Conservator of Forests</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>viii.</td>
<td>Chief Wildlife Warden</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>ix.</td>
<td>Principal Secretary (Forests)</td>
<td>Member Secretary</td>
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The Governing body shall lay down the broad policy framework for the functioning of State Level CAMPA and review its working from time to time.

(B) THE STEERING COMMITTEE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>i.</th>
<th>Chief Secretary</th>
<th>Chairperson</th>
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<tr>
<td>ii.</td>
<td>Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>iii.</td>
<td>Principal Secretary (Forests)</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>iv.</td>
<td>Principal Secretary (Finance)</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td>Principal Secretary (Planning)</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>vi.</td>
<td>Chief Wildlife Warden</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>vii.</td>
<td>Nodal Officer Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act)</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>viii.</td>
<td>Representative of the Ministry of Environment and Forests</td>
<td>Member</td>
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ix. Two eminent NGOs (to be nominated by the State Government for a period of 2 years at a time who shall be eligible for re-nomination)

1. Thiru Pritim Roy, Keystone, Keystone Centre, Groves Hill Road, Post Box No.35, Kotagiri-643 217

2. Thiru Ranjith Daniels, Care Earth, No.5, 21st Street, Thillai Nagar, Chennai – 600 061.

| x. | Chief Conservator of Forests (Head Quarters) | Member Secretary |

The Steering Committee shall:-

i. lay down and/or approve rules and procedures for the functioning of the body and its Executive Committee subject to the overarching objectives and core principles of State CAMPA

ii. monitor the progress of the utilization of funds released by the State CAMPA

iii. approve the Annual Plan of Operation (APO) prepared by the Executive Committee

iv. approve the annual reports and audited accounts of the State CAMPA

v. ensure inter-departmental coordination

vi. meet at least once in six months

C) The Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

<p>| i. | Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force | Chairperson |
| ii. | Chief Wildlife Warden | Member |
| iii. | Nodal Officer Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act) | Member |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
<th>iv.</th>
<th>Financial Controller / Financial Adviser in the Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Chennai-15</th>
<th>Member</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>v.</td>
<td>Two Eminent NGOs (to be nominated by the State Government for a period of 2 years at a time who shall be eligible for re-nomination</td>
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|      | 1. Thiru V. Kalidasan  
Osai  
4C-34, Cheran Nagar,  
G.N. Mill Post,  
Coimbatore – 641 029 |        |
|      | 2. Dr. Arul Gnanasekar,  
8th Street, Jawahar Nagar,  
Thirumangalam 625 706. |        |
| vi.  | Chief Conservator of Forests (Head quarters)  
As he is the officer dealing with the subject he is suggested in place of Chief Conservator of Forests (Plan schemes) to be Member and member Secretary | Member Secretary |

The State Level Executive Committee shall:-

I. take all steps for giving effect to the State CAMPA and overarching objectives and core principles, in accordance with rules and procedures approved by the Steering Committee and the approved APO:

II. prepare the APO of the State for various activities, submit it to the Steering Committee before end of December for each financial year, and obtain the Steering Committee's concurrence for release of funds, while giving break-up of the proposed activities and estimated costs:

III. be responsible for proper auditing of both receipt and expenditure of funds:

IV. develop the code for maintenance of the account at the implementing agency level;

V. submit reports to the Steering Committee for review / consideration and

VI. prepare Annual Report by end-June for each financial year.

9. The Government direct that the TA/DA to the NGOs will be sanctioned as per those available for non official members of Class.I Committee (and not as applicable to Grade.I Officers).
10. The Government also direct that the contractual appointments for specific tasks shall be made, after obtaining the approval of Governing Body as per the guidelines of Government of India.

11. The Government also permit the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests to open a bank account in any one of the nationalized banks and to deposit a sum of Rs. 1000/- from contingencies.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

DEBENDRANATH SARANGI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai-15
The Director General of Forest and Special Secretary,
Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan,
CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110 003.
The Secretary to GOI MOEF, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex,
New Delhi – 110 003.
The Minister of State (Independent charge), Environment and Forest, Government of
India, New Delhi-110 003.
The Secretary to Hon’ble Chief Minister, Chennai-9.
The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon’ble Minister (Finance), Chennai-9.
The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon’ble Minister (Forests), Chennai-9.
The Private Secretary to Chief Secretary to Government, Chennai-9.
The Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Chennai-9.
The Principal Secretary, Planning, Development and Special Initiative Department,
Chennai-9.
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Chennai-15.
The Private Secretary to Principal Secretary, Environment and Forests Department,
Chennai-9.
All Members in Steering Committee
All Members of the Executive Committee
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC&A), O/o. Principal Chief
Conservator of Forests, Chennai-15.
The Chief Conservator of Forests (Head quarters), O/o. Principal Chief Conservator of
The Financial Controller / The Financial Advisor, O/o. Principal Chief Conservator of
SF/SC

/FORWARDED BY ORDER/

SECTION OFFICER