

Institute has produced very good result during the last few years. The Central Salt & Marine Chemical Research Institute is engaged in the development of technology for the extraction of minerals from sea water and also for desalination of sea water and its conversion into fresh water. Some of the technologies developed by this Institute are being used in the country. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin has done considerable work in the exploration of living resources of the sea and the culture of shellfish, fin-fish and seaweeds. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has carried out very commendable work in the off-shore exploration of oil and gas.

In the Central Indian Ocean, the Department of Ocean Development with the help of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has launched a sizeable programme of the survey of polymetallic nodules in the deep sea. As a result of an extensive survey of an area of about 3 million square kilometres, two mining sites have been identified. An application for registration of these two sites has been sent to the Preparatory Commission of the International Seabed Authority.

#### **Youth Festival of Non-Aligned Countries**

2384. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to organise a "Youth Festival" of the Non-aligned countries in the "Inter-national Youth Year"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Implementation of National Wildlife Action Plan**

2385. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a National Wildlife Action Plan with a

view to arresting the rapid extinction of species of flora and fauna which is now taking place; and

(b) if so, the action taken to implement this plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). The National Wildlife Action Plan was finalised and adopted in October, 1983, on the recommendation of the Indian Board for Wildlife. The Action plan is a charter of action to be taken in the field of Wildlife conservation in the country. The main components of the Action Plan are given below :—

#### **(1) Establishment of a Representative Network of Protected Areas :**

Establish a network of scientifically managed protected areas such as national parks, sanctuaries and biosphere reserves, to cover representative and viable samples of all significant biogeographic sub-divisions within the country. Such protected area; should have an adequate geographic distribution.

#### **(2) Management of Protected Areas and Habitat Restoration :**

Develop appropriate management systems for protected areas, with due regard to the needs of the local people and ensuring their support and involvement; Restore degraded habitats to their natural state (as far as this can be ascertained); Build up a professional cadre of personnel fully trained in all aspects of wildlife and sanctuary management; and provide proper orientation to all officials concerned with wildlife.

#### **(3) Wildlife Protection in Multiple Use Areas :**

Provide adequate protection to wildlife in multiple use areas (such as production forests and pasture lands) so as to form "corridors" linking up the protected areas and providing for genetic continuity between them.