

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi: 110003,

Dated: 7th June, 2022

To

Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries (Forests),
All States/Union territory Administrations

Sub: Charging of an lump sum amount of the project cost towards the cost of implementation of the Wildlife Management Plan and lump sum amount of the project cost towards the cost of implementation of Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan –reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to above mentioned subject and to inform that issue related to preparation of Wildlife Management Plans, Soil Moisture Conservation Plans was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 11th May, 2022 wherein Committee inter-alia observed that preparation of such plans by the premier/reputed institutes consumes substantial time is resulting into considerable delay in the process which is ultimately delaying the commencement of different developmental projects. Committee further opined that implementation of mitigating measures should invariably be commenced with the commencement of non-forestry use of forest land and under no circumstances, such mitigating measures should be delayed beyond 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use at the earliest possible time. After detailed deliberations and discussion in the matter, the Committee recommended that a lump sum amount towards the cost of implementation of Wildlife Management Plan and Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan should be charged in cases where preparation of such Plans is likely to take more time as compare to submission of other compliance for obtaining Stage-II approval.

Based on the recommendation of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) and acceptance of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, the Central Government provides the following provisions to deal with situations where preparation and finalization of Wildlife Management Plan and Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan is delayed for various reasons not attributable to State/User agency:

- i. The State Government should submit Wildlife Management Plan, along with detail cost of its implementation into the account of CAMPA along with the Stage-I compliance. However, in cases where it is not possible for the State to submit the compliance due to delay in preparation of such plan, a lump sum quantum of following amount may be realized from the User agency and submitted along with the Stage I Compliance:
 - a. 2% of total project cost towards the cost of implementation of the Wildlife Management Plan and/or 0.5% of the project cost towards the cost of implementation of Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan, as the

case may be, shall be charged from the user agency and deposited into the account of CAMPA and the same may be intimated to the MoEF&CC for the purpose of obtaining approval under the FC Act, 1980.

- b. The provisions provided in the WLMP or SMC Plan shall be approved by the competent authority in the State and accordingly, the deficit amount, if any, from the money already realized to the tune of 2% and/or 0.5% of project cost, shall be paid by the user agency, and same shall be deposit in the CAMPA account prior to actual working on the Forest area.
- ii. The State Government shall ensure that details of the finalized WLMP, SMC Plan and disposition of monies, payment of deficit amount, etc. shall be intimated to and concurred by the concerned IRO of the Ministry before actual breaking/Non forestry use of the forest land.
- iii. State Government shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigating measures envisaged in WLMP and SMC or other similar Plans/Schemes should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. PCCF, All States/Union territories Administrations
2. Regional Officers, All Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, All States/Union territory Administrations
4. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Guard File