

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF WEST BENGAL STATE COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUND MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING AUTHORITY (WBCAMPA), HELD ON 05.04.2019 FROM 4-00 PM ONWARDS, AT CS CONFERENCE HALL, NABANNA.**

Following members were attended the meeting :

1. Sri Malay Kumar De, IAS, Chief Secretary, West Bengal
2. Sri Indavar Pandey, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Forest & Environment Deptt.
3. Sri H. K. Dwivedi, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department
4. Sri S. K. Thade, IAS, Principal Secretary, Tribal Department
5. Sri R. K. Sinha, IAS, Secretary, Agriculture Department
6. Sri D. Mukhopadhyay, Secretary, L & L.R. and RR & R Department
7. Smt. S.S. Bhattacharya, Joint Secretary, P & RD Department
8. Sri Firoz Huda, Economist-cum-Credit Planner, Planning & Statistics Department
9. Sri N.K. Pandey, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, West Bengal
10. Sri R.K. Sinha, IFS, PCCF & CWLW, West Bengal
11. Sri S. Mukherjee, IFS, Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer, FCA, West Bengal
12. Sri S. Chanda, IFS, CCF, SDP, West Bengal
13. Sri K. Balamurugan, IFS, CF, LA & FCA, West Bengal

Chief Secretary initiated the discussion and requested Additional Chief Secretary, Forest to brief the members about newly constituted West Bengal Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (WBCAMPA). Welcoming the members of the Steering Committee, Additional Chief Secretary, Forest Department gave the outline of the newly constituted West Bengal Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority.

Shri Sandipan Mukherjee, Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980 and CEO, WBCAMPA introduced the provisions of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018, Compensatory Afforestation Fund (Accounting Procedure) Rules, 2018. He also gave details of newly created CAMPA authority including its structure.

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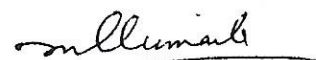
The CEO, CAMPA, presented the Annual Plan of Operation (APO) for the financial year 2019-20 to the tune of Rs.42.00 crore for discussion and approval.

The Chief Secretary, West Bengal and Chairman of the Steering Committee desired that in view of availability of sufficient fund the CAMPA authority should try to undertake more projects in 2019-20. The initial APO of Rs.42.00 crore was approved with a suggestion that CAMPA authority should undertake a fresh exercise and increase the APO to about Rs.70.00 crore.

It was decided that priority should be given to following items of work in APO:

- Action to be taken to ensure that the endangered local plant species and species of biodiversity values should be given priority in plantations done under CAMPA.
- As Joint Forest Management is an important tool for forest protection so alternate livelihood programmes for the JFM members like Apiary, Poultry, Sal leaf plate making, Mushroom cultivation are included in JFM component of APO.
- Self-help Groups (SHG) which are already working effectively in different projects of Forest Department may be strengthened further under CAMPA.
- Forest degradation for fuel wood needs to be controlled so component of promotion of LPG in villages, surrounding forest areas should be increased, by designing suitable subsidy scheme for forest villagers.
- In the hilly areas of the state under the component of Catchment Area Treatment / Soil Conservation works of vulnerable landslide zones should be given priority for conservation and stabilization of such areas.
- In view of flexibility in CAMPA, some innovative works for forest conservation, protection and improvement of livelihood of fringe population should be initiated.
- The annual target of works in WBCAMPA will increase in future, so capacity building of personnel and infrastructure development works of institution is to be taken up in WBCAMPA.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to all present.

  
Chief Secretary