

that this Board should have its meeting at Trivandrum and I believe quite a number of people must have attended from Travancore-Cochin. This question has to be addressed to the proper quarters and I am afraid, I have no information.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Sir, I want to know which handicrafts did they represent?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I have got only the names of invitees to whom the travelling expenses have been paid. I do not know if there was anybody else who has not been paid any allowances. Maybe, a number of people did attend. I think the Government was associated with the whole scheme.

PANDIT S. DUBE: Was there any meeting in Nagpur?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only two meetings have been held—one in Delhi and the other in Trivandrum—and none at Nagpur.

PANDIT S. DUBE: May I know whether any meeting will be held at Nagpur?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a suggestion for action.

AMOUNT PAID TO THE INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING COMPANY OF U. S. A.

*453. **SHRI S. MAHANTY:** Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state the total amount so far paid to the International Engineering Company of the United States of America for tendering advice to the Central Water and Power Commission in connection with the Hirakud Dam Project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): The total amount paid to the International Engineering Company of the U.S.A., for preparation of designs for the Hirakud Dam Project is Rs. 4,44,500.

SHRI B. R. DUBE: Has this expenditure been audited?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Am I to understand that the Central Water and Power Commission only sought advice from the International Engineering Company as regards the designs of the Project?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Sir, in the beginning when the Project was undertaken, the C.D.O. (Central Designs Office) was not properly organised and it was in 1949-50 that we had sufficient men and therefore this had to be entrusted to this company.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What I intend asking is whether it is only for the preparation of designs that the Central Water and Power Commission sought advice from the International Engineering Company, or for any other matter connected therewith. That is the question.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I could not follow it, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said here: "for preparation of designs for the Project." Is it only for preparing designs or is it for tendering advice on other aspects also?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Not for other aspects, for preparation of designs only.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that Government entered into a contract with this firm in 1948 for the preparation of designs on payment of Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 lakhs—merely for designs?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: With this firm? I do not think it is so?

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that the design submitted by this firm in 1948 was found unsuitable?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Not that they were found unsuitable, but as we got further data, some designs had to be changed.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that Mr. Savage who was the Adviser to the Government of India with regard to this project was connected with this firm and that it was on his advice that these designs were prepared?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Mr. Savage was their adviser but not a partner in the firm.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: I have got no more questions to ask, but I want to have the position clarified. Inasmuch as the Central Water and Power Commission on inadequate data referred the whole matter of designs to the International Engineering Company and since as a matter of fact their designs were found unsuitable, may I know if the Government of India are taking any steps to recover this amount from anybody?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: From whom? The Government had some data available in 1946-47. Soon afterwards the Government decided that they should go ahead with this project. They sent the available data to this Company and they prepared the design. On further investigation with more data available, naturally the designs had to be changed.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: These designs had been prepared somewhere else. Does the Minister mean to say that the engineers concerned did not come on the spot before they prepared the designs?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: All the engineers who prepared these designs had not come on the spot, but all the data was sent to them. But as the drilling and other things went on it was found that the foundation had to be changed, and that the nature of the dam had to be changed a bit. Naturally there had to be a change in the designs also.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: My question was more fundamental. On a number of occasions the Central Water and Power Commission, on the basis of

insufficient data, have gone to foreign concern to seek advice which was ultimately found to be unsuitable. What I want to know is this: Is it a fact that the Government has also entered into agreements with the Federal Reclamation Bureau of America for similar purposes?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I do not know about it.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Under Operational Agreement No. 6.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: May I know whether these designs were prepared by somebody *in absentia*?

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: May I know whether, after paying Rs. 4 lakhs for these designs which had to be changed later on, we had to pay them something for changing them also?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No.

*454. [The questioner (Shri K. Suryanarayana) was absent.]

EXPORT OF MICA TO HUNGARY

*455. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of mica bought by Hungary from India year by year since 1947 and its value; and

(b) whether it is a fact that mica has been excluded from the articles of export to Hungary in the Indo-Hungarian Trade Agreement signed recently; if so, why?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the Council.

(b) Mica has not been included in the current Indo-Hungarian Trade Agreement because its inclusion was not considered necessary either by India or by Hungary.