

18.04 hrs.

## BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## THIRTIETH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): Sir, I beg to present the Thirtieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Suppose Mr. Ramavtar Shastri, anything is in your name, would you agree to such a situation? He has got a chance and it is not proper to postpone it. It is there in the Agenda. Therefore, I am calling Shri Digvijay Sinh.

18.05 hrs.

## DISCUSSION RE. NEED TO DEVELOP INDIAN OCEAN

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar): Sir, it is the first time that we are raising a discussion on such an important matter comprising so many subjects concerning the Ocean and specially the Indian ocean in which we live. From the various subjects that I have mentioned in my 193 discussion, you will bear with me when I say that it comprises almost all the topics of interest specially those for which perhaps uptill now not much attention has been given. Neither we have paid much attention; nor have we gone into deeper studies in understanding and realising the manifestations of our Ocean. Traditionally an ocean is a vast expanse of either an empty area or an area of vast amount of marine fish resources to be tapped as and when and as much as we like or some of us who may be concerned about the international politics may look at the Ocean from the Defence point of view. But ocean is a living entity. The ocean is a part of this globe. We the living beings of this globe being as much dependent upon the ocean as we are on the land is a concept that perhaps most of us have not really appreciated. It is an endeavour made by this House to read this debate, so that not only we who represent the people of India in this House understand

the importance of the ocean in which we live, but also the media and through the media the whole of the nation appreciates what the ocean stands for. Mind you, Sir, traditionally and mythologically we have all heard of the story of Samundra Manthan, where you had the Devas and the Asuras. The Asuras perhaps mythologically speaking were those who destroyed, polluted and exploited and ransacked the ocean and the Devas were those who tried to conserve it for posterity. So, we do have that tradition, we do have that belief, but in the modern context, unless we rise and appreciate the importance of the oceans, the concept that the oceans are infinite, and will continue, therefore it needs a debate here.

Sir, the Indian Ocean in which we live is one of the most important and one of the largest in the world. We have all around the Indian ocean countries from Africa, South East Asia, West Asia, Australia and Indonesia and of course, India itself. Indonesia, I remember, some years back used to claim the Indian Ocean as the Indonesian Ocean. That is the importance of the Indian Ocean. To the south of the Equator, rather to the south of Africa, you have the whole of the Southern Ocean, which forms an extension of the Indian Ocean. So, the area is vast and when you talk of the Southern Ocean it is a vast untapped mass of unexplored, unexploited resources. I was reading in some Times magazine that today the total exploitation of fish resources in the southern ocean is somewhere around 14 to 15 thousand tonnes. But they say that the whole of Southern Ocean is so rich that in the years to come, we expect to catch something like 60 million tonnes of Krill only. And the Krill itself in the years to come will probably be one of the most important protein source for the whole world. This is the scope of what we are talking about, viz. Indian Ocean.

As we all know, around the continents, we have the continental shelves. And these continental shelves, as far as the marine bio-mass is concerned, are very rich. Maybe in the years to come—it is an exciting thought—there may be qua-

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culture on the continental shelf; and beyond the continental shelf we have the deep sea beds which are too expensive to exploit. But many of us have to realize that it is not the prerogative of those few, i.e. eight developed countries to spend money to mine the deep sea oceans. India has also got the honour, and the great achievement, to have reached into these deep sea beds, where only two years back we very successfully managed to get poly-metallic nodules from the sea. And thereby, India is now a member of that very exclusive club, where there is a programme for spending something like \$ 80 million. Because of the membership of this club, we can also see whether we can use the deep sea ocean to mine poly-metallic nodules.

India is the only country amongst the developing countries to have become a member of this club, which, I think is a great achievement. But let us talk of the ocean from the living resources point of view. There was a very fascinating international conference which took place in California in 1975. And the theme of the conference was 'Dying Seas'; and it was there to focus world attention on what is happening to our seas, only because of our ignorance and neglect. It was a conference where many countries, and almost all the major maritime countries, participated. They went into details of over-exploitation of our fish resources, into the problems of pollution and problems of how we are altering the whole marine biology and the eco-system of the oceans. One of the important outcomes of that conference was an international convention for the prevention of marine pollution by the dumping of waste, and other matters.

When we talk of the exciting future that lies in aqua-culture, I think sky is the limit, not only because India is a big country with a long coastline of 6,000 Kms. but also because it is densely populated and as such, the need for food and protein diet is there. Maybe, projects, are going to be evolved and developed all over the world under which we will probably start with aqua-culture in the shal-

low pans on the coast. Lot of us may or may not realize it. We may think that our prawn and Crustacean resources are unlimited, because we are earning vast amounts of foreign exchange, exporting our prawns. But lot of us do not realize that our export of fish resources of this country is limited only to one species, viz., prawn. We are exporting prawn, prawn and prawn; and that has resulted in exhaustion of our resources. We have Tuna and also pomfret. But up till now, it is nothing else but frustration; and the first State to do it in a big way was Kerala; and I would like some friends from Kerala over here to tell me what the position of the crustaceans is along the Kerala Coast. In the back waters, there are no prawns. I do not know how many kms away — probably you will have to have deep trawlers to get crustaceans of the Coast of Kerala. That is the position of fishing, as far as this species is concerned.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All our Kerala friends are in Kerala now to catch these prawns or votes.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: But that I think is something which is commencing; and I know the experiment along the Coast of Ratnagiri and other parts of India where they have started experiment — even in Gujarat — with the growing prawns. But let us look into the future. We know we are going to find that scientific innovations reached such a stage wherein we will be able to start cultivating; and we all know that the continental shelf, from the biological point of view, is a rich area; and when that takes place, I think we would have gone far ahead in seeing that there would be no shortage of food, no matter what happens to our population; not that I want our population to explode. What I was trying to say was that the resources of the continental shelf are unlimited.

Now, when we talk of the Indian Ocean, let us come closer to hope of the Coast of India. It was as early as 1917 when we started a United Nations Project called Marine Environment Monitoring and Marine Living Resources Assessment Programme; and it was a good

project, a good programme which made very detailed studies, because we cannot take any action whether it is for conservation or whether it is for development, without knowing what the resources are. The first and the primary thing is that we must know what our potentials are. So, this was the beginning. Then it was in 1972, when the world met for the first time in Stockholm under the aegis of the United Nations called the United Nations Conference For Human Environment where we also went into great details, discussing the scope of the Ocean; and we in India also picked up the thread from there and we made a number of very useful studies; and amongst them were those which went into ascertaining about it. We have got very good institutions in this country; whether they are in Bombay; whether they are in Goa; whether they are in Mandapam to go into these details of monitoring both the marine resources of the sea as well as pollution.

The latest report says that along our oil routes we all know that the Arabian Sea which is part of the Indian Ocean is one of the most frequented water masses in the world for oil tanker; and the assessment we made over there is something like 3,700 tonnes of oil slick and 1,100 tonnes of petroleum residuals are deposited annually and about 4 million tonnes of dissolved and dispersed petroleum hydrocarbons have been estimated in the upper 20 metres of the Arabian Sea.

There is something which we may consider to be remote. Considering the importance of the ocean in our life and planning, this is something worth considering. It needs monitoring. And monitoring of non-toxic metals is something which we must carry out very soon. They have discovered mercury, lead, copper, iron, manganese, zink, cobalt, nickel and even arsenic in some areas in alarming proportions, specially in estuaries like Thana creek, which is the very worst perhaps. The Thana creek is an area which you, perhaps, would like to wash your

hands of because there it is not only chemical pollution but also biological pollution that pours into that area. In India, we have something like 175 million people out of the total population of 680 million that live on the coasts. We in public life know how well our Water Pollution Control Boards function. And all this affluent, whether it is human or industrial, goes straight to the sea and sea is considered to be a natural refuse or dumping bin where you have to throw this. Nowhere you have raised a debate either in this House or in the Assemblies or elsewhere that something must be done to process this refuse before it is dumped into the ocean. This is what we discussed in the Conference on Dying Seas. This is what we should be fully knowledgeable about. I am happy to say that in the last five years there has been some awareness starting with the marine environment protection falling under the Directive Principles of the Constitution. In the Sixth Five Year Plan we have given some importance to the oceans and to the conservation of the oceans. But when I looked at the Demand for the current year as well as for the Sixth Five Year Plan, the total amount allocated for ocean development with all its importance, was Rs 13.10 crores out of which the research vessel itself took the major amount and then one very successful operation that we did of collecting poly-metallic nodules, took the large chunk of the Budget. I think, both these projects were very good projects. They should be even repeated. But all this basic data collection through institutions and research projects is imperative. If you want to understand what the oceans are, we need to re-enforce this Department manyfold. We have these institutions. We have the fisheries and oceanography research institutions and marine research development institutions. We have provided funds for that. But maybe because of lack of support from this House or elsewhere, they have been languishing. Much more support needs to be given.

It was only last year that the new Department for Ocean Development was created.



[Shri Digvijay Singh]

A new Department for Ocean Development is created and I think that was a step in the right direction. But can you imagine that when you are talking of the whole ocean you have a little Department dealing with the ocean? Ocean is not just the effective economic zone which has 200 nautical miles all along the sea, but we are talking about the Indian Ocean and we have a puny, little department which deals with it and I think that with a little support and awareness on our part and on the part of the Government this Department will soon have to become a Ministry and there should be three full-fledged departments looking after various aspects of the Ministry.

