

CENTRAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 34 of 2025

IN

I.A. NO. 5891 OF 2019

IN

W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995

ANNEXURE R-1

Volume – I

(pages 9-42)

Dated: 11th July 2025

ANNEXURE R-1

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**REPORT OF NATIONAL CAMPA IN COMPLIANCE OF THE
DIRECTIONS OF THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF
INDIA IN I.A. No. 5891/2019 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 IN THE
MATTER OF T.N. GODAVARMAN THIRUMALPAD VERSUS
UNION OF INDIA & ORS**

**National Compensatory Afforestation Fund
Management and Planning Authority
(National CAMPA)**

**Ministry Of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India**

क्रमांक/ File No. NA- 4/6/2021-NA

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: 09th April, 2025

To,

The Chairman,
Central Empowered Committee (CEC),
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110021.

Subject: Submission of Report based on the Questionnaire in the matter of I.A. 5891 of 2019 in W.P.(C) 202 of 1995 in T.N. Goda Varman versus Union of India & ors.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the report based on the questionnaire advised by Central Empowered Committee in compliance of order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 21.08.2024 and 29.08.2024 in the matter of I.A. 5891 of 2019 in W.P.(C) 202 of 1995 in T.N. Goda Varman versus Union of India & ors.

2. The information has been gathered from all States and Union Territories. The prepared report is submitted for kind information and necessary action at your end.

Yours' faithfully,

Encl: a.a alongwith enclosures.


(Subhash Chandra)
Chief Executive Officer

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THE REPORT OF NATIONAL CAMPA IN COMPLIANCE OF THE DIRECTIONS OF THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA IN I.A. No. 5891/2019 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 IN THE MATTER OF T.N. GODAVARMAN THIRUMALPAD VERSUS UNION OF INDIA & ORS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This Report is prepared pursuant to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 29.08.2024 in IA No. 5891/2019 in W.P. Civil No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumalpad versus Union of India & Ors. regarding submission of information on various aspects of compensatory afforestation including its survival percentage. The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) was asked to collate the information in consultation with National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (National CAMPA) and submit the report to the Court.
2. In this respect, a questionnaire was prepared in consultation with CEC for compilation of information about progress of compensatory afforestation, its monitoring and survival percentage, information on release and utilization of State CAMPA funds in three phases i.e. Pre CAMPA-Phase, Ad-Hoc CAMPA Phase and CAMPA Phase.
3. The information so received was examined and analysed a number of times through regular as well as virtual meetings with concerned States/Union Territories (UTs) for correction/ rectification of the inconsistencies/gaps in the data.
4. As per the information received from the States/UTs, compensatory afforestation over an area of 10.95* lakh hectare (ha) has been created against the target of 12.46 lakh ha. The progress of compensatory afforestation in different phases is given below: –

Sl. No.	Phase	CA created in ha *
1.	Pre CAMPA-Phase (1980 to 2008-09)	6, 55,400.74
2.	Ad-Hoc CAMPA Phase (2009-10 to 2017-18)	2, 22,392.46
3.	CAMPA Phase (2018-19 to 31.03.2024)	1,95,998.45
	Total	10, 95,137.26*

Note: *The break-up of phase wise CA afforestation for the States of Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu and UT of Jammu & Kashmir is still under reconciliation.

5. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has accorded the highest priority on completion of compensatory afforestation in a time bound manner for compensating the loss of forest and ecosystem services. The directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court have led to genesis of Ad-hoc CAMPA Authority, which subsequently evolved as present-day architecture of National CAMPA and State/UT CAMPA in each State and Union Territory as a statutory body after enactment of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 for

effective management and planning of compensatory afforestation funds for timely implementation of afforestation activities.

6. The Report identifies issues and areas for improvements in the working of State and UT CAMPA.
7. An amount of Rs. 78,630.00 crore being 90% share of the compensatory levies of State and UT CAMPA fund has been transferred to respective State/UT till 31.12.2024.
8. National CAMPA has approved APOs of States and UTs with an outlay of Rs. 50,264.24 crore from 2018-19 to 2024-2025. The State Governments have released Rs. 36,744.96 crores and the State/UT Forest Departments have utilised Rs. 26,276.01 crore till December, 2024.
9. After the enactment of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016, there is significant progress in achievement of compensatory afforestation. However, following issues require further attention for effective implementation of the provisions of the CAF Act:
 - i. The meetings of Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee of State and UT CAMPA are not convened regularly as per provisions of the CAF Act leading to lack of addressing the policy issues, supervision and monitoring.
 - ii. There are no separate State CAMPA offices in many States, even where they are in existence, these are grossly understaffed and lack sufficient professional manpower for effective implementation and supervision of CAMPA activities as required under the Act.
 - iii. There is significant delay in submission of APOs by the States and UTs to National CAMPA, release of funds by the States/UTs against the approved APOs resulting in underutilisation of Funds.
 - iv. Forestry activities are seasonal and time bound. Delays in release of funds affects implementation of the afforestation and other timebound activities, which cannot be taken up once the favourable conditions for afforestation, nursery raising, soil water conservation, fire prevention and control and wildlife habitat improvement works are over.
 - v. There are avoidable multiple steps involved in release and utilisation of funds in the States affecting the overall performance. It has been brought to notice that after approval of State/UT APOs by National CAMPA, the same proposals are sent to various levels in and outside the Forest Department for administrative approvals, financial sanctions, budgetary support and concurrence for release of funds etc., applicable to the schemes of State Governments. Even when the funds are made available there are restrictions for making payment. These processes should not be made applicable for CAMPA works where the APOs

have been approved by National CAMPA after submission from the respective State/UT Governments.

- vi. Though, the CAMPA funds are an additionality over and above the normal budgetary allocation to the forestry sector, many States use these funds as a supplementary to State's own resources and subject it to the same budgetary processes and restrictions as applicable to other State funds.
10. National CAMPA has taken a number of initiatives for improvement in the implementation of Compensatory afforestation and other related activities which include:
- i. Preparation of Integrated Annual Plan of Operations (APO) of State/UT CAMPA to have a comprehensive view
 - ii. Reconciliation and verification of project-wise compensatory afforestation since 1980 by constituting a Committee of Nodal Officer of state for Forest Conservation, State CAMPA CEO and DDG of the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. This is a time taking and cumbersome exercise and being carried out by the Committee.
 - iii. Completion of pending compensatory afforestation in a time bound manner.
 - iv. Uploading of details of afforestation on e-Green Watch portal.
 - v. Circulation of guidelines for preparation of APO for organising various works/activities of compensatory afforestation for comprehensive ecological restoration of the afforestation area.
 - vi. Operationalisation of the digital APO application through PARIVESH.2.0 Online Portal for transparency, efficiency, effective data retrieval and management.
 - vii. Holding regular meetings of the Governing Body chaired by Union Minister and Executive Committee by the Director General of Forests to proactively take up and resolve any CAMPA issue.
 - viii. Conveying of timely approvals of Annual Plans of Operations of States and Union Territories.
 - ix. Advising State CAMPA Authorities and issuing of suitable instructions, guidelines from time to time for better functioning of state CAMPA. National CAMPA has also issued a compendium on important communication letters made to States/ UTs on timely preparations of APOs and its effective implementation vide letter dated 04.11.2024. (*Annexure XVI*)

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THE REPORT

1. BACKGROUND:

1.1 Pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 14.02.2024 in IA No. 5891/2019 in W.P. (Civil) No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumalpad versus Union of India and others, National Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (National CAMPA) filed an affidavit thereby furnishing the status of transfer of CAMPA Funds by the Government of the States/ Union Territories to their respective Forest Departments and its utilisation.

1.2 Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 07.08.2024, (*Annexure I*) had directed the Chief Secretaries of all the States/Union Territories to file their affidavits on following aspects:

"i) As to how much amount has been spent by the respective State Governments/Union Territories on afforestation and allied activities.

ii) The reasons as to why the balance CAMPA funds has not been utilized.

iii) The purposes for which the said fund has been utilized.

iv) As to whether the Steering Committee, as contemplated under Section- 11 and 18 of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 have been constituted and what functions they have discharged in the last five Years.

v) The affidavit shall also state as to how much amount in the current financial year has been utilized for the afforestation and allied activities and details thereof."

1.3 The matter was again heard on 21.08.2024 and the Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed following directions (*Annexure II*):

"11. It will, therefore, be appropriate that the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) circulates a questionnaire to the CEOs of all the States/Union Territories CAMPA Fund as well as the CEO of the National CAMPA Fund and direct them to submit the information as per the said questionnaire. In addition to the other Standard Operating Procedures, CEC shall also seek information with regard to the success rate of the plantation.

12. The CEC would also consider holding online discussions with the CEOs.

13. After receipt of the responses of the CEOs of the various States/Union Territories and National CAMPA Fund and after holding the discussion with them, the CEC shall collate the information and submit the report to this Court. The CEC shall also recommend as to in what manner full utilisation of the CAMPA funds can be done for the purposes for which it is assigned."

