

NATIONAL BOARD OF AUDIO-VISUAL
EDUCATION

*1274. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) when the last meeting of the National Board for Audio-Visual Education was held;

(b) the names of the States which have formed such Boards in pursuance of the National Board's recommendation;

(c) the approved subjects on which films were to be prepared and the total number of films produced upto-date under this scheme; and

(d) the total cost incurred on these films and the use that is being made of them?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):

(a) May 6th and 7th, 1953.

(b) The following States have so far formed Audio-Visual Education Boards:

(1) Ajmer; (2) Andhra; (3) Bihar; (4) Coorg; (5) Hyderabad; (6) Madras; (7) Manipur; (8) Uttar Pradesh.

(c) A list of the approved subjects on which films were to be prepared is attached. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 53.]

None of the proposed films has been produced so far.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Are Government aware that films for children are also being produced by the Broadcasting Ministry?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, Sir, we are fully aware of that. Moreover, these films proposed by the Education Ministry—proposed by the Board—will be produced by that Ministry.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Is the production of these films a matter for the Education Ministry or for the Broadcasting Ministry?

Dr. M. M. Das: The hon. Member may kindly understand that the Education Ministry has no machinery at its disposal to produce films. It is the Information and Broadcasting Ministry which has got the requisite machinery.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Have they produced any films up till now?

Dr. M. M. Das: In the answer I have already said that no films have been produced up till now, because of paucity of proper men.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: May I know if the children's films that are going to be produced—as we see in the papers today—are going to be under this scheme?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, Sir, a few children's entertainment films will also be produced under this scheme.

SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH (UNESCO
EXPERT)

*1275. **Shri R. S. Diwan:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether the services of an expert of the UNESCO have been engaged at the National Physical Laboratory for Solar Energy Research?

The Minister in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malavtya): No, Sir. But I may be allowed to add that one Mr. A. L. Gardner, UNESCO expert on translation in the Documentation Centre of the Laboratory has been taking interest in harnessing solar energy and he has designed a mechanism on the top of his roof by arranging a number of flat mirrors which concentrate solar energy at a point, and this has interested some of our experts. So we have encouraged him to design a solar energy harnessing mechanism in our Laboratory.

Shri R. S. Diwan: May I know if this particular gentleman is an ordinary arts graduate and is a translation expert and knows nothing of science, and the experiment which he undertook was a failure?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I will not call that experiment a failure. I have been impressed by that experiment. Many of our scientists are impressed by the work that he has put in.

NATIONAL PLAN LOAN BONDS

*1277. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that inordinate delay is being caused in the issue of National Plan Loan Bonds; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to expedite the issue of these bonds?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). As I stated in reply to Shri Matthen's Starred Question No. 1429 on the 28th September, 1954, there was some delay at a few places, particularly at Madras, in the initial stages. Scrips have now been issued in respect of all loan applications, numbering over 90,000, except for about 1,400 applications which are under scrutiny for certain irregularities.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether there is any particular difficulty in prescribing that the authority that takes the money towards this loan is also authorised to issue the bonds?

Shri M. C. Shah: That is all managed by the Reserve Bank. In order to avoid delays, the Reserve Bank's branches have been given powers, without confirmation about payment from the Accountant General. These payments are made in the Treasuries or Sub-treasuries. Then, they go to the Accountant General. After verification by the Accountant General, these scrips are issued. Orders have been issued that they may not wait for verification by the Accountant General. So, that delay is being done away with.

Shri T. N. Singh: Has the delay that has occurred in the past been due to any difficulty in the procedure or due to the Reserve Bank and the Imperial Bank being short-banded?

Shri M. C. Shah: Because of this procedure, there was some delay. So far as Madras was concerned, there was difficulty about accommodating the staff. They had just then changed the place. They got a very good place. Therefore all those applications were disposed of very early. First, in the initial stages, there was delay with regard to procedure.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING FOR EX-SERVICE-MEN

*1279. **Shri Randaman Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 115 on the 17th November, 1954 and state:

(a) the names of the places in the States where basic agricultural training courses are conducted for ex-servicemen;

(b) the duration of each course;

(c) the maximum number of ex-servicemen that can be taken in such institutes; and

(d) the measures that Government have adopted or propose to adopt to ensure that more persons join such courses?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 54.]

(b) The duration of each course is one year.

(c) The maximum number of ex-servicemen that can be taken is 25 per cent. of the total number of seats available in each institute. I should like to add here that it is expected to train 2,250 ex-servicemen in the course of the next two years.

(d) Wide publicity has been given to the training scheme through Press, Radio, District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards, Recruiting Offices and Regimental Centres. These measures will be repeated periodically.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: The hon. Member does not understand English.