

band of hooligans holding sway and a section of officials playing ducks and drakes;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken against the "Section of employees" who "are holding the entire staff of its office in the city and the Indian Botanic Gardens at Sibpore, Howrah to ransom" and also against those "officials of the institution" who "are either engaged in playing politics or moving out on official tours" as reported in the said news-item; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is not correct to say that a "Section of the employee is holding the entire staff of the BSI and the Indian Botanic Gardens at Sibpore, Howrah to ransom." The Government is also not aware of any officials of the institution "engaged in playing politics". The Director, Botanical Survey of India has, however been instructed to investigate specific instances of indiscipline and mis-conduct and take appropriate action against the erring officials. As regards official tours, these form an integral part of the duties of Botanical Survey of India officials which consists mainly of survey of plant resources of the country. The officials proceed on tours after getting the approval of the competent authority.

Ban on Export of Monkeys

2142. SHRI D. HEERACHAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ban on the export of monkeys from India is to be lifted shortly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to bring monkeys under the purview of Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 in order to save this animal from extinction; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise,

(c) and (d) Monkeys found in India are already included in the Schedules to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, and are thus, afforded legal protection from hunting and commercial exploitation.

2143. [Transferred to the 7th November, 1982]

Translocation of Rhinos from Kaziranga to Dudhwa

2144. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI :

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sent a team of officers to visit Kaziranga and other habitats of Rhinos in Assam to examine the possibility of translocating certain number of Rhinos from Kaziranga to Dudhwa in U.P.;

(b) if so, the names of personnel of the team; and

(c) whether the said team has submitted its report if so what are the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) and (b)