My suggestion is that the first thing we need to do is to lay down a national marine policy. But we have not done it, I dare say. Many countries in this world do not have a national marine policy. But that does not mean that we should not have it. We should evolve one very soon and I would suggest that the main thrust of this national marine policy would be in these various important sections. One would be in the field of fishing operations. Specially when you talk of the existing provision, you have to take into consideration the fishing operations that are existing and they need to be developed in future. Do you know, Sir, that we have no legislation today regulating our fishing operations? Neither for the seas nor even for our fresh water fish in the mainland if our country we have rules or regulations. There are some — I am talking of the fishing resources of the land—archaists of by — gone British days on fishing or whatever it is, but no model scientific legislation for exploitation and conservation of fish resources is there. That is the first thing. If you want that, first of all you have to lay down a national marine policy. Then you need to have a policy on shipping. We have a Ministry of Shipping, but there is no policy. Then, we all know the importance of the natural resources that we are already tapping from the sea which are mainly in the form of oil. Let us not talk of the future, but let us talk of oil today. There is today no real policy, nor

is there any legislation on our oil and natural gas in the oceans.

Sir, we have a 200 nautical mile effective economic zone all along the country. And in this effective economic zone we have up till now developed nothing to chart it. Some time back I was talking to some of those people who run trawlers and they were telling me that if you want to get a good map to start your trawling operations you may have to go to Tokyo because Japan has got the maps of the whole world, but we in India do not make them nor do we have. And the first thing we need to do is to chart our effective economic zone. What is the use of effective economic zone when we do not know what it contains either mineralogy or resource-wise or whatever it is? The first thing we must do is to chart — that is a massive operation and that must be done immediately — both the living and the non-living resources. We need to chart and know more coral areas. Some of the best coral areas in this country are, of course, today luckily in Andamans and in Lakshadweep and Nicobar. They are fairly well-protected because there are no industrial operations there.

I know for certain that in my area of Gujarat there used to be corals along the coast of Jamnagar. Corals are not only one of the most beautiful manifestations of nature with great scientific and tourist potentialities but they are very important for the ecological system in preserving the coastline from being eroded and for preserving the whole ecological system. These corals were being taken away to feed the cement factories. This is what is happening. Unless something is done by way of formulating our national marine policy as well as promulgating legislation, these things are not going to stop.

I am happy to say that I asked a Question sometime back on the 26th April, and the reply came on what the Government has done to evaluate the route and migration of fish and crustaceans resources in our economic zone. Some rudimentary surveys have been done.



Surveys of mid-water fishery conducted by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute have taken place.

So I do not say that there is no scientific data available or that there has been no research done on this. But, we are hopelessly lagging behind and if we consider our effective economic zone as a very vital area for the future development of the entire nation, well, then I think we need to know much more about it and much more of what we can obtain from it.

When we talk of the conservation of the oceans, we must look also at it from the siltation point of view. You look at the map of the oceans and you will find that in all the Delta areas, specially the Bay of Bengal areas, millions of years of silt deposited there. Now, that may have happened in geological time. But to prevent it from speeding and from accelerating, we must sincerely be very concerned about conserving our soil.

I remember raising a debate on the 11th August, 1980, under the title of 'Rape of Mother Earth' when we discussed about what is happening on the coast of Bay of Bengal. We did not know and a satellite photograph gave us an imagery of islands that are in the Bay of Bengal out of a silt that is floating down the Ganga and the Brahmaputra. That is happening all over India, along the coast and if you want our ocean to be kept in a relatively pristine condition, we have to be very very concerned about that soil.

I will not take very much more of your time. Some Hon. Members would like to elaborate and speak on the subject but I would like to say that the Antarctic expedition which took place early this year was a feather in our cap because as I said earlier the Antarctica is surrounded by an ocean which has unlimited potentialities and which is an extension of our own Indian Ocean. It is an extension of our own India Ocean.

As far as oceans are concerned, meteorology is also a very important aspect. Any country, or any society is entirely

dependent on agriculture. Agriculture, in fact life itself, is very much dependent on precipitation and specially when you have a system which is the monsoon system. The monsoon system can be effective if you disturb the marine ecology of the oceans. A very important survey was done under the heading of MONEX in 1979, where in all the countries of the Indian Ocean participated, the monsoon experiment of finding out how the monsoons behave and the origin of the monsoons. I think, it gave us, it threw back a lot of data, although we had to spend much, about Rs 50 crores, over it; the data is still being processed and collected, and I think, that will be very useful. But for these various world organisations like the World Climate Programme and the World Meteorological Organisation, most of the research done is in the oceans because water vapour is formed by the ocean and, therefore, the study of oceans is imperative and disturbing the marine ecology is fateful. So, that is something which we should go more and more into and understand more about climate.

I would like to say that, if we want really to develop our oceans, we need to invest much on vessels of all kinds; there have to be research vessels, there have to be geo-technical vessels, seismic vessels, vessels for oil exploration and, lastly, coast guards. I remember asking a question in the House in 1980 about coast guards because we read about Thai trawlers and Japanese trawlers poaching in our effective economic zone and we did not even have the vessels to catch them.

One of the aspects of this debate is defence in depth, and when we are talking of defence in depth, let us first talk of defence in our effective economic zone. Charity begins at home. Therefore, let us at least man our effective economic zone with adequate coast guard vessels. About defence in depth, which is more geo-politic, I think, the sky is the limit as far as debate is concerned, but all I would say now is this. We may talk of Diego Garcia, but I hope, many of us also know that we have a very narrow neck of sea connecting the Pigmalion point which is the southernmost of tip of India. The

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southernmost tip of India is not Kanyakumari — my friends from Tamil Nadu should know — but the Pigmalion point which is the southernmost tip of the Great Nicobars and the northernmost tip of Sumatra. Through these two tips passes one of the major seafaring traffic in the world and we have this strategic point. Of course, we are going to man it. We have started developing that area, that point. But I think that will be one of the most strategic points in the world. When we are talking of defence in depth, I think, we should think more of preparedness and stronger defence at that point.

Talking about all this, I think, it opens up the whole field, the whole avenue of subjects that we can be apprised about or concerned about, and I am sure that the Members of this august House will give their valued opinion.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now I call Mr Ajoy Biswas.

Before that, there are about 7 to 8 members who want to speak. I want everybody should get the chance. So, I request the members to be brief.

Mr Ajoy Biswas.

SHRI AJAY BISWAS (Tripura West): Mr Digvijay Singh has initiated this important discussion on the need to develop the Indian Ocean in different aspects. This is a very important issue. It includes charting of the fish and mineral resources. It includes national defence in depth.

This vast expanse of waterway offers three specific values — economic, utility and political. It has enormous quantities of oil, minerals and fish which, if properly tapped, can give a tremendous boost to the economy of not only India but all the littoral countries. This waterway covers 50 million and nine square kilometres. About 60 countries are involved and have a direct interest in the Indian Ocean. The political control of the Indian Ocean will give an unprecedented fillip in international relations and its potential is unlimited.

Mr Digvijay Singh has raised some very relevant points as to how to exploit the ocean. The main thing is to acquire the technology, the ocean technology. But it is very regrettable that India is not actually attaching more importance to the subject. Only Rs 13 crores have been provided in the Budget. What has been happening in the past decade is that certain developed nations have been bartering the technology in return for the ocean resources of the developing countries in the region. Such barterers are for deep water ports, oil rigs, floating stations and fishing trawlers. You will remember that there was a discussion in the House about drilling in the off-shore. Our government tried to engage a multinational for the drilling activities in the off-shore. They made a certain demand. What was the demand? I do not know whether the Government has conceded to it or not. The demand was for a share of the oil. Till now the Government has not clearly stated what is the real agreement with the multi-national.

So, the developed countries are actually possessing the upto-date technology of the ocean and their experts are in the developing countries not only India but also in other developing countries of the world.

We have to consider how the Indian ocean could be harnessed strategically to our advantage. Very important and relevant issue is this: whether Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace or war. Is it not possible for any country to exploit the resources peacefully? So, at least one thing should be done to declare Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

Sir, the U.S.A. has refused to accept the U.N. General Assembly Resolution of 1961 declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. What the U.S.A. is doing in the Indian Ocean is this. It has its nuclear force there. We are very much concerned about it. We also feel that the Imperialist is doing in this zone. In the Indian Ocean itself, the U.S.A. has permanently stationed large naval force consisting of two carrier task forces (nearly 20 combat ships) of the 6th and 7th

fleets. These war ships have 170 aircraft of which 80 carry nuclear weapons and are especially designed to carry out combat operations. The U.S. defence budget allocation for the expansion of Diego Garcia base is 700 million dollars in 1981 and 1982 budget provides for expanded port facilities for U.S. Navy which they will construct there.

Another point is this. According to the American official, in the next few years, it is planned to spend tens of millions of dollars on expanding the base so that it could receive without hindrance atomic-powered aircraft carriers, big submarines with nuclear weapons on board, and B-52 strategic bombers carrying nuclear weapons, and to station ships — floating depots with tank and ammunition for 12,000 landing troops of the 'rapid development force'. These are the designs of the American Imperialists. I would request the Government to do one thing. Already there is a move to call a meeting in Colombo of all the countries so that Indian Ocean can be declared a zone of peace. But, the American Imperialists are actually creating the trouble. When we see all the aspects, we shall also see the designs of American imperialist forces.

