

neighbourhood, and the leadership of the freedom movements in South Africa, to see that the attempts to break the unity in the ranks of the anti-apartheid forces do not succeed.

[*Translation*]

**Clearance to Indira Sarovar Jal Vidyut Yojana**

4447. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which Indira Sarovar Jal Vidyut Yojana in Madhya Pradesh is likely to be cleared under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 ; and

(b) whether the members of working group constituted by the Department of Environment had inspected the project site in April, 1984 and also submitted their inspection report and if so, the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Decision may not be possible till the Bastar Master Plan (referred to below) is not furnished by M.P. Government.

(b) The Working Group of the Department of Environment visited the site in February and April, 1984. They desired the State Government of Madhya Pradesh to send the Bastar Master Plan, considered necessary for environmental appraisal, but this has not been received. The appraisal report was finalised in February, 1985.

[*English*]

**Ill treatment of Indian girls by visiting tourists.**

4448. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a good many number of girls and women from India are tricked into "marriage of convenience" with visiting tourists from Gulf countries and later find themselves undergoing prosecu-

tion from their husbands or gravely ill-treated so that they return to India; and

(b) the protection offered by our Emigration laws to such women and how is it ensured that such marriages are genuine and are not merely "marriages of convenience" ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) There are reports about tourists from Gulf countries marrying Muslim girls of poor families. Such marriages generally take place due to economic compulsions and inducements.

(b) Our Emigration laws do not cover such cases as they are meant for safeguarding the interest of workers (males or females). The State Governments concerned are alive to the situation and are maintaining due vigilance in the matter.

**Tree Plantation in Rajasthan**

4450. SHRI JUJIAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how much amount has been spent in Rajasthan on the programme of Tree Plantation last year and what is the cost worked out per tree ;

(b) whether the care and preservation of Traditional Forests is being neglected since the tree plantation programme have started and that much more trees from Traditional Forests have been destroyed then the number of new trees planted at heavy costs under the new programme; and

(c) the efforts Government propose to make to preserve the Traditional Forests in Rajasthan and elsewhere ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) An amount of Rs. 1496.13 lakhs has been spent on raising and planting of 857 lakh seedlings during 1984-85. The average cost per seedling works out to Rs. 1.75.

Planting cost of seedlings distributed is not included.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government have taken the following steps to preserve the forests in the country :

- (1) Enforcement of the Forest Act, to prevent unauthorised felling of trees.
- (2) Enforcement of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, to prevent indiscriminate diversion of forest land to non-forest use.
- (3) Elimination of the agency of contractors in the working of forests in most of the States/U.Ts.
- (4) Undertaking an in-depth study of the problems of grazing and encroachment of forest land, inclusive of "shifting cultivation", with a view to find a long-term solution in regard to forest protection.
- (5) Pulp and wood chips have been recently exempted from import duty. Import duty on wood in certain specified forms has been reduced to 10% *ad valorem*.
- (6) An inter-ministerial group has been set up to study substitution of wood by other products, which would help conserve our forests.
- (7) A National Wastelands Development Board has been set up with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations. A people's movement is being developed for afforestation. Conservation measures are being strengthened under the Seventh Five Year Plan.
- (8) Alternative sources of energy such as bio-gas and fuel-saving devices such as improved *chulhas*, solar cookers and water heating

system/water-heaters, solar timber-seasoning kilns etc. are being popularised. 7.50 lakh improved *chulhas*, 3.55 lakh bio-gas plants, 0.30 lakh solar cookers, 573 solar water-heating systems 19 solar timber-seasoning kilns and 500 solar water-heaters were set up during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

#### Statehood for Delhi

4451. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to convert Union Territory of Delhi into a full State;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The demand for full Statehood for Delhi with a duly elected legislature has been raised at various forums on a number of occasions. The matter had been examined in depth by the States Re-organisation Commission. Taking into account the peculiar political and administrative problems of Delhi, the Commission had recommended Delhi to be constituted into a centrally administered territory. The considerations which weighed with the States Re-organisation Commission for not recommending full Statehood for Delhi continue to be valid even now. The matter involves complex policies and issues which requires in-depth examination in all its ramifications.

[Translation]

#### Desert Condition in Tarai-Bhavar Area

4452. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :