

(c) if so, what decision Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) : (a) No new deposits of coal, and diamond have been discovered in the Chanda district. The department of Mining and Geology of the Maharashtra State has however reported new deposits of iron ore in Fusar, Gadchi-rolī Tahsil of the Chanda district.

(b) and (c) No direct request was received from the Government of Maharashtra. However systematic mapping of Chanda district and the investigation of iron ore in the Gad-chiroli taluk have been included in the field programme of the Geological Survey of India for 1961.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, whether any deposits of uranium and thorium have been discovered in Chanda district?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am not aware of this just now.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that a private firm has applied for a prospecting licence and a mining licence to exploit uranium and thorium in the district, and whether it is also a fact that in spite of the fact that the application was made two or three years before, the prospecting licence and the mining licence have not been granted to them so far?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Government in our Ministry do not deal with the exploration licences for uranium and other atomic energy minerals.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: If private agencies are not given any licences, may I know, Sir, whether Government are taking any steps to exploit these minerals which are most essential and important from the nuclear point of view?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I know that Government are taking steps ac-

tively for the exploitation of the atomic energy minerals in the country.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Minister just now stated that huge deposits of iron ore have been discovered. In view of this discovery, may I know, Sir, whether any steel plant or any big iron plant will be established in Chanda district in the Third Five Year Plan period?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I think that a private firm is thinking of putting up a comparatively small plant for manufacture of pig iron in Chanda district.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, who is this private firm and what will be the annual output?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I am speaking from memory; I think they are Hind Traders or some similar name, and they are proposing to have an annual capacity for making one lakh tons of pig iron.

#### GOLD SEIZED AT PALAM AIRPORT

\*238. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gold in huge quantity was seized at Palam airport by the customs authorities on Sunday, the 25th September, 1960;

(b) if so, what is the (i) quantity and (ii) value of gold so seized;

(c) who was smuggling the gold, and to which country he belonged; and

(d) what action is being taken against the person concerned?

Tm; DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) 1,026 *tolas* and 6 *mashas* of gold valued at Rs. 1,25,000 approximately was seized at Palam Airport on the 25th September, 1960.

(c) Shri Sat Dev Missir, an Indian national.

(d) The gold has been confiscated and Shri Missir is being prosecuted.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, from which country this gold was being smuggled?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The gold was marked from Hong Kong.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, how many such cases of smuggling took place during the last six months?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I take it that the question refers to the Palam airport. In 1960 gold worth Rs. 3 lakhs, up to October, was seized.

SHRI ABHIMANYU RATH: Will the hon. Minister please give those figures in the metric system?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Give what in the metric system?

SHRI ABHIMANYU RATH: The gold.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you adopting the metric system in your answers?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Well, I shall supply it to the hon. Member.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ AN SARI: Sir, I wanted to know the name of the Indian national who was trying to smuggle this gold.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I gave the name as Shri Sat Dev Missir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that over the last one year those people who had been apprehended while smuggling gold through Palam, Bombay, Calcutta and so on are invariably connected with certain important business houses and that some of them have got various connections in Hong Kong and other foreign centres specifically for this purpose?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: So far as this gentleman is concerned, he was not connected with any business concern.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, in what manner the investigation is conducted into such smuggling cases, especially when they originate from other countries?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We cannot disclose all the investigations.

#### AMOUNT SPENT ON INDIAN TEAMS WHICH PARTICIPATED IN OLYMPIC GAMES

\*239. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government on the teams which participated in the Olympic games at Rome; and

(b) what prizes the Indian players were awarded in those games?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Rupees two lakhs thirty-nine thousand six hundred and ninety. This is subject to adjustment after scrutiny of accounts of actual expenditure incurred.

(b) One Silver medal.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, how many Indian teams participated in the Rome Olympics?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I think the hon. Member is referring to the Indian contingent which participated in the Olympic Games. It was an athletic team of 11 male athletes and 2 officials, a hockey team of 20 players and 2 officials, etc. I will place the whole list of the Indian contingent on the Table of the House.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, what the Government of India is doing to improve the games in India?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The Government of India are doing everything that is possible by giving assistance to the State Governments as well as the sports clubs for the development of sports.