

be left to the discretion of the O.C. Unit. It took some time to follow up this decision and in the meanwhile the existing contractor was allowed to continue.

(d) Yes.

(e) Rs. 3,500 p.m. by Shri K. Chopra of Kaycee Coy., Delhi.

(f) Yes, but the rate charged is Rs. 1,650 p.m.

(g) The same contractor has the lease of these two cinemas also.

#### TOUR OF EDUCATIONISTS

\*87. **Shri Punnoose:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state what is the expenditure expected to be incurred by Government on the team of Indian and foreign educationists who are to make a study tour?

(b) What is the help, financial or otherwise, rendered by the Ford Foundation to this team?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (**Maulana Azad**): (a) The Government of India will not incur any expenditure in connection with the team.

(b) Expenditure to be incurred by the Ford Foundation is as follows:--

(i) Travel expenses for all the members of the team.

(ii) Salary to foreign experts.

(iii) A daily allowance of \$ 17 to each for the tenure of membership.

(iv) Secretariat assistance.

#### LAND ACQUISITION BY DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

\*89. **Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the land acquired by the Defence Department in Tarakeswar, Hoogly District, West Bengal is paddy cultivating land;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite request made from the villagers

for exchanging this land for a non-cultivating one, the Government of India have refused to do anything; and

(c) for what specific purpose this land will be used and why change of site is not possible?

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

(b) No such offer was received from the villagers. In any case alternate sites were considered and rejected for technical reasons.

(c) The lands are required for an Air Force Signal Station. Although the Board, which went into this question, was instructed to select, as far as possible, non-agricultural land, they found that no suitable plot was available and, therefore, had to recommend the acquisition of agricultural land. The Hon'ble Member will appreciate that the requirements were technical and no other site fulfilled those technical requirements in this case.

#### NEW UNIVERSITIES

\*90. **Shri S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 624 asked on the 18th August, 1953 and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the report of the Experts Committee appointed to examine in detail the question of opening new Universities; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (**Maulana Azad**): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Copies of the Report have been sent to Universities and to State Governments in India. It is hoped that the recommendations of the Expert Committee will be borne in mind when any proposal to set up a new University is considered.