

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

507

### LOK SABHA

Thursday, 13th February, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Western Higher Technological Institute, Bombay

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\*99. { Shri Subodh Hasda:  
      { Shri S. C. Samanta:

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

(a) what progress has been made in the establishment of the Western Higher Technological Institute, Bombay;

(b) whether Russian Professors and equipment have arrived; and

(c) whether it will be possible for Government to admit students during the academic year 1958-59?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) The Memorandum and Articles of Association for the purpose of registering the Institute as a Society have been drafted and the constitution of the first Board of Governors has been completed. The registration will be done soon and the Board will take over the task of administration and development of the Institute.

The site at Powai has been made over by the Government of Bombay and a Master Plan giving the layout

508

of the various buildings has been prepared. Construction work on the workshops for the Institute and some staff quarters has started. It is expected that work on a few other buildings will also start shortly.

It has been arranged with the Silk and Art Silk Research Association that the four storeyed Technology Block in the new building being put up by the Association at Worli will be made available to the Institute for a period of two years to enable it to start the Courses this year. The building will be ready in March 1958.

42 posts of Assistant Professors and Lecturers have been advertised and Selection Committees are at work at present. Six of the selected candidates will be sent to U.S.S.R this year for training.

(b) 13 Russian Professors have already arrived in the Country and equipment costing about Rs. 3 lakhs has also been received. More equipment is expected during the next few months.

(c) The Institute expects to admit the first batch of students this year.

Shri Subodh Hasda: May I know the terms and conditions under which the building of the Silk and Art Silk Research Association would be handed over to us?

Shri M. M. Das: The Silk and Art Silk Research Association did not demand any rent from the Government of India. They said that the only term and condition was that after two years, the building would be given back to them in the same condition in which it has been handed over to us.

Shri Subodh Hasda: What is the number of boys that will be admitted in the next academic year?

**Shri M. M. Das:** There is already some difficulty in finding properly and adequately qualified teachers. But if the recruitment of staff is according to the schedule and if the staff position is satisfactory, we hope that 100 boys will be admitted in the next academic year.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether it is a fact that at the Technological Institute at Kharagpur, many of the seats are not filled for want of candidates with the requisite qualifications? If so, what is the use of opening another institute at Bombay when the one at Kharagpur is not filled up fully, although the students are taken from all over India?

**Shri M. M. Das:** We have on more than one occasion told hon. Members here that so far as the recruitment of properly qualified staff in our technological and engineering institutions is concerned, it is highly unsatisfactory and it is a fact that some posts remain vacant in the Kharagpur Institute. But we have to go on and expand our technical education and so we are going to establish this Institute. We think that it will be possible for us to recruit the minimum staff that will be necessary and in this respect, we expect to get some help from the Russian Government. Russian professors are also coming to help us.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know the approximate expenditure that is going to be incurred during the Second Five Year Plan and the cost of equipment that will be there in the present year?

**Shri M. M. Das:** During the Second Five Year Plan, about Rs. 325 lakhs have been earmarked for this institution. During the next year's budget, there is provision for Rs. 22 Lakhs. So far as the equipment position is concerned, perhaps in the statement I have already said that equipment worth about Rs. 3 lakhs has already been received by us and the UNESCO has placed orders for equipment as follows: U.S.S.R. about Rs. 44,52,700; U.K. about Rs. 46,900; U.S.A. about Rs. 24,000 and Germany about Rs. 17,74,400.

**Shri B. K. Galkwad:** May I know what salaries will be paid to the Russian professors?

**Shri M. M. Das:** There is an agreement so far as I remember, but I am not prepared to commit myself on this point. The salaries and other things will be borne by the Russian Government, but the expenditure to be incurred here on their accommodation, contingency, assistance etc. will be borne by us.

#### Scientific Documentation Centre

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\*100. { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
      { Shri Subodh Hasda:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) whether the Scientific Documentation Centre functioning in the National Physical Laboratory is adequately equipped with necessary trained personnel and equipments;

(b) the total expenditure that has been incurred for the establishment of the Centre;

(c) whether any complaint has been received regarding the excessive charges prescribed for the facilities offered by the Centre, and

(d) the amounts realised as fees so far by the Documentation Centre since its establishment?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 16,77,630-07 upto 31st December 1957. The UNESCO contributed equipment and supplies worth \$85,000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Rs. 1,16,155-27, upto 31st December, 1957.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** What are the functions of the Indian Scientific Documentation Centre?