1.4 The Hon'ble Court on 29th August 2024 (*Annexure III*) was pleased to modify the order of 21.08.2024 as below:

1. *In the order passed by this Court on 21.08.2024, the first sentence in paragraph 11 shall be substituted thus:*

"It will, therefore, be appropriate that the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) in consultation with the National CAMPA prepares a questionnaire and circulate the same to the CEOs of all the States/Union Territories CAMPA Fund and direct them to submit the Information as per the said questionnaire."

2. *The first sentence of paragraph 13 of the said order shall also be substituted as under:*

"After receipt of responses of the CEOs of the various States/Union Territories and after holding discussions with them, the CEC in consultation with the National CAMPA shall collate the information and submit the report to this Court."

1.5 Pursuant to Hon'ble Apex Court's orders dated 21.08.2024 and 29.08.2024, a questionnaire was prepared in consultation with CEC and circulated to all the States / UTs CAMPA vide letter dated 01.10.2024 and later on 09.12.2024 for additional information (*Annexure IV*) for their response. In this respect, review meetings were held with the States/UTs convened on 02.09.2024, 14.10.2024, 03.12.2024, 18.12.2024, 01.01.2025, 02.02.2025, 11.02.2025 to 13.02.2025 to collect site-wise data of Compensatory Afforestation, Artificial Regeneration, Aided Natural Regeneration. This information is still awaited from some States/ UTs.

1.6 The current report is with reference to these orders / instructions.

2. PROVISIONS IN THE COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUND ACT, 2016 ON IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF CAMPA ACTIVITIES:

2.1 The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 (hereafter will be referred as CAF Act 2016) provides for detailed institutional mechanism at National and State levels. The National CAMPA has been created for planning and managing compensatory afforestation fund, to carry out compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA activities. The Governing Body of National CAMPA is chaired by the Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and consists of expert members (non-officials) one each from environmentalists, conservationists, scientists, economists, and social scientists. The Governing Body also has the representation of various Ministries at the level of the Secretaries to the Govt. of India dealing with of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Finance (Expenditure), Rural Development, Tribal Development, Science and Technology, Agriculture, Panchayati Raj, Space and Earth Sciences, Land Resources and CEO, NITI Aayog. The Governing Body also includes five (5) members

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at the level of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of State Forest Departments) from five States representing various regions of the country on rotation basis. The Governing Body of the National CAMPA regularly reviews the progress of CAMPA activities in its meetings as per the provisions of the Act.

2.2 The Governing Body of National CAMPA is assisted by an Executive Committee chaired by the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, which is also a multi member Body comprising Expert (non-official) Members drawn from the field of Forestry, Tribal Development, Forest Economy Development and professional Ecologist not being from the Central Government. Other members of Executive Committee include Financial Advisor apart from senior officers of the Ministry dealing with Forest Conservation, Wildlife Management, Green India Mission and Heads of Regional Offices of the Ministry.

2.3 It is relevant to mention that the Regional Offices of the Ministry are involved in processing and approvals of the forest diversion proposals for non-forestry purposes under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, as well as planning and monitoring of compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA works.

2.4 The genesis of present-day framework of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority lies in the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court through its order dated 05.05.2006 in the matter of T.N Godavarman vrs. UoI and others in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995, which resulted in the enactment of the CAF Act 2016 and constitution of statutory bodies of National CAMPA and State and Union Territories CAMPA. These Authorities are working in accordance with the CAF Act, 2016 and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules 2018, (hereafter will be referred as CAF Rules, 2018) framed under the Act. (*Annexure -V*).

2.5 The National CAMPA and State/ UT CAMPA were created as per the provisions of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016, which came into force with effect from 30.09.2018.

2.6 The CAF Act, 2016 and CAF Rules, 2018 thereunder have evolved pursuant to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court from time to time and have adequate in-built provisions and mechanisms to address various aspects related to the implementation of compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA activities. The Act does not provide for supervisory role of any other agency in the functioning of National or State/UT CAMPA.

The Statement & Objectives of the CAF Act, 2016 specifically mentions that

"Now, therefore, based on the above orders, directions and observations of the Supreme Court to ensure safety, security and expeditious utilisation in a transparent manner of funds accumulated with the ad hoc Authority and the funds to be collected by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, it is proposed to create a National Compensatory Afforestation Fund and a National Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority at the national level, and a State Compensatory Afforestation Fund and a State

Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority in each State and Union Territory, by an Act of Parliament."

2.7 Further, the CAF Act, 2016 & Rules, 2018 provide for implementation, monitoring and evaluation mechanism. The audit of National CAMPA is conducted by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG) and so far, the C&AG Audit has been completed till the financial year 2023-24 and audit certificate has been issued till 2022-23. Further, the National CAMPA is accountable to Parliament. The States/UTs are also carrying out CAMPA activities in accordance with the provisions of CAF Act & Rules, including internal and third-party monitoring of CAMPA works. The C&AG also conducts the annual audits of State/UT CAMPA.

3. IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK FOR CAMPA ACTIVITIES:

Since its inception, National CAMPA has strived for expeditious implementation of compensatory afforestation in a time-bound manner. There has been significant progress in compensatory afforestation after its constitution in 2018-19.

3.1. Completion of Compensatory Afforestation in a time bound manner is the highest priority:

3.1.1 National CAMPA has accorded the highest priority for completion of compensatory afforestation and other mandatory activities for ensuring compliance of the conditions of approvals granted for diversion of forest land in accordance with the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 for compensating the loss of forest and ecosystem services. The compensatory afforestation requires to be carried out over the land already earmarked in the final approvals granted by the Central Government for diversion of forestland for non-forestry purposes.

3.1.2 Similarly, the works under Net Present Value are taken up with the primary objective of improving the quality of forests, improvement of wildlife habitat and ecological restoration of the degraded forest out of the activities listed under Rule 5. (2) (a) to (m) and Rule 5. (3) (a) to (k). The works under Rule 6 (a) (i) to (vi) and 6 (b) (i) to (vi) for the interest amount are taken up with the purpose of conservation & development of Forest & Wildlife and non-recurring & recurring expenditure of the State Authority. The works for ecological restoration include assisted natural regeneration for facilitating growth of local tree and plant species, removal of invasive and alien species (*Lantana, Parthenium, Mikania, Eupatorium* etc.); soil & water conservation, protection and consolidation of forests and addressing the drivers of the forest degradation including forest-fire prevention and control etc.

3.2 Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) by State CAMPA:

3.2.1 Every State & UT CAMPA is required to prepare Annual Plan of Operation as per the provisions contained in Section 15(i) read with the provisions of Section 18(i) and 19(i) of the

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Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016. The APO of State CAMPA is formulated by the State Executive Committee based on the requirement of creating compensatory afforestation against the second stage or final forest clearances accorded by the Central Government.

3.2.2 After the finalisation and approval by the Steering Committee of State CAMPA chaired by the Chief Secretary, the APO for the next financial year is to be furnished before 31st December of every year to National CAMPA for approval.

3.2.3 The Annual Plans of Operations of States and Union Territories are to be approved by the National CAMPA within a period of 3 months. The National CAMPA scrupulously follows this practice of approval of State APOs since it came into existence.

3.2.4 National CAMPA has held 33 meetings of the Executive Committee and five meetings of the Governing Body so far to proactively take up and resolve any CAMPA issue including timely approval of Annual Plans of Operations of States and Union Territories.

3.2.5 The National CAMPA has simplified the decision making at the National and State level by guiding the States/Union Territories for preparation of a Perspective Plan and Integrated APO for CAMPA activities with a long-term perspective.

3.2.6 National CAMPA has prescribed procedure for preparation of Integrated APO in addition to detailed APO for continuity of workflow, to monitor the details of CAMPA activities, availability of CAMPA fund, release and utilisation, details of committed liabilities, spill over etc. The APO includes the details of geotagged CAMPA activities.

3.2.7 The Guidelines for preparation of Annual plans of operations by State and Union Territories CAMPA have also been circulated for their guidance.

3.3 Post approval APO Implementation and Monitoring:

3.3.1 The State/UT Government are informed about the approval of their respective APO and requested to implement approved CAMPA activities.

3.3.2 Since the State Governments are required to provide funds for carrying out the compensatory afforestation and need to ensure that their respective forest department is provided with necessary support including requisite funds for timely implementation of compensatory afforestation and other CAMPA activities which are seasonal in nature.

3.3.3 It is relevant to mention that the responsibility to ensure compliance of the conditions viz. compensatory afforestation as specified in the approvals of the Forest Clearances accorded by the Central Government rests with the concerned State/UT Government. The Forest Department is an executive arm of the State Government for carrying out the approved CAMPA activities. The State Governments are obliged to facilitate and ensure that the implementation of the compensatory afforestation and other mandatory conditions of the forest clearances are complied with.

