

(c) the action which Government propose to take to preserve the Taj and also to check atmospheric pollution and environmental hazards later?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The major causes of atmospheric pollution in Agra are (i) two Thermal Power Stations, (ii) Railway Marshalling Yards, and (iii) 250 odd foundries. The daily average of sulphur dioxide concentration is in the range of 7 to 42/ug/M³ and the annual average of sulphur dioxide concentration is 15 to 20 ug/M³ in the ambient air. The corresponding contribution by the refinery, having installed the requisite pollution control measures would be 1.0 to 2.0 ug/M³ and 65 ug/M³. According to Dr. Vardarajan Committee Report, no damage has been observed in the marbles of the 'Taj Mahal' so far.

The Government of India have constituted a High Powered Committee to examine and oversee measures to control pollution. This Committee is pursuing with the concerned authorities/agencies achievement of the following objectives:—

(i) Closure of two thermal power stations;

(ii) Dieselisation of the marshalling yard at Agra and Agra Cantonment and through passenger trains;

(iii) Shifting of foundries; and

(iv) Monitoring of emission levels by the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of water Pollution, NEERI, India Metrological Department and Archeological Survey of India.

The Government of India is also considering a proposal to bring out legislation to prevent and Control Pollution shortly to check the atmospheric pollution and environment hazard.

Fish Catch and its Exploitation

*530. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the potential of fish-catch an-

nually within 200 miles of exclusive economic zone claimed by India around its coast;

(b) to what extent is it exploited at present; and

(c) action proposed to exploit the potentiality to the fullest extent?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) & (b). Under Section 7(1) of the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones Act (Act 80 of 76) India's sovereignty extends upto 200 nautical miles from the baseline.

It is estimated that an annual catch of 4.5 million tonnes is feasible in this area.

The production of marine fisheries was estimated as approximately 1.62 million tonnes in 1978-79.

(c) Government propose to take following measures to increase production further:

(i) by adding more vessels to the fleet for exploration of these resources and for training;

(ii) by allowing selective import of larger vessels;

(iii) a scheme for subsidy for indigenously made large vessels; and

(iv) by generally helping to diversify and intensify the deep sea operations.

Follow up Action on Power Ministers' Conference

*535. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:
SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently held Power Ministers' Conference in New Delhi had decided to step up generation at the existing power plants to