

SHRI S. MAHANTY: But since the Public Accounts Committee has been referred to, I may say that the Public Accounts Committee in its reports have regretted that certain officers against whom allegations have been made have either been suspended or removed from the administration. May I know what steps the Government are taking against the persons who are charged with very grave and serious offences but who are not continuing to serve under the administration?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: In fact, Sir, the Public Accounts Committee drew attention to certain irregularities, for example, the sleepers case, and the services of the officer concerned have been terminated.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: In addition to that do the Government contemplate taking any steps to bring those officers to book because 'lakhs of rupees of tax-payers' money was involved?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: In fact some of the cases I have referred to are under the Special Police investigation and their report is now awaited.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What has happened to the so-called sleepers case?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That is actually what I mentioned now.

KHWAJA IN AIT ULLAH: Will the hon. Minister let the House know the kind of irregularities? We wish to know what are these irregularities.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Is it a fact that in this pamphlet an allegation has been made which has been covered by the judgement of the Orissa High Court to which the hon. Minister's attention was drawn in the last session and which the hon. Minister undertook to give further information

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That case also has been handed over to the Special Police for further investigation.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: How long has the Special Police Establishment been investigating into the charges against Mr. L. T. Wadhvani?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I cannot say-how long they propose to carry on the investigation.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that that particular officer is still continuing under the Government of India?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Not at Hira-kud, of course.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: The question is whether he is continuing under the Central Water & Power Commission at the moment in Delhi?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I think he is continuing under the Central Water & Power Commission. We have not yet received a full report from the Police. They said they were still investigating the case and unless they give us a *prima facie* case against him, it is not possible to remove him.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Has he been promoted to any higher post?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: What is the policy of the Government in respect of officers who are under investigation? Is it the policy of the Government to continue them in service until a substantial case is established against them?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: If *prima facie* moral turpitude could be attached then, of course, he is to be suspended.

NATIONAL FILM LIBRARY

♦76. KUMARI SHOLLA BALA DAS: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a National Film Library in India; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to set up one?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A proposal for a film library has been made by the Film Enquiry Committee. The recommendations are, however, at present under consideration and no decision has been arrived at.

PROF. G. RANGA: Are any steps being taken to see that this film industry which has plenty of money at its disposal is made to contribute for the development of this library?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: We note the suggestion of the hon. Member.

DR. KALIDAS NAG: In view of the very great importance of audiovisual education in a country like ours, I want to know whether the hon. Minister proposes to have a sort of classified list of the films, that is, scientific films, cultural films and so forth. Has he got anything along this line in contemplation in view of the All-India Education Conference which is going to be held in Calcutta next month?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: There is nothing that is being done in view of the Conference that is being held. But one of the proposals of the Film Enquiry Committee is for an institute which would keep such a film library as my hon. friend mentioned. I might in this connection mention that at present there is a film library on a small scale—not on such a big scale as my hon. friend mentioned—maintained by the Ministry of Education, of documentaries and of educational films.

EARTH-MOVING MACHINES AT HIRAKUD

*77. SHRI S. MAHANTY: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state the total cost of spare parts purchased for the upkeep of the earth-moving machines at Hira-kud?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): Rs. 177-75 lakhs.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I know the number of earth-moving machines which were purchased for Hirakud?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: About 246.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I know from which country or countries they were purchased and the manner of the purchases?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: They were mainly purchased from the U.S.A., the U.K. and Western Germany through the Director-General of Civil Supplies here.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: How many machines were purchased from the U.K. and Western Germany as compared with the machines purchased from the U.S.A.?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I have not got the break-up of that.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: How many foreign experts are being maintained in Hirakud to look after these machines?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I think 3 or so.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Will the hon. Minister tell us what is the total amount of money spent in purchasing these earth-moving machines?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: 2 crores and 13 lakhs approximately.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Was any tender invited for purchasing all this machinery?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: For almost all the goods and machines which we have purchased through the Director-General of Civil Supplies, of course, tenders were invited.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: What were the exceptions and what were the amounts involved?