- (iv) The number of Tiger Reserves now is 11 with a total area of about 15,800 sq. km. A few additional Tiger Reserves are to be constituted in the Sixth Plan period.
 - (v) A net-work of 23 National Parks and 205 Sanctuaries has been set up where concerted efforts are being made for overall wildlife conservation and this is naturally very beneficial to the tiger population in such reserves.
 - (vi) There is a complete ban on the export of tiger skins from the country.
- (vii) As a result of these measures the population of tigers has increased from 1827 in 1972 to 3015 in 1979.

Milk and Meat Processing Industry

2535. DR. VASANT KUMAR: PANDIT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Minister for Agriculture had talks with Soviet Minister for Milk and Meat Industry in the month of May 1981 for co-operation;
- (b) whether any protocol was signed between India and U.S.S.R. on co-operation in the Agricultural Processing Industries; and
- (c) if so, what decisions have been taken and what projects have been identified for operation during 1981-82?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUL-TURE AND RURAL RECONS-TRUCTION (SHRI R.V. SWAMI-NATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) No, Sir. However, a Working Programme of co-operation between U.S.S.R. and India in the field of Foodstuffs Industry, was signed on 22nd November, 1980.
- (c) While no specific Projects have been identified for implementation under the Protocol of May, 1981 for cooperation in Meat & Industry, under the Working Programme for cooperation between the two countries in the field of Foodstuffs Industry, a Soviet Team of Experts is currently in India for studying the initial data and development of mutual report for setting up feasibility a pilot workshop at Vellore for aseptic canning. Based on the feasibility report, the commissioning of a pilot plant will be considered.

जिला जालौर, राजस्थान में भुकटाव

2536. श्री विरदा राम फुलवारिया: क्या सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (क) क्या राजस्थान के जालीर जिले में वर्षा ऋतु में नदियों द्वारा सैकड़ों एकड़ भूमि का क्षरण होता है जिससे किसानों को लाखों रुपयों का नुकसान होता है; श्रीर
- (ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार नदियों द्वारा किये जाने वाले भूक्षरण को रोकने के लिए कोई योजना तैयार करने का है?

सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जियाउर्रहमान अंसारी) : (क) और (ख) बाढ़ नियंत्रण वर्क्स का ग्रायोजन, भन्वेषण, वित्तपोषण ग्रीर क्रियान्वयन राज्य सरकारों द्वारा किया जाता है। राजस्थान सरकार ने जालीर जिले की कोई कटाव-रोधी स्कीम संवीक्षा ग्रथवा सलाह के लिए केंग्द्रीय जल प्रायोग की नहीं भेजी है।