3.3.4 Under the CAF Act, 2016, a Monitoring Group is provided for monitoring and evaluation of CAMPA works. The Monitoring Group is co-ordinated by the Director General, Forest Survey of India, with six expert members drawn from the field of environment,

economics, wildlife, forestry, remote sensing and geographical information system (RS & GIS). In addition, States and Union Territories carry out internal as well as third-party monitoring of CAMPA works from time to time. The Steering Committee of the State/UT authority is also mandated under Section 18. (1)(ii) to monitor the progress of the utilisation of funds released from the State fund. The Executive Committee of the State/UT is also mandated under Section 19. (1)(ii) to undertake qualitative and quantitative supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the works being implemented from amounts available in the State Fund.

3.3.5 The Governing Body and Executive Committee of National CAMPA monitor progress of implementation of approved APOs by State/ UT Authorities in subsequent meetings. In the Executive Committee meetings with the state authorities, the National CAMPA has repeatedly emphasized on reconciliation of data on CA activities and utilization of funds, monitoring and evaluation including internal and third-party evaluation of CAMPA activities, timely release of funds by states, preparation of annual reports and annual accounts.

3.3.6 The Regional Offices of the Ministry are also involved in the APO preparation, implementation and monitoring as the member of the Steering Committee of the State/UT CAMPA. The Regional Offices of the Ministry also carry out monitoring and evaluation of CAMPA works.

3.4 Linkage between release of funds by the State Government & Utilisation of Funds by the State Forest Departments:

(i) The purpose of specifying the date of 31st December of preceding year for furnishing of APO of the next year by the States and UTs is of paramount importance. It ensures that the works of approved APO are implemented timely as per their seasonal requirement. This is possible only when the APO is submitted with the approval of State Steering Committee well with-in stipulated time i.e. 31st December of preceding year. After the approval of National CAMPA, the State Government releases the funds to the Forest Department. The timing of the release of funds affects its utilisation and impacts the cycle of APO preparation and implementation.

(ii) CAMPA funds are additional or special funds for the specific purpose of compensating the loss of forestland and ecosystem services due to diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purposes. The State Governments are required to diligently ensure that the funds are maintained separately for the specific purpose of carrying out CAMPA works in addition to other forestry operations and that these funds should be made available to the Forest Department on time

3.5 Powers and Functions of State Steering Committee and the Executive Committee:

The role and functions of the State Steering Committee and the Executive Committee are important in ensuring proper implementation of CAMPA activities. Section-18 of the CAF Act, 2016 has prescribed detailed functions in this regard. The Steering Committee of a State Authority headed by the Chief Secretary is responsible for scrutiny and approval of the annual

plan of operations and monitor the progress of the utilisation of funds released from the State Fund. The Steering Committee is required to meet at least once in every three months and to ensure inter-departmental coordination apart from reviewing the progress of implementation. Likewise, Section 19 prescribes the role and functions of the Executive Committee of a State Authority. The Executive Committee is required to formulate annual plan of operations, undertake qualitative and quantitative supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the works being implemented.

4. Support by National CAMPA to States / UTs Authorities:

4.1 After receiving the APOs from the States / UTs, National CAMPA carries out scrutiny and reviews the achievements and future proposals in consultation with States / UTs before approving them in the meeting of Executive Committee chaired by the DGF & SS, MoEFCC.

4.2 National CAMPA also supports the States / UTs after approval of the APOs by issuing guidelines and directions on regular basis to State / UT Governments, State CAMPA and Forest Department for proper implementation and monitoring of CAMPA Activities.

4.3 Regular meetings are conducted with the States / UTs based on their requirements. Further, necessary clarifications/advisories/communications are made to the States to address any difficulty.

4.4 National CAMPA has brought systematic and structural improvements in the overall framework for implementation of CAMPA works in order to bring efficiency, effectiveness and transparency. The National CAMPA has initiated technological integration with necessary digital and IT platform to fast track the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CAMPA activities.

4.5 Currently, the focus of National CAMPA is to bring the entire working of National and State CAMPA on Digital platform such as PARIVESH 2.0 Portal. The process of Digitalisation of Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) is underway, which will capture all the CAMPA activities , from creation of APOs to the fund utilisation with in-built functionality for monitoring and evaluation.

4.6 Pursuant to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, discussions were held with the Central Empowered Committee. The CEC advised to collect a comprehensive set of information from all the States/UTs and prepare a comprehensive report for further discussion with CEC.

4.7 The responses of the States/UTs on the questionnaire on the progress of compensatory afforestation were compiled. Subsequently, a number of meetings with PCCFs & CEO, CAMPA of all States/ UTs have been convened on 02.09.2024, 14.10.2024, 03.12.2024, 18.12.2024, 01.01.2025, 02.02.2025, 11.02.2025 to 13.02.2025 to seek clarification on the data related to progress of compensatory afforestation, monitoring and other important issues related to release and utilisation of CAMPA funds in the State/UTs for preparation of the Report on the following issues.

4.7.1 Information about status of State/UT Authority to assess whether State/UT Authorities are functioning as per the requirement of the CAF Act including status of Annual Account since 2018-19 and C&AG Audit of Annual Accounts of States/UTs.

4.7.2 Status of Reconciliation of Compensatory Afforestation created year wise against Forest Diversion approvals for the period:

- (a) 2018-19 to 2024-25 (Post CAF Act, 2016 Phase)
- (b) 2009-10 to 2017-18 (Ad-hoc CAMPA Phase)
- (c) 1980 to 2008-09 (Pre-Ad-Hoc CAMPA Phase)

This information is helpful in ascertaining the status of compensatory afforestation in these three phases about the progress made after the enactment of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016.

4.7.3 Details of Compensatory Afforestation created since 2018-19 to 2024-25 i.e. after the enactment of CAF Act, 2016 along with status of monitoring for showing systematic progress of Compensatory Afforestation works.

4.7.4 Process followed for release of funds after approval of APO to ascertain time taken for release of funds, the time taken and stages of approvals of APO, process of utilisation of CAMPA funds and time taken for making payment after completion of CAMPA activities.

5. Progress of Compensatory Afforestation and other CAMPA activities:

5.1 National CAMPA has been taking necessary steps for streamlining the implementation of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016. The meetings of the Governing Body and Executive Committee of National CAMPA are convened regularly. So far, thirty-three (33) meetings of the Executive Committee have already been held in a span of 7 years (2018-19 to 2024-25) for approval of APOs of States and UTs. The National CAMPA is also assisting the Governing Body in formulating broad policy framework for functioning of the National and State Authorities and also guiding the State Authorities for effective implementation of CAMPA activities.

5.2 The period 2018-19 to 2019-20 was a transition period from Ad-hoc CAMPA to CAMPA. The years 2020-21 and 2021-22 were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted implementation of CAMPA activities in the State/UTs in the initial phase. In spite of these challenges, the National CAMPA provided requisite support to States/UTs in preparation and approval of their APOs.

5.3 National CAMPA requested States/UTs to complete reconciliation of Compensatory Afforestation carried out from the year 1980 till date against various forest diversion approval granted by the Central Government. In this regard, a committee comprising of Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation), CEO State CAMPA of the concerned State/UT and the Deputy Director General of Regional Office of the Ministry as members, was constituted by the National CAMPA in May, 2023. These officials are the key officials entrusted with the forest diversion and compliance of compensatory afforestation.

5.4 The National CAMPA advised States/UTs CAMPA for preparation of Integrated APOs since 2022-23 for systematic implementation of afforestation and other CAMPA activities with the main objectives of ecological restoration, qualitative improvement in forest and wildlife habitat, enhancement of ecosystem services and enrichment of biodiversity. The Governing Body and Executive Committee of national CAMPA have accorded highest priority in various meetings for timely completion of pending compensatory afforestation. National CAMPA has also issued instructions to State Authorities from time to time.

5.5 Major reforms in APO submission and monitoring of works have been initiated by the National CAMPA through application of digital and information technology to bring in transparency, effectiveness and efficiency.

6 Status of Compensatory Afforestation and other CAMPA activities in States/UTs:

6.1 The first part of the questionnaire is related to functioning of the State/UT CAMPA. As per the Section 17(2) of the CAF Act, 2016, the Governing Body of the State CAMPA should meet at-least once in six months. The Steering Committee and Executive Committee should meet at-least once in three months (Section 18(2) and 19(2) respectively). From the information received from the States/UTs, it is observed that meetings of Steering Committee and Executive Committee of State CAMPA are generally held annually against stipulated 3 months period. The meetings of State CAMPA Governing Body are very few. The State/UT - wise status of the meeting of the Governing Body, Steering Committee & Executive Committee are given in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Meetings of various committees of States/UTs CAMPA during the period 2018-19 to 30.09.2024

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Governing Body Meetings	No. of Steering Committee Meetings	No. of Executive Committee Meetings
	Stipulated Frequency as per CAF Act, 2016	At-least once in 6 months	At least once in 3 months	At least once in 3 months
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	4	4
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0	11	12
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	7	7
4.	Assam	1	9	10
5.	Bihar	0	9	9
6.	Chandigarh	1	8	7
7.	Chhattisgarh	2	6	8
8.	Delhi	0	6	7
9.	Goa	0	6	7
10.	Gujarat	0	8	7
11.	Haryana	0	8	11
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1	12	9
13.	Jharkhand	0	7	7

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Governing Body Meetings	No. of Steering Committee Meetings	No. of Executive Committee Meetings
	Stipulated Frequency as per CAF Act, 2016	At-least once in 6 months	At least once in 3 months	At least once in 3 months
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	10	10
15.	Karnataka	0	8	8
16.	Kerala	0	6	6
17.	Ladakh	0	2	2
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1	10	11
19.	Maharashtra	0	7	17
20.	Manipur	0	8	8
21.	Meghalaya	0	8	11
22.	Mizoram	1	7	5
23.	Odisha	0	6	7
24.	Punjab	1	7	7
25.	Rajasthan	0	8	8
26.	Sikkim	1	6	5
27.	Tamil Nadu	0	5	5
28.	Telangana	0	7	8
29.	Tripura	1	7	11
30.	Uttar Pradesh	1	8	10
31.	Uttarakhand	1	10	12
32.	West Bengal	0	6	10

Note: The State of Nagaland and UTs of Puducherry and Lakshadweep have not notified the State CAMPA. The UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu UT has notified Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee of the CAMPA recently. No afforestation works have been proposed in these State/UTs.

The Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee of the State/ UT have been assigned well-defined functions in the CAF Act. Regular meetings of these committees are necessary for effective supervision and monitoring of implementation of afforestation and other CAMPA works.

6.2 Twenty-Six States/UTs have notified appointment of CEO, CAMPA and 12 States have independent State CAMPA offices. It is reported that Expert members have been appointed in Steering Committee and Executive Committee of 28 States/UTs CAMPA. The CEOs of State CAMPA are holding the position as an additional charge in many States and remains in office for short duration (*Annexure VI*). The positions of other officials of State/UT Authorities viz. Joint CEO, Financial Advisor, Deputy CEO are largely vacant.

6.3 From the replies of the States and UT CAMPA, it is observed that regular postings of officials in CAMPA Office is not as per the desired norms/ strength to effectively discharge their functions as envisaged in the Act. (*Annexure VII*). Generally, contractual staff and consultants are working in the offices. These officials/ contractual staff continue to leave for

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other assignments as and when better prospects are offered. Capacity building of officials of State CAMPA offices is also required on regular basis for effective implementation of CAMPA works.

6.4 The States were requested to furnish reconciled data, vetted by the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry, on compensatory afforestation in lieu of the respective forest diversion proposals since 1980. The compensatory afforestation data from States/UTs is being reconciled by concerned Regional Office.

STATUS OF COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION IN THREE PHASES:

6.5 As per the information received from State/UT CAMPA, compensatory afforestation has been carried out over around 10.95* lakh hectare since 1980 to 31.03.2024 against the cumulative afforestation target of approx. 12.46* lakh hectare, which comes to 87.86% of the target as given in the Table 2 below.

Table 2: Compensatory Afforestation in three Phases from 1980 to 31.03.2024:

Phases	CA proposed/ stipulated in all States/UTs (in Ha.)	CA carried out by all States/UTs till 31.03.2024 (in Ha.)*	% of CA carried out w.r.t CA proposed
Pre CAMPA phase (1980-2008-09)	7,19,780.42	6,55,400.74	91.06 %
Adhoc CAMPA phase (2009-10 to 2017-18)	2,69,582.33	2,22,392.46	82.50%
CAMPA phase (2018-19 to 2023-24)	2,33,272.63	1,95,998.45	84.02%
Total of three phases:	12,46,490.77	10,95,137.26*	87.86%
Balance CA to be carried out – 1,51,353.51 ha			

Note: *The break-up of phase wise CA afforestation for the States of Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu and UT of Jammu & Kashmir is still under reconciliation.

The details of compensatory afforestation carried out since 1980 till 31.03.2024 in States and Union Territories is given in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Compensatory Afforestation in States/UTs from 1980 to 31.03.2024:

S. No.	State/UT	Proposed CA	CA Achieved (as on 31.03.2024)	CA Achievement in Percentage (%)	Balance CA to be carried out
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2586.3	460.26	17.80	2126.04
2	Andhra Pradesh	41959.43	34461.68	82.13	7497.75
3	Arunachal Pradesh	46353.19	42415.16	91.50	3938.03
4	Assam	9725.84	8588	88.30	1137.84

S. No.	State/UT	Proposed CA	CA Achieved (as on 31.03.2024)	CA Achievement in Percentage (%)	Balance CA to be carried out
5	Bihar	7387.608	6311.62	85.44	1075.988
6	Chandigarh	109.95	109.95	100.00	0
7	Chhattisgarh	68407.15	57882.64	84.61	10524.51
8	Delhi	303.65	319.96	105.37	0
9	Goa	3549.16	2862.16	80.64	687
10	Gujarat	99305.4	99050.64	99.74	254.76
11	Haryana	15241.47	10542.98	69.17	4698.49
12	Himachal Pradesh	33880.42	31363.68	92.57	2516.74
13	Jammu & Kashmir	31503	28348	89.99	3155
14	Jharkhand	82283.21	49262.11	59.87	33021.1
15	Karnataka	30110.24	28982.37	96.25	1127.87
16	Kerala	60962.92	60471.85	99.19	491.08
17	Ladakh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18	Madhya Pradesh	254243.29	236248.74	92.92	17994.55
19	Maharashtra	110873.98	103691.13	93.52	7182.84
20	Manipur	8531.2	6192.334	72.58	2338.87
21	Meghalaya	3062.19	1060.71	34.64	2001.48
22	Mizoram	11247.16	10391.77	92.39	855.4
23	Odisha	84929.6	72933.37	85.88	11996.23
24	Punjab	23848.911	22859	95.85	989.92
25	Rajasthan	52309.47	41455.57	79.25	10853.9
26	Sikkim	5864.12	5864.13	100.00	0
27	Tamil Nadu	4114.79	3616.42	87.89	498.37
28	Telangana	42968.53	32300.74	75.17	10667.79
29	Tripura	7665.14	7120.34	92.89	544.8
30	Uttar Pradesh	39105.74	32931.68	84.21	6174.06
31	Uttarakhand	58543.7	53688.88	91.71	4854.82
32	West Bengal	5514	3349.4	60.74	2164.6
Total		12,46,490.77	10,95,137.27	87.86	1,51,353.51

* Information based on confirmation received from States and Union Territories as on 28.02.2025.

The details of compensatory afforestation in three phases are given in *Annexure VIII*.

6.6 It may be mentioned here that Ad-hoc CAMPA was constituted on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court. During this period of Ad-hoc CAMPA, funds were available with the Union Government, which were released as and when activities were approved by the Ad-hoc CAMPA. Subsequently in CAMPA period, the funds were transferred to the States/UTs, which could be utilized after the approval of Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) of States/UTs by the National CAMPA.

6.7 On perusal of the **Table 2** above, it could be understood that the percentage of CA created was 87.86% of the proposed CA area. The achievement in the last two phases is similar considering the overall impact of transition from Ad-hoc CAMPA to CAMPA in 2018-19 and COVID pandemic in 2021 and 2022.

6.8 Since inception of the CAF Act 2016 and CAF Rules 2018, an area of 1,78,261.52 Ha has been brought under compensatory afforestation out of the mandated 2,09,297.50 Ha during 2019-20 to 2023-24 as reported by the States/UTs. The achievement comes to 85.17%. This shows that achievement of CAMPA after its constitution is significant in spite of initial challenges and COVID pandemic.

6.9 The Table 4 below indicates that average survival percentage of the plantation was fairly good, falling mostly in the range of 50-80%. The State/UTs-wise details are attached in *Annexure IX*.

Table 4: Status of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) raised under CAMPA funds from 2019-20 to 2023-24

(Area in Ha.)

Sl. No	State/UT	Physical target as per approved APO	CA Achievement	Percentage of CA Achieved	Balance CA	No. of CA Sites	Survival Range (%)	Date of Confirmation by States
1	Andaman & Nicobar	237.63	132.03	55.56	105.60	13	60-85	12.12.24
2	Andhra Pradesh	8663.46	3471.88	40.07	5191.58	224	80-90	20.12.24
3	Arunachal Pradesh	21478.03	20719.46	96.60	728.77	104	40-75	17.01.25
4	Assam	1191.82	1149.64	93.82	75.71	39	45-90	07.12.24
5	Bihar	3568.68	3171.67	88.88	397	250	65-95	23.12.24
6	Chandigarh	0.93	0.97	100.00	0	5	90-100	11.12.24
7	Chhattisgarh	7941.59	7039.23	88.64	902.36	249	80-99	05.12.24
8	Delhi	190.91	179.96	94.26	10.95	16	91	05.12.24
9	Goa	1330.00	1209.00	90.90	121.00	111	74-95	28.11.24
10	Gujarat	14103.32	14103.32	100	0	423	69-80	19.12.24
11	Haryana	5803.08	5012.91	86.38	790.18	1829	60-80	11.10.24
12	Himachal Pradesh	4913.00	4073.00	82.90	840.00	570	54-60	29.11.24
13	Jammu & Kashmir*1	8097.97	6434.79	79.46	1663.18	503	60-66	21.12.24
14	Jharkhand	21443.95	15739.27	73.40	5704.68	456	78-98	02.12.24

