

Siberian White Crane is given protection and shelter in Rajasthan as this is the only known winter home of these birds in the country. Special conservation effort is under-way to conserve the black-necked crane with the assistance of the army in Ladakh.

- (6) Government of India is providing financial assistance for the conservation of national parks and sanctuaries.
- (7) Survey of habitats of endangered species including birds is in progress with a view to establish more national parks, sanctuaries and special protected areas.
- (8) The Bombay Natural History Society have been authorised to survey the status of some endangered species of birds.
- (9) Efforts are being made to breed endangered birds in captivity, including pheasants, in different zoos of the country and in captive breeding centres in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. A project to breed the White-winged Wood Duck in captivity is underway in Arunachal Pradesh.

Joint Projects of India and France

*526. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether discussions between the representatives of India and France have been held to establish joint projects in the field of industrial controls and instrumentation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of joint projects under-way and the various sites selected by the companies; and

(d) the time by which the projects are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC

ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SAIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Indo-French Working Group has been set up to establish joint projects in the field of computers and electronics including industrial electronic control and instrumentation. The following joint projects in the field of industrial control and instrumentation were identified during the third meeting of the Working Group held on 20-21 January, 1986 at new Delhi.

1. Large Data Acquisition System
2. Ultrasonic and level meters
3. Control Valve technology
4. Direct digital control systems
5. On-Board aircraft instrumentation
6. Measurement of humidity in gas
7. Metering system for Pipelines.

The Indo-French Working Group has also identified in the field of industrial control and instrumentation, joint execution of projects in the 3rd world countries complementing the strengths of each in hardware, systems engineering, and software. Choice of specific projects in this regard are under examination by both sides.

(c) and (d). Specific projects for implementation are yet to be finalised as detailed negotiation between companies in India and France have recently been initiated. These are expected to result in finalisation of sites and time duration and other such implementation details.

Forest Area in Rajasthan

*528. SHRI JUJHAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of forest land in Rajasthan against the minimum area required under the Forest Policy of the Government;

(b) how much area of the forest land is actually under forest cover and how has this area increased or decreased during the last one decade with reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to increase and improve the area under forest cover in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) The total area of forest land in Rajasthan State according to the records maintained by the State Government is 31150.62 Sq. km. as against the total geographical area of 342271.13 Sq. km. This works out to 9.1 percent as against 33-1/3 percent stipulated under the National Forest Policy.

(b) The area under actual forest cover has been assessed by the National Remote Sensing Agency during the year 1980-82 as 5972 Sq. kms., which forms 1.75% of the total geographical area. According to earlier estimates by this agency, during 1972-75, the forest cover was 11,294 Sq. Kms. amounting to 3.30% of the total geographical area. The decrease in forest cover is primarily due to diversion of the forest lands to non-forestry uses.

(c) In the Seventh Five Year Plan, it is proposed to plant up 70 crore seedlings under various schemes with a view to increase and improve the area under forest cover. Besides, this, the following action is being taken by the Government to conserve and improve forests :

- (i) Strict enforcement of the Forest Conservation Act 1980 with a view to minimise diversion of forest land for non-forest use.
- (ii) Strict enforcement of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and of various other enactments to prevent unauthorised felling of trees.
- (iii) Enlisting people's cooperation for developing and improving forest wealth, through setting up of the National Wastelands Development Board.

Defence Industry in Baliapal, Orissa

***529. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence are contemplating to establish a large defence industry in Baliapal area of Orissa to provide direct employment to oustees of the National Test Range Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH

AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Orissa State is one of the States under consideration for locating a new Defence industry. The State Government has offered a few sites for consideration.

Orissa Government has proposed to set up a number of industrial projects to rehabilitate to population which may be displaced as a consequence of setting up the National Range. It is planned to provide employment opportunities to about one person per displaced family in these projects. The Central Government will provide financial assistance in terms of seed money for setting up these projects.

[*Translation*]

Protection of Indian Mission Abroad

***530. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :**
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the special measures taken for protecting Indian missions abroad keeping in view the activities of terrorists there; and

(b) the number of incidents of attack on Indian missions during the last two years and the nature and extent of loss suffered as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a)

(i) The security of our Missions and personnel abroad is basically the responsibility of the host Government.

(ii) We share specific information regarding threats to our Missions abroad with the local authorities and request for special protection which the host Governments usually provide. In some sensitive Missions, where there is continuing threat, the host Governments have provided their own guards on a regular basis.

(iii) We have also strengthened various security measures in Missions by providing additional security staff and equipment. The various security measures are constantly under review.

(b) There were 9 incidents of attack on our Missions abroad during the last two