

Proposals have been received from the Administration for creation of some additional posts in the Pradesh Council Secretariat.

(d) A work study of the Pradesh Council Secretariat is to be conducted. Further action will be considered in the light of the Work Study report.

Utilisation of sea weeds

4472. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed any Committee of Experts to explore the ways and means for utilisation of sea weeds in the manufacture of food articles, Fertilizers, certain Chemicals and pharmaceutical ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) steps taken to standardize the technology of mass culture of seaweeds ?

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) A Committee of Scientists of CSIR was constituted by the Director-General, CSIR on the area of Sea-weeds.

(b) The report prepared by the Committee has outlined R&D programmes on sea-weed cultivation, chemistry and utilisation.

(c) Research work has led to know-how for cultivation of *red algae* variety suitable for production of Agar-agar, and *Sargassum* variety for production of Alginic acid for use in food, textile & cosmetic industries.

Losses in ITDC Hotels in the capital

4473. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the cumulative losses sustained by the various Hotels run by the India Tourism Development Corporation in the capital, as per latest information available with his Ministry or the ITDC ;

(b) the reasons for these heavy losses, when hotels in private sector in the capital are prospering ;

(c) whether some of these Hotels including 5 Starred ones have recently let out their chunk of rooms to the private companies for setting up their Offices ;

(d) if so, the number of rooms let out by each one of these hotels ; at what rate, the room discount given ; the period for which let out and the advance rent, if any received and the name of the company concerned ; and

(e) whether the reaction of the elitist clientele of these 5 Starred hotels to such room use has been assessed ; if so, what ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). Nine hotels being operated by ITDC in the capital have earned overall net profit of Rs. 18.44 crores upto the financial year 1984-85.

(c) and (d). Information is given in the statement below.

(e) No reaction for causing any inconvenience to the guests for licencing rooms for office purpose in the hotels has been noticed by the ITDC Management.