

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PRIME MINISTER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1459  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013  
INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF HIMALAYAN REGIONS  
Saroj Shri Tufani

**Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has constituted an Expert Group on the integrated development of the Himalaya region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the recommendations made by them;
- (c) whether these recommendations have been accepted; and
- (d) if so, the details of implementation and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA)

(a) Yes. Planning Commission had constituted an Expert Group on 27th March 1992 to formulate a 'National Policy on the Himalayas for Integrated Development'.

(b) The Expert Group was chaired by Dr. S. Z. Qasim, the then Member (Environment and Science & Technology), Planning Commission, and had fourteen members. The Expert Group made 24 recommendations. Details of the order constituting the Expert Group along with its Terms of References (TOR) and recommendations are at Annexure-I and Annexure-II, respectively.

(c) & (d) A Steering Committee was constituted by the Planning Commission to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group on the Integrated Development of the Himalayan Region.

Further, based on the recommendations of the Expert Group to formulate the "National Policy for Integrated Development of the Himalayas", six sector-specific sub-committees were set up under the Chief Secretaries of the States of the Himalayan region to formulate and implement schemes in the following areas for protecting the Himalayan eco-system and biodiversity.

# Environment and Forests

# Agriculture and Allied Activities

# Industry and Industrial Infrastructure

# Social Sectors including Health and Family Welfare, Education

# Transport, Communications and Tourism

# Energy including Non-Conventional Energy and Science and Technology