

Preservation of Heritage Related to Sikh History

4108. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to identify the archaeological heritage relating to Sikh history in the country particularly in Punjab and its neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to conduct any survey in this regard;

(d) whether Government propose some schemes to save the archaeological heritage of Sikhs from destruction and for their renovation;

(e) if so, the details of the schemes, separately;

(f) whether Government are getting the historical buildings of archaeological importance in Punjab vacated from Government and semi-Government departments; and

(g) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON):

(a) Archaeological monuments and sites have been identified by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in Punjab and neighbouring regions, as being of national importance, including importance from the point of view of Sikh history.

(b) A list of such monuments is attached.

[Placed in the Library See L. T. No. 726/90]

(c) to (e). The ASI conducts surveys and excavations with a view to study material cultures in a chronological framework. The process of survey in this behalf is a continuous and ongoing one, intended to identify important monuments and sites of national importance. Once identified and notified, such monuments and sites are protected by State/Central Governments, as the case may be, according to the historical value and importance, as also maintained as per archaeological norms. This covers the archaeological heritage relating to Sikh history and culture.

(f) No Centrally protected monument in Punjab is under occupation of any Government and semi-Government Department.

(g) Does not arise.

[English]

National Pollution Policy

4109. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to evolve a new National Pollution Policy; and

(b) if so, what are its possible postulates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) The several steps taken by the Government for pollution control reflect the national policy on environmental pollution control. There is no proposal to evolve a new National Pollution Policy.