

this project and to select the location of the project. If so, may I know whether that Expert Committee has been appointed and whether it has got into working?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No; not yet.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know if any project report has been made for this?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No; not yet.

Shri Liladhar Kotoki: May I know if the negotiations with the foreign firm have already started; and if so, what is the name of the firm?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is MAN firm from Germany.

Cost of Gold From Kolar Mines

*710. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of gold mined at Kolar Gold Mines; and

(b) the difference between the cost of gold obtained from Kolar Gold Mines and the prices fixed by the International Monetary Fund?

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

(a) During 1960-61, the average cost of mining gold was Rs. 10.32 per gramme.

(b) The difference between the average cost of acquisition of gold by the Central Government and International Monetary Fund rate was Rs. 6.17 per gramme during 1960-61.

Passage of Olympic Torch Through India

*711. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Olympic Torch for 1964 Olympic Games at Tokyo is to be carried through India;

(b) whether the route across India has been decided; and

(c) what other arrangements are being made to ensure the successful

organisation of this historic occasion?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Torch is tentatively proposed to be flown by air via Delhi and Calcutta.

(c) The Indian Olympic Association, which is responsible for the arrangements, will plan out suitable programmes as soon as the route and the dates are finally decided.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know the reason for this decision that on a part of the way the torch will be carried by air and not across the road?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member is aware that these arrangements are being made by the Olympic Committee of Japan; and they have decided about this whole matter. I do not know what reasons weighed with the Olympic Committee of Japan. But they are responsible for all these arrangements.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether, in this case, the Indian Olympic Association is making any attempt to find out the reason? I would like to know whether on any previous occasion of Olympic games the torch has ever been carried by air in any part of the world.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as we are aware, we had agreed to give them all the possible facilities if they decided to take the torch by the road. But, I do not exactly know the reasons which ultimately weighed with this Olympic Committee of Japan. As I said, it is for them to take the decision.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: The question has not been answered, Sir. I know.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wanted to know why this departure is made, that normally the torch is carried through land but now it is being carried by air. The hon. Minister replied that we had offered every facility but that he cannot say why they did not agree to take it by road.