

only at Bombay and Aurangabad in as Maharashtra.

(b) ITDC provides following facilities at these two places to attract tourists :

Bombay - Duty Free Shops in the Departure and Arrival lounges of Bombay Airport and Transport Unit,

Aurangabad— A 88-room 3-star hotel, Transport Unit and a Restaurant at Aurangabad Airport.

**Forest Loss due to Hydro Electric dams in Maharashtra Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh**

3404. SHRI. SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the forest cover loss in Hectares in the Inchempalli and Bhopalpatnam proposed Hydro-electric dams in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh State-wise ;

(b) the total tribal population affected State-wise :

(c) the details of the efforts to rehabilitate the tribal population ;

(d) the loss of wildlife in these projects ; and

(e) the measures taken to prevent the loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BIR SEN) :

(a) No such proposal has been received for consideration under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, so far,

(b) to (e) Do not arise,

**Schemes to Penalise or take over the Hotels which have not been Completed within the Prescribed time Limit**

3405. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2880 on 10 August, 1984 regarding construction of hotels through Government assistance and state :

(a) whether there are any rules under the Government's approved scheme to penalise or to take over the hotels which have not been completed in the prescribed time limit allowed to them ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the names of the parties against whom the action has been taken so far ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No action has been taken against any party.

(d) The Department of Tourism accords approval to hotels at the project stage subject to their complying with certain regulatory conditions. Failure to comply with these conditions can lead to withdrawal of approval. There is no provision in the conditions of approval to take over such defaulting hotels.

**Uniformity in upper age limit for Recruitment in Central and State Government Services**

3406. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether upper age limit for recruitment to services varies from

Central Government to State Governments, public undertakings and the banks resulting in the inequality of opportunities in the matter of employment ; and

(b) if so, steps proposed to be taken by Government to bring uniformity in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Upper age limit for recruitment to different services/posts under the Central Government are fixed depending on, *inter alia*, the qualifications and the type and extent of experience prescribed for the respective services/posts. The State Governments, public undertakings and banks are free to determine upper age limits for recruitment to the posts under their control keeping in view their own requirements and peculiar conditions. Accordingly, no uniformity can be expected in this matter.

(b) Does not arise,

#### Pollution of Ganga

3407. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether immersion of ashes of dead bodies in the Ganga by the Hindu according with Hindu religious rites is one of the causes of pollution of this river ; and

(b) if so, whether the Ganga Authority constituted recently had examined this question having bearing on Hindu religious sentiments and devise ways and means to restrain the people from immersing ashes of the dead bodies in the river and thereby avoid its pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BIR SEN) : (a) The extent and nature of pollution

due to immersion of ashes of the dead bodies has not been examined scientifically.

(b) CGA has not yet commenced functioning so the question does not arise.

#### Mineral Nodules from Seabed

3408 SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the Law of the Sea Convention India enjoys the status of a pioneering nation ;

(b) whether on an experimental basis, Government were able to scope up mineral from the seabed with our ship 'Gaveshani' ;

(c) the area where this was done, the type and the quantity of minerals collected ; and

(d) whether Government have made further progress in this technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) India has been recognised as a Pioneer Investor under the Law of the Sea Convention adopted on 30th April, 1982 :

(b) Yes, Sir,

(c) In January, 1981, research vessel 'Gaveshani' of the National Institute of Oceanography collected on an experimental basis more than 20 kilograms of samples of polymetallic nodules from the seabed in the Arabian Sea and over 30 kilograms from the seabed in the Central Indian Ocean. The nodules contain important metals like copper, nickel, and cobalt, apart from iron and manganese.