

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:295

ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013

SHRINKING OF GLACIERS AND LAKES

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Khan Shri Hassan

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

- (a) whether due to climate change and global warming, lakes, glacier, springs etc. are receding in various parts of the country including the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the other threats of climate change and the extent of its impact;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to minimize the adverse effects of climate change; and
- (d) the amount allocated/sanctioned in this regard during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 295 by Shri Hasan Khan and Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal regarding Shrinking of Glaciers and Lakes

(a) & (b) As per studies conducted by the Geological Survey of India, the glaciers in Himalayan region including Ladakh are receding at varying rates in different areas. As per these findings, recession of glaciers could result from natural cyclic processes and other factors including, inter alia, global warming.

Government has studied the impacts of climate change on four key sectors of Indian economy, in four climate sensitive regions of India, including the Himalayan region and published the results in 2010. The report titled "Climate Change and India: 4X4 Assessment - A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030s" projects a mixed picture of implications for climate parameters and related impacts on the sectors including Water.

(c) & (d) Government is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) with a view to enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path and address climate change in all regions of the country. NAPCC comprises, inter alia, of eight National Missions in specific areas of Solar Energy, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. Allocation of funds for the Missions are part of the overall Plan outlays provided to the respective nodal Ministries during the Eleventh and the Twelfth Five Year Plan.