

Minister's of all the States/Union Territory Governments and also to all the Council of Minister's in the Government of India.

Further, Ministry has also issued a detailed advisory on 1st June, 2015 to the State/Union Territory Governments regarding the priority actions for management of human wildlife conflict. The State/UT Governments have been requested to institute a 'Human Wildlife Management Strategy' along with other suggested measures for the proper management and prevention of human wildlife conflict situations.

Study of changes occurring in Himalayan Region

†1935. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that many type of incidents similar to natural calamities are occurring in Himalayan Region due to Global Warming, if so, the details of the action taken by Government, so far;

(b) whether Government would consider to constitute a group of experts to study the incidents occurring in the Himalayan Region which could advise the Government with reference to changes; and

(c) if so, by when the group would be constituted and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) There is no study reported so far, which supports the fact that many type of instances similar to natural calamities are occurring in the Himalayan region due to global warming. However, for monitoring and prediction of extreme weather events over the Himalayan region, India Meteorological Department (IMD) has established State Meteorological Centres at Srinagar, Shimla, Dehradun, Gangtok, Guwahati and Agartala for forecast of natural calamities like very heavy rainfall, snowfall, thunderstorm, etc. in the Himalayan region. Earth System Science Organization (ESSO-IMD) has established network of various observatories in the region for monitoring the weather and its forecast. IMD has also established a developed 24 × 7 weather monitoring and forecasting system in the country for providing weather facilities to Defence Personnel by establishing specialized observatories in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Change in 2009 has launched the Indian Network for Climate Change Assessment (INCCA), which has been conceptualized as a network-based scientific programme designed to assess the drivers and implications of climate change through scientific research, prepare climate change assessments once every two years, develop decision support systems and build capacity towards management of climate change related risks and opportunities.

Steps taken to protect 48 species of bumblebees

1936. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is home to 48 species of bumblebees; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to protect such species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) Yes, India is home to large number of species of bumble bees. As per the studies conducted by Zoological Survey of India and other organisations, the bumble bees in India are largely restricted to the Himalayan region. According to a recent publication “*Indian Bumble Bees*” by Dr. Malkiat S. Saini et al. of Punjabi University, Patiala, 48 species of bumble bees are reported from Indian region of Himalaya.

(b) Bumble Bees are important pollinators of several medicinal, endangered, endemic, threatened and agriculturally important plants of Himalayan ecosystem. They are not included under any schedules of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. However, the habitat of bumble bees are protected through a network of wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, biosphere reserves and community conserved areas.

Steps taken to increase forest area

1937. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that forest area is decreasing gradually and density of population with respect to land area is increasing in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and drastic changes in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, State/UT-wise; and