

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:191
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINING HIMALAYAN ECO SYSTEM
Jindal Shri Naveen;Lal Shri Kirodi

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Mission for sustaining Himalayan Eco-system has been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the aims and objectives of the Mission; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the action plan for the said Mission is likely to be finalised?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 191 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02-12-2009 REGARDING NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINING HIMALAYAN ECOSYSTEM

(a) to (c): No, Madam. The National Mission for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) has been accorded an in-principle approval by the PM's Council on Climate Change. The Mission document will be finalised after taking into account suggestions/inputs received from various Ministries /Members of the PM's Council and in consultation with relevant Ministries.

The Primary aims and objectives of the Mission include:

- I. Building national strength in the domains of human and knowledge capacities, institutional capacities, capacities for evidence based policy building and governance; and continuous self learning for balancing between forces of Nature and actions of mankind.
- II. Networking of knowledge institutions engaged in research on Himalayan Ecosystem and develop a coherent data base on the geological, hydrological, biological and socio-cultural dimensions including traditional knowledge systems on preservation and conservation of the ecosystem
- III. Detecting and decoupling natural and anthropogenic induced signals of global environmental changes in mountain ecosystems and predict future trends on potential impacts of climate change on the Himalayan ecosystem with a sound Science & Technology backup.
- IV. Assessing the socio-economic and ecological consequences of global environmental change and design appropriate strategies for growth in the economy of the mountain regions and the lowland systems dependent on mountain resources in the region.
- V. Studying traditional knowledge systems for community participation in adaptation, mitigation and coping mechanisms inclusive of farming and traditional health care systems
- VI. Evaluating policy alternatives for regional development plans towards sustainable tourism development, water and other natural resource management for mountain ecosystems in the region.
- VII. Creating awareness amongst stakeholders in the region for including them in the design and implementation of the programme.
- VIII. Developing regional cooperation with neighboring countries, to generate a strong data base through monitoring and analysis, to eventually create a knowledge base for policy interventions.