\*SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN (Karur): Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my hon. friend, Shri Digvijay Singh has drawn the attention of the House to the imperative necessity for the development of ocean around the country and the exploitation of enormous wealth embedded in the ocean. He has made valuable suggestions in this regard and in support of his pleas I would like to say a few words.

Recently our scientists have got to their credit a remarkable feat in Antarctica. They have found out many useful scientific truths. It is really a marvellous and monumental effort on the part of our scientists. As the Department of Science had enthused our scientists in this field, similarly here also the Department should lay great emphasis for the ocean development.

From our ocean we are catching per day only 10,000 tonnes fish—annually 36 lakh tonnes of fish. The marine wealth in our seas is reported to be of the order of more than a lakh tonnes. We have not endeavoured to exploit this wealth so far. We have achieved self-sufficiency in food-grains production by reaching a target of more than 130 million tonnes. We should make such efforts in augmenting our fish production. It is said that two-thirds of marine wealth of the world is in our seas. This vast potential has remained so far unutilised. A small country like Thailand, smaller than our Andaman and Nicobar Islands, has more than 3000 mechanised trawlers for all the 9000 kilometres of our coastline. The foreign exchange earning of Japan though the export of fish is the highest in the total export earnings. But in our country the export of marine wealth is declining. In 1979 we exported fish worth Rs. 24.94 crores. The quantum was 76,600 metric tonnes. In 1980 it came down to Rs. 22.37 crores. The quantum of export was 76,000 metric tonnes. The export came down by 600 tonnes. Instead of developing our fish export, we are showing declining trend year after year. This should be gone into carefully. This is an indication how the ocean wealth is being neglected.

We have the Shipping Development Fund Committee with enormous amounts, which have not been put to use at all. There are Fisheries Corporations in the States. In Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu there are Fisheries Corporations, whose primary duty is to procure fishing trawlers and supply them to the fishermen who can augment their catch. These Fisheries Corporation are dormant. The S.D.F.C. should re-activate them by offering financial assistance for the purchase of trawlers. The Centre should issue directives to the S.D.F.C. regarding better management of the funds.

I also demand the constitution of an Ocean Development Corporation with powers to function purposefully in this field. A law should also be enacted to

\*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.



[Shri S. A. Dorai Sebastian]

regularise fishing in our seas. Presently there is no law at all, as has been pointed out by my hon. friend, who moved this motion. The hon. Minister should do the needful in this regard.

We have 200 nautical miles of economic zone. Have we really demarcated this zone? The answer is in the negative. What is the security arrangement made for this area? It is really negligible. The Coast Guards organisation has got only 3 patrolling vessels for the entire 9000 kilometres of our coastline. There is no depth in our defence. It has become common knowledge that Diego Garcia has become the storehouse of all modern and the sophisticated weaponry of all U.S.A. What is our defence strategy? We have not got adequate number of war ships in our Navy. Instead of becoming a vast productive area, the Indian ocean has become a prospective theatre of war. During Bangla Desh liberation war, Russia came to our rescue. Otherwise, we would have had to face a hopeless position in the ocean. Attention should be paid to the defence of our seas. The Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Shipping and the Department of Science and Technology should work in unison and coordination in this respect so that we are able to secure our seas, besides exploiting the hidden wealth in the seas. Recently only 8 mechanised boats of Thailand were captured by our Navy in the Bay of Bengal and they are lying in Port Blair now. We do not know whether they came for fishing or for spying. In the present environment of mutual suspicion among the big countries, one begins to doubt the possibility of spying efforts being encouraged by these big nations. I refer to this because it is very necessary to safeguard the strategic points in our seas, as has been ably put forth by the hon. Mover.

In Palk Straits two experimental wells have poured forth oil. It is expected that daily production in these wells will be of the order of 10,000 barrels. In Gujarat, in Maharashtra and in other coastal off-shore areas we are exploiting the oil resources successfully. We are producing

nearly 17 million tonnes of oil in our off-shore wells. Intensive efforts should be made for the commercial exploitation of oil found in Palk Straits and in Cauvery Delta.

Besides this, our ocean is rich in valuable materials like Uranium, Silicon, Mica etc. In Kerala coast uranium is available in abundance. We have not been able to exploit this wealth successfully. This should receive greater attention in the hands of our Scientists and technologists. Similarly, many countries have succeeded in generating electricity from tidal waves. We had also a scheme to generate electricity from tidal waves. I do not know whether we have succeeded in this effort. If we are able to produce power from tidal waves, the cost of production will be cheaper than that of thermal and hydel systems of generation. We will be getting over their recurring power scarcity also. The Department of Science should pay attention in this matter also. Coming now to the problem of industrial effluents and chemical wastes, our seas have really become the centres of water pollution. The insanitary conditions created by such heavy pollution for those more than 17 crores of people living on the coasts cannot be described in such a brief period. This should be looked into immediately so that the scourge of pollution is eradicated.

Before I conclude, I would refer to Sethusamudram Canal Project, about which our hon. Minister of Shipping also spoke today. If a ship from Cochin is to come to Madras it has to cover 600 nautical miles more by circumbulating Sri Lanka. You can imagine the cost of petrol consumption. If this Sethusamudram Canal project comes into being, besides saving 600 nautical miles, 1 1/2 days would be saved in transit. We can levy some cess for foreign ships which are to cross this canal. We will be able to recover the investment of Rs. 60 crores or Rs. 100 crores made in this canal within 10 years from such a cess on foreign ships. This scheme should be implemented as early as possible. With these words I conclude.

19.00 hrs.

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह (फिरोजाबाद) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, बड़े महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर चर्चा चल रही है। मैं चन्द मुद्दों पर ही मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। एक तो यह कि सारी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्थिति के अन्दर समुद्र का बड़ा महत्व है। आपकी जानकारी के लिये 15 प्रतिशत प्रोटीन जो है, जो ऐनीमल प्रोटीन हम पाते हैं वह समुद्र से मिलता है। 20 प्रतिशत तेल। लेकिन मिनरल रा मैटीरियल की जहाँ तक बात है वह अभी तक 2 प्रतिशत ही उपलब्ध कर पा रहे हैं। सारी बिग पावर्स में होड़ लग गई है कैसे और ज्यादा दोहन किया जाय। और जो पाइनियर स्टेट्स थीं उन्होंने उसमें पहल शुरू कर दी। यह सौभाग्य की बात है कि भारत ने भी एक प्रयास किया। लेकिन एक बात गौर करनी चाहिये, आपने देखा होगा बीच में ला आफ सीज़ कानफरेंस हुई उसमें जो मुद्दे सामने आये वह विचारणीय हैं, क्योंकि अब इंडियन ओशन की बात है। अभी तक पेसिफिक ओशन पर बात चलती रही।

माननीय सदस्य ने डिफेंस, मिनरल रिसोर्सेज और फिशरीज के बारे में कहा है इंडियन ओशन की स्थिति खास तौर से क्या है भारतीय तट के करीब ?

The seabed per sq. km. in India's continental shelf is likely to yield about 12,000 tonnes of manganese, 800 tonnes of aluminium, 920 tonnes of cadmium, 680 tonnes of iron, 160 tonnes of cobalt, 480 tonnes of nickel and 260 tonnes of copper. There are also about 220 million tonnes of off-shore oil reserves and 130,000 million cubic metres of gas.

इसके बाद भी 15 मिलियन टन मछलियां जो कि भारतीय समुद्र तट से 50 मील की दूरी पर मिल जाती हैं उसमें से 2 मिलियन टन मछलियां ही प्राप्त करते हैं उसमें से 1 मिलियन टन भारतवर्ष का हिस्सा है। बाकी को कौन ले जाते हैं ? इसके बारे में थोड़ी सी जानकारी है। यह सारे फौरन बैसल्स ले कर

आते हैं और चोरी छिपे इंडियन वाटर्स में से ले जाते हैं। यहां भी इस बारे में चर्चा हुई है कि भारतीय पानी के अन्दर आ कर मछलियों को विदेशी ले जाते हैं। यह गम्भीर विषय है। डिफेंस की बात मैं आगे करूंगा। जब हमारे वाटर्स में आ कर मछलियां ले जाते हैं तो एक बार कोस्ट गार्ड के बारे में बात आयी थी कि उसको बढ़ाना चाहिये और खास तरीके से भारतीय पानी में जो मछलियां मार रहे हैं ऐसे लोगों को रोकना चाहिये। इसका प्रयास तो शुरू कर दिया है।

जहां तक मिनरल्स की बात है, माइनिंग की बात इसलिये कह रहा हूँ कि एक क्लब बन गया है बड़ी पावर्स का और उस क्लब के पीछे एक और भी है, उसमें दो बड़ी बिग पावर्स हैं—यू० एस० ए०, सोवियट यूनियन—इसके आलावा जापान और फ्रांस। आपने जो तकनीकी बात की है, टेकनालाजी लेने की बात बीच में चली मल्टी-नेशनल्स कुछ पैसा लगाना चाहते हैं। टेकनालाजी के बारे में कोई साफ बात नहीं हुई। यदि जरूरत है तो विदेशों से ज्ञान प्राप्त किया जाना चाहिये, उसमें कोई एतराज नहीं है। जैसे हमारे यहां नौडल्स मिले हैं ओशन में 3,000 से 5,000 मीटर की गहराई में मिले हैं। उसके बारे में जो आपने रिसर्च की है उसके मुताबिक देखा जाय तो कौपर, मैंगनीज भी है। तो आपका ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है कि... हमें किस चीज़ से, कहां इसकी खोज करने से ज्यादा उपलब्धि होगी। इसके लिये तकनीकी ज्ञान अर्जन करने की बात है, उसमें आप को एक नीति निर्धारित करनी होगी। उसी नीति के अन्तर्गत राष्ट्र हित को ज्यादा देखना होगा। अगर नहीं देखेंगे तो जो सारा कुछ चल रहा है, नहीं हो पायेगा।

