

TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Malwan marine sanctuary has been in existence since the year 1987. It is within the legal competence of Government of Maharashtra to upgrade it as a national park.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

### Replacement of Steam Engines

229. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway steam engines in the country and the time by which the process of replacing all the steam engines by diesel engines is likely to be completed;

(b) whether there is any proposal for the conversion of steam loco sheds into diesel loco sheds; and

(c) if so, how the employees working on the steam loco sheds are to be absorbed in other sectors of the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS. (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There are about 2150 steam engines on Indian Railways at present. Railways have planned to replace these engines by diesel/electric locomotives in a phased manner by the year 2000. This is, however, subject to availability of funds and that of diesel/electric locomotives.

(b) Location of a new diesel shed is primarily decided on operational considerations and on an all India Railway basis. Moreover, the area of operation of a diesel loco is comparatively higher than

the steam loco, Hence, the number of diesel loco sheds required is far lesser than the existing steam sheds. In view of this, there is no need and justification to construct a diesel shed at every steam shed location.

(c) The staff rendered surplus by closure of steam sheds are not retrenched but are being redeployed in other activities after imparting suitable training wherever necessary.

[*English*]

### Delicensing of Sugar Industry

230. SHRI MANORANJAN SUR: SHRI SOBHANADRE-DRESWARA RAO VEEDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a final decision to delicense the sugar industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

### RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): It is obvious that the House is very much agitated on this issue which has been raised here. I think that the Government has been an utter failure on this front and as a result of it there is widespread resentment among the farmers of the country. I have given you a