

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3052
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.01.2018

Project Secure Himalayas

3052. SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched project 'Secure Himalayas' in association with the United Nations Development Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has aimed under the said plan to protect endangered species and their habitats; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) and (b) Yes Madam. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched the GoI-UNDP-GEF Project "Securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems (SECURE)" in association with UNDP on 2nd October 2017. The project is implemented through Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in partnership with Government of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim and Uttarakhand.

The project is for seven years with the outlay of USD 11,544,192 of GEF grant and co-financing of USD 59,820,000 from the Government of India and USD 1, 00,000 from UNDP.

- (c) and (d) Yes Madam. The aim of the project is to implement a matrix of best conservation practices of high range Himalayan ecosystem and protection of the endangered species of flora and fauna and the high altitude ecosystem. The four objectives of the project include:

- i. Improved management of high range Himalayan landscapes for conservation of snow leopard and other endangered species and their habitats and sustaining ecosystem services;
- ii. Improved and diversified livelihood strategies and improved capacities of community and government institutions for sustainable natural resource management and conservation;
- iii. Enhanced enforcement, monitoring and cooperation to reduce wildlife crime and related threats; and
- iv. Lessons learned by the project through participatory monitoring and evaluation, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community-based conservation at the national and international levels.
