

ary Fund and the World Bank to assist her to tide over its present balance of payment difficulties;

(b) whether any Delegation visited U.S.A. to explain India's position in this regard; and

(c) if so, the nature of response?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) to (c). Discussions have been taking place between the specified International Institutions and the Government of India as a continuous process of consultation and consideration of the economic situation and foreign exchange needs. These discussions are regarded as confidential by both parties. Further, it is not in the public interest to disclose the nature of the discussion or of the response.

U.N. Team Report on Family Planning

***472. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 621 on the 2nd December, 1965 regarding the U.N. Team Report on family planning and state:

(a) whether Government have received the final Report from the U.N. Team;

(b) if so, the main features of the Report; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No, Sir.

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

Indraprastha Power Station

***473. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American firm was given a contract to install three turbo-generators at the Indraprastha Power Station, New Delhi, when Indian firms could do the work at lesser cost;

(b) whether any inquiries have been made into the matter;

(c) if so, with what results; and

(d) the action taken on the findings of inquiry into the matter?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakh-uddin Ahmed): (a) to (d). Three turbo-generator sets of 50/62.5 MW capacity each for the Indraprastha Power Station Extension Project were purchased from General Electric Company, U.S.A. under the bulk purchase contract placed on them by the Government of India. The work of erection of these three turbo-generators was awarded to M/S International General Electric Co. (India) Private Limited after negotiations at a total price of \$ 4,06,060 plus Rs. 10,54,730.

2. Erection of turbo-generators is a specialised work. Practically in all thermal Power Stations, except where the machines are supplied by USSR, the work of erection of turbo-generators and boilers has been entrusted to the respective suppliers of the equipment together with commissioning of the equipment. Identical machines supplies to Talcher and Paras are being erected by the suppliers. The price at which this contract was entered into was considered reasonable by the technical experts.

Even if erection work was entrusted to some other agency, the supervision of erection work has to be entrusted to the supplier for ensuring commissioning and performance guarantee involving a payment of Rs. 8 to 10 lakhs in foreign exchange.

3. The sub-committee appointed by the Delhi Thermal Project Control Board for the purpose of examining the award of the contract for erection went into all these aspects. With a

view to ensuring satisfactory and quick completion of the job, it was finally considered desirable to follow the existing practice and make the supplier of the equipment responsible for its erection also. Thus the decision to award the work relating to erection of turbo-generators to IGE (India) was taken after a careful consideration of all the aspects of the case including technical and financial, and had the approval of the Delhi Thermal Project Control Board and Delhi Electric Supply Committee.

In view of the above, the points raised in parts (b), (c) and (d) of the question do not arise.

Raid on Astrologer's House in Delhi

*474. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Warior:
Shri Manoharan:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Harj Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Daji:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 180 on the 24th February, 1966 regarding raid on astrologer's house in Delhi and state:

(a) whether the astrologer referred to therein or his sons or all of them have any relations, dealings or association with the firms of M/s Chamanlal Brothers in Delhi and Bombay; and

(b) whether the offices and/or residences of firms of M/s Chamanlal Brothers and their associates had been raided by any Government investigating agency in connection with the drive against un-accounted money or foreign exchange violations?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) The astrologer referred to is presumably Shri L. Haveli Ram. It is understood that one of his sons, Shri

Kewal Ram was an employee of M/s. Chamanlal Brothers.

(b) The offices of Messrs Chamanlal Brothers as well as those of Chamanlal Overseas Ltd., Steel (Pvt.) Ltd., and the residence of Shri Naraindass, father-in-law of Shri Chamanlal were searched in Delhi. The business premises of M/s Ruby Industries and M/s Joshi Traders in Delhi occupied by Shri Kewal Joshi, an employee of Chamanlal Brothers were also searched. In addition, the business premises in Bombay and Cochin of certain firms associated with Chamanlal Brothers were also searched.

Income-Tax Rebate to Cashewnut Export Industry

1851. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Southern India Chamber of Commerce has requested the Central Board of Direct Taxes for the extension of income-tax rebate to the Cashewnut export industry; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Southern India Chamber of Commerce has been informed that the rebate of tax available under the annual Finance Acts to manufacturers of specified commodities for export will be available also to persons who convert raw cashewnuts into cashew kernels for export.

Ballemiela Project

1852. **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**
Shri Murl Manohar:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state the total expenditure involved in the Ballemiela Project and when it is likely to start functioning?