साथ ही साथ बाइलोजीकल : एकटीविटीज के बारे में जो नौड्यूल्स हमें इंडियन ओशन में मिले हैं वह 3 से 5 हजार मीटर की डैथ में हैं। उसके बाद जो ऊपर बाइलोजीकल एकटीविटीज चल रही हैं, जीवि उत्पादन ऊपर हो रहा है, आप ऐसा कुछ भी न करें,

[श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह]

ज्यादा एक्सप्लायट न करें, यदि ऐसा कुछ प्रयास करते हैं तो उस पर गंभीरता से विचार होना चाहिये कि ऊपर के जीव सुरक्षित बने रहें नहीं तो सारी फिशरीज मर जायेंगी। कुछ एडवान्टेज कंटीज के लोगों ने पैसेफिक ओशन में किया है। हमें यह प्रयास करना चाहिये। अगर हम उनसे तकनीकी ज्ञान प्राप्त कर सकते हैं तो करें, कोई भी नेशन हो। मैं किसी ब्लाक या पार्टी वाली बात में नहीं जाना चाहता हूं, हमें ज्ञान अर्जित करना चाहिये। हमारे यहां रिसर्च के मामले में भी जो कुछ होना चाहिये, वह बड़े पैमाने पर नहीं हो रहा है। उसके लिये एलोकेशन आफ फंड्स के बारे में सरकार को उदारता बरतनी चाहिये, क्योंकि विश्व की आबादी बढ़ रही है, हिन्दुस्तान बहुत बड़ी आबादी वाला मुल्क है। इसके लिये दोनों चीजों की आवश्यकता पड़ेगी, खाद्य की भी जरूरत पड़ेगी और चीजों, कापर, आयरन की भी जरूरत पड़ेगी। हमें इन सारी चीजों को मटेनजर रखना पड़ेगा। अगर आपने इन सारी चीजों के माध्यम से अपने हित करने का प्रयास किया तो प्रगति होगी।

जहां तक इन्टरनेशनल या डिफेन्स वाली बात है, भारत ने ईक्वी-डिस्टेंस की थ्योरी पर विश्वास किया है। लेकिन उस पर कितना अमल किया है, इसमें सन्देह-सांगता है। डिएंगोगासिया के मामले में भी वही थ्योरी होनी चाहिये। और भी किसी मुल्क के मामले में भी वही थ्योरी होनी चाहिये, वही सिद्धान्त होना चाहिये। क्योंकि अगर वह बड़ी पावर्स, बड़े राष्ट्र भारतीय ओशन, हिन्द महासागर में आकर अपनी गतिविधियां बढ़ायेंगे तो निश्चित रूप से पूरे गल्फ कंटीज में होगा क्योंकि यह ईस्टर्न, वैस्टर्न में और वैस्ट के जो रिसोर्सेज मार्केटिंग के है, उस पर कंट्रोल करने का एक तरीका है। यह सारा बहुत पापूलेटेड इलाका है। इसलिये यह प्रयास भी बड़ी पावर्स के हमेशा चलते रहे हैं कि यहां प्रत्यक्ष-अप्रत्यक्ष वह अपना आधिपत्य जमा रहे हैं। हम जब

रिसोर्सेज का एक्सप्लायटेशन करेंगे, समुद्र से दोहन करेंगे तो निश्चित रूप से इनका प्रभाव हमारे ऊपर पड़ेगा क्योंकि वहां तनाव रहेगा।

पं० जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने एक बार 1948 में इस बारे में साफ कहा था कि हमें दोनों ग्रुप्स की पालिटिक्स से दूर रहना चाहिये। अगर नहीं रहते हैं तो कहीं न कहीं हम इन्वाल्व हो जायेंगे। पं० जवाहर लाल जी ने जब यह कहा तो मेरे ख्याल में उनके अनुयायी तो इस पर जरूर अमल करते होंगे, या करेंगे।

1971 के डिक्लेयरेशन की बात आई। उसमें साफ कहा गया है कि कोई भी राष्ट्र मिलेट्री फोर्सेज का यूज नहीं करेगा। इंडियन ओशन जोन आफ पीस डिक्लेयर कर दिया गया। इसके बाद भी एकटीविटज चल रही हैं, भारत को इस मामले में बोलडली चलना चाहिये। हमें बोलडली कहना चाहिये कि हम किसी कीमत पर यह बर्दाश्त नहीं करेंगे। साथ ही साथ भारत का प्रयास होना चाहिये कि जो ग्रुप बन गया है, क्लब बन गया है बड़े राष्ट्रों का, समुद्र दोहन की प्रक्रिया में, जो यह चाहते हैं कि रायल्टी हमको पहले दी जाये, मुविधा पहले हमको दी जाये, आपको भी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय लाबी तैयार करनी पड़ेगी जो उनके खिलाफ कम-से-कम अपने सही आधिकारों जो विकसित देश हैं, या विकसित होने जा रहे हैं, उनको अपने हिस्से का सही शेयर मिल सके। इस नीति को साफ शब्दों में अपनाना पड़ेगा।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री (पटना) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस संकल्प को पेश करने वाले श्री दिग्विजय सिंह जी को मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने बड़े ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल को सदन के सामने पेश किया है। इन तमाम बातों की तरफ हमारे देश की नजर लगी हुई है। इस संकल्प में जिन मुद्दों



का जित्न किया गया है, चाहे वह मछली मारने का सवाल हो, तेल निकालने का सवाल हो, खनिज पदार्थों के दोहन का सवाल हो, जमी हुई रेत को हटाने का सवाल हो या हिन्द महासागर को राष्ट्रीय सम्पदा के रूप में विकसित करने का सवाल हो, वे तमाम सवाल एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल से जुड़े हुए हैं, और वह सवाल यह है कि क्या हिन्द महासागर शान्ति का क्षेत्र रहता है या अशान्ति का क्षेत्र रहता है। अगर वहां शान्ति की स्थिति कायम नहीं रहेगी, तो जाहिर है कि जितना लाभ हम इस महासागर से उठाना चाहते हैं, वह नहीं उठा सकेंगे। इस लिए मैं सिर्फ एक ही बात की तरफ सदन का और आपके जरिए सरकार का ध्यान खींचना चाहूंगा।

हिन्द महासागर को शान्ति का क्षेत्र बनाया जाए, इसके बारे में 11 साल पहले 1971 में संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ ने एक प्रस्ताव पास किया। अमरीका आज तक प्रस्ताव को मानने से इन्कार कर रहा है। सोवियत यूनियन तथा दूसरे देश, जो शान्ति की नीति में विश्वास करते हैं, साम्राज्यवाद-विरोधी हैं, दूसरे मुल्कों की आजादी के समर्थक हैं और उनके आन्दोलनों का साथ देते हैं, इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करते हैं। लेकिन अमरीका ने उसे स्वीकार नहीं किया है, जो सब से गम्भीर बात है। इसके बजाय वह उस क्षेत्र में तनाव की स्थिति पैदा करने, आणविक अड़डे कायम करने और अस्त्र-शस्त्रों की होड़ चालू करने की नीति में विश्वास करता है। क्यों?—इसलिए कि अमरीका चाहता है कि पूरे हिन्द महासागर पर उसका आर्थिक दबदबा कायम रहे, ताकि वह उसका ज्यादा से ज्यादा शोषण कर के लाभ उठा सके। इस में उसका आर्थिक स्वार्थ सन्निहित है।

माननीय सदस्य ने ग्रीक कहा है कि भारत सरकार को इस बारे में सख्त रुख अपनाना चाहिए। अगर हम ऐसा नहीं करेंगे, तो अमरीका हिन्द महासागर का इस्तेमाल कर के तटवर्ती देशों पर दबाव डालेगा और हमारी वैदेशिक नीति—गुट-निरपेक्षता की नीति आजादी के आन्दोलनों का समर्थन करने की नीति, शान्ति की नीति—को कमजोर करना चाहेगा। उसका मकसद यही है कि हमारे चारों तरफ हिन्द महासागर क्षेत्र के देशों पर वह अपना असर जमाए।

ऐसी स्थिति में हमारी आजादी और प्रभुसत्ता के लिए खतरा पैदा होता है। इस खतरे के प्रति हमें सजग रहना होगा और प्रयास करना होगा कि हम हिन्द महासागर के क्षेत्र को सचमुच शान्ति का क्षेत्र बनाएं। इसी उद्देश्य से अभी 23 से 25 अप्रैल तक दिल्ली में विज्ञान भवन में हिन्द महासागर को शान्ति का क्षेत्र बनाने के लिए एक विश्व सम्मेलन आयोजित किया गया, जिस में 60 देशों से प्रतिनिधि, दुनिया की युद्ध-विरोधी और शान्ति-पक्षी शक्तियों के संगठनों के 125 प्रतिनिधि और हमारे देश के कई दलों के बड़े बड़े नेता शामिल हुए। और उस सम्मेलन की सफलता के लिए सोवियत यूनियन के राष्ट्रपति और हिन्दुस्तान की प्रधान मंत्री ने सन्देश भेजे कि यह सम्मेलन सफल हो क्योंकि सम्मेलन का मुख्य उद्देश्य हिन्द महासागर को शान्ति का क्षेत्र बनाने का आन्दोलन चलाना है। 6-7 संगठनों ने मिल कर इस सम्मेलन का आयोजित किया जैसे विश्व शान्ति परिषद्, वर्ल्ड फेडरेशन आफ ट्रेड यूनियन्स, वर्ल्ड फेडरेशन आफ डिमोक्रेटिक यूथ, इन्टर-नेशनल यूनियन आफ स्टूडेंट्स, वीमेन्स इन्टरनेशनल डिमोक्रेटिक फेडरेशन तथा एफ्रो एशियन पीपुल्स सालिडेरिटी आर्गनाइजेशन। इन्होंने

## [डी रामावतार शास्त्री]

इसका आयोजन किया। यह बड़ा ही शानदार सम्मेलन हुआ। इसके स्वागताध्यक्ष प्रो० रशीदुद्दीन खां थे। उन्होंने इस सम्मेलन को ऐतिहासिक बताया। इस में बताया गया कि युद्ध का खतरा बड़ी तेजी के साथ बढ़ रहा है जिस के अलंवरदार साम्राज्यवादी अमरीका और उनके पिछलगू अन्य साम्राज्यवादी देश हैं। वे युद्ध का खतरा पैदा कर रहे हैं। पाकिस्तान को ज्यादा से ज्यादा हथियारबन्द कर रहे हैं और हमारे मुल्क को चारों तरफ से घेरने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने पाकिस्तान को तीस लाख डालर के हथियार दिए हैं, आधुनिक से आधुनिक हथियार और इस प्रकार से बड़े पैमाने पर युद्ध की तैयारी की जा रही है। अगर कल को युद्ध होता है तो एटम बम और हाइड्रोजन बम पीछे रह जायेंगे, न्यूट्रान बम सामने आयेंगे जिस में इमारतें तो खड़ी रहेंगी लेकिन उन में रहने वाला कोई इन्सान जिन्दा नहीं रह जाएगा। यह कितना बड़ा युद्ध का खतरा है जिसकी एक मात्र जवाबदेही अमरीकी साम्राज्यवाद की है। अमरीकी साम्राज्यवाद की युद्ध फैलाने की जो नीति है और हिन्द महासागर पर कब्जा जमाने की जो नीति है उसके खिलाफ हमें कुछ करना चाहिए। तमाम लोग जो वहां पर इकट्ठा हुए, जिसका कि मैंने जिक्र किया है, उसके वावजूद मुझे अफसोस है कि सरकार और हमारे देश के कुछ दल सोवियत यूनियन, जिसने कि बार बार हमारी आजादी का समर्थन किया, जिस ने आर्थिक प्रगति में हमारी मदद की, जिस ने कश्मीर, गोवा को आजाद करने में हिन्दुस्तान की बार बार सहायता की और आज भी बड़े बड़े कारखाने बनाकर हमारे देश को आत्मनिर्भर बना रहा है उस सोवियत रूस और अमरीका,

जिस की नीति आप जानते हैं बंगला देश से पहले जब पूर्वी पाकिस्तान में पाकिस्तानी तानाशाह के खिलाफ आन्दोलन चल रहा था उस समय सातवां बेड़ा भेजने वाले अमरीका के खिलाफ सोवियत रूस ने कहा था कि हमारा भी बेड़ा जाएगा, इस तरह से अमरीका हिन्दुस्तान को डरा-धमका कर अपनी तरफ नहीं ला सकता है, उस आड़े समय पर सोवियत यूनियन और दूसरे समाजवादी मुल्कों ने, शान्ति में विश्वास करने वाले राष्ट्रों ने इस देश की मदद की थी, उस सोवियत यूनियन और अमरीका को आप एक ही तराजू पर रखते हैं यह कह कर के यह दोनों विश्व की बड़ी शक्तियां हैं लेकिन क्या इन दोनों की भूमिका एक ही है? मुझे बताया जाए कि आज हिन्द महासागर में एक भी अड्डा सोवियत यूनियन का है? डिएगो गार्सिया में किसका अड्डा है? अमरीकी साम्राज्यवाद का अड्डा है। लेकिन अफसोस है कि सरकार अभी भी एक ही तुला पर दोनों को तोल रही है। उस में अपने दोस्त और दुश्मन को पहचानने की शक्ति अभी पैदा नहीं हुई है। लेकिन अब इसको उसे छोड़ना होगा दोस्त को दोस्त कहना होगा और दुश्मन को दुश्मन कहना होगा और दुश्मन के साथ दुश्मन की तरह से निपटना भी होगा। अगर आप ऐसा नहीं करेंगे तो जाहिर है हमारा काम नहीं चलेगा। 23 से 25 तक हुए सम्मेलन जिसका मैंने जिक्र किया है, उसने सब से बड़ी मांग यह की कि हिन्द महासागर से अमरीका अड्डे समाप्त किए जायें क्योंकि वहां पर उसी के अड्डे हैं, किसी दूसरे के अड्डे नहीं हैं। कोई भी अड्डा हिन्द महासागर में नहीं रहना चाहिए। अगर अड्डे रहेगे तो जाहिर बात है कि तनाव की स्थिति पैदा होगी, तनाव

शैथिल्य नहीं होगा बल्कि तनाव बड़ेगा। तो इस बात को ध्यान में रखना चाहिए और इस तरह से एक व्यापक आन्दोलन विकसित करना चाहिए। इस तरह से जो शान्ति का जोन रखने में विश्वास करते हैं जो शान्ति में विश्वास करते हैं उन को ज़रूरत बन्द करना चाहिए। सैन्यीकरण की नीति को मैं एक आक्रामक नीति मानता हूँ और जो देश अस्त्र-शस्त्र की होड़ में आगे जाता है, जाहिर बात है कि वह युद्ध चाहता है। उसकी नीति युद्ध की परिचायक नीति है और इस तरह की नीति से पूरी दुनिया को खतरा है, सम्पूर्ण उप-महाद्वीप को खतरा है, दक्षिण एशिया और दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया की सुरक्षा को खतरा है और हमारे देश की आजादी को खतरा है। इसलिए सम्मेलन ने क्या घोषणा की थी, उस की तरफ़ मैं आपका ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ।

“विश्व की सभी शान्तिप्रिय ताकतें उस पूरे क्षेत्र को शान्ति क्षेत्र बनाने और हिन्द महासागर क्षेत्र से सभी साम्राज्यवादी प्रौजी अड़डे समाप्त करने के लिए विश्व व्यापी जनमत तैयार करने का अपना प्रयास और तेज कर दें।”

इसी सिलसिले में मैं एक और बात का जिक्र करना उचित समझता हूँ। एक समाजवादी देश चीन की नीति दूसरे समाजवादी मुल्क रूस या युद्ध विरोधी शक्तियों का साथ देने की न होकर अमरीकी साम्राज्यवादी देश का साथ देने की, उस के पीछे चलने की और उसके तरीकों का समर्थन करने की जो है, वह सही नहीं है। प्रयास यह होना चाहिए कि वह समाजवादी ताकतों के साथ मिल कर, विश्व में शान्ति खाने के लिए और हिन्द महासागर को

शान्ति का क्षेत्र बनाने वाले आन्दोलन में शामिल हो।

एक और आखिरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: With regard to the Indian Ocean, the policy of the Government of India is the same as the policy of the Soviet Union. But you did not mention the name of India.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I have just mentioned it. You did not hear. In the beginning I told you that Shrimati Indira Gandhi sent a message to the Conference. You did not hear it because I spoke in Hindi. Now I think you are understanding. I said that the policy of the Government of India is for what? For peace. I had said this but you did not understand. That is not my fault.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You did not mention India.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: As far as the Big Powers are concerned, the policy of the Government of India is not according to the genuine opinion of the Indian people. That is proved. I want to say this.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): How can you say?

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : You will not understand this. छोड़िये इस बात को। दोस्त और दुश्मन को, दोनों को एक ही तराजू में रखें, तो यह आपकी बुद्धि का दिवाला है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Many times the Prime Minister said, we are not pro-anything, but we are pro-India.

SHRI KEDAR PANDEY: We are pro-India.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I have not said that you should not be pro-India.



[श्री रामवतार शास्त्री]

मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि इण्डिया को बचाने के लिए इस तरह की बात होना आवश्यक है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are you pro-India or not?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, how I am here if I am not pro-India?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Very good. Thank you.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: And I know I spent many years in jail. I spent 10 years in British jail. Don't challenge that. You might not have been there at that time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You had been in jail for 13 years.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Please hear me.

मैंने बहुत स्पष्ट शब्दों में कहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान की जो वैदेशिक नीति है, वह मोटे-मोटे रूप में ठीक है लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान की यह नीति, इस सरकार की यह नीति कि अमरीका और सोवियत यूनियन को एक ही तराजू में रखा जाए, यह गलत है। यह शान्ति पक्ष की नीति नहीं है और इस से शान्ति का पलड़ा भारी नहीं होता है। मैंने जो कहा है उसे आप समझिये। आप इधर-उधर की बात कह कर मुझे वर्गला नहीं सकते।  
... (व्यवधान) ...

