

(b) the amount granted and the purpose for which it has been granted?

**The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das)**: (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 6].

### Oil in Punjab and Rajasthan

\*1898. **Shri Bheekha Bhai**: Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that preliminary site investigation in connection with the oil exploration and research done by the Russian experts in the Punjab and Jaisalmer areas of Rajasthan has been completed; and

(b) if so, when the machinery for drilling oil will be installed?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya)**: (a) After examining the various data collected by the Geological Survey of India and visiting promising areas, the Soviet Oil Experts recommended early drilling in the Punjab and also in Jaisalmer (Rajasthan). One site has been selected in the Jawalamukhi area.

(b) Arrangements are being made move an Oil Drill to the drill site at Jawalamukhi for installation as soon as the monsoon is over and the road is completed.

### Open Air Theatre

\*1899. **Shri Shree Narayan Das**: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether any and if so, what steps have been taken by the Central Government to encourage State Governments and non-official Organisations interested in constructing open air theatres?

**The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das)**: Under the Labour and Social Service Camps Scheme the Government of India have been giving financial assistance to State Governments and Universities for the construction of Open-air-theatres in Educational Institutions upto a maximum of Rs. 15,000/- for one theatre.

### Survey of Seismal Regions

\*1900. **Shri B. S. Murthy**: Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive survey of seismal regions of India was conducted;

(b) if so, when and the results thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to broadcast seismoscopic information in advance of earthquakes?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya)**: (a) to (c). The results of the investigations made by the Geological Survey of India of areas in which earthquakes have occurred are published in the annual General Reports of the Geological Survey of India. The reports are available for sale to the public. The Science of seismology has not advanced sufficiently to predict the exact time of occurrence of earthquakes even though seismic zones liable to shocks are known.

### Soviet Mining Experts

\*1901. **Shri D. C. Sharma**: Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet mining experts have made any recommendations regarding the copper mining industry; and

(b) if so, whether they have been considered by the Government of India?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya)**: (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

### Exhibition of Books

\*1902. **Shri Shree Narayan Das**: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the important features of Exhibition of Indian books which is to be held in November, 1956;

(b) whether any scheme has been prepared in this regard; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred?

**The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das)**: (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 7].

(c) Rs. 53,500/- approximately.

### National Atlas

\*1903. **Shri B. S. Murthy**: Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to prepare an up-to-date National Atlas with physical and regional aspects; and

(b) the estimated cost for the same?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya)**: (a) An organisation called the National Atlas Unit has been