

The Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS

E-mail: ccf-ladakh@ladakh.gov.in

Minutes of the Meeting

The 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee of Ladakh CAMPA, in accordance with the provision of Section 18 (2) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016, was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pawan Kotwal IAS, Chief Secretary, UT Ladakh/ Chairman, Steering Committee, Ladakh CAMPA, on 13th May 2025 in the Conference Hall of UT Civil Secretariat, Union Territory of Ladakh.

The following are the agenda points which were discussed during the meeting:

- a) Agenda No 1: Achievements under CAMPA APO 2024-25
- b) Agenda No 2: Proposed Spillover of the CAMPA APO 2024-25
- c) Agenda No 3: Proposed CAMPA APO 2025-26

In this regard, the following members of the Steering Committee and concerned officers attended the meeting:

- i) Sh. Sanjeev Khirwar, Principal Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, UT Ladakh. (Online)
- ii) Dr. Laltinkhuma Franklin, Commissioner Secretary, Department of Finance/ Department of Planning, Development & Monitoring, UT Ladakh
- iii) Sh. Bupesh Chaudhary, Administrative Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Horticulture & Floriculture, UT Ladakh
- iv) Ms. Shashanka Ala, Administrative Secretary, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj/ Department of Revenue, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction/ Department of Social & Tribal Welfare, UT Ladakh (Online)
- v) Dr. Raja Ram Singh, IRO Chandigarh (Online)
- vi) Dr. Khurshid Alam Khan, IRO, Jammu (Online)
- vii) Sh. Mandeep Mittal, Wildlife Warden, Leh
- viii) Dr. Owais Qadir Jan, Accounts Officer to CCF
- ix) Sh. Mohd. Ali, Divisional Forest Officer, Leh
- x) Sh. Shakeel Ahmad, Divisional Forest Officer, Kargil
- xi) Sh. Raza Ali Abidi, Wildlife Warden, Kargil

The meeting commenced with the Chief Conservator of Forests/ CEO Ladakh CAMPA, Sh. Sajjad Hussain Mufti, extending a warm welcome to all members attending the meeting and providing an overview of CAMPA Ladakh. He mentioned that Ladakh has received NPV fund from National CAMPA in two tranches amounting to a total of ₹ 759.55 crores, out which Ladakh CAMPA has implemented Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) during the financial year 2023-24 and 2024-25. Following this, he continued with a presentation highlighting the agenda items of the meeting.

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AGENDA NO 1: ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER APO 2024-25

- 1) The CEO, Ladakh CAMPA, presented a brief overview of the achievements under the CAMPA APO 2024-25, which included the following key points:
 - 5,00,000 rft chain-link fencing has been procured for agricultural crop protection by Leh Wildlife Division and is being distributed to the beneficiaries.
 - 1960 Nos. of solar water heating appliances have been procured and are being distributed.
 - 2 Ambulances have been procured for wildlife rescue, one each for Wildlife Division Leh and Kargil.
 - 3 new Transit Rescue Centres established in Disket, Nyoma and Durbuk.
 - Check post, barriers and trenches have been established to stop off roading in Kalak Tar Tar, Hanle which is the only known habitat of the Tibetan Gazelle (Goa) in India.
 - 45 Nos. of large wind resistant and 80 smaller informative hoardings are being installed to spread awareness among tourists and locals on wildlife and biodiversity of Ladakh.
 - 25 Nos of Wildlife stewards were engaged for Black Necked Crane nest protection and its documentation.
 - 3 new animal enclosures were built in Leh (Skara) Rescue centre for wildlife treatment and rehabilitation.
 - 11,000 rft. of chainlink fencing has been installed for in-situ protection and conservation of Juniper in Kargil
 - 13 Sensor based polycarbonate houses have been installed (9 in Kargil and 4 in Leh)

S. No.	Division	Approved Budget for the FY 2024-25 (in Cr.)	Expenditures during the FY 204-25 (in Cr.)
1	Forest Division Leh	14.342	3.61
2	Forest Division Kargil	6.229	2.18
3	Wildlife Division Leh	50.153	45.26
4	Wildlife Division Kargil	4.381	2.50
5	Office of CEO CAMPA	1.840	0.563
	Cumulative	76.945	54.113

The table above shows the expenditure for all divisions under APO 2024-25, with an overall **expenditure of 70.33%**.

- 2) Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Chief Secretary, UT Ladakh, instructed the Department to carry out geo-tagging and inspection of the works done and item distributed through CAMPA. In response, the Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF) informed that every activity under CAMPA is already geo-tagged, as the geo-references of each proposed work are mandatorily included while submitting the Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) to the National CAMPA Authority for approval. Additionally, all completed works are subject to field inspection, with verification reports obtained from the concerned Lambardar (Goba), Forest Guard, and the LAHDC Councillor.
- 3) Regarding the distribution of solar water heating appliances, the Chief Secretary directed that priority should be given to fully cover the households of Hanle in the distribution of



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solar water heaters to the identified beneficiaries. Moreover, full inventory with specifications of each solar heater be kept scrupulously by the Dept. so that these are not misused or pilfered. The make, date of manufacture, other mandatory specifications and the fact that these have been provided under the CAMPA Scheme should be clearly engraved on the solar water heaters to be distributed under the CAMPA Scheme.

4) The Chief Secretary emphasized the importance of hiring local eligible individuals, who are available for duty round the clock, as drivers for driving the animal ambulances to ensure timely availability during emergencies. He also advised the installation of ramps in the ambulances to facilitate the safe and stress-free movement of injured animals.

5) Additionally, he underscored the importance of prioritizing nursery development and community plantation initiatives, identifying them as key focus areas for the Department.

