

**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.

(b) Does not arise.

### Theft of Sandal Wood from Southern Forests

4110. SHRI MULLAPPALLY  
RAMACHANDRAN:  
SHRI N. DENNIS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have sought Central help to contain the unabated theft of sandal wood from the southern forests;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Union Government:

(c) whether any enquiries have been made into the alleged sandal wood lifting by armed and trained robbers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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) to (d). Proposals have been received from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka State Governments seeking Central assistance for protecting the vulnerable sandalwood areas in these States. No request has been received from Kerala State Government. Government of India has conducted enquiries into activities of gang of smugglers involved in sandalwood thefts and protection of sandalwood forests. Central Government is examining the request for financial assistance received from the State Governments and is contemplating special legislation for sandalwood in the country.

### LAC Cultivation in West Bengal

4111. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether lac cultivation in the Purulia district of West Bengal is on the decline:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps for the improvement of lac cultivation?

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) and (b). Yearwise production of lac in Purulia district of West Bengal is given in the following statement:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Production (in tonnes)</i>
1985-86	1745
1986-87	1440
1987-88	945
1988-89	1225
1989-90	2205

(c) Steps taken by the Govt. of India to improve lac cultivation include free supply of broodlac to the cultivators and extension services through demonstration centres located in the District.

### LAC Cultivation with Central Assistance

4112. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:  
SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: