

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: I want to put a question.

Mr. Speaker: Is he insistent? Is the question so important?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: I want to put only one question. Now relief is given to flood-affected people only. May I know whether relief will be given in the case of house collapse from rains?

Shri Datar: It is a question for the State Government to consider. It is open to them to give grants or to make other provisions. Then we supplement the grant.

Oceanographic Research Wing

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*331. { Shri Subodh Hasda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the progress that has been made so far in the establishment of the Oceanographic Research Wing at the Indian Naval Physical Laboratory in Cochin;

(b) steps taken, if any, for securing adequately qualified teachers for the Wing;

(c) the funds allotted for this purpose; and

(d) the expenditure incurred to date for the establishment of the Wing?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) Central Government's sanction for the recruitment of staff for the Oceanographic Research Wing was issued on the 10th May, 1957. Necessary action is being taken to recruit the staff and also for the procurement of requisite equipment.

(b) No. teachers are required for this Wing which is a Research organisation.

(c) Rs. 9.08 lakhs for the Second Five Year Plan period.

(d) Nil.

Shri Subodh Hasda: May I know the action taken on the recruitment of staff?

Shri M. M. Das: We have sent requisition to the UPSC for the recruitment of a candidate for appointment to the post of Scientific Officer. As soon as the UPSC selects a person and he is appointed, the work will begin. We had also asked the UNESCO for an expert on Oceanography. But it was not possible for the UNESCO to send an expert for the current year. We are now taking up the matter with the Colombo Plan authorities.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What are the specific subjects on Oceanography on which research is proposed to be carried on and what is the area from which data is now sought to be collected for use in research in Oceanography?

Shri M. M. Das: I can read it to the hon. Member though it appears to be a difficult subject. Research will be carried out in the fundamental aspects of Oceanography like bathymetric work, measurements of salinity, temperature, ocean currents of surveys and depths for determination of density and composition, study of ocean floor deposits including their chemistry and radioactivity. It will also conduct exploration on the sea bottom by gravity, magnetic and seismic methods and carry out researches for improvements in the methods of observation of instruments.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know....

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member making any suggestion?

Shri V. P. Nayar: There is another aspect. We are far behind in Oceanographic research. I want to know the area from which Oceanographic data will be collected for purposes of research, that is, whether it will be confined to the West Coast area or it will be done in the East Coast also.

Shri M. M. Das: As we advance in this research, we will gradually extend it to all the areas in our country. But,

for the time being, until the required officers with adequate qualifications are appointed, these things cannot be decided.

Shri Easwara Iyer: May I know whether the data collected by the I N P L is made available to the Fisheries Department?

Shri M. M. Das: As far as our research is concerned, certainly they will be made use of by the Fisheries Department. The results of the research would be of particular importance to Navy, coastal navigation, Universities and Fisheries Department. Nothing will be hidden from the State Government.

India Office Library

*332. { **Shri Barman:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state the progress so far made in arriving at a settlement with the British Government about the India Office Library in London?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): There has been no development since Question No. 191 on the subject was answered in the Lok Sabha on 21st May, 1957.

Shri Radha Raman: In view of the slowness of progress or no progress in the matter, may I know whether the Government contemplate taking this matter to the International Court.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: No, Sir.

Shri Barman: In reply to the earlier question the hon. Minister has just now stated that there has been no development since 26th November, 1956. Now one year has passed. What is the latest correspondence on the subject and what is the main point on which this matter is stuck up?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As the House is aware, this matter was discussed with

Earl Home when he came here in October, 1956. Both the Education Minister and the Prime Minister discussed this matter with him. A note was also handed over to him when he was here. Then, we followed this with another note which we sent on 10th February, 1957. But no reply has so far been received from them. Then again, the High Commission of India have recently informed us that they have reminded the Commonwealth Relations Office to expedite a reply to the note which was handed over on 10th February, 1957. Unless we receive a reply to that communication, no further action can be taken in this matter.

Shri Barman: What is the main point on which this matter is stuck up? What is the objection of the British Government as regards transfer?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The main point is that we have claimed that the India Office Library belongs to undivided India and so it should be transferred.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how far Pakistan is standing in the way? What are the difficulties that they have created?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It is rather a delicate question and I would not like to enter into that matter. This question was discussed with the Minister of Pakistan also. At present the main thing is that we have to settle with the U.K. Government and after this decision has been taken, further action can be taken in this matter.

Shri Yajnik: May I know whether Government have secured a complete list of all the manuscripts and books that are available in the India Office? Would they try to get those reports and administrative and political documents which relate to different areas of India or any part thereof?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: We have a list with us. As regards the procurement of those books or documents, that matter can be settled only after we