

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
P - SECTOR, ITANAGAR

No. FOR.66/PRO/2019/20,399-400

Dated 20th November, 2019

To

The Registrar
Principal Bench,
National Green Tribunal,
Faridkot House, Copernicus Marg,
New Delhi 110001

Sub: - Information about compliance in the matter of Jorjo Tana Tara Vs Union of India & Ors Case

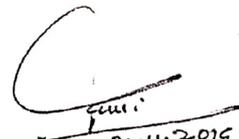
Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith the compliance report of the State of Arunachal Pradesh on behalf of the Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh, in O.A.No. 18/2019 (EZ) (I.A.No 16/2019) (EZ) Jorjo Tana Tara Vs Union of India & Ors, as directed by the Hon'ble NGT in its order dated 30.08.2019.

The delayed submission is due to the delay in gathering certain information from the field officers, which is requested to be condoned.

Yours faithfully

Encl: As above


20.11.2019
(Rajesh) IFS
PCCF (RE)
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Copy to:

- 1) E-mail : judicial-ngt@gov.in
- 2) Shri. Anil Shrivastav, Additional Advocate General, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Supreme Court of India
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**COMPLIANCE REPORT OF THE STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH IN THE
MATTER OF O.A.No. 18/2019 (EZ) (I.A.No 16/2019) (EZ) JORJO TANA TARA VS
UNION OF INDIA & ORS**

The application O.A. 18/2019/EZ Jorjo Tana Tara Vs Union of India & Ors deals with the complaint of indiscriminate felling in the Papum Reserve Forest. Previously, based on the orders of the Hon'ble NGT, DFO (Khellong) had filed the required reports, including the report on joint inspection with the petitioner. The NGT after the hearing on 30.08.2019 had passed its orders. The order statement and the action taken are provided below-

- i) *The State shall take appropriate action to identify the Hot Spots, where illegal felling of trees and deforestation is taking place.*

Action taken:

The CCFs of Western Arunachal Circle, Banderdewa, Central Arunachal Circle, Pasighat, Eastern Arunachal Circle, Tezu and Southern Arunachal Circle, Deomali were asked to identify hotspots of illegalities vide letter no. FOR.66/ PRO/ 2019/ 17534-38 dated 27th September, 2019 of the PCCF(RE). The DFOs of Khellong, Shergaon, Nampong, Anjaw, Hapoli, Along, Kanubari, Lohit and Banderdewa have submitted the list of identified hotspots, which covers most of the vulnerable areas.

- ii) *Strategic Action Plan be drawn up to combat the illegalities.*

Action taken:

In this regard, a High Level Committee meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary was convened on 21st September, 2019. In this meeting, it was decided that a Committee would be constituted consisting of senior forest officers and officer(s) from the District administration and Police Dept. to frame a comprehensive action plan including intelligence network to combat the illegalities in the State, more particularly in the Hot Spots identified by the CCFs vide No. FOR.66/ PRO/ 2019/ 18017-20 dated 10th October, 2019. Consequent to this, vide notification No. FOR.66/ PRO/ 2019/ 19552-59 dated 1st November, 2019 a committee was constituted for the said objective with the following officers:-

- 1) Shri. Lalram Thanga, PCCF(HoFF) & Prl.Secy (E&F)-Chairman
- 2) Shri. R. P. Upadhyaya, DGP – Member

- 3) Smti. Sadhana Deori, Secretary (DA) – Member
- 4) Dr. Rabindra Kumar, PCCF(P&D) – Member
- 5) Shri. R. K. Singh, PCCF(A&V) – Member
- 6) Shri. D. Riba, CF(HQ) – Member
- 7) Shri. R. Prem Kumar, DCF(Protection) – Member

The exercise for the preparation of the Strategic Action Plan is in progress.

- iii) *Considering the size of the State and the huge tract of forest land that plays the role of carbon sink and considered as lung of the country, the State shall consider enhancing the strength of the forest personnel (at all levels including lower level) adequately which may include revisiting the existing forest divisions and ranges in order to ensure effective enforcement of the forest laws and protection of the rich forest resources in the State.*

Action taken:

In the meeting of the High Level Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary to suggest ways and means to put into action the observations of the Hon'ble NGT, held on 21st September, 2019, it was decided that a Committee would be constituted to assess the requirement of staff at all levels and to make suggestions for their creation and recruitment besides revisiting the existing forest divisions and ranges. Consequently, vide Notification No. FOR.66/ PRO/ 2019/ 19560-66 dated 1st November, 2019 a committee has been constituted for the said objective with the following officers:-

- 1) Dr. Rabindra Kumar, PCCF(P&D) – Chairman
- 2) Shri. R. K. Singh, PCCF(A&V) – Member
- 3) Dr. M. Surya Prakash, PCCF(WL&BD) – Member
- 4) Shri. D. Riba, CF(HQ) – Member
- 5) Shri. R. Prem Kumar, DCF(Protection) – Member
- 6) Shri. V. K. Jawal, DFO Khellong FD – Member

The first meeting of the committee has been scheduled on 20th November, 2019, vide Notice No. FOR.66/ PRO/ 2019/ 19756 dated 6th November, 2019, wherein most of the issues will be addressed and finalised.

Moreover, proposal for creation of 200 No. posts of Forest Guards is already submitted to the State Govt. 10 (Ten) No. mobile squad units are also being created with contractual / work charged employees at present and vehicles are also being procured for them. In forest divisions having more points vulnerable to illegalities, contractual / casual staff is proposed to assist the regular staff to combat illegalities. Proposal for all has already been prepared under CAMPA scheme and is under submission for approval by the Steering Committee.

iv) *The State shall constitute a High Level Committee headed by the Chief Secretary of the State to put into action the above observations. Meeting of the Committee shall be held within a period of one month from hence.*

Action taken:

As directed by the Hon'ble NGT, the High Level Committee (HLC) was constituted vide No. FOR. 66/ PRO/ 2019 dated 20th September, 2019 with the following officers:-

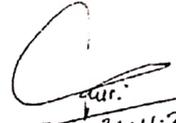
- 1) The Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh – Chairman
- 2) The PCCF & Principal Secretary (E&F) – Member
- 3) The Principal Secretary (Finance, Planning & Investment) – Member
- 4) The Director General of Police – Member
- 5) The Secretary (Personnel) – Member
- 6) The Secretary (Administrative Reforms) – Member

The first meeting of the committee was held on 21st September, 2019. In this meeting, it was decided that the CCFs be asked to identify the Hot Spots within their jurisdiction, a committee of senior forest officers and officer(s) from the District administration and Police Dept be formed to formulate a comprehensive action plan to combat the illegalities, a committee be constituted to assess the requirement of staff at all levels and to make suggestions for the creation of posts and recruitment and to revisit the existing Divisions, Ranges, Beats and all possible steps be taken for compliance of Hon'ble NGT order at the earliest.

- v) *If necessary, the Committee may also deliberate common issue arising from the question with its neighbouring States like State of Assam.*

Action taken:

In the first meeting of the HLC, it was decided that the committee will deliberate on the common issues arising from the question with neighbouring States in its subsequent meetings, if seem necessary.


20.11.2019
(Rajesh) IFS
PCCF (RE)
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