

Institute has produced very good result during the last few years. The Central Salt & Marine Chemical Research Institute is engaged in the development of technology for the extraction of minerals from sea water and also for desalination of sea water and its conversion into fresh water. Some of the technologies developed by this Institute are being used in the country. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin has done considerable work in the exploration of living resources of the sea and the culture of shellfish, fin-fish and seaweeds. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has carried out very commendable work in the off-shore exploration of oil and gas.

In the Central Indian Ocean, the Department of Ocean Development with the help of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has launched a sizeable programme of the survey of polymetallic nodules in the deep sea. As a result of an extensive survey of an area of about 3 million square kilometres, two mining sites have been identified. An application for registration of these two sites has been sent to the Preparatory Commission of the International Seabed Authority.

#### Youth Festival of Non-Aligned Countries

2384. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to organise a "Youth Festival" of the Non-aligned countries in the "Inter-national Youth Year"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Implementation of National Wildlife Action Plan

2385. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a National Wildlife Action Plan with a

view to arresting the rapid extinction of species of flora and fauna which is now taking place; and

(b) if so, the action taken to implement this plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). The National Wildlife Action Plan was finalised and adopted in October, 1983, on the recommendation of the Indian Board for Wildlife. The Action plan is a charter of action to be taken in the field of Wildlife conservation in the country. The main components of the Action Plan are given below :—

#### (1) Establishment of a Representative Network of Protected Areas :

Establish a network of scientifically managed protected areas such as national parks, sanctuaries and biosphere reserves, to cover representative and viable samples of all significant biogeographic sub-divisions within the country. Such protected area; should have an adequate geographic distribution.

#### (2) Management of Protected Areas and Habitat Restoration :

Develop appropriate management systems for protected areas, with due regard to the needs of the local people and ensuring their support and involvement; Restore degraded habitats to their natural state (as far as this can be ascertained); Build up a professional cadre of personnel fully trained in all aspects of wildlife and sanctuary management; and provide proper orientation to all officials concerned with wildlife.

#### (3) Wildlife Protection in Multiple Use Areas :

Provide adequate protection to wildlife in multiple use areas (such as production forests and pasture lands) so as to form "corridors" linking up the protected areas and providing for genetic continuity between them.

**(4) Rehabilitation of Endangered and Threatened Species :**

Rehabilitate indigenous, endangered and threatened species of flora and fauna and restore them to protected portions of their former habitats, in a manner which provides some reflection of their distribution in recent historic times (100-150 years ago).

**(5) Captive Breeding Programmes :**

Support the management of captive propagation and breeding programmes for plants and animals, for re-introduction of threatened species to the wild and, where appropriate, utilise species which are plentiful.

**(6) Wildlife Education and Interpretation :**

Promote and support wildlife education and interpretation aimed at a wider public appreciation of the importance of wildlife to human betterment.

**(7) Research and Monitoring :**

Develop research and monitoring facilities which will provide a scientific understanding of wildlife populations and habitats essential to their proper management and, where appropriate, their utilisation.

**(8) Domestic Legislation and International Convention :**

Review and update statutory provisions providing protection to wildlife and regulating all forms of trade, so as to ensure their current effectiveness. Participate in international conventions, designed to prevent the depletion of wildlife resources and to provide protection to migratory species.

**(9) National Conservation Strategy :**

Assists in the formulation and adoption of a National Conservation Strategy for all living

natural resources on the lines of the World Conservation Strategy launched in 1980.

**(10) Collaboration with Voluntary Bodies :**

Enlist support from and collaboration with voluntary bodies and agencies in the total wildlife conservation effort represented by this Action Plan.

Implementation of the Action Plan has been taken up and a number of steps have been initiated already. The Central Directorate of Wildlife Preservation and the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun, are the nodal agencies for initiating and monitoring the several programmes and projects set out in the Action Plan, with the help of the States and Union Territories, who are directly responsible for the actual protection and management of wildlife in the country. The co-operation of other governmental and non-governmental agencies is also being enlisted.

While action has been initiated on most of the main components of the Action Plan, the more notable steps taken are given below :

—A survey of all National Parks, Sanctuaries and other areas deserving protection status has been taken up with a view to strengthen and enlarge the network of protected areas in the country.

— Guidelines for the preparation of management plans of wildlife reserves have been drawn up and circulated to all the States and Union Territories.

— Guidelines have been developed for eliciting public support for wildlife conservation. These have also been circulated to all States and Union Territories.

— Review and revision of the National Forest Policy has been taken up to incorporate specific concerns for wildlife conservation.

— Amendments to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 are under examination.

- Training and research activities have been taken up at the Wildlife Institute of India.
- Captive breeding and rehabilitation programmes have been launched (e.g. the rhino-reintroduction programmes).
- Participation in international conventions continues to be active and a treaty has been concluded recently with the U S S.R. for the protection of migratory birds.
- Model interpretation facilities are being established in some reserves and zoos.
- A committee has been constituted to work out the manner in which the voluntary bodies/non-governmental organisations can contribute to the implementation of the Action Plan.
- The implementation of the Action Plan has been made the central theme of the wildlife conservation programmes in the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990).

#### Antarctica Study Centre for Research Activities

2386. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to set up Antarctica Study Centre for research activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether for the proposed fourth or fifth expeditions any action has been taken to acquire ships and equipments and for fabrication of ice-breakers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and from which country the same are being imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A study

Group was constituted to work out the details related to the setting up of an Antarctic Study Centre. The report of the group has since been received, and details of the equipment required for the Centre are being finalised.

(c) and (d). The Fourth Indian Antarctic Expedition returned to India on 25-03-1985, leaving behind a team of 13-persons at the Indian Antarctic Station. The Fifth Antarctic Expedition is expected to leave towards the end of November, 1985. An enquiry has already been floated through the Ministry of Shipping & Transport for chartering of a suitable ship for the same. As regards the fabrication of an ice-breaker for the Indian Antarctic activities, the report of another Task Force which had been constituted for the purpose has been received. Details of the proposal for clearance of the same from the financial angle are being worked out.

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#### Illegal Entrance of Pakistani Nationals

2387. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Pakistani nationals who illegally entered into India, have been arrested during the last two months;

(b) if so, the number thereof and the purpose of their infiltration into India;

(c) whether Government have thoroughly investigated their cases; and

(d) if so, whether their links with the Indians have also come to light; and if so, the action Government propose to take against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.