

Rollout of e-Greenwatch portal in Karnataka

The Honorable Minister for Forest, Government of Karnataka, Sri C. P. Yogeeshwara rolled out “**e-Greenwatch portal**” in Bangalore on 12th Oct 2012 with the data of Karnataka, in the presence of Dr. P. J. Dilip Kumar, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi, Sri R. Sridharan, Principal Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Government of Karnataka, Sri A. K. Wahal, Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dr. V. K. Dadhwal, Director, National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad, Sri A. K. Varma, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Karnataka, Sri Sanjay Singh Gahlout, DDG, NIC, New Delhi, Sri R. K. Pathak, TD, NIC New Delhi , Sri Sunil Jain, TD, NIC State Centre, MP and others.



Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Government of Karnataka, Sri C. P. Yogeeshwara rolling out e-Greenwatch portal along with Dr. P. J. Dilip Kumar, Director General (Forests) & SS, MoEF , Sri R. Sridharan, Principal Secretary, Department of Forest, Sri A. K. Wahal, DG, FSI, Dr. V. K. Dadhwal, Director, NRSC and Sri A. K. Varma, PCCF & Head of Forest Force, Karnataka



Invocation by Sri Rajaram & Group



Sri S. S. Gahlout, DDG, NIC, New Delhi demonstrating features of e-Greenwatch portal



Release of User Manual of e-greenwatch by Dr. P. J. Dilip Kumar, Director General of Forests & SS, MoEF, New Delhi



Sri S. S. Gahlout, DDG,NIC along with Sri R. K. Pathak, TD, NIC, New Delhi receiving Memento from Sri R. K. Srivastava, CCF(IT),Forest Department, Karnataka

This event was covered by various media houses of Bangalore like The Hindu, Deccan Herald etc.

News Published in The Hindu, 13th Oct 2012:

Now, track Karnataka forests online

Special Correspondent

BANGALORE: Forest-related activities, funds, schemes or their violations in Karnataka can now be accessed and monitored electronically.

The Department of Forests on Friday launched two e-governance portals aimed at transparency and efficiency: e-Green Watch to monitor and manage Central afforestation funds; and Bhuvan Karnataka Forest to monitor the State's forests.

e-Green Watch is a one-stop point for information on the flow of funds received under the central CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority).

Bhuvan Karnataka, called a special technology to watch over the State's forests, gives detailed location and satellite images of any area or project under various schemes in the State. It can keep an eye over activities like mining. Over 12,000 assets under different schemes are on this system developed with ISRO's arm, the Hyderabad-based National Remote Sensing Centre. It is based on "Bhuvan", an ISRO product similar to Google Earth, officials said.

Launching e-Green Watch,



PROTECTING GREEN COVER: (From left) V.K. Dadhwal, Director of the National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad; A.K. Varma, State's Principal Chief Conservator of Forests; P.J. Dileep Kumar, Director-General of Forests and Special Secretary, Union Ministry of Environment & Forests; and C.P. Yogeshwar, Minister for Forests, during the launch of e-Green Watch in Bangalore on Friday. — PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Minister of Forests C.P. Yogeshwar said the online resources should be used to clearly demarcate the State's

forest boundaries.

P.J. Dileep Kumar, Director-General of Forests and Special Secretary, Union

Ministry of Environment & Forests, said Rs. 25,000 crore had been collected under the Central afforestation fund

CAMPA only fu
store a
How
startec
est in
ments
The
to str
frontl
suital
torin
Ac
Dire
Surv
train
from
GPS
Kar
Ma
give
ass
me
ara
du
sic
tr
m
fo
sy
b

N
c
S
S
s

B

Film reviews on

Portals to provide info on green projects

Forest dept's e-Green watch, Bhuvan-Karnataka will also keep tabs on mining

BANGALORE: To arrest the shrinking environment space, and provide a platform for concerned citizens to know the efforts of the Karnataka Forest department, the State government on Friday launched two new web portals.

The portals will provide information on afforestation projects and expenditures incurred by Karnataka to protect the environment in the State.

The website, e-Green watch portal, wherein all the details under the Forest Conservation Act (FC) and the proposals cleared under the Act will be placed in public domain, is expected to toe the Right to Information (RTI) Act line.

The portal will show expenditures incurred from the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) fund along with the estimated costs, photographs and geo-locations of work, uploaded by the Division office/Range office concerned. The access to the portal is available from the CAMPA website.

