

(b) whether it is a fact when the discussions were resumed on the following day i. e. the 11th April, 1968 the Chairman of the meeting and Officers of the Central Government declined to follow the same procedure for recording of the minutes and the meeting ended abruptly ;

(c) whether any reasons were adduced for not recording the minutes as was done on the first day of the meeting ; and

(d) whether it is generally the practice of his Ministry to convene meetings where discussions take place but no minutes are recorded ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d). No formal minutes were drawn up on the 10th April, 1968, but some notes of discussion were dictated. On the 11th morning, when the discussions started, the Madhya Pradesh officers insisted on a procedure of the State officers recording their views, Central Officers recording replies and the State officers adding their rejoinder. They further wanted that the Central officers should sign such record. This procedure was not considered appropriate as it was felt that the Central Government, not being a party to the dispute, it would be better if a summary record of the proceedings were to be issued at the end of the round of the discussions.

The general practice of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power is to issue a summary record of discussions after the meetings are held.

Kalakot Thermal Power Project

9697. **SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kalakot Thermal Power Projects near Jammu which was originally estimated to cost about Rupees 2.56 crores is not likely to be completed even under the revised estimated cost of Rupees 4.30 crores made in March, 1966 ;

(b) the total expenditure so far incurred on the erection of this power station and the progress so far made in the work and procurement of equipment and erection thereof ;

(c) when the project is likely to be completed and the latest revised estimated cost of the project ; and

(d) the main reasons for the delay and increase in the expenditure to such a degree ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) The original estimated cost of Rs. 2.56 crores for the Kalakote Thermal Power Station Project has been revised to Rs. 4.50 crores. The revised estimate, however, is awaited from the State Government.

(b) Expenditure amounting to a total of Rs. 4.34 crores is anticipated to have been incurred upto March, 1968. The generating plant and equipment have already been procured and are under installation.

(c) The first generating unit (7.5 MW) is expected to be commissioned shortly. The project is expected to be completed by the middle of 1969.

(d) The reasons for the delay and increase in expenditure are as follows :

- (i) difficulties in the transport of equipment and material to project site.
- (ii) difficulties in the procurement of labour and suitable contractors.
- (iii) suspension of work during 1965 due to Pakistan conflict.
- (iv) Effect of devaluation.
- (v) Impounding of equipment in Pakistan and.
- (vi) Recent fire accident in the power station.

Smuggling of Silver out of India

9698. **SHRI P.N. SOLANKI :**
SHRI R. K. AMIN :
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :
SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing phenomenon of smuggling of silver on large scale out of India is due to low value of silver in India or because of higher rupee value

of the foreign exchange earned by its smuggled export; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to check smuggling of silver outside India keeping in view the factors referred to in Part (a) above?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER & MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) At present there does not appear to be any significant difference between the internal and international prices of silver. Acquisition of foreign exchange in an unauthorised manner appears to be the motive for the smuggling of silver out of the country.

(b) Among the important steps taken by Government to check smuggling including the smuggling of silver out of the country are systematic collection and follow-up of information, setting up of reliable informers and keeping a watchful eye on the various gangs of smugglers, rummaging of suspected vessels and aircraft, patrolling of vulnerable sections of the coastal waters, and the coastline and land frontiers, launching of prosecution in suitable cases in addition to departmental adjudication.

Insuring of Smuggled Gold

9699 SHRI P. N. SOLANKI :
SHRI R. K. AMIN :
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :
SHRI NANJA GOWDER :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the smuggling of gold can be insured in a regular way;

(b) if so, the total amount of gold smuggled into India from 1961 up-to date, year-wise based on the estimate from the rates of premium from such an insurance?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER & MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) As smuggling of gold is unlawful, the insurance companies cannot be expected to provide insurance cover for it.

(b) Does not arise.

Chummeries in Lodi Colony New Delhi

9700 SHRI P. N. SOLANKI :

SHRI R. K. AMIN :

Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that bachelor type chummeries in Lodi Colony New Delhi have been allotted to family officers;

(b) if so whether adequate arrangements for water supply for cooking have been made;

(c) whether it is a fact that the lavatory block consisting of only two bathrooms and two lavatories hardly cater to the needs of the large number of residents living in each block;

(d) if so, the arrangements contemplated to relieve the congestion in this regard ;

(e) whether it is a fact that there is water logging in the backyards of these chummeries, breeding mosquitoes and creating other health hazards; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to improve the sanitary conditions of these quarters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) :

(a) to (d). The chummeries in Lodi Colony, New Delhi, have been allotted as hostel accommodation on *ad hoc* basis to bachelor as well as other officers on receipt of specific requests from them for accommodation in these chummeries. It is not regular family accommodation only one or two rooms being allotted to each officer. Water supply exists in the common mess and bath rooms of each block.

As these chummeries were originally intended for bachelor officers, the provision of two bath-rooms and two lavatories in each block of ten chummeries, was quite adequate. Since a number of these chummeries are now occupied by family officers also, the existing provision is not adequate. A proposal for the conversion of these chummeries into regular family quarters with proper amenities was considered a few years back but had to given up due to financial stringency. The proposal is being revived a gain.