

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4030
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2018

New Projects in Rain Forest Research Institute

4030. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:

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

- (a) the details of ongoing new projects in Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Jorhat, Assam;
- (b) the total fund granted to RFRI, Jorhat for all schemes;
- (c) the new research achievements of RFRI, Jorhat; and
- (d) the total number of vacant posts of RFRI along with the time by which the said posts are likely to be filled?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The details of ongoing new projects in Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Jorhat, Assam is given at **Annexure-A**.
- (b) The total fund granted to RFRI, Jorhat for all schemes during the financial year 2018-19 is as under: -

Scheme	(Rs. In Lakhs)
Salaries	1200.00
General	219.80
Capital Assets	12.50
Total	1432.30

- (c) The new research achievements of RFRI, Jorhat is given at **Annexure-B**.
- (d) The total number of vacant posts of RFRI along with the time by which the said posts are likely to be filled is as under: -

Name of post	Vacant	Remarks
Scientist	15	Process of filling up of vacancies are underway.
Conservator of Forests (CF)	3	
Dy. Conservator of Forests (DCF)	4	
Forest Range Officers (FRO)	2	

Technical	8	Shall be filled up on eligibility of candidate for promotion
Gr. 'C' Administrative	8	
Gr. 'C' Administrative (Erstwhile Gr. 'D')	4	The posts have already advertised & Recruitment is under process.

(Annexure-A)

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4030 due for answer on 10.08.2018 regarding 'New Projects in Rain Forest Research Institute'

Details of ongoing New Projects in Rain Forest Research Institute are: -

Sl. No.	Title of the project	Funding Agency
1.	Utilization of Ectomycorrhizal diversity for the quality stock production of Junipers, Oak and Chestnut in Sikkim, India. Duration: 3 years (2018-21)	ICFRE
2.	Modeling soil carbon dynamics and land use cover change for permanent land uses of Meghalaya. Duration: 2 years (2018-20)	
3.	Development of allometric models for estimating volume and aboveground biomass for important tree species outside the forest (TOF) in Assam. Duration: 2 years (2018-20)	
4.	Reclamation of coal mined land of North Eastern Coalfields, Assam through soil amendment and revegetation with native plant species using integrated biological approach. Duration: 3 years (2018-21)	Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI), Ranchi, Jharkhand.
5.	Studies on natural regeneration, diversity and distribution of soil seed banks and their relationship with above ground vegetation in watershed of scared Khecheopalri Lake of Sikkim. Duration: 3 years (2018-21)	National Mission of Himalayan Studies (NMHS)
6.	Estimation of species wise Bamboo Resources and Assessment of their utilization pattern in Mokokchung district of Nagaland, India. Duration:3 years (2018-21)	
7.	National Mission of Himalayan Studies (NMHS) titled "Documentation of the traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and quantification of medicinal plants used by the Karbi tribe of Karbi Anglong hill district of Assam. Duration:3 years (2018-21)	
8.	Exploration, identification of genetic resources and strategies for sustainable management of <i>Paris polyphylla</i> in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland in Northeast India Duration; 3 years (2018-21)	National Medicinal Plant Board, AYUSH, Govt. of India
9.	Creation of North-East Indian Zingiberales biodiversity garden (Gene Bank) in RFRI. Duration: 5 years (2018-23)	National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)

(Annexure-B)

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4030 due for answer on 10.08.2018 regarding 'New Projects in Rain Forest Research Institute'

The new research achievements of Rain Forest Research Institute are: -

- The Northeastern region of India is rich in mushroom diversity. RFRI carried out complete survey of mushrooms in Nagaland and Meghalaya. A total of 120 species were identified from Nagaland. A total of 148 mushroom species were collected from Meghalaya, of which, 112 species were first records for Meghalaya while 16 species were first records from India. Further, a new species of fungus *Lysurushabungianus* sp. nov. Gogoi & V. Parkash; MycoBank No. MB 812277 was described from Assam
- In the study of Lichen diversity in Northeast, A total of 171 lichen species are reported from Mizoram including two new records for India: *Dibaeis absoluta* and *Heterodermia echinata*
- *Parkiaro x burghii*, the tree bean is the most popular plant of the hill states of North East India in which large scale mortality was reported in the region. A long horned beetle (*Coptopsa edificator*) was identified as the cause and is a new pest record on *Parkiaro x burghii*.
- Agarbatti industry in India have been facing problem due to the shortage of quality raw material, especially the gummy substance (*Jigat*). Presently, two new combinations of plant based natural adhesives have been developed from 10 indigenous plant species of Assam.
- Extensive skill development trainings on bamboo including nursery, plantation and bamboo craft; artificial inoculation of agar trees and lac cultivation and processing were conducted. Total of 220 beneficiaries were trained during 2018-19.
