

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2679  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014  
SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is making use of satellite technology in the conservation of the environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of forest area coverage estimated through Satellite images in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (d) whether any difference has been observed in the area estimated through conventional methods and through remote sensing and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years and the current year?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) The Forest Survey of India is making use of satellite technology to monitor the forest resources of the country.
- (b) Forest Survey of India is using satellite data for many regular/adhoc projects, such as;
  - (i) Monitoring the forest cover of the country on biennial basis.
  - (ii) Near real time monitoring of forest fire and communicating it to State Forest Departments.
  - (iii) Developing web based Decision Support System for forest conservation decisions.
  - (iv) Developing web based e-Green Watch for monitoring forest plantations raised in Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).
  - (v) Inventory of Trees outside forests.
  - (vi) Forest Inventory of Eastern Himalayas.
- (c) As per India State of Forest Report (ISFR)-2013, the forest cover area of undivided Andhra Pradesh is 46,116 square kilometer. The forest cover of newly created Telangana is 21,759 square kilometer and forest cover of remaining Andhra Pradesh is 24,357 square kilometer. District wise details are attached as Annexure.
- (d) Forest Survey of India is not using conventional methods of surveying for forest cover estimations. Forest Survey of India is carrying out forest cover area estimation using remote sensing data. Therefore, a comparison between the two methods for forest cover estimation cannot be made.
- (e) As per the information provided by Government of Andhra Pradesh Forest Department Funds received and expenditure incurred in the combined State of Andhra Pradesh for the last three years is as below:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Amount received from Adhoc	CAMPA Expenditure incurred
Opening balance	11682.935	
2011-12	11857.000	15385.636
2012-13	11960.390	11046.891
2013-14	9200.000	14553.445
TOTAL	44700.325	40985.972

The State got bifurcated into Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on 2nd June, 2014. The funds received and expenditure incurred upto 31.10.2014 by A.P. State CAMPA for the year 2014-15 is given below:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year Amount received from Expenditure incurred  
Adhoc CAMPA (MoEF) upto 31.10.2014

2014-15 5408.000 3648.14

As per the information provided by Government of Telangana Forest Department the share of Telangana Forest department i.e. Rs. 6291.285 lakhs available in Andhra Pradesh State CAMPA has been transferred to Telangana CAMPA by the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department. The Adhoc CAMPA has released an amount of Rs. 35.00 crores for implementation of the works approved under Telangana State CAMPA. The expenditure incurred during 2014-15 upto November, 2014 is Rs. 3828.554 lakhs.