Sl. No	State/UT	Physical target as per approved APO	CA Achievement	Percentage of CA Achieved	Balance CA	No. of CA Sites	Survival Range (%)	Date of Confirmation by States
15	Karnataka	2775.12	2761.26	99.5	13.86	116	75-100	30.12.24
16	Kerala	433.06	171.80	39.67	261.26	7	45-74	30.12.24
17	Madhya Pradesh* ²	21107.68	21746.82	100.00	0	619	88-96	10.12.24
18	Maharashtra* ³	5730.62	4316.74	75.33	1413.88	268	73-100	31.12.24
19	Manipur	1759.84	666.94	37.90	1092.90	15	55-76	03.12.24
20	Meghalaya	514.76	114.56	22.25	400.20	22	40-70	20.12.24
21	Mizoram	2046.74	2570.24	100.00	0	24	80-95	09.12.24
22	Ladakh	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
23	Odisha	19540.451	16964.78	86.82	2575.67	576	75-93	18.12.24
24	Punjab	4471.94	4019.72	89.89	452.2	996	54-100	26.11.24
25	Rajasthan	9862.03	7377.15	74.8	2484.88	285	55-85	09.12.24
26	Sikkim	660.39	609.52	92.3	50.87	125	60-71	27.11.24
27	Tamil Nadu	262.39	84.76	32.30	177.63	12	85-95	20.11.24
28	Telangana	17961.54	13686.57	76.20	4274.97	860	69-96	28.11.24
29	Tripura	2608.11	2295.23	88.00	312.88	199	72-90	09.12.24
30	Uttar Pradesh	6096.70	5877.16	96.40	219.54	1225	83-95	13.02.25
31	Uttarakhand	13682.93	11812.89	86.33	1870.04	-	-	19.12.24
32	West Bengal	1911.74	748.25	39.16	1163.02	79	70-100	27.11.24
Total		209297.50	178261.52	85.17	31035.98	10220		

Remarks:

*¹ No. of saplings converted to notional area.

*² Initially approved target of 31107.68 included 10,000 ha CA against forest diversion in A&NI.

*³ Additional target of 2330.98 Ha and Rs. 29.21 crore approved by State Executive Committee in FY 2019-20

6.10 National CAMPA has approved the following Compensatory Afforestation targets of the States/ UTs for the year 2024-25:

Table 5: Status of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) taken up from CAMPA funds for the FY 2024-25 (As reported by the States/UTs)

(Area in Ha.)

Sl. No	State/UT	Physical Target as per APO approved by NCAMPA	CA Achievement	Percentage of CA Achieved	Balance CA for current year *1	Date of Confirmation by States
1	Andaman & Nicobar	205.29	191.86	93.46	13.42	12.12.24
2	Andhra Pradesh	1466.84	1454.22	99.14	12.62	20.12.24
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1557.16	-	-	1557.16	-
4	Assam	63.53	22.09	34.77	41.44	28.11.24
5	Bihar	560.34	563.35	100	0	23.12.24
6	Chandigarh	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	11.12.24
7	Chhattisgarh	148.60	64.54	43.44	84.06	29.11.24
8	Delhi	41.27	-	-	41.27	-
9	Goa	217.23	217.22	100	0	-
10	Gujarat	1605.26	1605.26	100	0	19.12.24
11	Haryana	748.84	310.72	41.49	438.12	11.10.24
12	Himachal Pradesh	1014	912	89.94	102	29.11.24
13	Jammu & Kashmir	1386	626	45.16	760	21.12.24
14	Jharkhand	2388.09	1457.83	61.05	930.25	02.12.24
15	Karnataka	575.58	575.58	100	0	26.11.24
16	Kerala	192.63	-	-	192.63	29.11.24
17	Madhya Pradesh	932.55	1150.83*2	100	0	03.12.24
18	Maharashtra	790.70	723.29	91.48	67.40	27.11.24
19	Manipur	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	03.12.24
20	Meghalaya	224.60	-	-	224.60	20.12.24
21	Mizoram	375.42	-	-	375.42	09.12.24
22	Ladakh	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	-
23	Odisha	7278.538	3939.51	54.13	3339.02	02.12.24
24	Punjab	375.10	374.8	99.92	0	26.11.24
25	Rajasthan	2567.12	1800.49	70.14	766.63	09.12.24
26	Sikkim	197.26	197.26	100	0	27.11.24
27	Tamil Nadu	260.63*3	0	0	260.63	27.11.24
28	Telangana	4284.57	1622.20	37.86	2662.37	28.11.24
29	Tripura	544.83	388.01	71.22	156.82	29.11.24
30	Uttar Pradesh	2934.39	2839.78	96.78	94.61	04.11.24
31	Uttarakhand	2500	983.00	39.32	1517	19.12.24
32	West Bengal	131.48	126.38	96.12	5.1	27.11.24
Total		35567.84	22146.23	62.26	13421.61	

Note:

*1 Dynamic data will need further update on receipt of progress report from the State/UTs.

*2 Madhya Pradesh State CAMPA reported that additional plantation has been taken up in the FY 2024-25.

*3 Physical target of 92.06 Ha reported by Tamil Nadu CAMPA pertains solely for CA proposed under APO 2024-25. Total Physical target of 260.63 Ha includes revalidated APO targets of year 2022-23 and 2023-24.

6.11 It is observed from the Table 6 below that the National CAMPA has approved an outlay of Rs 38,516.48 crore against State/UTs APOs during 2019-20 to 2023-24. Out of this, the Governments of States/UTs have released Rs. 29,311.22 crore to State CAMPA/Forest Department, which is 76.10% of the outlay approved in APO. The utilization of the fund is Rs. 26,001.18 crore, which is 88.71% of funds released by the States/UTs and 67.50% of the total outlay approved in the APOs. It is relevant to mention that State/UTs CAMPA funds received in lieu of the diversion of forest land are already available in the public account of the respective State/UT Government.

Table 6: Status of fund release and utilised by States/UTs for Financial Year 2019-20 to 2023-24

(Rs. in crore)

State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial Outlay approved by National Authority	Fund released by State Government to Forest Department (against column 3)	Percentage of Funds released against approved APO (against column 3)	Fund utilised by State Forest Department (against column 5)	Percentage of funds utilised against Fund released by State (against column 4)	Date of Confirmation by States
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	26.79	19.8	12.73	64.29%	6.76	53.10%	25.11.24
Andhra Pradesh	1585.8	1449.63	509.06	35.61%	509.06	100.00%	19.12.24
Arunachal Pradesh*	853.37	783.93	924.87*	117.98%	904.40	97.79%	17.01.25
Assam* ¹	557.29	511.5	338.15* ¹	66.11%	355.78* ¹	105.21%	21.11.24
Bihar	706.615	639.79	531.86	83.13%	416.04	78.22%	-
Chandigarh* ²	11.19	10.93	6.76	61.85%	6.84* ²	101.18%	01.01.25
Chhattisgarh	5277.87	4855.96	3900	80.31%	3705.51	95.01%	18.11.24
Delhi	158.08	116.78	93.06	79.69%	25.03	26.90%	28.11.24
Goa* ³	167.21	144.74	88.55	61.18%	102.63* ³	115.90%	28.11.24
Gujarat* ⁴	1161.9	1152.58	735.76	63.84%	853.89* ⁴	116.06%	01.01.25
Haryana* ⁵	1183.66	962.22	1041.03* ⁵	108.19%	597.37	57.38%	03.01.25
Himachal Pradesh	906.561	817.67	539.1	65.93%	461.31	85.57%	20.11.24
Jammu & Kashmir	1260.62	1221.48	1088.58	89.12%	680.07	62.47%	02.01.25

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State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial Outlay approved by National Authority	Fund released by State Government to Forest Department (against column 3)	Percentage of Funds released against approved APO (against column 3)	Fund utilised by State Forest Department (against column 5)	Percentage of funds utilised against Fund released by State (against column 4)	Date of Confirmation by States
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jharkhand	2864.3	2390.44	1428.45	59.76%	1209.03	84.64%	19.11.24
Karnataka	1466.17	1265.13	1172.9	92.71%	1132.51	96.56%	20.11.24
Kerala	78.9	67.23	45.37	67.48%	39.88	87.90%	-
Ladakh	103.06	60.55	60.55	100.00%	36.69	60.59%	-
Madhya Pradesh	4362.42	4032.9	3385.66	83.95%	3046.88	89.99%	10.10.24
Maharashtra	3385.38	3092.65	1765.02	57.07%	1659.74	94.04%	27.12.24
Manipur* ⁶	133.75	126.09	126.71* ⁶	100.49%	126.71	100.00%	02.01.25
Meghalaya	133.57	127.95	81.69	63.85%	79.61	97.45%	13.12.24
Mizoram	117.54	82.08	65.27	79.52%	59.76	91.56%	20.11.24
Odisha	4652.5	4424.29	4364.78	98.65%	3837.95	87.93%	02.01.25
Punjab	1010.84	958.17	771.92	80.56%	607.58	78.71%	20.11.24
Rajasthan	1388.12	1368.47	1046.04	76.44%	900.32	86.07%	02.12.24
Sikkim	355.68	334.78	322.63	96.37%	315.28	97.72%	24.12.24
Tamil Nadu	186.071	148.989	38.22	25.65%	25.95	67.90%	20.11.24
Telangana* ⁷	3148.988	2965.7	1770.31	59.69%	1795.76* ⁷	101.44%	28.11.24
Tripura	235.36	216.26	132.65	61.33%	126.84	95.62%	29.11.24
Uttar Pradesh	2307.01	1830.7	1262.69	68.97%	1075.21	85.15%	13.02.25
Uttarakhand	2502.3	2002.49	1555.48	77.68%	1215.29	78.13%	02.01.25
West Bengal	398.37	334.6	105.37	31.49%	85.5	81.14%	27.11.24
Total	42687.29	38516.48	29311.22	76.10 %	26001.18	88.71%	

Note:

* Unspent balance and interest accrued for previous years utilized for FY 2019-20.

