

SHORT VISIT OF SCIENTISTS FROM ABROAD.

During my recent visit to the U.S.A. and England in May, June and July I informally explored the possibilities of scientists and technicians coming to India for short visits of from 2 to 4 months. On the academic and institutions side it is proposed that each visitor should normally spend a substantial part of the time giving lectures and conducting seminars at some appropriate educational centre. He should prepare a syllabus of the topics proposed to be covered by him together with a selected bibliography which would be circulated beforehand. Advanced students and research workers as also administrative officers in different parts of the country would then be able to get ready for the lectures and assemble at the selected centre and have personal discussions with the visitor concerned. In this way it would be possible to arrange intensive courses of study lasting over several weeks which would be fully equivalent to several months of normal work in Universities and institutions. Each visitor would also do a certain amount of travelling and see important centres of work in his own special field of study. On the administrative side, each visitor would contact the Government department concerned, visit such centres of work as may be arranged and discuss and advise on projects specially the post-war development schemes of such departments.

2. I met with a very encouraging response in both U.S.A. and U.K. and I was given to understand that the employing agency (Universities and Institutions or Government Departments and business firms concerned) are likely to give special leave on full pay for such visits. All expenses in India would naturally have to be paid by us. As regards expenses for journeys, I have informally suggested that this might be paid by the Rockefeller Foundation in the case of visitors from U.S.A. and by some similar organization in England in the case of visitors from U.K. In fact I have had personal discussions in this matter with responsible parties such as Mr. Willetts of the Education Section of the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, and Sir John Anderson (Chairman of the parliamentary Scientific Committee in London), as well as the President of the Royal Society and a number of other persons in England. I shall be going back to the U.S.A. and U.K. in the near future; and I have been requested to get the touch with the parties concerned on my return so that I expect to know the position quite definitely in the course of a few weeks.

3. Expenses in India would come to say Rs.1200/- per month or say Rs.3000/- for two months and a half for each visitor on an average. This will have to be met by us in any case. The air passage from England or any European country to India and back would be about £ 230 or say Rs.3000/-; and from America to India and back about 1800 dollars or say about Rs.6000/-. Even if we have to pay these charges, the total cost for each visitor would be about Rs.6000/- from U.K. and Rs.9000/- from U.S.A. But, as I have already mentioned, there is a good possibility of the travelling charges being met by the country of origin at least in some cases.

4. I have informally sounded a number of scientists in England regarding the possibility of their coming to India this winter. Prof. P.S.M. Blackett, F.R.S. has definitely agreed to come if invited, and Prof. J.B.S. Haldane, F.R.S. is also a certainty on certain conditions. Sir Henry Dale, o.m. (Ex-President of Royal Society and now president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science), Sir Robert Robinson (President, Royal Society), Sir Henry Tizard (for many years Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society and at present President of Magdalene College, Oxford), Sir Edward Appleton, F.R.S. (Director, Board of Scientific and Industrial Research), Sir Charles Darwin, F.R.S. (Director, National Physical Laboratory) have all agreed to consider the proposal seriously. I understand that Prof. J. Needham, F.R.S. is also willing to come this year. There are other possibilities.

5. I have also spoken to Canadian and Australian scientists whom I met in London, and I was assured that they would be glad to participate in the scheme. In America I had informal talks mainly with the statistical and mathematical groups. Dr. Edward Deming (Sample Adviser in the Federal Bureau of the Budget) is a certainty. I have also had talks with Professors Richard Von Mises and Marshall Stone (Harvard University), Norbert Wiener (Mass. Institute of Technology), S.S. Wilks (Princeton), H. Wald and H. Hotelling (Columbia). I am in touch with Mr. Moulton (Secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science) whose help will be readily available in this matter. In London I spoke to Prof. Niels Bohr (Denmark) and Professor Hadamard (France) and both appeared to be willing. There should be no difficulty in including other countries like Russia, Norway or Sweden in the present scheme.

6. I discussed the above scheme informally in London with Khan Bahadur Mia Afzal Husain, Dr. S.L. Hora, Sir K. Krishnan (who are members of the Science Congress Executive Committee) and other members of the Indian Delegation to the Royal Society and Empire Scientific Conferences (most of whom are members of the Council of the Science Congress) and found general support for the scheme.

