

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 920**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2021.

**Trans-Border Ecology Conservation Area**

920. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Governments of Nepal and Bhutan for setting up of a trans-border ecology conservation area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with scope of the project, the area to be covered and objectives of the same;
- (c) whether the Government has maintained data on the key endangered species that will benefit from the said conservation project and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the proposed project is likely to create various eco-tourism opportunities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) to (e) The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan on Cooperation in the areas of Environment. The Memorandum of Understanding envisages establishment and promotion of cooperation between the two countries in the field of environment protection and management of natural resources on the basis of equity, reciprocity and mutual benefits, taking into account the applicable laws and legal provisions in each country. However, the MOU is still to be signed by both the countries.

Further, the Memorandum of Understanding between Government of India and the Government of Nepal is being finalized through consultative process.

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between India and Bhutan and Nepal would help in overall conservation of wildlife that move across the borders, including species like Elephant, Tiger, Rhinoceros, Snow Leopard, River Dolphin, Vultures, migratory birds, etc. and would also help in strengthening the capacities of officials in areas of eco-tourism promotion and livelihood improvement of local communities through trans boundary cooperation.

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