

more than 3 million sq. km. area, two mine sites, each of an area of 15,000 sq. km., have been identified. India has already filed an application with the Preparatory Commission of the International Seabed Authority for the registration of a pioneer area in the Indian Ocean.

**Air travel facilities to the Hajis from Jammu and Kashmir**

2733. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hajis from Jammu and Kashmir have to change flights from Delhi or Bombay for Jeddah; and

(b) whether Government propose to arrange direct flights for the Hajis from Kashmir to Jeddah?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to capacity constraints of Air India, there are no plans at present to arrange direct flights for Hajis between Kashmir and Jeddah.

**Indians in Pak jails**

2734. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of Indian citizens who are in Pakistan jails at present and the number amongst them belonging to the Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): There are around 700 Indian detainees in Pakistani jails. Out of them, about 81 detainees are from Jammu and Kashmir.

**Liberalised policy for import**

2735. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news items which

appeared in the "Times of India" dated 5th August, 1985 regarding scientists' expressions over the likely adverse impact of the liberalised import policy of goods and technology on indigenous industry and capital equipments and Research and Development Institutions like the CSIR; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Import of technology and equipment continue to be selective taking note of the capabilities for new advances by our Institutions within a time frame and noting the imperatives for rapid improvements in quality and costs of end products with a view to ensuring that benefits flow to all people. Wherever comparable indigenous technology is available imports have not been allowed. Utilisation of indigenously developed technology is steadily improving and units based on indigenous technology are continuing to operate successfully.

Science and Technology Institutions in the country have a very important role to play in assisting in improvements and in producing new technologies appropriate to the present and future needs. Planning of research is being strengthened by close involvement of Government departments and users in Industry.

**Circulation of book justifying assassination of Mahatma Gandhi**

2736. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gandhi Memorial Museum, Madurai has circulated through its library a book which justifies the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and supports the cult of violence; and