

and enhance the ecological sustainability in its development path. Under the NAPCC a 'National Water Mission' and a 'National Mission on Sustaining Himalayan Eco-System' are being evolved for finding scientifically backed eco-friendly strategies through multi-pronged, long term and integrated studies.

Non-strategic data

3585. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to make non-strategic data accessible to public;
- (b) if so, what would be the mode of its accessibility; and
- (c) whether the information will be made available under the RTI mechanism, or it will be simply put on official website of the Ministry and department concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has made non-strategic data available to public through Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005. The Departments under the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Earth Sciences to have mechanisms of updating their respective websites with non-strategic data that is used by public. In addition, non-strategic information is also being provided to individuals against their application made under the RTI etc.

Global warming

3586. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recent reports stating that due to global warming Himalayan glaciers have been receding at a faster pace than thought to earlier have come to his notice;
- (b) the actual position in the matter with relevant details;
- (c) the environmental, hydrological and demographic implications of this apparently alarming development for country over coming decades; and
- (d) the action Government proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Recent kinematic Global Positioning System (GPS) survey of glacier terminus of Gangotri and Milam glacier indicate a 'slow down' in the rates of recession post 1971 from 17.15 meters per annum (approximately) to 11.95 (+/-0.04) meters per year.

(d) The Government of India under its National Action Plan on Climate Change has identified a National Mission on 'Sustaining Himalayan Eco-System' to have a deeper understanding of the glacier dynamics in the Himalaya in the context of the climate change and envisages to investigate the impact on the entire Himalayan eco-system and the life and livelihood of the population. As a part