

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT (RTI)

16.1. The particulars of its organization, functions and duties

The Government of Karnataka established Karnataka State Remote Sensing Applications Centre (KSRSAC) in the year 1989 to undertake and assist Line Departments in carrying out remote sensing and GIS-based activities related to natural resources and urban mapping as well as to provide inputs for planning and decision making.

At present, KSRSAC is functioning under the Department of Information Technology & Biotechnology, GOK as an autonomous organization. Realizing the potentials of remote sensing and GIS techniques, KSRSAC has been designated as the Nodal Agency for implementation of GIS and Remote Sensing (including Photogrammetry) activities vide G.O. No. ITD 28 MIS 2002, Bangalore, dated 06-08-2002. Brief administrative functions of the Centre are given below:

- Chief Secretary to Govt., GOK is the President, the Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. / Development Commissioner, GOK and the Principal Secretary to Govt., Dept. of IT & BT are the Vice Presidents of the Governing Body of this Centre. The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of Line Departments of Government of Karnataka and subject experts are the members. Director, KSRSAC is the Member Secretary of the Governing Body.
- The activities of KSRSAC are guided and monitored by the Executive Committee.
- The Executive Committee is chaired by the Principal Secretary to Govt., Department of IT, BT and S&T. Secretaries of various Departments of Government of Karnataka and subject experts are members; and the Director, KSRSAC is the member secretary.

16.2. Major objectives of the Centre

KSRSAC has been actively involved in the development of the digital database of natural resources and urban sprawl in the State and customizing them to the requirement of the Line Departments. The main objectives of KSRSAC are as follows:

- Inventorying and monitoring of Natural Resources for sustainable development
- To develop Decision Support Systems
- To undertake Impact Assessment Studies
- To identify ecological hot spots for regular monitoring
- To prepare Integrated Land and Water Resources Action Plans
- To coordinate with the Line Departments for taking up dovetailed application programmes
- Capacity building in the use of cutting edge technologies like remote sensing & GIS
- To acquire and maintain a library of a spatial database of Karnataka State
- To organize Workshops, Seminars, Symposia and Awareness Programmes
- To Interface with Academy & Industry

16.3. Powers and duties of its officers and employees

- Scientific, technical and general administration of KRSAC is managed by the Director, KRSAC. However, the Executive Committee of the Centre will guide the administration and management of the affairs and finances of the Centre and the drawing power is vested with the Director.
- Administrative Officer is responsible for assisting the Director of KRSAC in administration and also in the management of accounts of the Centre.
- Scientists / Officers of the Centre are involved in guiding the project personnel as well as supervision of the funded projects undertaken by the Centre.

16.4. The procedure followed in decision making process, including channels of supervision and accountability

- The administration and management of the affairs and finances of the Centre shall be conducted based on the guidance of EC-KRSAC. However, day-to-day activities of the Centre, both scientific/ administration will be managed by the Director, KRSAC as per the

rules and regulations outlined in the Memorandum of Association (MOA).

16.5. The norms set by it for the discharge of its functions

- Rules and Regulations are given in Memorandum of Association (MOA) and general norms of Government are followed at KSRSAC in the discharge of the functions.

16.6. The Rules, Regulations, Instructions, Manuals and Records, held by it or under its control or used by its employees for discharging its functions:

- The rules, regulations and instructions governing the activities of KSRSAC are given in detail in the Memorandum of Association (MOA) and rules & regulations were set up by the first General Meeting of the Centre chaired by the Chief Secretary to Govt., GOK and represented by Secretaries of the Line Departments.
- As per the suggestions of the Executive Committee of KSRSAC, rules and regulations governing the Centre will be amended by the Governing Body meeting convened for the purpose from time to time.

16.7. A statement of the categories of documents that are held by it or under its control:

- Being the Nodal Agency, KSRSAC has been generating digital database and maps of natural resources using GIS and remote sensing products (including Aerial Photography). The generated database and maps, as well as satellite imagery, are stored and provided by KSRSAC to other Government / public institutions.
- The database developed using remote sensing and GIS techniques are used as decision support tools by planners and decision makers for sustainable development of natural resources of the State.

16.8. Particulars of any arrangement that exists for consultation with or representation by the members of the public concerning the formulation of its policy or implementation thereof:

- The database generated is mainly used by planners and decision makers and not of direct use to the members of the public. Hence, the members of the public are not involved in the formulation of policy or implementation of its programmes.

16.9. A statement of the Boards, Councils, Committees and other Bodies consisting of two or more persons constituted as its part or for its advice, and as to whether meetings of those boards, councils, committees and other bodies are open to the public, or the minutes of such meetings are accessible for public:

- Executive Committee Meetings and Meetings of the General Council are not open to general public. However, annual reports and brochures highlighting the activities of KRSAC will be provided to public view, if sought.