7. Immediately after reaching Calcutta I wrote to Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru briefly explaining the proposed. In his reply of August 10th Panditji approved of the scheme to invite scientists from abroad to come to India for short visits. On receiving a telegram from him I went to Bombay on August 15th, and had a full discussion with him in this matter. He agreed to initiative being immediately taken from the Indian Science Congress Association and to Government being approached for a suitable grant. In case the Executive Committee so desire, Panditji would be willing to have the invitation issued over his signature. In the meantime Sir S.S. Bhatnagar, in continuation of our conversation in London at the end of July informed me in his letter of August 12th: "I am sure if you put up the proposal, the Government will make a grant".

8. I came back to Calcutta on August 19th and had intended to place this matter before the Executive Committee on August 21st. Unfortunately, owing to the disturbed conditions in the city, the meeting could not be held for lack of a quorum. Prof. S.N. Bose and I were present, and I am writing this note in consultation with him. I am due to leave for Europe, Canada and U.S.A. very shortly. It is necessary that a decision should be reached before my departure in case any thing is to be done this year. In view of the shortness of time, one possibility is to approve the scheme in principle by circulation and to authorize me to approach Government for a suitable grant. If this proposal is approved, I can go to Delhi as early as possible, take necessary action in consultation with Pandit Nehru and Sir S.S. Bhatnagar and finalize matters by personal discussions on the spot.

9. I am sorry I was unable to circulate this note earlier as the office was closed until this morning owing to the disturbances.

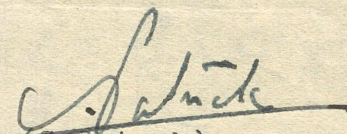
Sd/- P.C. Mahalanobis.

Indian Statistical Institute,
Presidency College,
Calcutta.
26th August 1946.

A.O., A.E.C., Bombay.

Sub: Additional Technical staff required for the maintenance of the Beta-Ray Spectrometer.

Will the Ministry please refer to this office u.o.No.21108/3705 dated 16-2-1953 on the above subject and kindly let this office know the present position with regard to the sanction for the staff asked for.


(S. Patuck)
7-4-1953

Ministry of NR & SR, New Delhi.
A.O., A.E.C., Bombay u.o.No.21108/40 dt: 7-4-1953

mt
8/7

Ministry of N.R. & S.R.

MINISTRY OF N. R. & S. R.
Date..... 9-4-53..
File No..... 1578

The u.o. case referred to above was sent to Member, AEC on 18.2.53 under this Ministry's u.o. No. AEC/DLH/880/53 and has not so far been received back. P.S. to Member, AEC may kindly see and arrange for the return of papers with the orders of Member AEC,


(R.C. Sharma)
for Under Secretary.

Shri K.S. Ramanathan, NPL, New Delhi.
Min. of NR & SR u.o. No. AEC/DLH/1182/53 dt. 11-4-53.

No.22/3/58-Tech.III
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

3 SEP 1958

Apollo Pier Road,
Bombay - 1,
August 30, 1958.
Bhadra 8, 1880.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Grant of honorarium to non-official Part-time
Members of the Atomic Energy Commission.

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The undersigned is directed to convey the sanction of the President to the grant of an honorarium of Rs. 500/- per month to non-officials from the date they are appointed as part time members of the Atomic Energy Commission.

2. The expenditure is debitable to the Subhead "A-Secretariat -A.3-Allowances Honoraria etc" subordinate to the Major Head "25-General Administration" for which the corresponding Grant number for the current financial year is 99-Department of Atomic Energy.

Sd/-

(R.C. SHARMA)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

To

The Accounts Officer,
Department of Atomic Energy,
Bombay.

No.22/3/58-Tech.III

Dated: August 30, 1958.

Copy, with three spare copies forwarded to the Deputy Secretary (Finance) Department of Atomic Energy for onward transmission to the Auditor, Department of Atomic Energy. This sanction has been issued with the concurrence of Member for Finance and Administration, Atomic Energy Commission vide his not dated August 25, 1958.

Sd/-

(R.C. SHARMA)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

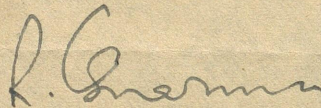
No.22/3/58-Tech.III

Dated: August 30, 1958.

Copy forwarded for information to:-

- (1) Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, Bombay;
- (2) Member for Finance and Administration,
Atomic Energy Commission, Bombay.

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- (3) Dr. K.S. Krishnan, F.R.S., Member, Atomic Energy Commission, C/o National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi. He will be entitled to draw the honorarium at Rs. 500/- per month with effect from June 27, 1958, the date on which the Commission came into existence.
 - (4) Secretary, Atomic Energy Commission
 - (5) Secretary, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi.



(R.C. SHARMA)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

SVR:sas:30-8-58.