

its policy of encouraging the exports of reptile skins in view of the opinion expressed by the wildlife experts to the effect that the steady decline in the number of snakes, lizards and crocodiles can have disastrous ecological consequences ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Central Leather Research Institute has made suggestions for the setting up of special farms to breed reptiles to ensure a regular supply of good quality skins for export and at the same time posing no ecological hazards ; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b). The Indian Board for Wild-life at its VII Session held in July, 1969, observed that there had not been any significant change in the status of the species concerned and thus the present policy may continue.

(c) and (d). In the report on Export Potential of Leather and Leather Products, prepared by the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics and Central Leather Research Institute, the following recommendation has been made :

“CLRI should take initiative in establishing forms for raising snakes, lizards, crocodiles and fur bearing animals. We should increase production by 40% by 1973-74.”

The above recommendation was considered in the inter-ministerial meetings held in May, 1970 as a result of which the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Central Leather Research institute Madras, are further considering the feasibility of setting of such projects.

**Loss of Agricultural Lands due to increase in height of Chankapur Dam**

2953. SHRI Z. M. KAHANDOLE : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the

height of the Chankapur Dam in Nasik District of Maharashtra is being increased resulting in the taking away of the agricultural lands of many Adivasi small agriculturists ;

(b) whether he is aware that these poor farmers have not been given any alternative land nor any cash compensation so far, although it is now over three years that the survey was done and over one year that the actual work was started ; and

(c) the action which Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Grant of Import Licence to Bharat Carpets Ltd.**

2954. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4924 on the 2nd September, 1970 regarding grant of import Licences to the Bharat Carpets Ltd. and state :

(a) whether the said information has since been obtained and would be laid on the Table of the House ; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b). The relevant information has been collected from various sources and is being processed. It will be laid on the table of the House at an early date.

**Agreements by F. I. C. C. I. with Arbitral Organisations in eight countries**

2955. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian