

1st October, and after that, within a period of three months, anybody may change the old stamps for current stamps of the same value.

INDIAN BOARD FOR WILD LIFE

*490. SHRI H. C. DASAPPA (ON BEHALF OF SHRI GOVINDA REDDY): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many recommendations made so far by the Indian Board for Wild Life have been implemented by Government; and

(b) what are those recommendations?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (a) and (b). All recommendations but one have been accepted by the Government. A statement showing the recommendations made and action taken on each is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 136.]

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I find that practically all these recommendations have been referred to the respective State Governments. May I know, Sir, whether the States have formed any National Parks in India?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, most of these recommendations primarily concern the State Governments and it is our desire to assist them wherever possible but those steps have not yet been taken.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know whether it is also not the responsibility of the Centre to start these National Parks?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Constitutionally speaking, I do not think that responsibility falls on our shoulders; but since we want development of all sides of our life, the Central Government and the Planning Commission would consider these recommendations.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Does not one of the recommendations refer to the unrestricted export of trophies and skins and various other things?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The hon. Member referred to the question of National Parks and I dealt with that in my reply.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I am now referring to the other recommendation that the unrestricted exports of trophies and skins of these animals and birds should be controlled.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: We are taking steps in that direction.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I would also like to know whether there has not been unrestricted export of animals and birds?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is dealt with more by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I find that the recommendation has been sent to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry—and that is two years ago—and that no final decision has been taken. May I know when the final decision will be taken?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I think the whole thing is being pursued actively.

LOSS OF LIFE OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES DUE TO FLOODS

*491. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR): Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any railway employees have lost their lives as a result of the recent floods affecting the Assam link section of the North Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what is the number of such employees and what are the circumstances under which they lost their lives; and

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to their families?