

expected that the cases will be put in court, shortly. I will not be surprised if some of them have already been referred to court.

Ferro-manganese Plant in Orissa

*1591. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have submitted any proposal for starting a Ferro-manganese Plant in Kasipur in Kalahandi District during the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, whether the proposal is receiving the consideration of Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (**Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha**): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This scheme is being considered by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Government.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether the proposed ferro-manganese plant in Kasipur will be a joint venture or will be a pure government undertaking?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (**Sardar Swaran Singh**): That matter is still under consideration.

Shri Panigrahi: What will be the estimated cost of setting up this plant?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: The total value of equipment required for this plant will be Rs. 140 lakhs, out of which Rs. 115 lakhs form expenditure of foreign currency.

Shri Mahanty: The hon. Minister has said that the proposal is under consideration. In view of the fact that the establishment of a ferro-manganese plant was included in the Second Five Year Plan, may I know when the proposal is going to be finalised and whether there is any likelihood of the plant turning up during the Second Five Year Plan period?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I should think so. It is likely to come up during the currency of this Plan period.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether besides this plant at Kasipur any other licence has been given to any other private concern for establishing any other ferro-manganese plant in Orissa?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There are three 'any other's in the question the hon. Member has asked. It is highly hypothetical. If there is any specific information required, he can pinpoint it and then I might be able to reply.

Air Accident at Ambala

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*1592. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri N. E. Munnisamy:
Sardar Amar Singh Saigal:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a collision between two Jet Aircrafts of the Indian Air Force occurred on the 29th March, 1958 at Ambala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (**Sardar Majithia**): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the details so far known is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Two Hunter aircraft collided in mid-air at about 09-50 hours on the 29th March, 1958, while carrying out aerobatics practice in formation for the Air Force Anniversary display which was held on the 1st April, 1958 at Ambala. The aircraft were destroyed. The two pilots, who were the only occupants, baled out of the aircraft by using an automatic ejection device and completed their descent by parachutes successfully. One of the pilots, however, received a minor spinal injury and is undergoing treatment.

2. A Court of Enquiry has been set up to investigate the accident.

Shri Joachim Alva: After the accident took place at Ambala, have Government made enquiries from the

manufacturers of Hawker Hunters whether any such accident had occurred in the countries where they were sold, though this accident occurred through acrobatics?

Sardar Majithia: It is a pure accident and the manufacturers are not to blame in this. It is just a flying accident, an error of judgment on the part of the pilot. That is about all.

Shri Joachim Alva: Have we enquired from them for a list of accidents that have taken place in the history of Hunters?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): How does it arise?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): There is a Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate the accident. With your permission, I would like to say that these two men who bailed out, whose names are not, according to custom, given out, behaved with remarkable presence of mind and courage. It was a daring feat in the sense that they avoided a great tragedy to the villages around. As the Deputy Minister has said, it is purely a flying accident, having nothing to do with the machine.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What was the type of these two planes and what was their cost?

Sardar Majithia: They were Hunters, as has already been mentioned. As regards the price, roughly it is Rs. 16½ lakhs each.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : इस स्टेटमेंट में कहा गया है " One of the pilots, however, received a minor spinal injury". उसको जो चोट लगी है उस के बाद भी क्या वह पायलट रहने के कर्तव्य रहेगा, अगर नहीं रहेगा तो क्या उसको कोई कमिशन दिया जायेगा ?

Mr. Speaker: We are going away from the main question.

Sardar Majithia: It is a premature question. I think he will be fit to fly again.

सरदार भ० सि० सहगल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जिस चैम्प का परिचय इन दोनों पायलट्स ने दिया है तथा जिम खूबी के साथ इन्होंने अपने प्राण को बचाया है, उस के लिए क्या उन्हें कोई पुरस्कार देने के बारे में विचार किया जाएगा ?

Mr. Speaker: It is premature.

Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development

*1594. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) further progress made towards the establishment of a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development; and

(b) whether the legal framework and the organisational set up have been finalised and approved?

The Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) The position in regard to the proposal for the establishment of SUNFED was last stated before this House on the 17th December, 1957 in written reply to question No. 1754. Since then, the proposal has been modified. The General Assembly has now decided in favour of a separate Special Fund "as an expansion of the existing technical assistance and development activities of the United Nations and the specialised agencies". The resolution unanimously adopted by the General Assembly on the subject is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 34].

(b) The organizational framework of the Special Fund is being considered by a Preparatory Committee which has been in session since the 11th March, 1958.

Shri D. C. Sharma: When will this Committee, which is to go into the