

RAMDULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir, So far a reserve of approximately 1200 million tonnes of bauxite has already been estimated in these areas.

(c) The investigation for bauxite was conducted by Geological Survey of India in early 1970s, which was intensified as part of East Coast Bauxite Project between January, 1976 to June, 1977.

(d) Investigations for bauxite are continuing in these areas. During the current field season, Geological Survey of India has completed investigation for bauxite in Lanjigarh plateau and is engaged in investigation in the Sijimali plateau of Orissa and Amtipani plateau in Bihar.

#### Extinction of Wild Plants

5093. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Paleobotany, Lucknow regarding the extinction of nearly 5000 useful wild plants as a result of changes of agricultural pattern and denudation of forests in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the said report;

(c) the action contemplated by Government to arrest and improve the situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENLIGHTENMENT AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C.P.N. SINGH); (a) and (b) : The Department of Science and Technology has been a paper published by a scientist of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, entitled "Wild Plants in Indian Folk Life—A Historical Perspective". It is nowhere stated in the

paper that nearly 5,000 useful wild plants are becoming extinct as a result of changes in agricultural pattern and denudation of forests in the country. The paper points out that there is a wealth of information available in folklore and ancient literature on the utility of wild plants species for various purposes and invites attention to the potential danger of such information being lost due to gradual introduction of new and improved agricultural techniques in regions populated by tribals and the need to conserve this information. Government scientific agencies like the Botanical Survey of India are already undertaking Ethnobotanical Studies including collection of information on tribal uses of plants, survey of wild plants etc.

(c) and (d) : Do not arise.

#### Conditions by Bajaj on Lohia Machines Collaboration with Piaggio

5094. SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bajaj Auto Limited has represented to Government that Piaggio should be allowed to have collaboration with Lohia Machines and Andhra Pradesh Scooters only on the condition that Piaggio should not object to free export of Bajaj Auto vehicles in view of the fact that Piaggio has filed suits in foreign countries against the sale of Bajaj Scooters; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) : Government have accorded approval to Lohia Machines and Andhra Pradesh Scooters to enter into technical collaboration with M/s. Piaggio for the manufacture of 2-wheelers. subsequently, a representation made has been received on behalf of Bajaj Auto Ltd. raising certain issues.

Bajaj Auto Ltd. do not have a subsisting collaboration agreement with Piaggio.