एक आखिरी बात मैं यह बोल रहा था। केरल की बात मैं आपको बताता हूँ। ट्रालिंग आप्रेशन का नतीजा क्या हो रहा है? बहुत सारे गरीब मछुआरे की रोजी पर हमला हो रहा है। वे बेकार हो रहे हैं। इस से उनकी रक्षा होनी चाहिए। ट्रालिंग आप्रेशन की आपने इजाजत दे दी है। यह आप कर रहे

हैं या दूसरे कर रहे हैं लेकिन इसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि हमारे मछुआरे बेकार हो रहे हैं। उनको बेकार करना बुद्धिमानीपूर्ण नहीं होगा।

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: —I have got a memorandum. If you want to read, you please read.

AN. HON. MEMBER: All people are sending the Memorandum. What is the use?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: You cannot understand. You are supporting Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): According to Shastriji, whosoever supports the Government is right.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Yes. On this point.

मेरा यही कहना है कि ट्रालिंग आप्रेशन से किसी की रोजी नहीं छीनी जानी चाहिए। अगर आप यह समझते हैं कि इस से उनकी रोजी नहीं छीनी जा रही है तो आप बता दीजिए। मेरे पास मेमोरण्डम है। वह मेमोरण्डम आपके पास भी गया है। इस पर आप ध्यान दीजिए।

मुझे यह कहना है कि पूरे हिन्द महासागर क्षेत्र को शान्ति का क्षेत्र बनाये रखने के लिए तमाम पड़ोसी राष्ट्रों को मिल-जुल कर कार्य करना चाहिए। क्योंकि हमारे देश की सार्वभौमिकता, स्वतंत्रता इस से बचती है, युद्ध करने वाली शक्तियों को हम कमजोर करते हैं और आजादी की शक्तियों को हम आगे बढ़ाते हैं।

**श्री जयपाल सिंह कश्यप (आंवला) :**  
माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सदन के माननीय सदस्य श्री दिग्विजय सिंह जी को इस संकल्प को प्रस्तुत करने के लिए बधाई देता हूं कि उन्होंने हमें याद दिलायी है धर्म की वह पुरानी कहानी और इतिहास का जो समुद्र से वास्ता रहा है, उसको।

समुद्र मंथन इस देश में एक धार्मिक गाथा रही है। समुद्र मंथन से अमृत निकला था, लक्ष्मी निकली थी। शेषनाग की रस्सी बना कर समुद्र मंथन किया गया था और देव-देवताओं और डाकुओं का युद्ध भी हुआ था। अमृत रस तो बाद में निकलेगा, युद्ध की घड़ी पहले बन रही है। अमृत किस के पास जाएगा अभी यह तय नहीं हो पा रहा है।

लेकिन आज हमारे समुद्र क्षेत्र में एक ऐसा वातावरण बन गया है जिस से हमारे देश को हमेशा के लिए खतरा पैदा हो गया है। बड़े शक्तिशाली देश अपनी सैनिक शक्ति वहां एकत्रित कर के अपनी सैनिक शक्ति का प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। वे इस से हमको भयभीत रखना चाहते हैं। एशिया और भारत के पड़ोसी देशों पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ रहा है।

मैं शास्त्री जी की इस बात से सहमत हूं और उन से एक कदम और आगे जाना चाहता हूं। अगर वहां पर अमेरिका के बेड़े होंगे, अमेरिका की सेना वहां रहती है तो उसका बैलेंस करने के लिए वहां बराबर रूस की मौजूदगी भी होगी। अगर अमेरिका अपने सैनिक बेड़े को हटाता है तो रूस का भी फर्ज हो जाता है कि वह भी अपनी सैनिक गतिविधियां समाप्त करे।

मैं अब से समुद्र के किनारे रहने वाले परम्परागत मछुआरों की ओर सरकार

का ध्यान विशेष रूप से आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। समुद्र के किनारे करोड़ों-करोड़ों मछुआरों रहते हैं। ये समुद्र से हजारों टन मछलियां और अन्य चीजें निकालते हैं। इनका उत्पादन करने का काम इन मछुआरों का धंधा है। अभी वे किस हालत में हैं? अभी दो महीने पहले महाराष्ट्र के मछुआरे आये थे, केरल के मछुआरों ने भी प्रदर्शन किया था। यहां पर प्रधान मंत्री जी से भी मिले थे और उन्होंने इस बात को बताया था कि 60 फ्रीसदी मछुआरे बेकार होते गए हैं। डीजल के रेट इतने बढ़ गए हैं कि यदि वे अपनी बोट्स का इस्तेमाल करते हैं तो उनको कोई मुनाफ़ा नहीं होता। किसी तरह से वे अपने धंधे को चला रहे हैं। इस पर सरकार को बड़ी गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए और डीजल में एक्साइज ड्यूटी आदि की जितनी भी छूट हो सकती है, वह दी जानी चाहिए, ताकि करोड़ों मछुये अपने जीवन को चला सकें और उनको एक अच्छा मार्केट मिल सके। जो भी विशेष सुविधाएं दी जा सकें, वे उनको दी जाएं। साथ ही इन मछुओं का सैनिक दृष्टि से देश को शक्तिशाली रखने के लिए और समुद्र तट को शक्तिशाली रखने के लिए बहुत बड़ा उपयोग किया जा सकता है। उनको सैनिक ट्रेनिंग दे सकते हैं, उनको शस्त्रों से लैस कर सकते हैं, उनको वायरलैस आदि दूसरी चीजें दे सकते हैं, इससे जो शक्तियां अशान्ति का वातावरण रखना चाहती हैं, उनकी गतिविधियों पर नजर रखी जा सकती है। अगर सरकार इस पर सोचे तो मैं समझता हूं कि सरकार के खर्चे में भी कमी आएगी और मछुओं को रोजगार भी मिलेगा।

मछुओं का जीवन खतरों से भरा रहता है। तूफान का उनको पता नहीं चलता और उनके घर, मोहल्ले सब

[श्री जयपाल सिंह कश्यप]

बरबाद हो जाते हैं। हफ्तों समुद्र में रहते हैं, कभी-कभी रास्ता भूल जाते हैं और कभी तूफान आने से जल-समाधि भी ले लेते हैं। इसलिए उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए बीमा इत्यादि की जितनी भी सुविधाएं दी जा सकती हैं, दी जानी चाहिए। उनके उत्पादन का उचित दाम दिलाने के लिए विशेष मार्केटिंग की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए।

जहां तक मिनरल्स निकालने का सवाल है, यह बात सच है घरती सीमित है, उसको बढ़ाया नहीं जा सकता, इसलिए हमें समुद्र पर ही निर्भर रहना है। समुद्र में जहां खनिज हैं, वहीं प्रोटीन युक्त भोजन भी समुद्र से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है, इस पर रिसर्च चल रही है और हम एक दिन अवश्य सफल होंगे।

इसके साथ ही समुद्र के उत्पादन और सुरक्षा के संबंध में जो प्रस्ताव आया है, उसका समर्थन करते हुए माननीय सदस्य को बधाई और धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

**SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR:** (Ratnagiri): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I congratulate the Mover of the Resolution, Shri Digvijay Singh, for having focussed the attention of the Government on such an important matter. This Resolution is all-pervasive, and there is not sufficient time to make point on every part of the Resolution. So, I will restrict myself only to some aspects of the Resolution.

There is an apprehension expressed in this Resolution about building up of national defence in depth. Many of my hon. colleagues have expressed their views. So, I will not go in detail about this aspect, especially because neither the

Defence Minister nor the Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence is here. No doubt, the ex-Minister of State for Defence is here and he will enlighten us on some of the points.

There is no dispute about the fact that the situation in the Indian Ocean, as far as our defence is concerned, is very serious. Answers have been given on the floor of this House as well as on the floor of Rajya Sabha on this subject. For the benefit of all, with your permission, Sir, I will mention only three or four answers given, two in the Lok Sabha and two in the Rajya Sabha, which would show how the Government of India is considering this particular issue as a very serious issue.

In Rajya Sabha, on 27th February, an Unstarred Question was asked, No. 1183. The first part of the question was:

"Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the United States of America has started secret and rapid expansion of Diego Garcia?"

Sir, the reply is worth considering.

"Government is aware of the expansion of facilities at the Diego Garcia base".

"We have seen reports in the Press to this effect. The expansion of the facilities of Diego Garcia enables its utilisation by B-52 aircraft. U.S. Officials deny the report that 19 nuclear warheads have been located in Diego Garcia."

Sir, the next is very important.

"However, it is considered likely that U.S. war ships which visit the base may have carried nuclear weapons."

He said further:

"The expansion of the military base at Diego Garcia constitutes a threat to peace and stability in our neighbourhood as it introduces new tensions into the area and heightens the risk of conflict".



Sir, the second which I would mention is this. That was the latest position—On 25th March, 1982 the answer given was this. I quote:

“Government are aware that the United States has substantially increased its military presence in the Indian Ocean and it implementing plans for further upgrading the Anglo-U. S. base at Diego Garcia.”