*¹ Unspent balance and accrued interest from Ad-hoc CAMPA since 2009-10 onwards was utilised against additional APO of Rs. 53.16 crore for the year 2022-23. No fund has been drawn from SCAF for additional APO of Rs. 53.16 crore. (Clarified vide letter 742/CAMPA/GOI/Misc/Pt-I dated 21.11.2024).

*² Unspent balance of Rs. 0.08 crore for FY 2018-19 was booked in the next FY 2019-20.

*³ The State clarified that the excess fund utilization is from the unspent balance amount of previous year. A formal reply from the State is awaited.

*⁴ During 2019-20, the expenditure of Rs. 118.50 Crore was made from the balance available in Ad-hoc CAMPA of the previous year. From 2020-21, the expenditure has been made from SCAF funds.

*5 A Budget provision for lumpsum amount is made by State Government to Forest Department on 1st of April of every year but the APO is approved in mid of Financial Year. The expenditure was made according to the approved APO and the balance amount was surrendered to the State Government.

*6 An amount of Rs. 126.71 crore was utilized against the approved Rs. 126.09 crore, with the excess covered from an unspent balance of Rs. 30.36 crore, approved and sanctioned on 18th February 2020.

*7 The State has unspent balance that has been carried forward. An amount of 0.73 crore was spent from the interest earned in FY 2022-23. Due to non-release of sufficient fund, loans were taken from other schemes on reimbursement basis and were reimbursed after release of budget by the government.

6.12 It may be seen from the Table 7 given below that the States/ UTs take longer time to submit the APO to NCAMPA for approval and release of the full amount against the approved APO to the respective Forest Departments. In fact, majority of States did not submit their APO to National CAMPA by the mandated date 31st December of previous financial year. The delay in submission of APOs and release of funds adversely affects the forestry operations, which are seasonal and time bound. Such delay also causes less than optimum utilisation of funds.

Table 7: Time frame in submission of APOs, Approval of APOs and Release of Funds

Year	Average Delay in submission of APO with respect to 31 st December of previous year (No. of Days)	Average Delay beyond stipulated 90 days at National CAMPA level (No. of Days)	Average Percentage of funds released by States/ UTs with respect to approved APO (%)	Average Delay in release of funds by State/ UTs to Forest Department (No. of Days)	Remarks
2022-23	80 Days (No delay by Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya & Mizoram State CAMPA)	13 Days	82.90%* West Bengal released Rs.24.07 Cr (45.56%) out of approved APO of Rs.52.83Cr. in 58 instalments. Andhra Pradesh released (36.58%) funds in 22 instalments	Average range of 50 to 250 Days	**% of funds released by Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Kerala, Meghalaya, Telangana, West Bengal was generally <50% of approved APO.
2023-24	104 Days (No delay by Chhattisgarh, Kerala & West Bengal)	0 Days **	93.28% West Bengal released Rs.48.63 Cr. (68.25%) out of approved APO of Rs.79.4 Cr. in 57 instalments.	Average range of 50 to 200 Days	**except Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Telangana, Meghalaya, WB- who submitted APO with delay
2024-25 (Up to December 2024)	111 Days	0 Days ***	71.16% West Bengal released only Rs.5.53 Cr. (8.72%) out of approved APO of Rs.63.51 Cr.	Average range of 50 to 250 Days	***except Arunachal Pradesh, which submitted APO by delay of 184 Days)

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The state-wise details of timeframe in submission of APO, its approval and funds released against approved APO for last three years are in *Annexure X (2022-23), XI (2023-24), XII (2024-25)*.

6.13 It is observed from the data that State/UTs differ in their capabilities to release funds to States CAMPA/Field functionaries. This affects the utilisation of funds in the States/UTs. An overview illustrating the fund release and funds utilised by each State and UT during financial year 2024-25, is given in Table -8 and Table-9 below:

Table 8: Status of fund release and utilised by States/UTs for FY 2024-25

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Fund utilised by State Forest Department (till 31.01.2025)	Date of Confirmation by States
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	11.02	10.42	8.623	-	25.11.24
2.	Andhra Pradesh	258.67	253.6	100.04	74	06.02.25
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	196.37	126.55	Nil	Nil	24.02.25
4.	Assam* ¹	151.73	104.39	60	10.54* ¹	10.01.25
5.	Bihar	65.51	65.18	65.18	22.58	-
6.	Chandigarh	1.4	1.4	2.61	0.35	06.02.25
7.	Chhattisgarh	737.08	401.69	253.57	215.34	06.02.25
8.	Delhi	62.5	34.55	34.55	5.32	06.02.25
9.	Goa	29.59	29.56	25	13.44	31.01.25
10.	Gujarat	310.5	310.5	285.4	227.58	06.02.25
11.	Haryana* ²	128.18	110.83	225* ²	46.02	06.02.25
12.	Himachal Pradesh	185.14	184.52	126	56.46	06.02.25
13.	Jammu & Kashmir* ³	309.52	276.38	240.43	82.36	02.01.25
14.	Jharkhand	917.18	654.62	375	-	19.11.24
15.	Karnataka	427.01	288.06	231.62	97.11	06.02.25
16.	Kerala	14.15	8.93	8.92	3.62	14.02.25
17.	Ladakh	81.32	76.94	0.089	0.089	-
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1402.89	1396.92	1390.59	570.32	16.12.24
19.	Maharashtra	794.14	730.65	216.96	212.04	06.02.25
20.	Manipur	27.36	27.36	27.36	24.17	06.02.25
21.	Meghalaya	24.75	24.75	0.249	0.249	25.02.25
22.	Mizoram	22.77	22.77	0.17	0.17	20.11.24
23.	Odisha	1167.52	1112.93	834.31	805.11	06.02.25

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Fund utilised by State Forest Department (till 31.01.2025)	Date of Confirmation by States
24.	Punjab	156.88	125.94	125.32	92.27	04.02.25
25.	Rajasthan	306.28	198.44	306.1	67.39	06.02.25
26.	Sikkim*4	78.85	44	0	18.99*4	06.02.25
27.	Tamil Nadu	54.17	35.27	35.27	-	20.11.24
28.	Telangana*5	469.19	418.43*5	167	167	06.02.25
29.	Tripura	73.65	61.87	50	39.31	06.02.25
30.	Uttar Pradesh	219.29	155.57	104.26	62.53	13.02.25
31.	Uttarakhand*6	408	348.33*6	331.43	173.62	01.01.25
32.	West Bengal	111.97	63.51	5.54	3.77	06.02.25
	Total	9204.58	7704.86	5636.591	3091.748	

Remarks:

*1 An amount of Rs. 10.54 crore has been utilised from the unspent balance of 2023-24 for plantation activities during monsoon season of 2024-25 as plantation is a seasonal and time bound activity.

*2 The expenditure was made according to the approved APO and the balance amount was surrendered to the State Government.

*3 The total financial outlay includes Main APO and spill-over works.

*4 Sikkim had an opening balance of Rs. 24.27 crore as on 01.04. 2024 from previous year.

*5 Outlay includes Rs. 31.63 crore spill over for FY 2023-24.

*6 Outlay includes Rs. 33.88 crore spill over for FY 2023-24.

