

Shri Dabhi: May we know whether the Hindu soldiers who were killed in the war, were all buried?

Sardar Majithia: They were cremated. It is only in stray cases where no differentiation could be made, that they might have been buried.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Too much anxiety over graves. There has been enough about these graves.

SUPPLY OF RADIOS ETC. BY UNESCO

*1103. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether the UNESCO has supplied any radio and classroom equipment to the secondary schools or any other associations in India during the year 1952?

(b) What are the societies and institutions that have received educational equipment during this period?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 48]

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether it is the UNESCO alone or its agency here that decides the particular associations to which these gifts are to be given, or is it left to the Government of India?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The needs are surveyed by the UNESCO and they take all steps to distribute the supplies.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I was not understood. I want to know whether in granting these gifts, the UNESCO has any agency to decide what associations are to be selected, or is it left to our Government to decide what associations shall be benefited by these grants?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The UNESCO make their own arrangements to find out the requirements of institutions of member States. When these are known to them, they take suitable steps to appeal to their own member States to collect these supplies, and supply them to the member States.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What is the agency in India which distributes these radios to the schools on behalf of the UNESCO?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There is an Executive Board of the UNESCO and this Executive Board collects all the

information and makes arrangements for distribution.

Shri B. S. Murthy: My question is not answered. What is the agency in India on behalf of the UNESCO which distributes these radios to various schools?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They have got an Executive Committee and they choose their agencies. That is what he says.

Shri B. S. Murthy: In India?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any of our representatives are associated with that body?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware of it.

Shri Punnoose: The Minister stated that there is an agency for the UNESCO here. Are they collecting information through State Governments, or approaching institutions direct?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: These international organisations are generally always approaching through the Government.

Shri Dabhi: May we know the total value of the gifts?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There are three schemes under which these supplies are made: One is the UNESCO Gift Committee, secondly the UNESCO Reconstruction Fund, and the third is the Norwegian Committee fund. There are different values under these schemes. Under the UNESCO Gift Committee scheme, the value is roughly about Rs. 60,000. Under the second, viz., the UNESCO Reconstruction Fund, so far photographic paper film costing £110 have been supplied. In regard to the third, the Norwegian Committee Fund has distributed gifts costing about 11,355 dollars.

Sardar Hukam Singh: In 1951/52, the only institution that got this benefit of cash gifts was the Jamaat-e-Islami, and £14,000 was given to that institution. Was it on the recommendation of the Government of India, or did they do it of their own accord?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Besides the Jamaat-e-Islami, the Degree College of Almora also got the help or the gift. I do not know the exact recommendations made or specific amounts.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the amount given to the second institution, may I know?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Degree College, Almora, had suffered from losses due to accidental fire, and it got 2,572 dollars.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know what is meant by "educational improvement".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will not take notice of the question. Hon. Member must look on all sides. I have called another hon. Member.

पंडित सी० एन० मालवीय : क्या यह रियायत सिर्फ़ यू० एन० ओ० के लिये ही है या और भी किसी दूसरे मुल्क की सरकार के लिये है जो गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया से फ्रेंडली टर्मज पर है ?

बी के० डी० मालवीय : यूनेस्को संस्था के जो सदस्य हैं उन सब के लिये यह सहायता की योजना बनाई गई है ।

पंडित सी० एन० मालवीय : क्या इसका यह मतलब समझा जाये कि हिन्दुस्तान की हुकूमत से जो दूसरे मुल्क की हुकूमतें बोस्ती रखती हैं वह भी अपनी एजेन्सी हिन्दुस्तान में कायम कर के बंटवा सकती हैं ?

बी के० डी० मालवीय : यह प्रश्न तो इस से सम्बन्धित नहीं है । यूनेस्को एक अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संस्था है, उस के कुछ सदस्य हैं । उन सदस्यों की सहायता के लिये इस अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संस्था ने योजना बनाई है ।

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether there are any conditions that the institutions which receive these gifts have to abide by? If so, what are the conditions?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There is no particular condition, as far as I am aware.

BLIND PEOPLE

*1104. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the largest number of blind people of any country in the world; and

(b) whether their number has been assessed separately in the last census?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). Information regarding the number of blind people in India was not collected at the 1951 Census and, therefore, it is not possible to make a comparison with other countries of the world.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the Government aware that there are special legislative measures in other countries like the U.S.A. and the U.K. for the benefit of the blind?

Shri Datar: We are not aware.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Does the Government propose to take up any legislation for the benefit of the blind, so that they might not entirely depend upon the charity of the people?

Shri Datar: Government is not blind to the interests of the blind, and therefore they are taking necessary measures whenever required.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Does the Government propose to make any assessment of those who are wholly blind or partially blind?

Shri Datar: We are taking necessary steps to look after the interests of the wholly and partially blind.

Dr. N. B. Khare: Including themselves?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no use asking such a general question as that and answering in a general manner like that.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: May I know whether those who are politically blind are covered under the head of wholly blind or partially blind?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may answer it himself.

Shri Matthen: The hon. Minister stated that he is not aware of the amenities granted by the U.K. and the U.S.A. Will he be pleased to make inquiries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That was not on amenities, but on the question of any special legislation, set on foot.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Benefits to the blind.

Shri Matthen: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to make inquiries and try to take the necessary steps?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are all suggestions for action.