

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3710
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014
ACQUIRING OF FOREST LAND
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

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

- (a) whether the Government has acquired forest land from the States/UTs for building roads, dams, mining and other non-forestry activities;
- (b) if so, the details of the forest land acquired during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the compensation worked out and provided by the Government in lieu of the acquired forest land, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the amount deposited with the ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), so far;
- (e) whether the Government has received requests from the State Governments for grant of CAMPA Fund; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 accords prior approval for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. Detail of the total forest area diverted for building roads, dams, mining and other non-forestry activities in favor of various user agencies, including Central Government undertakings, during the last three years, year-wise and State/UT wise is enclosed as Annexure I. The State/UT Governments, after obtaining the final approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 releases the forest land to the user agency concerned, including the Central Government undertakings, in whose favor the diversion is accorded under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) to (f) To compensate loss of forest land due to diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes, the Central Government realizes compensation from the user agency in the form of cost of compensatory afforestation, Net Present Value (NPV) etc. As per the unaudited statements, as on 31.03.2014, the total amount deposited as the principal amount in the accounts in the name of various State Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authorities was Rs.23893.38 crores. The Central Government receives requests from the State Governments for grant of CAMPA fund against their Annual Plan of Operations. Detail of funds released to State CAMPAs, is enclosed as Annexure-II.