Table 9: Quarter-wise release and utilization of CAMPA Funds in State & Union Territories during the Financial Year 2024-25

(Amount in Crores)

State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Date of Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Amount of Fund released by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund utilised by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund Released in Quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4)	Date of Confirmation by States
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	11.02	10.42	-	7.84	4.79	Q4 = 7.84	17.03.2025
Andhra Pradesh	258.67	253.6	06.04.2024	0.960	102	Q1 = 0.96	14.03.2025
			22.07.2024	9.976			
			16.08.2024	11.226			
			22.08.2024	10.244			
			07.09.2024	8.946		Q2 = 40.39	
			15.10.2024	7.814			
			20.11.2024	3.796			
18.12.2024	2.325	Q3 = 19.67					
23.12.2024	5.743						

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State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Date of Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Amount of Fund released by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund utilised by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund Released in Quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4)	Date of Confirmation by States
			08.01.2025	17.131			
			13.01.2025	1.871			
			22.01.2025	20.011			
			17.02.2025	33.530			
			12.03.2025	0.873			
Total				134.44		134.44	
Arunachal Pradesh	196.37	126.55	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	24.12.2024
Assam	151.73	104.21	02.01.2025	60	43.18	Q4 = 60	18.03.2025
Bihar	65.51	65.18	08.10.2024	37.24	59.55	Q3 = 65.18	17.03.2025
			12.12.2024	27.94			
Total				65.18			
Chandigarh	1.4	1.4	-	2.61	0.35		06.02.2025
Chhattisgarh	737.08	401.69	06.02.2025	500	300.84	Q4 = 500	13.03.2025
Delhi	62.5	34.55	-	34.55	5.32	-	06.02.2025
Goa	29.59	29.59	15.07.2024	5	28.22	Q2 = 10	25.03.2025
			16.09.2024	5			
			12.11.2024	5			
			10.12.2024	3.9			
			23.01.2025	1.1			
			23.01.2025	5			
Total			07.03.2025	29.56		29.56	
Gujarat	310.5	310.5	-	285.4	227.58	-	06.02.2025
Haryana	128.18	110.83	01.04.2024	225	67.73	Q1 = 225	13.03.2025
Himachal Pradesh	185.71	184.52	01.04.2024	126	58.83	Q1 = 126	15.03.2025
Jammu & Kashmir	309.52	276.38	03.04.2024	60.17	126.24	Q1 = 60.17	17.03.2025
			31.07.2024	0.16			
			10.08.2024	60.01			
			21.08.2024	120.08			
			04.02.2025	5.84			
			05.02.2025	0.28			
			07.02.2025	8.44 (Fund remitted back to Finance Dept.)			
Total				238.10		238.10	

State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Date of Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Amount of Fund released by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund utilised by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund Released in Quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4)	Date of Confirmation by States
Jharkhand	917.18	654.62	-	375	-	-	19.11.2024
Karnataka	427.01	288.06	15.06.2024	13	204.1	Q1 = 13	13.03.2025
			02.09.2024	72.2		Q2=72.2	
			28.10.2024	20.13		Q3=20.13	
			04.01.2025	0.05			
			24.01.2025	80.06			
			27.01.2025	46.18			
Total			231.62		231.62		
Kerala	14.15	8.9308	22.08.2024	8.9273	5.3207	Q2 = 8.92	27.03.2025
Ladakh	81.32	76.94	-	0.089	0.089	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	1533.78	1398.42	01.04.2024	1390.59	985.41	Q1 = 1390.59	13.03.2025
Maharashtra	795.14	730.65	09.05.2024	216.96	212.88	Q1 = 216.96	13.03.2025
Manipur	27.3551	27.36	10.01.2025	27.36	25.31	Q4 = 27.36	13.03.2025
Meghalaya	24.75	24.72	17.11.2024	0.249	0.249	Q3 = 0.249	18.03.2025
Total			05.02.2025	0.221	0.221	Q4 = 0.221	
				0.47	0.47	Total = 0.47	
Mizoram	22.77	22.77	03.06.2024	0.087	0.087	Q1 = 0.087	21.03.2025
			03.07.2024	0.042	0.042	Q2 = 0.428	
			26.07.2024	0.043	0.043		
			23.08.2024	0.041	0.041		
			20.09.2024	0.042	0.042		
			25.09.2024	0.26	0.26	Q3 = 0.22	
			05.11.2024	0.042	0.042		
			27.11.2024	0.042	0.042		
			20.12.2024	0.136	0.136	Q4 = 6.3082	
			14.01.2025	0.0422	0.0422		
			28.01.2025	6.045	5.865		
			27.01.2025	0.003	0.003		
			30.01.2025	0.042	0.042		
			04.02.2025	0.131	0.131		
			27.01.2025	0.003	0.003		
Total			28.02.2025	0.042	0.042		
				7.04	6.8632	7.04	
Odisha	1167.52	1112.93	08.05.2024	268.53	1028.7108	Q1 = 268.53	17.03.2025
			20.07.2024	102.21		Q2 = 280.17	
			27.08.2024	177.9625			

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State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Date of Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Amount of Fund released by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund utilised by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund Released in Quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4)	Date of Confirmation by States
			07.10.2024	236.684		Q3 = 285.60	
			01.11.2024	48.9193			
			31.01.2025	167.0468			
			27.02.2025	120.3156			
			11.03.2025	16.8681			
Total				1138.53		1138.53	
Punjab	156.88	125.94	-	125.32	92.27	-	04.02.2025
Rajasthan	306.28	198.44	19.02.2025	178.13	88.06	Q4 = 178.13	21.03.2025
Sikkim	78.85	44	-	0	18.99	Nil	06.02.2025
Tamil Nadu	54.17	35.27	04.10.2024	35.27	12.15	Q3 = 35.27	14.03.2025
Telangana	469.19	418.42	24.01.2025	167.06	167.06	-	17.03.2025
			27.01.2025				
			28.01.2025				
			29.01.2025				
Tripura	73.65	61.37	09.05.2024	50	41.4	-	13.03.2025
			16.12.2024				
Uttar Pradesh	219.2921	155.567	11.07.2024	38.72	79.7618	Q2 = 38.72	20.03.2025
			16.12.2024	65.54		Q3 = 65.54	
				104.26		104.26	
Total							
Uttarakhand	408	369.25	09.05.2024	2	273	Q1 = 50.72	21.03.2025
			27.06.2024	48.72			
			01.07.2024	8.92			
			03.07.2024	4.51			
			10.07.2024	16.48			
			15.09.2024	3.25			
			08.10.2024	13.43			
			11.10.2024	209.45			
			26.09.2024	24.67			
			05.03.2025	9.22			
Total				340.65		340.65	
West Bengal	111.97	63.51	05.04.2024	0.008	5.01	Q1 = 2.281	13.03.2025
			09.04.2024	0.033			
			15.04.2024	0.360			
			16.04.2024	0.464			
			18.04.2022	0.044			

State/UT	Total outlay proposed in State APO	Financial outlay Approved by National Authority	Date of Fund released by State Government to State Forest Department	Amount of Fund released by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund utilised by State Forest Department	Amount of Fund Released in Quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4)	Date of Confirmation by States
			22.04.2024	0.324			
			26.04.2024	0.284			
			06.05.2024	0.010			
			07.05.2024	0.376			
			14.05.2024	0.340			
			10.06.2024	0.038			
			06.07.2024	0.263			
			08.07.2024	0.108			
			29.08.2024	0.007		Q2= 2.069	
			09.09.2024	0.011			
			26.09.2024	1.680			
			20.11.2024	0.088			
			06.12.2024	0.007			
			10.12.2024	0.269		Q3=0.686	
			12.12.2024	0.247			
			18.12.2024	0.075			
			27.01.2025	0.022			
			30.01.2025	0.480			
			01.02.2025	0.342		Q4=1.184	
			02.01.2025	0.225			
			25.02.2025	0.027			
			07.03.2025	0.007			
			08.03.2025	0.081			
				6.22		6.22	
Total							
Grand Total	9337.03	7726.58	-	6120.63	4271.48	6120.63	-

6.14 Based on overall submission of APOs, fund release and its utilization, the States/UTs performance could be classified into three categories:

- i. **Satisfactory Fund Release Mechanism:** States/UTs with satisfactory fund release mechanism.
- ii. **Average Fund Release Mechanism:** States/UTs with reasonable processes but room for improvement.
- iii. **Complex Fund Release Mechanism:** States/UTs experiencing significant delays due to issues such as procedures, complex approval processes, and coordination challenges among departments.

The States/ UTs are classified in these categories, as indicated in Table 10 below:

Table 10: States/UTs performance with respect to Fund release

Sr. No	Performance Category	Fund Release Mechanism	Names of states /UTs
1.	Satisfactory Fund Release Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely fund releases (approx. 7-15 days). Sometimes even in advance to facilitate work. Approval systems with minimal delays and quick transitions between approval stages. Efficient payment processing, post-activity completion (approx. 7-15 days) 	Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab & Rajasthan
2.	Average Fund Release Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured approval processes but occasional delays in specific stages such as fund requisition, financial sanctions, or treasury processing. Variability in payment timeline (approx. >1 month) Challenges in seasonal fund utilization due to procedural delays. 	Andaman & Nicobar, Assam, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Karnataka, Ladakh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Odisha, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand & Uttar Pradesh
3.	Complex Fund Release Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended approval timelines involving multiple administrative layers without fixed timeframes. Significant delays in fund disbursement from the State Finance Departments, even after approvals from higher authorities. Complex fund release mechanisms (several weeks to 4 months) Additional issues such as wage discrepancies, challenges in direct benefit transfers (DBT), and lack of banking infrastructure in remote areas complicating the payment process 	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Telangana, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal.

