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Himalayan glaciers receding at varying rates

GANGTOK, December 1, (PIB): As per the studies conducted by the Geological Survey of India, the glaciers of Himalayas are receding at varying rates in different regions. As per these findings, recession of glaciers could be the result, inter-alia of a natural cyclic process because of which the majority of Himalayan Glaciers may be passing through a phase of recession.

A National Action Plan on Climate Change was launched in June 2008 which envisages the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem amongst its 8 national missions. This Mission includes understanding phenomena relating,

inter-alia, to the recession of Himalayan glaciers and the ways of addressing the problem.

A new research centre on Himalayan Glaciology has been established at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. Guidelines and best practices for the governance for sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem have been developed and shared with all State Governments in the Himalayan Region.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Environment and Forests (independent charge) Jairam Ramesh in a written reply to a question by Sushila Tiriya and Ganga Charan in Rajya Sabha today.