

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2044
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
BIODIVERSITY OF HIMALAYAN ECOLOGY
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any guidelines have been released to sustain the unique repository of biodiversity of Himalayan ecology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any mechanism has been put in place to oversee the implementation of these guidelines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to rope in any NGOs and others to stop deterioration of biodiversity of Himalayan ecology; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. However, National Biodiversity Authority has been set up in 2003 to conserve the Biodiversity of the Country. Ministry of Environment and Forests have also released "Governance for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem (G-SHE) Guidelines & Best Practices"
- (c) Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 provide for the conservation of biological diversity, use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources knowledge and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Accordingly, National, State and local level mechanisms have been provided for implementation of the Act.
- (d) Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified 6 Biosphere Reserves, 30 National Parks, 112 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 15 Conservation Reserves in the Himalayan Region for conserving Himalayan biodiversity.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) The question does not arise, in view of (e) above.