

used, and every effort was being made to use that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members will try to avoid asking the same question. Evidently, they want to emphasise.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to have a clarification.

**Mr. Speaker:** He said he won't ask any supplementary.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I agree.

#### Life Insurance Corporation

\*1589, **Shri Promathanath Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the shares purchased by the Life Insurance Corporation from Shri Mundhra have been registered in its favour;

(b) if not, the number and value of shares which have not been registered;

(c) whether there are any forged share scrips passed on by Shri Mundhra to the Corporation; and

(d) if so, the amount involved therein?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) :	Name of the Company	No. of shares	Face value
			Rs.
	Richardson and Cruddas (ordy.)	5,450	54,500
	Richardson & Cruddas (Pref.)	3,200	3,20,000
	British India Corpn. (Ordy..)	2,068	10,340

(c) *Prima facie*, some of the shares

(d) delivered to the Corporation were not in order.

Face value Rs.	Book value Rs.
37,500	37,975

**Shri Promathanath Banerjee:** What steps have been taken by Government against Shri Mundhra on account of whom a former Finance Minister had to remove himself from office?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** A number of prosecutions are being launched against him; other cases are also pending.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether it is a fact that owing to bad credit and prevailing rumours in the market, production in the Mundhra group of companies is hampered? As a large amount of LIC funds and also public money is invested in these companies, do Government propose to appoint an expert committee to go into this or to have bigger control over these concerns so that they run smoothly?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does that arise out of the question? This relates to

transfer of shares, whether they are registered or not. The question of further going into the matter, whether Government are going to take over charge and so on, does not arise.

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** In reply to part (c), it has been said that scrips worth Rs. 34,000 or so have been found to be not in order. What steps have been taken against Shri Mundhra for the supply of scrips not in order?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** The matter has been given to the Special Police Establishment and they are investigating it.

**Shri Mahanty:** What steps have been taken also against the persons who accepted these irregular scrips?

**Shri Eanga:** Inquiry.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** A number of prosecutions are being launched. It is

expected that the cases will be put in court, shortly. I will not be surprised if some of them have already been referred to court.

#### Ferro-manganese Plant in Orissa

\*1591. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have submitted any proposal for starting a Ferro-manganese Plant in Kasipur in Kalahandi District during the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, whether the proposal is receiving the consideration of Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (**Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha**): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This scheme is being considered by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Government.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know whether the proposed ferro-manganese plant in Kasipur will be a joint venture or will be a pure government undertaking?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (**Sardar Swaran Singh**): That matter is still under consideration.

**Shri Panigrahi:** What will be the estimated cost of setting up this plant?

**Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** The total value of equipment required for this plant will be Rs. 140 lakhs, out of which Rs. 115 lakhs form expenditure of foreign currency.

**Shri Mahanty:** The hon. Minister has said that the proposal is under consideration. In view of the fact that the establishment of a ferro-manganese plant was included in the Second Five Year Plan, may I know when the proposal is going to be finalised and whether there is any likelihood of the plant turning up during the Second Five Year Plan period?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I should think so. It is likely to come up during the currency of this Plan period.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know whether besides this plant at Kasipur any other licence has been given to any other private concern for establishing any other ferro-manganese plant in Orissa?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** There are three 'any other's in the question the hon. Member has asked. It is highly hypothetical. If there is any specific information required, he can pinpoint it and then I might be able to reply.

#### Air Accident at Ambala

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\*1592. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Shri N. E. Munnisamy:**  
**Sardar Amar Singh Saigal:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a collision between two Jet Aircrafts of the Indian Air Force occurred on the 29th March, 1958 at Ambala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (**Sardar Majithia**): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the details so far known is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### Statement

Two Hunter aircraft collided in mid-air at about 09-50 hours on the 29th March, 1958, while carrying out aerobatics practice in formation for the Air Force Anniversary display which was held on the 1st April, 1958 at Ambala. The aircraft were destroyed. The two pilots, who were the only occupants, baled out of the aircraft by using an automatic ejection device and completed their descent by parachutes successfully. One of the pilots, however, received a minor spinal injury and is undergoing treatment.

2. A Court of Enquiry has been set up to investigate the accident.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** After the accident took place at Ambala, have Government made enquiries from the