

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not possible to go into those details at this moment.

**Shri Nambiar:** From the statement I find that certain degree colleges and technical centres are going to be opened. May I know whether these will be opened during the current year, that is, when the colleges are opened next month?

**Shri Datar:** The colleges will be opened during the current year, as the new year for them starts.

#### International Indian Ocean Expedition

+

1367. {  
 Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 Shri Bhagwat Jaa Azad:  
 Shri Maheswar Naik:  
 Shri Bhakt Darshan:  
 Shri P. K. Deo:  
 Shrimati Shashank Manja  
 Shri Kohor:  
 Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Scientific Research & Cultural Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a programme of India's participation in the International Indian Ocean Expedition, which is the first systematic attempt to study the Ocean, has been finalised by Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the programme chalked out and the steps taken to implement the same?

**The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) and (b). Not yet, but the Indian National Committee on Oceanic Research has drawn up a programme of intensive investigations on the continental shelf and superjacent waters in the problems of maritime meteorology, physical and chemical oceanography, marine biology, marine geology and geophysics. There are also proposals for setting up an International Meteorological Centre at Bombay with assistance from I.N. Special Fund and an Indian Ocean Biological Centre at Cochin with Unesco assistance. The Director for

the Indian Programme of the International Indian Expedition has been appointed and sixteen Research Fellowships instituted.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know which other countries are participating in this venture?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** There is a large number of countries, namely Australia, France, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Norway, the Malagasy Republic, Portugal, (Mozambique) Pakistan, South Africa, the United Kingdom, the USA, the USSR, Zanzibar, and West Germany.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** On what basis will the expenditure on this project be met by India and the other countries?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Each country has its own programme. We shall be concerned with the Indian part of the expedition, and for that, we shall meet the expenses, which will be distributed amongst the different Ministries according to an agreed formula.

**Shri Maheswar Naik:** What is the total estimated cost of this expedition?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** It is very difficult to say what the total cost will be. For the time being, the foreign exchange requirements for India will be about Rs. 7,21,000. As for the rest, it is difficult to work out expenses because they form part of the programmes of the Ministries.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो हिन्द महासागर का अध्ययन किया जा रहा है इस का कार्य वास्तव में कब शुरू होगा और कितना समय इस में लगेगा ?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** In a sense, the programme began in 1960 in a preliminary way. But the major part of the programme will be between 1962—64.

**Shri P. K. Deo:** There is one small naval establishment at Dehra Dun which is taking up this kind of

oceanographic survey of the Indian Ocean and preparing maps. May I know if there is any co-ordination between that establishment and this one proposed?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The Defence Ministry is co-operating with us in various ways. If there is an establishment of the Defence Ministry at Dehra Dun, obviously it is included.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** How many Indian ships, if any, will be taking part in the programme?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The Indian ships ear-marked till now are: INS *Kistna*, which is a frigate of the Indian Navy, *Varuna* of the Indo-Norwegian Project, Kerala, a fisheries vessel called *Bangada* and the Kerala University Research vessel called *Conch*.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** The Minister has been pleased to give the names of the countries which will participate in this project. With so many countries including the USSR and the USA participating in this project, is there any apprehension or possibility of the waters of the Indian Ocean being contaminated by the cold war?

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri S. C. Samanta.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** No answer to my question?

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** My hon. friend is so prophylactic that we do not have any such fears.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** The hon. Minister has said that for oceanographic studies, a meteorological centre will be set up at Bombay. May I know whether the meteorological centre of the Transport and Communications Ministry which is there at present will be utilised?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** They are co-operating fully in the programme.

### Watch Smuggling

\*1368. **Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiries into the watch smuggling racket involving foreign nationals have been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b). Government has no information about a smuggling racket involving foreign nationals.

**Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:** Has any prosecution been launched so far or not?

**Mr. Speaker:** They have no information about a smuggling racket. He wants to know if there is any individual case of prosecution.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** This was a general question. But there has been over the past years quite a number of cases in which we have seized watches. In these cases, we have not only seized the watches but have prosecuted the people concerned. If the hon. Member wants to know about any specific case, he may table a separate question, and I will reply.

**Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:** A smuggling racket was discovered at Palam Airport in which, according to my information, some of the staff members of the Chilean Embassy were involved. I am referring to that.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** He should table a specific question about any particular case and I shall answer it.

**Shri D. N. Tiwary:** Towards the end of the Second Lok Sabha, in reply to a question it was stated by Government in this House that they are aware that smuggling of watches is going on. Now the Minister says that Government are not aware of any such smuggling. How are the two statements reconciled?