

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION No. *445
ANSWERED ON 02/04/2025**

WESTERN GHATS PROJECT

***445. SHRI GOVIND MAKTHAPPA KARJOL:**

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any request regarding springshed management and linking of ecohydrological processes to human well-being in water-scarce regions of the Western Ghats using geospatial technology under Department of Science & Technology (DST) Project;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any initiatives on above-said project;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to implement this project?**

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 445 FOR 02.04.2025 REGARDING WESTERN GHATS PROJECT

(a) to (b): Yes. A call for proposals (CFP) on “Geospatial Technology and Solutions” was issued on 13th June 2024 through the *Electronic Project Management System Portal (e-PMS portal)*, in which Proposals were invited only in consortium mode, comprising academia, startups/MSMEs/industry, and user-agencies/practitioners.

A total of 280 proposals were received under this CFP. The proposal titled “Spring Shed Management and linking of Ecohydrological processes to Human well-being in water-scarce regions of the Western Ghats using Geospatial Technology” was also received online under the above said CFP. The proposal aimed to develop a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Spring Information System for selected districts of Western Ghats for assessing climate and land use impacts on watershed hydrology.

(c) to (d): Yes. A Project Screening Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of an eminent professor and other Expert members representing, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Survey of India (Sol), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Central Universities, Other IITs, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), as well as from private sector etc. The total 280 proposals received online through e-PMS portal, were presented before the Project Screening Committee during its meeting held on 26th–27th September 2024 at IIT Delhi. The said proposal was not recommended by the Project Screening Committee for the next level as the committee opined that “The proposal seems to be more research focused lacking scalability and commercialization potential; the consortium partner appears to lack experience and/or expertise”. Out of the 280 proposals, committee finally recommended 11 proposals for financial support.

(e) Not Applicable.
