

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2330
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

Impact of Chopper Operations on Gharwal Himalayas

2330. COM. SELVARAJ V:
SHRI SUBBARAYAN K:

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

- (a) whether environmentalists and scientists have warned that unregulated chopper operations could be silently hurting the fragile ecosystem of the Garhwal Himalayas, especially during busy Char Dham yatra season, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the wildlife experts have opined that there is a need to re-assess the impact of chopper operations on wildlife in the region as the current guidelines of National Green Tribunal (NGT), are being violated by helicopter operators, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the remedial measures proposed to be taken to save the ecosystem and the wildlife in the region?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) to (c) Regulation of helicopter services on Garhwal Himalayas is undertaken by the concerned State Government. As informed by the State of Uttarakhand, the findings of study of Wildlife Institute of India regarding effect of height and noise, in light of norms of the National Green Tribunal, necessary compliance is done by them. Further, the State Government has also informed that no helicopter services are operated during night and during unfavourable weather conditions, thereby minimizing the impact of noise on the wildlife.