AGENDA NO 2: PROPOSED SPILLOVER 2024-25

1) The CEO, Ladakh CAMPA, building upon earlier discussions, emphasized that an amount of ₹10.7554 Crores from the FY 2024–25 could be carried forward and utilized during FY 2025–26 under the spillover component. He further explained that plantation and other seasonal activities are typically carried forward under spillover, as plantation is carried out in April and May, by which time the financial year has already ended. A division-wise breakup of the proposed spillover amount was also presented, as shown in the table below.

S. No.	Division	Approved Budget (in Cr)
1	Forest Division Leh	4.9195
2	Forest Division Kargil	1.7245
3	Wildlife Division Leh	2.2625
4	Wildlife Division Kargil	0.7360
5	Office of CEO CAMPA	1.1129
	Cumulative	10.7554

Spillover activities from APO 2024-25 as indicated above was approved by the Steering Committee of Ladakh CAMPA.

AGENDA NO 3: PROPOSED APO 2025-26

1) For the APO 2025-26, the following budget proposal for each division was put forth by the CEO, Ladakh CAMPA.

S. No.	Division	Approved Budget (in Cr)
1	Forest Division Leh	17.8072
2	Forest Division Kargil	11.1093
3	Wildlife Division Leh	37.5190
4	Wildlife Division Kargil	9.5416
5	Office of CEO CAMPA	1.8300
	Cumulative	77.8071

2) The Chief Secretary directed the Forest Division, Leh, to include provisions for the raising crate bunds along the right bank of the Indus River, at vulnerable spots, under the Soil and Moisture Conservation component.

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- 3) Regarding Ja Tso Lake, the Department had proposed its restoration, citing that the lake is gradually drying up. As part of the proposal, the construction of channels was suggested to enhance water inflow into the lake. In response, the Chief Secretary advised against the use of concrete or masonry work for creating these channels, cautioning that such interventions could further disrupt the natural hydrology and contribute to the drying of the lake. Instead, he recommended that only natural-type channels be developed, avoiding any concrete structures, to ensure the sustainable rejuvenation of the waterbody.
- 4) During discussions on the Department's rest houses, the Chief Secretary emphasized the importance of their regular maintenance and upkeep, noting that these facilities are crucial in Ladakh, where infrastructure remains limited across the Union Territory. He advised to hire workers for each rest house, as admissible under the norms of CAMPA, to take care of the premises and to provide hospitality and assistance to visiting officers who come for inspections and official tour. This, he noted, would help preserve the condition of the rest houses and improve their functionality as official accommodation for visiting officers.
- 5) While discussing the proposed 'Ungulate Survey in Leh and Kargil districts', the Chief Secretary stressed the importance of conducting the survey carefully and methodically to through an agency of international repute to ensure the collection of high-quality and reliable data. He also emphasized the need for a thorough and effective analysis of the survey findings.
- 6) He also inquired about the provision of uniforms for the Department's frontline staff and instructed that an appropriate budget allocation for the same be included in the current Annual Plan of Operation (APO). It was very important to make them visible and effective.
- 7) The Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment, emphasized the need to intensify carrying out sterilization of dogs around army/ PMF camps, in wildlife areas, aligning the approach with that of the Urban Development Department by engaging national level and local NGOs. He further advised exploring activities related to the conservation of threatened species.

After incorporating the above-mentioned suggestions, the following APOs amounting to a total of ₹84.9066 Crores for the financial year 2025-26 was approved by the Steering Committee of Ladakh CAMPA:

S. No.	Division	Approved Budget (in Cr)
1	Forest Division Leh	21.1268
2	Forest Division Kargil	12.3163
3	Wildlife Division Leh	38.8457
4	Wildlife Division Kargil	10.7878
5	Office of CEO CAMPA	1.8300
	Cumulative	84.9066

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(Sajjad Hassain Mufti) IFS Chief Conservator of Forests/ Chief Wildlife Warden/ CEO, Ladakh CAMPA The Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Steering Committee of Ladakh CAMPA, held on 13th May 2025 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pawan Kotwal, IAS, Chief Secretary, UT Ladakh/ Chairman, Steering Committee, Ladakh CAMPA was approved by the Worthy Chief Secretary vide File No.: M/854/2025-FE&E SECTION. The minutes of the meeting are hereby endorsed by the following members of the Steering Committee, Ladakh CAMPA:

Representative of the Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Jammu

Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Administrative Secretary, Department of Social and Tribal Welfare, UT Ladakh

Administrative Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Horticulture and Floriculture, UT Ladakh

Administrative Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, UT Ladakh Administrative Secretary, Department of Planning, Development and Monitoring, UT Ladakh

Administrative Secretary, Department of Finance, UT Ladakh

Principal Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, UT Ladakh

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No.: CEO-Ladakh-CAMPA / 25-26/Mom / 32-46

Date: 26/05/2025

Copy for information:

- 1. Principal Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, UT Ladakh
- 2. Administrative Secretary, Department of Finance, UT Ladakh
- 3. Administrative Secretary, Department of Planning, Development & Monitoring, UT Ladakh
- 4. Administrative Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Horticulture & Floriculture, UT Ladakh
- 5. Administrative Secretary, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, UT Ladakh
- 6. Administrative Secretary, Department of Revenue, Disaster Management, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction, UT Ladakh
- 7. Administrative Secretary, Department of Social & Tribal Welfare, UT Ladakh
- 8. Head of Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Chandigarh
- 9. Head of Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Jammu
- 10. Wildlife Warden, Leh
- 11. Accounts Officer to CCF, UT Ladakh
- 12. OSD to Chief Secretary, UT Ladakh for information of the Worthy Chief Secretary
- 13. Divisional Forest Officer, Leh
- 14. Divisional Forest Officer, Kargil
- 15. Wildlife Warden, Kargil