

[*Translation*]

**Development of Tourism in Ajmer
(Rajasthan)**

707. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any specific proposals from Rajasthan Government for the development of tourism in Ajmer and also for its inclusion on the tourist map during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir. However, Ajmer is already included as one of the tourist centres in the three travel circuits identified for promotion.

(b) and (c). do not arise.

**Exploitation of Manganese in Balaghat
(M.P.)**

708. SHRI S.C. VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether manganese is being mined for decades in Balaghat area of Madhya Pradesh and huge deposits of manganese ore are reserved there;

(b) if so, the quantity of manganese ore

deposits at present there;

(c) the scheme of Government regarding utilisation of manganese;

(d) whether Manganese Ore of India Ltd. had prepared a scheme for the production of ferro manganese by making use of manganese, if so, the main features of this scheme; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to exploit ferro manganese in Balaghat area of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the mineral inventory prepared by Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur, the total proven resources of manganese ore in the Balaghat district of M.P. as on 1.1.85 were about 62.72 lakh tonnes.

(c) Manganese Ore is utilised directly in the production of pig iron and the form of ferro-manganese/silico manganese in steel mixing. In small quantities manganese dioxide ore is also used in the manufacture of dry batteries. Utilisation of manganese ore will increase with the growth of user industries.

(d) Manganese Ore (India) Limited had a proposal to set up a 60,000 tonnes per annum ferro manganese plant in Balaghat in 1982 at a total estimated cost of Rs. 44 crores. Due to decrease in the demand for ferro manganese in the world market and the resultant problems in marketing this proposal to set up a large scale plant was abandoned.

(e) It is not proposed to set up any new ferro manganese plant in the area. Emphasis is on improving the quality of ore already being mined there.