The details of State-wise fund release mechanism are attached in *Annexure XIII*.

6.15 Apart from delay in release of CAMPA funds to the State Forest Department, there are issues in utilisation of funds also in many States/ UTs. This affects the implementation of seasonal and time bound forestry activities. The funds cannot be utilised if the funds are made available after the season. Further, the bills are paid through Treasury, where it takes long time

after the activities and the actual expenditure is reflected after a gap of considerable time. A significant amount of CAMPA funds remains unutilised during closure of financial year and leads to spill over of works and expenditure.

6.16 The plantations once created need to be maintained scrupulously to ensure satisfactory survival. Once funds are delayed, routine maintenance is affected which impacts quality and survival of plants.

6.17 The status of Annual Accounts and Audits of States/UTs CAMPA is given in Table 11.

Table 11: Status of Annual Accounts and C&AG Audit.

Sr. No	States/UTs	Annual Statement Completed up to Financial Year	Annual Account Completed up to Financial Year	C&AG Audit of Annual Accounts of States/UTs Completed up to Financial Year
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	2022-23 (under progress)	2022-23	2022-23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Not received	2022-23	No Audit
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Under Progress	2019-20	2019-20
4.	Assam	2023-24	2023-24	2021-22
5.	Bihar	2023-24	2022-23	2022-23
6.	Chandigarh	Not received	2023-24	2022-23
7.	Chhattisgarh	2023-24	2023-24	2022-23
8.	Delhi	Under progress	Under progress	Under progress
9.	Goa	-	2018-19	Under progress
10.	Gujarat	2023-24	2023-24	2021-22
11.	Haryana	2023-24	2020-21	2020-21
12.	Himachal Pradesh	2020-21	2020-21	2020-21
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	2019-20	2019-20	2019-20
14.	Jharkhand	2023-24	2023-24	2022-23
15.	Karnataka	2023-24	2023-24	2022-23
16.	Kerala	2023-24	2022-23	Under progress
17.	Madhya Pradesh	2023-24	2023-24	Under progress
18.	Maharashtra	Not received	2022-23	2021-22
19.	Manipur	-	2020-21	Under progress
20.	Meghalaya	-	2023-24	2021-22
21.	Mizoram	2023-24	Under progress	2022-23
22.	Nadakh	-	Under progress	No audit
23.	Odisha	2023-24	2023-24	Under progress
24.	Punjab	2023-24	2023-24	2022-23
25.	Rajasthan	2023-24	2023-24	No audit
26.	Sikkim	2021-22	2019-20	Under progress
27.	Tamil Nadu	-	2023-24	2021-22
28.	Telangana	-	2022-23	2021-22

Sr. No	States/UTs	Annual Statement Completed up to Financial Year	Annual Account Completed up to Financial Year	C&AG Audit of Annual Accounts of States/UTs Completed up to Financial Year
29.	Tripura	2023-24	2023-24	2020-21
30.	Uttar Pradesh	2023-24	2023-24	2018-19
31.	Uttarakhand	2023-24	2023-24	2022-23
32.	West Bengal	2022-23	2022-23	2022-23

6.18 The achievements of Compensatory Afforestation after the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016 came into effect, are mixed. In some States, it is good, while in some others, it is satisfactory (Table 4 and 5). It is pertinent to mention here that initially, CAMPA activities were adversely affected in the country during 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19 Pandemic. Besides this, there had been difficulties due to transition from Ad-hoc CAMPA to the structure as defined under the CAF Act, 2016.

6.19 It is relevant to mention that the approval of the Central Government is accorded on the proposal of the State Government for diversion of the forest land for non-forestry purposes as per the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The States, therefore, have full responsibility to comply the conditions of carrying out the Compensatory Afforestation and other mandated CAMPA works. The States should accordingly strengthen the capacity of their Forest Departments with adequate resources for proper implementation of the works in compliance to the FC approvals.

7. Following has been observed from the information received from States and UTs:

7.1 The achievements of compensatory afforestation during Ad-Hoc CAMPA phase and after the enactment of the CAF Act, 2016 are as follows

i. Compensatory Afforestation (CA) has been carried out over 1,78,261.52 ha from 2019-20 up to 2023-24 against the target of 2,09,297.97 ha, which is 85.17%. Further, CA of 22,146.23 ha has been reported till December 2024 during the current year 2024-25 i.e. the total CA carried out is 2,00,407.75 ha till 31.12.2024.

ii. During Ad-Hoc CAMPA period (2009-10 to 2017-18) CA plantations were carried out over 2,22,392.46 ha. Therefore, the progress of implementation of Compensatory Afforestation in Ad-hoc CAMPA and CAMPA phase has been found to be similar and satisfactory.

iii. The average survival percentage of plantations under CAMPA as reported by the States and UTs are in the range of 60% to 85%.

iv. Replacement of mortality i.e. Gap filling in the plantations is taken up in subsequent years during maintenance operations. The sites normally taken up for compensatory afforestation are, mostly refractory and in varying degree of degradation, which require sustained efforts for ensuring survival of plantations especially in the areas having biotic interference.

7.2. The State/ Union Territories CAMPA Authorities are statutory authorities created under the provisions of CAF Act, 2016 and the CAF Rules, 2018 framed thereunder for effective CAMPA fund management, implementation of activities approved under Annual Plan of Operations and their monitoring. The institutional framework provided in the CAF Act, 2016 at the State and Union Territories adequately empowers them to address issues of fund release and utilisation, implementation, supervision and monitoring the progress of CAMPA works. The detailed status of State/UTs CAMPA is placed *Annexure XIV*.

7.3. The CEOs of State/UT CAMPA and other officials are frequently transferred. Further, majority of staff in State CAMPA are contractual and temporary, who leave the organisation for a better opportunity. A fixed tenure of at least 2/3 years for the CEO and other officials besides regular placement of other officials at different levels would improve the functioning of State CAMPA.

7.4. The meetings of Governing Body, Steering Committee and Executive Committee of States and UTs are not convened regularly (*Annexure XV*). Timely review, monitoring, and supervision of afforestation and other CAMPA activities by these committees will result into better performance. Many States/UTs are not adhering to the stipulated timeline for finalization and submission of their APOs to National CAMPA before 31st December of the preceding year for approval. The Steering Committee has an important role in planning, implementation and monitoring of CAMPA works in the State.

7.5. Preparation of Annual Reports and Annual Accounts by State CAMPA is generally delayed in many States. Timely corrective actions can be taken if accounts and audits of the CAMPA organisations are regularly audited.

7.6. CAMPA funds are additional or special funds for the specific purpose of compensating the loss of forestland and ecosystem services due to diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purposes. The CAMPA funds, though placed in Public Account of the State/UT are above the normal budget but are subjected to similar procedural formalities as applicable for State funds. The State/UT Governments are required to ensure timely release of funds so that CAMPA works are planned and implemented in view of seasonal and time bound nature of forestry activities.

7.7. It has been observed that staff engaged in the State CAMPA offices are not skilled to handle complex data. The State CAMPA offices are required to be properly strengthened in terms of infrastructure, manpower, fund flow, monitoring etc. The capacity building of staff and officials in State CAMPA needs to be arranged on regular basis for managing data on digital database for planning, implementation and monitoring.

7.8. Forestry activities such as preparation/ advance work for plantations, nursery raising, planting, watering and maintenance of plantations; measures for fire prevention and control etc. are time bound and seasonal activities. Further forestry works are mostly carried out by manual labour. The availability of labour for forestry operations in different seasons needs to be ensured thorough timely payment of wages.

8. The National CAMPA is regularly taking all necessary steps for improving the functioning of State and UT CAMPA to address various issues outlined above. There is improvement in the overall performance of State/UT CAMPA over the years and many States/UTs have taken appropriate actions for resolving the shortcomings/ issues noticed from time to time. Guidelines have been circulated for preparation of Annual Plan of Operations by the States for effective implementation of afforestation and other CAMPA activities. A digital portal has been operationalised for improving the efficiency, transparency and timely submission and approvals of APOs. National CAMPA has taken a number of initiatives for streamlining the implementation of Compensatory afforestation and other related activities which include:

- i. Preparation of Integrated Annual Plan of Operations (APO) of State/UT CAMPA to have a comprehensive view.
- ii. Reconciliation and verification of project-wise compensatory afforestation since 1980 by constituting a Committee of Nodal Officer of state for Forest Conservation, State CAMPA CEO and DDG of the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. This is a time taking and cumbersome exercise and is currently being carried out by the Committee.
- iii. Completion of pending compensatory afforestation in a time bound manner.
- iv. Uploading of details of afforestation on e-Green Watch portal.
- v. Circulation of Guidelines for preparation of APO for organising various works/activities of compensatory afforestation for comprehensive ecological restoration of the afforestation area.
- vi. Operationalisation of a digital APO application for transparency, efficiency, effective data retrieval and management.
- vii. Convening of regular meetings of the Governing Body and Executive Committee to proactively take up and resolve any CAMPA issue.
- viii. Conveying of timely approvals of Annual Plans of Operations of States and Union Territories.
