THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Necessary information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

Pollution of Himalayas due to the Activities organised by Mountaineers and Trekkers

2344. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the activities organised by the Mountaineers and trekkers a large quantity of trash, garbage and waste material are left behind in the Himalayas creating pollution, and other problems;
- (c) whether the Indian Mountaineering Foundation has prepared a plan to aid the Himalayas from pollution; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yos, Sir.

- (b) and (c) The Indian Mountaineering Foundation has taken the following measures to control pollutions in the Himalayas :--
 - (i) Leaders of expeditions are required to give a written undertaking of the effect that they shall not damage or destroy any vegetation or burn or allowed to be burnt any juniper or other plants in the areas they visit, that they would carry adequate supply of kerosene or other fuel and

, ensure that the porters accom-

panying them also observe the same conditions, that they shall keep the camp sites clean and bury or burn all the rubbish. The Liaison Officers are asked to ensure compliance of these instructions: , .

- (il) The State Governments have been approached to take punitive action against defaulters specially the poachers, graziers and other trespassers and to black list tourist agencies which do not take adequate care to avoid and prevent pollution :
- (iii) Help is offered to the Indian Expeditions to plant saplings in the areas they visit;
- (iv) Grants are given to organisations engaged in scientific work for the regeneration of plant life and replenishment in the degraded areas ;
- (v) A booklet "While in the Himalava-Do's and Don'ts" containing an appeal to the members of the expeditions to help keep the Himalayas clean is given to all expeditions :
- (vi) Lectures are arranged through the training institutions to educate the trainces and others about mountain environment and ecology and the value of flora and fauna.

The Indian Mountaineering, Foundation fully supported the move to stop mountaineering and trekking expeditions going to the mountains inside the Nanda Devi Sanctuary and the areas has since been closed for a period of 5 years.

> जिन व्यक्तियों की भूमि उद्योगों के लिए भाषगृहीत की गई है उनके परिवारों को रोजगार

2345. भी विलास मुत्तेम्बार: स्या