Sir, I am not reading the whole but only important part of it. The next is, on 4th March, 1982 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 201 in Lok Sabha he replied:

“The increased level of U.S. naval presence in the Indian Ocean area has been generally maintained in recent months”.

The most important and the last one is this. The answer given was this:

“The military presence of non-littoral states in the Indian Ocean has increased during 1981.”

“While a number of foreign powers enjoy rest and recreation and other kind of support facilities in the Indian Ocean area, the only known base under the exclusive control of foreign powers is the Anglo-U.S. base at Diego Garcia”.

This supports the point made by Shastriji. The situation is very serious. How are we going to meet this situation?

Sir, I read a message of our Prime Minister to the Conference and I feel that by this message alone this threat cannot be met. With your permission I shall quote the message which as reported on the 5th April in the *Hindustan Times*. I quote:

“Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to-day expressed concern over the ever-increasing presence of war ships and submarines in the Indian Ocean and the building of military bases in the region.”

“In a message to the World Conference on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, which opened here to-day,

Mrs. Gandhi said that, for the time being the people may seem helpless. But the will of the peaceable people must prevail, she said”.

Is just a peaceable will sufficient to meet this particular threat? We would like to know as to what steps Government has taken since the last year, and a half and what steps Government propose to take to meet this threat. The people of this country and the hon. Members will not be satisfied only with the answer that we have sufficient strength to oppose it. The seriousness has been accepted practically by the hon. Prime Minister. I therefore would request the Government to take this House in confidence and tell us how this serious threat of the ships coming into the Indian ocean and F52 planes bringing in all the nuclear materials is going to be met. I only want to mention this point because I feel that, in the interests of our nation, we need some assurance. I do not want to say whether Russia is right or America is right. Everyone of us is concerned with the safety of our country, our motherland. To that extent, I request the hon. Minister to tell us as to what Government proposes to do in this connection.

Coming to the other aspect my submission is this. There is a reference to the fishing. I Come from the coastal area and I feel that in the last three or four years, as far as western coast of the country is concerned, the production of prawns is considerably reduced. We have been repeatedly requesting the State Government and the Central Government to take proper steps; we were exporting something like 6 crores to 7 crores worth of prawns. That figure has now dwindled to about 2.3 crores. One question was raised by Shastriji and one other friend objected to that. This also is one of the factors which has to be taken into consideration. The Minister for Agriculture, when the Private Members' Bill was debated about the fixation of boundary as to where the propelled ships should fish, we were assured that a bill would be brought in this session itself about this. I am sorry that the Government has not come forward with any such bill. As a

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result the country-boat fishermen and all those who fish with propelled boats are not in a position to fish and the dispute is going on.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: In my constituency also that is the trouble.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: You will agree with me and you will support my submission, I believe.

As far as breeding season of prawns is concerned, it is from September to December—it takes place only within an area of 5 K.M. The power craft or propelled craft are not allowed within the 5 k.m. They will be entitled to fish only from January to May because from June, the monsoon starts and there is no fishing. They will not be in a position to repay the interests on the loan which they have taken from the nationalised banks. I was told that in this particular session, the Minister for Agriculture will come with a Bill and all these problems will be solved. That is not done.

The result of all this is that we were exporting 7 crores worth of prawns and shrimps and we were in a position to get back that much foreign exchange. Every year we are now losing this particular amount. I would request the Government to consider this particular aspect.

Now coming to the minerals in the deep ocean I have to make my submissions in details. It is no doubt encouraging. Government have initiated the search for minerals in offshore areas and metallic nodules on deep seabed. Although the exercise is in the preliminary stage, the Geological Survey of India has prepared a 10 year programme (1981 to 1990) for survey and exploration of minerals in the offshore area and exclusive economic one.

We were told that this plan includes mapping of the continental shelf upto 200 meters mapping of exclusive economic zone and prospecting for manganese nodules from the Indian Ocean. We find that this Geological Survey of India has

purchased a second-hand cargo ship. Of Course I do not know the details of it. It has to be remodelled; it has to be re-fitted with important and basic modern navigational equipments. It is an outdated and outfitted ship. We are going to utilise it for the exploration of very important minerals which would be useful for the development of our industrialisation.

We would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true. What is this renovation? Why are we not in a position to have a new ship when we have such abundance of minerals on the vast coast of our country? We have also been told that the National Institute of Oceanography is studying the ocean resources and other characteristics of the ocean. So, samples have been taken. We have been told. It has been reported also. It is about a year back. These samples were sent for analysis, to various laboratories in the country. We were not told what the result of this analysis is, so that we can make certain suggestions. It is said that Pacific Ocean contains richest nodules and the Indian Ocean is the second best in the world. We stand second.

We have abundance of it. That is what has been told to us on the floor of the House by the hon. Minister of State. I have read in the papers that the Dept. of Science and Technology has obtained assistance from the West German Government for giving us a vessel. I don't know whether that is true or not. I don't know whether that vessel is different from the one which Oceanography has; that is to say, whether Oceanography will have one vessel, GSI will have another vessel. May I know whether they will be working in coordination or not? What are the functions of the two different vessels? I wish him to tell us about all these aspects because then alone it will be possible for us to know whether we can achieve the targets within a period of 10 years, which, in my respectful submission, is a very long period. I congratulate the Government for having taken certain steps. It is no doubt encouraging. But I do feel, this is not sufficient. This is not at all enough, compared to the wealth that is available in the Seas which Nature has given to us. We are not

in a position to make full use of it. My anxiety and my earnest desire is to request the Government as to what best we can do in order to explore and to exploit all these so that we can increase our natural resources which will greatly benefit the nation.

So far as our mineral resources are concerned, certain minerals have been identified. They are there in my Constituency, Ratnagiri. It is on Ratnagiri Coast; it is in Kalbadevi Coast; they are at a distance of 2 KMs. We have heard that in the same taluk, illmenite is available in plenty. May I request the hon. Minister of State to tell us whether it is true or not? 10 years back, sand from these Coasts was being exported by Fateh Chand and Company, a private party. For that contractor, permission was given by the Government of India to export to Japan.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why your constituency is called Ratnagiri.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: One of the Ratna is here! Tonnes and tonnes of illmenite was being exported. During the Janata Government, I had asked this question; it was my Government. Unfortunately the answer that was given to us was that it contained high percentage; therefore we are not allowing export of these. Government needs it. But, unfortunately, no proper use could be found for it. I would like to know whether it is true or not. I would like to know whether you have any statistics about these things in Ratnagiri and Kalbadevi as have been reported in the Press. It is for you to find out the position. If it contains large quantity of illmenite, what are you doing to make use of it? If you could do it, this part of our country can become rich, people will get work, unemployment will go. Apart from that, we would have this resource which will be useful for the industrialisation of the country. Unfortunately what happens, is this: I have been writing letters; the same stock reply I get saying: 'I have received your letter; I am getting the matter examined; after I get the report, I will inform you.' But that information is never sent.

I never receive it. I am so sorry to say all this. By way of illustration I am mentioning all this. It is not done to criticise them. If what all I say is done, it would be useful not only for my constituency, but it will be useful for the upliftment of the entire country, industrialisation of the entire country.

As far as Andamans is concerned, it is reported that phosphatic nodules are available in plenty in the region. My question is: What efforts have you made to explore and exploit these? As far as Lakshadwip is concerned, you have got the calcareous sand which is also useful for industrial purposes. You have Lakshadwip; you have Ratnagiri; you have Kalbadevi. You have Andamans. What have you done? Nothing, except saying that we have a programme of 10 years, which I congratulate you. I would only respectfully urge upon you to take some urgent steps so that something useful is done.

With all this, Sir, I do feel that knowledge of the existence of vast mineral resources on the ocean bed is a must. But I feel we are lacking in this respect. No proper steps have been taken to acquire that knowledge. We have not collected that knowledge. We forgot to collect that knowledge as compared to some other countries abroad.

Now, the second aspect which I would like to make is this: We are ignoring a very important factor. I request the Minister to see the need for urgency. You say 10 years are necessary. It is a long period for India to commercially exploit the vast resources that are there. Therefore, we must take urgent steps. Sir, you know that the industrial development of a country is determined mainly by its capacity to exploit its mineral resources, the only exception to this proposition is Japan where all raw materials are imported from other countries. But in all other countries success depends upon exploring the mineral resources. In this connection, one of the scientists said as follows:



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"Metal ferreous and non-ferreous with their wide range of applications constitute the sinews of industrialisation."

Why not accept this and go ahead and try to curtail this period of 10 years by making use of many other things. In this connection I would like to make two or three suggestions.

