

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2101  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015  
MOUNTAIN FORESTRY  
Maragatham Smt. K.

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

- (a) Whether any initiative has been taken/proposes to be taken towards cross border mountain forestry efforts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a five day symposium on transforming mountain forestry had been organised by the Forest Research Institute and the Kathmandu Valley based International Centre for integrated Mountain Development very recently; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development (GBPIHED), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is coordinating two Trans-Boundary Landscape Conservation and Development Initiatives, namely, Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation & Development Initiative (KSLCDI) – a collaboration of China, India and Nepal; and Kanchendzonga Landscape Conservation & Development Initiative (KLCDI) – a collaboration of Bhutan, India and Nepal. Sustainable forest management is one of the core activities under these initiatives. The purpose of these initiatives is to initiate regional level (trans-boundary) planning process based on the information generated by respective partner countries, to build capacity and harness potential for the conservation and sustainable development of the target landscape under changing scenario. Further, Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun imparts professional forestry training to the officials of Royal Government of Bhutan regularly alongwith the batches of Indian Forest Service (IFS). The IFS probationers also visit Bhutan for exposure to various aspects of mountain forestry, including community forestry.

(c) & (d) An International Mountain Forestry Symposium for Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) "Transforming Mountain Forestry" was organized by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun during 18th – 22nd January, 2015 at FRI, Dehradun with a focus on

- (i) Institutions and governance;
  - (ii) Forest ecosystem dynamics and management;
  - (iii) Linking incentives to stewardship;
  - (iv) From subsistence to standard regional/trans-boundary market; and
  - (v) Forestry knowledge forums and regional cooperation for policy-practice and science.
- It provided a forum for various stretches of seven countries of HKH (Afghanistan, Nepal, India, China, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar) as well as representatives of key mountain forestry centres from other countries attended this symposium.

The symposium strived to establish a common understanding of forest ecosystem dynamics and the management of mountain forest ecosystems in the Hindu Kush Himalayas leading to prioritization of research and development agenda on a trans-boundary scale. Participants from different countries in the region shared good practices in forest ecosystem adaptation and explored ways of mainstreaming incentive-based mechanisms. Policy deficits and priority actions for ensuring inclusive adaptation and good forest governance on a trans-boundary scale to address climate change and globalization processes were also deliberated.