

(b) what facilities are being given by the Government of India and the universities of Kerala, Madras and Andhra to the Expedition?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes Sir, four vessels are taking part.

(b) The facilities given by the Government of India are in the form of funds, sea going vessels and personnel, equipment and research scientists. The Universities of Kerala, Madras and Andhra are sending some of their research workers. Of the participating vessels one belongs to the Kerala University, who are also providing accommodation for the location of a centre for collection of biological specimens.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस में हिन्दुस्तानी एक्सपर्ट कितने भाग लेंगे और इसके ऊपर सरकार क्या खर्च करेगी ?

श्री हुमायून् कबिर : कितने भाग लेंगे यह कहना तो मुश्किल है। यह प्रोग्राम बढ़ता जा रहा है। अभी भी काफी भ्रामदमी काम कर रहे हैं। एक रशियन शिप है, उसमें छः इंडियन एक्सपर्ट हैं। एक कमेटी बिठाई गई है वह काम कर रही है। जहां तक चार साल में होने वाले खर्च का सवाल है, वह अभी कहना मुश्किल है एक वायोलोजिकल सेंटर बना रहे हैं कोचीन में, उसमें भ्रंदाजन दस लाख रुपया खर्च करेंगे। जहाजों में भी कुछ खर्च होगा। बाकी इसका व्योरा देना मुश्किल है क्योंकि हर एक मिनिस्ट्री अपना-अपना खर्च अपने अपने बजट में अलग-अलग दिखायेगी।

Shri D. C. Sharma: Since it is an international project, may I know if other universities of India have also been invited to take part in it even though they may not be interested in this particular form of biology.

Shri Humayun Kabir: This is not a question of inviting universities as 1490 (Ai) LSD—2.

such. This work will be divided mainly under 5 heads, meteorology, and physical oceanology, marine biology and fisheries, marine geology and geo-physics, chemical oceanography and radio-activity and related subjects and the various service activities. And, wherever we get suitable experts, we shall invite them.

Shri D. C. Sharma: As this is dealing with radio-activity also, may I know if the Atomic Energy Establishment has been invited to take part in it?

Shri Humayun Kabir: They are also co-operating.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know who will be in charge of the overall study and what part India will play?

Shri Humayun Kabir: So far as India is concerned, we have appointed a committee of which the Chairman is Dr. Wadia; and we have appointed Dr. N. K. Panikkar as the Director in charge of these operations and the work will be co-ordinated. The UNESCO is taking part and also the United Nations. And, every country will send the reports to the United Nations and make available all the information to all the participant countries.

Royalty on Mineral in Madhya Pradesh

*371. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 955 on the 23rd May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether consideration of the issue regarding payment of royalty to Madhya Pradesh Government on minerals used by the Bhilai Steel Works has been completed;

(b) if so, the settlement arrived at in the matter; and

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the factors delaying the settlement of the issue?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

(c) As several legal issues are involved in the case, all these issues have to be given due consideration before arriving at a settlement.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know what is the amount or royalty outstanding from Bhilai Steel Works to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and how many times revenue recovery proceedings have been taken by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the recovery of the same from these authorities?

Shri P. C. Sethi: I do not have the information immediately.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What is the rate of royalty that is being given to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and are the Hindustan Steel authorities paying the same rate of royalty to other States also as they pay to Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): There are three types of cases. One is with regard to the lands taken on lease from the Madhya Pradesh Government. According to the lease terms the royalty is being paid to the Madhya Pradesh Government. There are two other categories with regard to which there are disputes with the Madhya Pradesh Government. One is with regard to the State Government's lands which have been granted to the Hindustan Steel Limited for a specific purpose. They are claiming royalty on the mining done on these lands; and the legal view is that they are entitled to get the royalty. But, with regard to the lands acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, the legal view is that no royalty need be given. This is a matter in dispute and will have to be settled.

Shri Daji: This matter is pending for quite a number of years. Meanwhile, payment to the Madhya Pra-

desh Government is being delayed. What steps are being taken to settle the matter one way or the other and dispose of the matter?

Shri C. Subramaniam: The legal views have got to be taken into account. Generally, lawyers do not agree quite readily. (Interruption). Some agreement will have to be arrived at. And, as far as the Madhya Pradesh Government is concerned, they can be assured that the Hindustan Steels Ltd. is not a pauper organisation. They can always recover whatever amount is due from it.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: My question has not been answered. How do the rates of royalty paid to the Madhya Pradesh Government compare with the rates of royalty paid to other State Governments? Will Government lay a statement on the Table giving the information about royalties due and the revenue recovery proceedings taken so that we can discuss the matter further?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I have already stated that I do not have the actual figures. As to the rate of royalty with regard to the mining leases, it is governed by a contract with the Madhya Pradesh Government and the Hindustan Steel Ltd. and the contractual rate is being paid. With regard to other categories, it has got to be settled before rate of royalty is fixed.

Soviet Engines for Indian Jet Fighters

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- *372. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
 { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
 { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
 { **Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:**
 { **Shri Hem Barua:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement for the acquisition of Soviet engines for the supersonic aircraft designed at the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., has been signed with the Soviet Union; and