- (b) whether it was decided to merge Motor Machinery Manufacturers Ltd. with BHEL;
- (c) whether the chairman and Managing Director of BHEL in a letter dated May 18, 1981 wrote to Joint Secretary of the Department of Industrial Development of stage-wise development of Motor Machinery enabling, BHEL to utilise this unit as a reliable source for the repair of the traction machines;
- (d) if so, why BHEL has now backed out;
- (e) whether it is a fact that despite his Ministry asking BHEL to merge Motor Machinery Manufacturers Ltd. with it, BHEL has refused now; and
  - (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) In reply to a reference from the then Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Industrial Development, Chairman and Managing Director of BHEL, while referring to stagewise development of Motor & Machinery Manufacturers Limited. had stated, inter-alia that moving into the highly sophisticated technology of traction motors with the complexities involved in the repair work would call for careful planning. Further examination brought out that heavy investments would be required to start traction repairs at the unit. After considering the matter in consultation with BHEL: Government have come to the conclusion that since the products and markets covered by Motor & Machinery Manufacturers Limited do not match with those of BHEL, there is no case for their merger.

## "Conversion of Himalayan Meadows into National Parks"

Written Answers

4730. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that ever since the Himalayan meadows were converted into National Parks, no grazing of livestock is allowed resulting in great resentment among the people who are likely to enter these lands alongwith their cattle herds: and
- (b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this matter considering the seriousness of the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) and (b) Lately only two National Parks have been constituted in the Himalayan region. These are the Vally of Flowers and the Nandadevi National Park in Uttar Pradesh, Only 3 villages are said to be affected and the State Government is taking action to provide alternative sites and facilities for grazing of the domestic animals of these villages. In addition, arrangements are being made to provide employment opportunities and to take up afforestation and agroforestry activities to serve the needs of the villagers for fodder and fuelwood.

Theft on G. T. Express on 27 June, 1983

4731. SHRI P. PENCHALAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that a theft took place in G. T. Express, between Ongole and Vijayawada on 27 June, 1983;
- (b) whether Government have received theft report of property worth Rs. 20,000/-, and
  - (c) if so, the steps taken thereon?