

are all talking amongst yourselves let us work here and talk outside.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: I asked a different question. I wanted to know whether the Government will exploit the 28 million tonnes of dolomite before the completion of the dam? It has not been clarified?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I can't hear anything. Can't you have any mercy on me? I am appealing to you.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): The hon. Member has asked as to what will be the position with regard to Dolomite. We have 16,000 million tonnes of Dolomite available in the state of Madhya Pradesh. This thing which will get submerged in the Dam will be only 1.7 per cent of the total deposits of Dolomite in Madhya Pradesh. For the present there is no proposal to take it out and it takes 7-8 years, generally for areas to get submerged.

#### Development of Darrah Wild Life Sanctuary

\*504. SHRI JUJHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to save the forests and the animals of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary in Kota district of Rajasthan;

(b) the measures taken by Government regarding the afforestation programme along the river Chambal to control the siltation under river valley project;

(c) the amount spent so far on these projects; and

(d) the results achieved?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a)

Steps taken for the protection of the Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary include better protection of the animals and forests, checking illicit grazing, prevention and control of fire, augmentation of fodder and water supply.

(b) The measures taken to control siltation consist of appropriate soil conservation works, afforestation and pasture development.

(c) Rs. 1790.83 lakhs have been spent so far on these measures.

(d) The rate of siltation has come down.

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there has been a continuous reduction in the forest area since the announcement of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary? Secondly, whether the hon. Minister is aware that the number of animals which were already there has also declined since its declaration as a sanctuary? If so, will he be pleased to state the efforts made in this direction and the results thereof?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not agree with him so far as reduction in forest area is concerned, since the announcement of the sanctuary. There has been a constant rise in the number of sanctuaries. If you go by the past figures, you will observe that the number of sanctuaries has gone up from 60 in 1960 to 358 today. Similarly, the number of National Parks has risen from 5 to 63. So far as decline in the number of wild animals is concerned. I agree with hon. Member that the number of animals has comparatively gone down. It is mainly, due to large scale poaching of wild animals. We have passed the Prevention of Wildlife Act and taken other steps also to check this. We have strictly implemented these Acts. Ban on hunting was imposed to save rare species of animals. Every effort is being made by the Government to protect the wild animals.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: You are talking of poaching, but I would like to tell

you that you cannot find even a single wild animal in the area.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Incidents of poaching have been taking place in the area for last several years. One such incident took place there only 4-5 days ago.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is his question.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that an Act has been passed which provides for checking illicit grazing. Though it has been declared a Sanctuary by the Government, yet the animals from other areas like outside Kota district have taken shelter in that area. I would like to know whether the Forest department has implemented the Act or withheld it? Animals are coming from outside and they settle there. What is the Government doing in this regard?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: The hon. Member said that animals from neighbouring districts graze in the sanctuary. You are aware that a severe drought has stricken Rajasthan. There is therefore no ban on animals of those districts entering other districts. It is possible that there might have been some illicit grazing, but the Government is trying its level best to ensure that there is no grazing in the Sanctuary. We have provided full protection in this regard.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

*[English]*

#### **Expert Group on National Council for Safety in Mines**

SNQ5. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Group on National Council for Safety in Mines was set up;

(b) if so, when and with what terms of reference and expenditure incurred in this regard;

(c) the recommendations of the Expert Group;

(d) whether the recommendations of the Group have been rejected; if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the decision conforms to the commitments made by Government at the First Conference on Safety in Mines, especially the grounds given in the orders dated 13 November, 1987; and

(f) if so, the manner in which Government propose to safeguard the interests of the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (f) A statement is given below.

*Expert Group on National Council for Safety in Mines by S/Shri Basudeb Acharia and Saifuddin Chowdhary*

#### STATEMENT

The First Conference on Safety in Mines held in August, 1958 had inter alia, recommended that suitable schemes should be drawn up for education of mine workers and staff at all levels on the need for safety and the requirements of safety. In pursuance of the recommendation, the National Council for safety in Mines was set up in July, 1963 as a tripartite organisation registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 to undertake, aid and promote safety education in mines. The establishment and the activities of the Council received financial support from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund. With the transfer of the administration of the Fund from the Labour Ministry to the Department of Coal in 1981-82, a decision had to be taken on continuance of the Council, and its financing in the event of its continu-