

movement of domestic animals inside the wildlife reserves; inoculation of cattle in the adjoining areas; improvement of facilities for detection and treatment of cases, etc.

Wild Life Conservation in Delhi

2147. SHRI J. K. JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what are the existing legal and regulatory provisions in force in Delhi for Conservation of Wild Life;

(b) whether any fresh moves have been initiated by Government to create awareness about the conservation of wild life in Delhi;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether there are any plans to develop a National Botanical Garden and a Bird Sanctuary in Delhi; and

(e) if so, what progress has been made in this direction ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, was adopted in the Union Territory with effect from 1-6-1973. The Delhi Wild Life (Protection) Rules, 1973, have been framed thereunder for the conservation of wildlife.

(b) and (c) In the current year, the following steps have been taken, particularly during the Wildlife week 1982, to create awareness about the conservation of wildlife in Delhi;

(i) Cinema slides conveying the message of Wildlife conservation were shown in Cinema halls.

(ii) Films on wildlife were screened for the public.

(iii) Lectures and talks on wildlife were arranged on Radio and Television.

(iv) On-the-spot painting and modelling contests were organised by the National Zoological Park and the National Museum of Natural History. Film shows on wildlife were also organised.

(v) Banners promoting the message of wildlife conservation were put up at prominent places.

(vi) Prime Minister's message in English, Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi together with the posters on wildlife were circulated to all educational institutions, etc.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir, The Delhi Administration is examining the matter for Bird Sanctuary and Department of Environment has plans to develop a National Botanical Garden in the capital.

Killing of Rhinos in Assam

2148. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poaching of Rhinos in the wild life sanctuaries and reserve forests in Assam specially in Darong district has been alarmingly rising in this year;

(b) if so, the number of Rhinos killed and their horns removed by the poachers and the number of people arrested upto the end of September, 1982; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to check the poaching of Rhinos in Assam ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) to (c) Information is being obtained from the State Govern-

nment and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Pollution in Metropolitan Industrial Cities

2149. SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have measured air, water and noise pollution in the metropolitan cities of India as also in large industrial cities such as Kanpur, Ahmedabad, Jamshedpur, etc;

(b) if so, the results of such studies;

(c) whether the levels of pollution are in keeping with the prescribed levels in other advanced industrial countries of the West; and

(d) whether Delhi falls within such minimum levels of pollution ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur has conducted studies on air pollution in 10 cities. The Central and the State Boards for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution are monitoring water quality through a network of 234 sections which also include stations near Metropolitan and Industrial towns:

Noise level Surveys have been carried out in Ahmedabad, Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta by some research institutions.

(b) Gaseous pollutants except for suspended particulate matter in the atmosphere are generally below the standards prescribed by the International bodies though there are transient increases in local pockets occasionally.

The data from the monitoring programme undertaken by Central Board is

being analysed on a continuing basis. According to the tentative findings the levels of water pollution in the water bodies near the metropolitan/ industrial cities is on the higher side in respect of suspended solids, organic matters and coliform counts. Heavy metals and pesticides are almost found to be below acceptable levels.

The peak noise level on the streets in the cities where it has been measured ranges from 75-90 decibels.

(c) The levels of pollution are comparable or below the prescribed levels in other advanced countries except for organic and bacteriological pollution in water and suspended particulate matter in air. Noise levels in some congested pockets sometimes exceeds the prescribed limits of the western countries.

(d) The statement in (c) above is also applicable to Delhi.

Exploration of Indian Ocean Seabed

2150. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA : SHRI P. N. SUKUL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has registered its claim with the UN for two plots of 150,000 square Kms each in the Indian Ocean seabed for exclusive mining rights; and

(b) whether exploration of the Indian Ocean seabed has been taken up by other countries besides India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH) :

(a) India has been recognised as a Pioneer Investor in seabed mining by resolution adopted by the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea on April 30, 1982. The Convention on the Law of the Sea will be opened