My first suggestion to the Government would be that India should reorient its strategy in order that it facilitates the location of resources. I have given you only one resource. There are three resources—Andaman islands, Lakshdweep and Ratnagiri. The second suggestion which I would like to make is this. We may know the resources, but we have no idea about the quality, we have no idea about the size in off shore areas. Some questions were asked as to what quantity of mineral is available in the Indian Ocean. The reply given was that the Government is collecting information. I do not know from what record Government is going to collect the information. If you have any record, why not come and tell us that this is the particular quantity of resources and all that. I do not know why this type of answer is given. In my submission, I would request the hon. Minister to consider whether this strategy will be useful. I believe that the strategy should be so decided that on one hand it helps encourage and intensify efforts to locate those minerals, and on the other it helps to expedite the scope of development. In so doing, I have to make one more request and that is that our technology is out-dated. We have very qualified and very efficiency officers. With all respect for them, I would like to point out that as far as technology and science are concerned, it is out-dated. I would like to know whether I am correct. I will be happy if I am not correct. This is what the report in the foreign press goes that India has abundance of mineral resources in the beds of the Ocean but India has no technology nor India is thinking of utilising the best technology from abroad. Because of the wrong notions that we have we do not want to bring foreign techno-

logy for certain reasons. If that be so, it will not be possible for me to agree to this. I would like to know from the Government whether this criticism of the Government is correct. They say that we are far behind the advanced countries. Our drilling rates are very poor. Our drilling is fit only for shallow depths. The gestation period of 10 years has to be drastically curtailed if the costs are to be kept within the reasonable limits. I would like to quote at the end an observation of one of the scientists:

"We should not hesitate to import technology on a selective basis; nor should we frown upon foreign investment if it is necessary. We must also recognise that transfer of technology cannot be treated as an outright purchase as in the case of a hardware item; on the other hand, the success of a collaboration arrangement depends to a great extent on the rapport that can be established between the licensor and the licensee. In some cases, the import of technology was blocked in this country on the plea that indigenous technology had been developed: on closer examination these cases turned out to be untenable and, in the meantime, a lot of damage was done."

Now, if that is done, they believe that we would be in a position to achieve our target much before the period of 10 years. If that is done, it would be much helpful to us.

So we can stop our imports, we can utilise our minerals, we can develop our industries and we can have our industrialisation in a proper way in a cheap manner. I have not dealt with all the aspects which have been mentioned in the Resolution and I referred to two or three aspects. With all the emphasis at my command I support and congratulate Shri Digvijay Singh for focussing the attention of the Government on this important issue.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND  
ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN DE-



VELOPMENT (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first I would like to thank Shri Digvijay Singh and the other Hon. Members who participated in this debate which, as pointed out by many of the Members, is of great importance. But unfortunately, Sir, as you see there are very few members who have been keen and interested in this subject. The keenness of the Government is obvious as the present Government constituted a Department of Ocean Development last year. It is not that the Government is not aware and not interested enough. If that was so, may be this Department would not have been there.

Mr Digvijay Singh has very eloquently informed us of the various facets, the varied areas of interest to him as well as to the country and also internationally. But, Sir, I think what should not be forgotten is that there was a time when man living on land was not too keen, not too interested in the oceans and travellers like Fa Hien came and travelled to various parts of the world, and the Ocean was merely an obstacle to cross. But times have changed. The developed countries have taken a lead even in this field. But, Sir, we must not forget that in our limited and our constrained financial position, we are at the level of technical and scientific expertise of competing with the best. I would like to mention here the mining of polymetallic nodules. I think it is a very misunderstood point. People feel this is being done commercially to an extent that it has become very very viable. Even in the Western countries, the technology is constantly updated. We, with our limited resources and old rickety ship built in our own dockyards have in the month of March this year once again, mined 26 kilograms of polymetallic nodules. We are accelerating this programme and we will be getting two more ships — the Fishing and Oceanographic Research Vessel in June 1984 and the Ocean Research Vessel (ORV) from West Germany in 1983.

Regarding Shri Parulekar's point about the GSI ship, Yes, Sir, we have got an old ship; we are fitting it and for our coast-line we are trying to carry out a mapping and survey programme which

was not done before. But here, I would like to again clarify another point. It is not the mining of poly metallic nodules in the continental shelf. The poly metallic nodules that we have discovered have been miles away, miles out in the deep ocean. For that a team and a number of vessel are required. That is being prepared. The budget of the present department for this year is 17 crores of rupees and the allocation of Rs 12 crores has gone for this research vessel that we have to get from West Germany. An allocation of the huge sum for this particular department, if not utilized, will come under barrage of fire in this House.

20 hrs.

The other very important point which most of the Members have raised, is about the problems of fishermen. On this point, I have a note from the Department of Agriculture which looks after Fisheries; and they have a model Marine Fishing Regulations Bill; it has been sent to the State Governments, because this is something which has to be looked into by the State Governments. It has been sent to the Governments of Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa, who have promulgated it. Government of Orissa has sent it to its select committee. In this Regulations Bill, a distance of 5 Kms. from the shore is reserved for the traditional non-mechanised sector. The small mechanised boats will only operate beyond 5 Kms; and the larger mechanical ones will operate only beyond 10 Kms. (*Interruption*).

Maharashtra has promulgated it. This is the information that we have. So, it is in the interests of the fisherman, that this has been done. I quite agree.

About the problem of trawlers, we have not got the kind of trawlers that we need for the vast resources that we have. But this is also now being accelerated. In certain States, certain co-operatives have been formed, whereby fishermen themselves would like to purchase and organize their particular fishing operations.

The other aspects of Mr. Digvijay Singh's speech, I would answer later; but one point which has come up again and again

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is about peace. It is not only peace. It is a zone which ripplies; and tranquillity does not seem to be reaching where it should. Government has very firmly said the Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace and our hon'ble Prime Minister at every level has said it and I reiterate that this has been the Government of India's policy. The Hon'ble Prime Minister has asserted time and again, India is our country; we take help from friends, as we expect everybody to be our friend. We don't start out with any reservations that so-and-so is an enemy. In times of need, one knows who is that friend, and who is proved to be a long-time friend — as Soviet Russia has. A number of times it has come to our aid. But taking a hard line and saying that so-and-so is our enemy has never, I think, been the tradition of Indian culture.

About defence requirements and coast guards — I think when it started, the coast guards set-up had two old, obsolete vessels; but the Government of India's allocations in 1980 and the plan formulated for coast guards, will considerably increase strike-power; and as far as defence of India goes, time and again the Defence Minister, the External Affairs Minister and the Prime Minister have said that we take adequate steps to modernize things and see that our borders and shores are well protected. I don't have to ratify that again. But as it has come up in this debate, I have merely to reiterate what we have said ever since we came to power.

Regarding living resources of our oceans, Mr. Digvijay Singh pointed out that we have been looking only into the catching and farming of prawns. But I would add this to the information—what he has already said about the energy from the sea. Agricultural technology had in the past 5 to 6 years led to not only the growth and farming of shrimps but also other fish. And the members would agree that they are easily caught or within the reach of a particular vessel. They are the ones that would be commercially viable. It is like going out into the deep

ocean where different kinds of fish are available. But if the availability of that particular craft is not there, it is not possible. This is where the Government of India and the Department concerned are now putting a major thrust. I can assure the hon. members that within a few years, we will be able to do better than what we have done and that has been the Government's constant endeavour.

Mr. Parulekar mentioned about the ilmenite resources of Kerala.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR:  
Ratnagiri.

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH: Also this was discovered by NIO. As he rightly pointed out, the resources are very good and the government is taking steps for their exploitation. The other point which was also raised by a number of members was regarding utilization of tidal energy. So, we have a vast coast line and with our limited power and resources for addition to thermal and atomic and renewable ocean energy was not tapped earlier. But I am happy to inform the House—it is a privilege, that the Department of Science and Technology through ITI Madras has taken up a major programme. It is on an experimental basis, but I am sure the result will prove favourable and may help us in cutting down the problems we have with power. The Central Electricity Authority has also recently taken up a project in the Gulf of Cutch where the government would be spending about Rs. 218.38 lakhs on the tidal energy programme and investigations are being made for the feasibility of utilizing tidal energy for generation of power. Technologies regarding the ocean energy as well as tidal energy are immense, but the world over, whether it be developing countries of the West or countries like Japan, the energy from the sea is still in a very experimental pilot project stage. Japan, France, Germany and the United States are looking into it and have got pilot projects. We have started them more or less at the same time, but to make a project financially and economically viable, it takes time, because unless the gestation period

and the technology correctness can be established, also one has to give technology of a particular type some period of time. There are immense possibilities of even utilizing the ocean for generating power by temperature. You can use others also, I mean the tidal, the wind, but these are technologies, as I said, which are not totally proven and financially viable. We are in our limited way, not limited because of our technical limitations, but financial limitations taking up these projects where and when feasible.

Mr. Digvijay Singh very rightly pointed out about one aspect, which, I think, was not the problem some years back. That was pollution of the ocean and siltation that is taking place because of creation of various islands; and vessels dumping their refuse. It would be possible to control this pollution from the industries and cities near the coast and also within the exclusive economic zone. The Government for created the Department of Environment. These things are also now being looked into. These are all something very new and the implementation of these will certainly take time. I would only request the Member to bear with us. From time to time, he has raised the debate. He did so on Environment last year. But it is the interest of the people, the awareness of the people of India that has really created an interest in the subject. That is how our job can be done. Government cannot possibly monitor

every inch of the surface of the earth, of its area, the oceans and the sky for their pollution. These are things which are evolved and come out by the awareness of our people and the stand that the people take.

SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN (Karur): What about Ocean Development Corporation?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH: The Members have also talked about the marine national policy. This is something which has been taken up by the Department quite recently. We are preparing a paper and we shall come to Parliament in the next session with this.

Regarding hon. Members' other points, these are something that are being looked into by the various Departments. It could not all come within the purview of the Department of Ocean Development. In Government, we have distributed the work. However, the Department of Ocean Development will be a nodal agency for coordinating these.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.  
20.14 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned  
till Eleven of the Clock on  
Thursday, April 29, 1982/  
Vaisakha 9, 1904 (Saka).*