

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:310
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT
Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether an International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) was set up to promote sustainable livelihood of the people living in mountainous areas and the extended Himalayan region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the broad activities of the Centre;
- (c) the grants given by the Union Government to the Centre during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the salient features of the achievements made by the Centre so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a),(b),(c) &(d):- A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c) &(d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 310 REGARDING "INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT" BY SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE DUE FOR REPLY ON 01.12.2010.

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), founded in the year 1983 and based in Kathmandu, Nepal, is an intergovernmental independent institution in the heart of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas (HKH) that brings together a partnership of eight regional member countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan) and institutions within and outside the region. As a mountain learning and knowledge centre, the ICIMOD has been established with the objective of promoting the development of an economically and environmentally sound mountain ecosystem in the extended Himalayan region, and improving the living standards of its mountain communities.

ICIMOD aims to assist mountain people to understand ongoing environmental changes, adapt to them, and make the most of new opportunities. Three key strategic areas – water, environmental services, and livelihoods – have been identified through intensive consultations with the member countries, and the stakeholders. The strategic area of work of ICIMOD are: (i) integrated water and hazard management, (ii) environmental change and ecosystem services, and (iii) sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction.

(c) India's contribution for 2007- 2009 and for 2010 is summarized below:

Year Proposed contribution of India (in USD)

2007 72,914

2008 93,928

2009 120,998

2010 155,869

(d) Salient features of the achievements of ICIMOD under different programmes/projects as per the strategic work areas of ICIMOD so far are summarised below:

(i) Capacity building of Regional Member Countries(RMC's) on mountains issues.

(ii) ICIMOD has worked with various partners in India on a number of projects in the field of forestry, watershed management, flood control, water management, biodiversity, bee keeping, sustainable agriculture and soil conservation technologies, training and capacity building etc.

(iii) Development of Mountain Perspective Framework and partnering in projects in strategic areas as per details in para (a) & (b) above, related to;

Disaster Risk Reduction, Rural energy, sea buckthorn cultivation, mountain farming systems and mountain biodiversity, People and Resource Dynamics in Mountain Watersheds ,the Regional Rangeland Programme, Beekeeping, Gender, transboundary landscapes, vulnerability and capacity assessment on Climate Change, Improving land based livelihood options, Sustainable Mountain tourism, Value chain development for enhancing livelihoods options to local people, Environment and Sustainable Livelihoods and Capacity Building in Geographical Information Systems/Remote Sensing Technologies, organisation of national, regional and global events.

(iv) ICIMOD has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with G.B.Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development (GBPIHED),an autonomous institute of Ministry of Environment & Forests to collaborate in achieving the environmentally sustainable development in the Indian Himalayan.

(v) Strengthening of Regional Collaborative Programmes and Framework.

(vi) Regional knowledge, learning and enabling centre for Regional Member Countries of Hindukush Himalayan Region.(HKH)