

**REFERENCE TO THE REPORTEDLY
MISSING OF A LARGE NUMBER
FISHERMEN IN MECHANISED
BOATS IN ROUGH SEA OFF THE
BOMBAY COAST**

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the recent report that about 800 fishermen who, about ten days ago went out fishing in about 100 mechanised boats in rough weather, off the Bombay coast, were reported missing. It is also reported that the fishermen preferred to go for fishing in the rough weather as they expected a better catch during such seasons. Sometimes they say, they get a catch of about Rs. 25,000 worth. This tragedy has brought to light the risk which fishermen undergo to save money for dry days. May I request the Central Government through you to investigate the causes for this calamity and take appropriate action not only to help the bereaved families but also to prevent similar incidents occurring in future. I would like to make the following three suggestions.

First, the Coast Guards should warn the fishermen about the stormy weather and that it would be risky to go for fishing in small boats on such stormy days. All Coast Guards should alert them. Along the coast they should be in constant touch with the weather office to give timely warning.

Second, if none of the fishermen has returned back so far and all of them have been taken to have been drowned, I would request the Government to pay risk insurance amount and additional compensation to the surviving families.

Third, in future the Government should make adequate arrangement to prevent fishermen with small boats, mechanised or otherwise, to go on the high seas in a stormy weather and to prevent similar tragedies occurring.

REFERENCE TO ALLEGED POACHING OF 'SANGAI' BY VILLAGEKES MANIPUR

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH (Manipur): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the Government the following facts. Sir, Sangai, a very rare specimen of the deer family, the brow antlered deer, also known as Thamin, is available only in certain parts of this country. Manipur is the only place in the world where this specimen is available. Kaibul Lamjao, a national floating park at a distance of about 50 km. from Imphal, is the area where this animal is living. Because of serious poachings by the villagers in this area, the number of this animal is now reduced to 20. Sir, because of the fact that this is a national floating park and such an animal can exist, can live, only in such parks, the Government of India should seriously look into the poachings, take serious action against the villagers and also take steps to improve the conditions of the park to attract tourists. Thank you.

**REFERENCE TO THE NEED
FOR AERIAL SPRAY OF INSECTICIDES AND PESTICIDES ON COTTON CROP IN PUNJAB**

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Punjab): Through you, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government in the Department of Agriculture, to the compelling and immediate need of starting aerial spray of insecticides and pesticides on cotton in the State of Punjab. Punjab is one of the foremost cotton growing States in the country, the yield per acre being more than two times the average yield in the country. But unfortunately the area covered by aerial spray in the State has decreased considerably from 2,63,057 hectares in Kharif 1975 to merely 62,148 hectares in 1983. In 1975 there were 16 helicopters and 7 fixed wing planes