

already an established mine in the district of Almora which has been lying unworked for many years?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes We are aware of these small mineralised zones in the Himalayas also But the difficulty is that now the entire concept of exploitation of copper has become so large and comprehensive that we cannot be guided by the old method of working of our ancient people

Shri Kasiwal: There are persistent reports that the Khetri area is supposed to be exploited in collaboration with Poland and some Polish experts have also seen the area How far are these reports true?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, there is no proposal to work the Khetri mines in collaboration with any foreign Power There is a proposal from the Polish Government to supply us some equipments and technical advice for mining From that point of view, certain technicians had come here and they are still pursuing the matter, whether they are in a position to sell us some equipment or not.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if a very promising deposit has recently been discovered in the Sikkim area, which contains not only copper but also zinc and silver? What steps are the Indian Bureau of Mines taking to expedite the proving of that deposit?

Mr. Speaker: We are going from one area to another.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It is about copper.

Mr. Speaker: It may be copper, but the question was confined to three areas only

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In Sikkim, we have been searching for copper for some time, and we have discovered copper there.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if Government are aware of the fact

that in some industrial countries they are exploiting even ore of lower grade than our ore?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, provided the copper ores are extensive and the quantities found are quite big. We presume that the Khetri copper mines have that prospect.

Sea-Hawk Fighter Aircrafts

*219 **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to lay a statement showing the details of the deal regarding the purchase of Sea-Hawk fighter Aircraft from M/s. Hawker Siddley Group of UK?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): It is not in the public interest to give out the details of the contracts

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Did we have proposals from other manufacturers from other countries? If so, were they examined, and with what result?

Shri Raghuramaiah: All available offers have been examined The naval authorities were completely satisfied and the purchase was made through the Director-General, Supplies and Disposals, after the usual procedures and technical examinations were completed

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Which were the other types of fighter aircraft which were offered for purchase by us, and on what specific points was the Sea-Hawk preferred?

Shri Raghuramaiah: That would be giving out the technical opinion. We should trust our naval advisers, that they have taken all aspects into account and advised the acquisition of the best type of aircraft that is suitable for the purpose.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What is the total value of the contract?

Shri Raghuramaiah: That is going into details.

Mr. Speaker: What is the total value of the purchase? The House is entitled to know that That will not be going into details

Shri Raghuramalah: Of course, we are in your hands. But if we give the price of the aircraft, then it would be possible to find out the number of the aircrafts.

Mr. Speaker: What is the total amount that has to be invested in this?

Shri Nath Pai: By this time in the professional English journals, the details would have been published Only this House is not taken into confidence You are hiding it from us only (*Interruption*) That is your conception of secrecy?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Ask for notice

Shri Raghuramalah: There are different types involved here

Mr. Speaker: Nobody wants those things What is the total amount involved?

Shri Raghuramalah: Amount £15 lakhs

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether the Sea-Hawk fighter meets all the requirements of the Defence forces?

Shri Raghuramalah: This is meant for the Aircraft Carrier

Pension for U.P.S.C. Members

*222 **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state.

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the question of providing pension to such members of the Union Public Service Commission who were not in pensionable service at the time of appointment to the Union Public Service Commission; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) No

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Since what time this question has been pending before Government, and why has an expeditious decision not been taken.

Shri Datar: This question is not before us in the way in which the hon. Member thinks that it is Under article 318(a) of the Constitution, regulations have to be framed about the conditions of service of members of the Union Public Service Commission The whole matter is under consideration

L.I.C. Loans for House Construction

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 { **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Warrior:
 *223 { **Shri Kodiyam:**
Shri Anirudh Sinha:
Shri Damani:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Life Insurance Corporation is considering a scheme for the grant of loans to Policy-holders at privileged rates for housing purpose, and

(b) if so, at what stage the scheme is?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b) A draft scheme to encourage house building by Policy-holders has been drawn up and is under consideration of the Life Insurance Corporation

Shri V. P. Nayar: What percentage of the amount covered by the policy would be given as loan?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I have stated that the scheme is under consideration by the Corporation It is only after the details are worked out that I will be in a position to say that

Shri Bimal Ghose: Who prepared the scheme and when was it sent to the L.I.C. for consideration