

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2323
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

National Mission on Himalayan Studies

2323. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) The details of the National Mission on Himalayan Studies and the targets and objectives of the Mission for the next five years;
- (b) The problems identified in various thematic areas along with the solutions proposed for them, State-wise;
- (c) The details of the projects/studies undertaken in the focus areas; and
- (d) The details of the funds released and utilized in this regard during the last financial year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) The Ministry launched the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) in 2015-16 as a Central Sector Scheme to support the sustenance and enhancement of the ecological, natural, cultural, and, socio-economic capital assets and values of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).

The target and objectives of the Mission are to build a body of scientific and traditional knowledge through demand driven action research; technological innovations along with institutional strengthening and capacity building; science-policy-practice connect; and to demonstrate workable/implementable/replicable solutions to the problems in priority thematic areas. The objectives would remain the same for next five years also.

(b) The problems identified in various thematic areas are addressed by taking demand-driven action research across IHR States and UTs. Details of thematic area wise problems and their solutions in various states are annexed.

(c) Projects have been undertaken in the focus areas of Water Resource Management, Livelihood Options & Employment Generation, Biodiversity Conservation and Management, Skill Development and Capacity Building, Infrastructure Development, Physical Connectivity and Handling of Waste. Details of the projects are available at www.nmhs.org.in/.

(d) During the last financial year, an amount of Rs. 29.45 crore was released for the implementation of various projects under NMHS, out of which, an amount of Rs. 28.19 crore was utilised.

ANNEXURE

Answer referred to in reply to Part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2323 to be answered on 13.12.2021 on National Mission on Himalayan Studies.

Details of Broad Thematic Area (BTA) wise problems and their solutions in various States/UTs of IHR

1: Water Resource Management

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	Water security in the IHR	Rejuvenation of Himalayan springs	<i>Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim</i>
		Inventory of mountain springs	<i>HP, Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, J&K and Meghalaya</i>

2. Livelihood Options and Employment Generation

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	Bio-resource planning for rural development	Database on resource status, availability & use pattern	<i>J&K & Nagaland</i>
		Management plan for bio-resources at village level	<i>Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim</i>
		Eco-restoration models	<i>Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand Tripura, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.</i>
2	Upscaling tested eco-friendly economic activities for improved livelihood and employment generation	Adoption of tested farming options/technologies	<i>J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh</i>
		New eco-tourism opportunities.	<i>Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh</i>
3	Database on Himalayan Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS)	Operational database on IKS & Digital Library	<i>Arunachal Pradesh</i>
4	Income generation	Appropriate technologies for income generation	<i>Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Tripura</i>

3. Biodiversity Conservation and Management

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	Mountain Biodiversity Database & Information System (MBDIS)–focusing on IHR	MBDIS functional for IHR for data sharing and informed decision making	<i>J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Sikkim</i>
2	Assessment of ecosystem health and harnessing potential for overall development	Ecosystem integrity profiles for critical ecosystems	<i>Meghalaya and Assam</i>
		New approaches for delineating critical components/processes	<i>J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram</i>
3	Recovery of threatened species by involving state and institutional partners	Field models on recovery of threatened species in degraded systems	<i>Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tripura, Sikkim, Meghalaya and Manipur</i>

4: Skill Development and Capacity Building

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	Delivering appropriate rural technologies	Demonstration and technology transfer to village communities through trainings and awareness programs.	<i>J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Tripura, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya</i>

5. Infrastructure Development

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	Un-safe infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative disaster resilient action plans/ models. • Skill Building Centres and Demonstrations on Traditional Buildings in rural setting of the IHR. 	<i>Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Meghalaya</i>

6: Physical Connectivity

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	All weather connectivity for improved accessibility	Eco-friendly technologies/materials for construction and maintenance of hilly roads across IHR.	<i>Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand</i>

7: Handling of Waste

S.N.	Problem Identified	Solutions	States/ UTs
1	Handling of Waste	Innovative and cost-effective models/ technologies for handling waste	<i>Uttarakhand</i>