GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3666 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2018

Utilization of Funds Collected under CAF

3666. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL
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SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE

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

- (a) whether there is turf war over green funds collected as Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) between the Ministry of Finance and his Ministry and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether parking this huge fund in the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) or even routing it through the CFI could open it to possible diversion for Government expenditure other than greening the country and if so; the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to resolve the issue of parking of Compensatory Afforestation Fund; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that funds collected under Compensatory Afforestation Fund is not used for any purpose other than compensatory afforestation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c) The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act provides for establishment of National Compensatory Afforestation Fund in the public account of the Government of India created under Article 266 of the Constitution. The accounting procedure for transfer of Compensatory Afforestation Fund managed by Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Management & Planning Authority (CAMPA) has been prepared by Ministry of Finance. The Ministry has notified the draft Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rule, 2018 on 17thFebraury, 2018 for public consultation, in which it has been provided that the funds will be utilized for the compensatory afforestation, regeneration of forests, protection and extension of forest, wildlife

protection and other forestry and wildlife related ancillary activities as per the provisions of the CAF Act.

(d) Under the CAF Act and CAF Rules it has been provided that the funds collected under Compensatory Afforestation Fund shall not be used for any purpose other than compensatory afforestation and ancillary forestry and wildlife conservation activities and expenditure related to its management.
