

Extinction of Musk Deer

2486. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that musk deer is being extinct day by day due to relentless hunting by poachers in Himalayan region ; and

(b) if so, steps to be taken to save them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Although the numbers of musk deer had reduced in the past, it is not in danger of extinction in the country.

(b) Musk deer is included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thus affording legal protection against hunting and trade. It is also listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which International trade in the species and its strictly regulated. The Export Policy of Government does not permit export of musk deer and its derivatives. Captive breeding of the species has been taken up in some states. The habitat of the species has been protected by constituting national parks and sanctuaries in all states and union territories in its range of distribution.

Extradition of Indian Embassy Personnel who Sought Asylum in Norway

2487. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether no formal request was made by Government for extradition of the diplomat in Indian Embassy in Norway who defected and sought political asylum from Norwegian Government in June, 1984 and embezzled Rs. 72,000/- from the Embassy fund ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Government took up the matter of Shri Harinder Singh, formerly First Secretary in Embassy of India, Oslo's desertion, with the Norwegian authorities both in Oslo and in Delhi. In the absence of any Extradition Treaty between India and Norway the question of extradition was not formally pursued.

[Translation]

Agreements with West Germany

2488. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether detailed talks were held recently between India and West Germany for setting up joint ventures and for technical cooperation ;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held ; and

(c) the points on which both the countries agreed and the time by which these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) Dr. Lothar Spaeth, Minister-President (Chief Minister) of the State of Baden-Wurttemberg of the Federal Republic of Germany visited India from 21st to 27th January, 1986 at the invitation of the Minister of State for External Affairs. He was accompanied by a 23-member delegation of leading industrialists of that state besides senior officials, scientists and journalists. During his stay in New Delhi, he had bilateral talks with the Minister of State for External Affairs. He also called on Minister of State for Industry and Minister of Human Resources Development. He addressed a meeting of businessman/industrialists organised by the Association of Indian Engineering Industry.

(b) During the discussions, the FRG side showed interest to set up joint ventures with the small and medium industries of Baden-Wurttemberg in India.