

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1336

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015

STUDY ON BIO DIVERSITY

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study on bio-diversity in the country including the Himalayan region;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated/implemented any action plan for the conservation of bio-diversity in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b): A nationwide assessment of biodiversity, including of the Himalayan region, using spatial data on a 1:50,000 scale has been conducted between 1998 and 2010 to identify and map potential biodiversity-rich areas in the country. The study has generated a baseline database, providing information on the vegetation type, fragmentation, disturbance index and biological richness for the entire country. North-eastern India, the Andaman & Nicobar Island and the Western Ghats, as well as some patches in the Eastern Ghats, have been classified as having maximum biological richness.

(c) & (d): The Government has prepared a National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) in 2008, which describes the major threats and constraints facing biodiversity conservation and identifies action points for conserving biodiversity of the country. In addition, 12 national biodiversity targets have been developed in line with the global Aichi biodiversity targets, which have been included in the Addendum 2014 to NBAP 2008.

(e) Does not arise.