

(d) The available conservation staff of ASI is fully engaged with conservation work which ensures the transference of skill and technology to regular staff.

Gorkha Fort at Nalapani in Dehradun

†2174. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to declare the Gorkha Fort at Nalapani in Dehradun, a protected monument;

(b) if so, by when it would be declared a protected monument; and

(c) whether with the declaration of the Gorkha Fort, a protected monument, Government plans to identify the entire region as a tourist zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) There is no proposal with the Archaeological Survey of India to declare Gorkha Fort at Nalapani, Dehradun as a monument of national importance.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Advanced satellite data to predict monsoon

2175. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN:

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether climate change has made weather forecast difficult for the India Meteorological Department and unpredictable monsoon and drought can cause heavy losses to our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the United States is likely to provide India with advanced satellite data to predict and track the monsoon with a greater degree of certainty and reducing chances of economic dislocation and loss of lives as a result of drought and floods;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Indian scientists at present predict the monsoon only one or two days in advance and the new system would allow the scientists to predict rainfall fifteen days in advance; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) As of now, no conclusive evidence exists to attribute the Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM) variability to climate change. The medium and long range prediction of the monsoon along with associated extreme weather events

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.