

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1018**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2022

**Achievement of GB Pant National Himalayan Institute**

1018. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS:

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

- (a) the achievements of GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development during the past five years;
- (b) whether Government conducted a performance audit of the above institution; and
- (c) the results of the study conducted by the above institute on the impact of global warming on the Himalayas?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The significant achievements of G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBPNIHE) during the past five years include the following:
  - i. The Institute has successfully completed 42 National and 2 internationally funded projects.
  - ii. The Institute is also implementing the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS), a Central Sector Grants-in-Aid Scheme of this Ministry. Under the Mission, 171 demand driven action research projects have been awarded to various organisations working in the Indian Himalayan Region(IHR). Further, to address the State/ UT specific issues, State Government Projects and Nature Learning Centres have also been commissioned.
  - iii. *Jal Abhyaranya* program was launched to address water scarcity across 11 districts of 11 IHR States wherein data for 4346 springs has been collected.
  - iv. At the Rural Technology Complex of the Institute at Almora, 102 training programmes were organized and capacity of 3401 stakeholders was built on various environment-friendly and income generating technologies.
  - v. The Institute has also organized various green skill building programmes on forest resource management, climate adaptation/mitigation, home-stays, agro-production system, bio-prospecting, ecotourism, livelihood enhancement, etc.
  - vi. In the last five years the Institute faculty published 370 research papers/ articles in Peer Reviewed Scientific National & International Journals; 124 Chapters in Books/ Proceedings; Authored/ Edited 61

Books/ Booklets/ Bulletins/ Monographs; 52 Popular Articles and 08 Policy Papers.

- (b) An independent evaluation of the Institute was carried out by IIT Roorkee in 2015. Further, the performance of the Institute was reviewed by a Committee constituted by this Ministry in 2016. In addition, the Annual progress of the Institute is evaluated by the Scientific Advisory Committee and Governing Body of the Institute.
- (c) No specific study has been conducted by the Institute on impact of global warming on Himalayas, however, the findings of some studies undertaken by the Institute in this regard as part of R&D projects are as follows:
- i. Long-term meteorological data of the Nainital district of Kumaun Himalaya revealed that during the last few decades the average annual atmospheric temperature has increased by approx. 0.0015°C.
  - ii. Analysis of concurrent temperature and herbarium data demonstrated advancement in the flowering time for certain western Himalayan alpine/sub-alpine/ temperate species while delayed flowering in some others.
  - iii. Studies on major forest types and tree species of west Himalaya exhibited that the mean date of peak leafing and leaf-drop has advanced by 1-2 weeks due to rise in ambient temperature and decline in rainfall during the past two decades.

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