Currently, the data uploaded on the website shows 1,273 plantation works and 4,352 other projects, which include the construction of boundary pillars, watch towers, etc; man-animal conflict management works such as solar fences, elephant-proof trenches, cattle-proof trenches, infrastructure development works, etc.

Another portal, Bhuvan-Karnataka, based on the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) platform of Bhuvan will try to keep tabs on the mining activities in the forest region of the State.

The portal, accessible from Bhuvan website, will also provide information relevant to the forest region with the uploading of details such as photos, geo-location and estimates in a simple and user-friendly manner.

The portal will monitor the forest assets, 12,000 of which have been uploaded, and keep tabs on the mining leases in the forest region.

Inaugurating the web portals, Minister for Forests and Ecology, C P Yogeeshwara admitting that illegal mining had caused a lot of forest cover to be destroyed, said that there seems to be no solution to curbing illegal mining.

"We are also facing a lot of pressure from outside, on implementing certain regulations which have been directed by the Supreme Court or the State government. And this being the last phase of our (BJP) government, I understand the pressures under which the officials are functioning," he said.

The Director General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Union Ministry of Environment, Dr P J Dilip Kumar said that the State needs to concentrate on strengthening the 'frontline' of the Forest department by utilising the CAMPA funds.

Responding to this, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) A V Varma said that the Karnataka Forest department has already procured 160 vehicles (60 two-wheelers) for their range officers to patrol the forests and will be adding another 160 vehicles by March 2013.

Online access
Proposals are now being mooted by the Karnataka Forest department to link the felling of trees by farmers on their farms, to Bhoomi.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), A V Varma said the Information Technology wing of the department was already trying to tackle the issue.

"There has been a proposal to ensure that farmers need not approach the Forest department for felling certain trees which have been exempted under the rules and regulations. We are therefore planning to link the tree felling permission to Bhoomi and ensure that the felling permission can be accessed online," said Varma.

Toll-free number
The Karnataka Forest department has also launched a new toll-free number for citizens to secure information on the Forest department activities, fire occurrences, wildlife offence or register their complaints.

The IVRS number 1800-425-1314 will help citizens by either recording their message or by gathering information from the respective range control rooms.

DH News Service

NEW INITIATIVES: Director General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Union Ministry of Environment Dr P J Dilip Kumar shares a word with Forest Minister C P Yogeeshwara at the launch of e-Green watch portal in Bangalore on Friday. (Right) The home page of the website. DH PHOTOS



e-Greenwatch Portal:-

Prelude:

The Honorable Supreme Court of India while reviewing the Compensatory Afforestation activities directed the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India in July 2009 to evolve an independent system for concurrent monitoring and evaluation of the works carried out in the States with Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and Net Present Value (NPV) funds given under CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority).

Pursuant to this order, meetings for the monitoring of CAMPA funds have been convened at the highest level with the erstwhile Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests (Sri Jairam Ramesh) with Sri Sam Pitroda, Advisor to the Prime Minister of India on Public Information Infrastructure & Innovations and Dr. B. K. Gairola, DG(NIC). In course of these meetings it was decided to design and develop a comprehensive web-based and role-based workflow application leading to an integrated information system (e-Greenwatch portal) which will enable automating functions and activities related to CAMPA fund monitoring.

This in turn is expected to provide transparency to the use of funds and state of execution of various works sanctioned in the Annual Plan of Operations approved by the State Authorities. The conceived framework is proposed to be extended to include other programs of the forestry wing like National Afforestation Program (NAP), Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) etc. to bring in a standardized monitoring framework for the activities undertaken under the umbrella of the '**Green India Mission**'.

NIC was entrusted with the task of technical execution of the project by MoEF by virtue of its institutional framework, support services, in-house technical competence, national-level presence, infrastructure and vast experience of handling large e-governance projects. MoEF decided to rollout this portal in 5 different states (i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura) in the first phase. Subsequent phases are to follow in due course.

Objectives:

The objective of project CAMPA (e-Greenwatch) is to facilitate process of system automation in real time data capturing, storing, reporting and mining in all States to assist administrative and planning process. The system is also expected to capture details of all the diverted and acquired land under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to infuse transparency, efficiency and accountability in CAMPA fund utilization. It is expected to evolve into a Knowledge Management (KM) system in forestry study and research in an era when call is to go green environmentally.
