

Teachers belonging to other denominations. Padres who were in service on that date have however been permitted to continue to draw pay at the then existing rate in order to avoid hardship to them.

**श्री भक्त वर्मान :** माननीय मंत्री ने जो उत्तर दिया है, क्या उसका मतलब यह है कि वहाँ पर हिन्दू या दूसरे धार्मिक प्रध्यापकों का तन बढ़ना चाहिये था, वहाँ पादरी लोगों का वेतन भी घटा दिया गया है ? यदि हाँ, तो इस निर्णय का क्या कारण है ?

**Sardar Majithia :** It is true that in future the Padres will get the same remuneration as the religious teachers of other communities are getting at the moment. The reason for this revision is firstly the questions by the hon. Member in Parliament and secondly it is felt that now there is no need for giving a higher pay to the Padres who are now Indians while formerly they were Europeans.

**श्री भक्त वर्मान :** क्या गवर्नमेंट ने इस बात पर विचार किया है कि इस समय जो ३५ रुपये का वेतन धार्मिक प्रध्यापकों को दिया जा रहा है, वह बहुत ही अपर्याप्त है और उस से बड़ा प्रसन्नोष कैसा हुआ है ?

**Sardar Majithia :** We know that people are always clamouring for higher pay. We know about that.

### Solar Energy

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\*594. { **Shri Gidwani :**  
**Shri Rama Krishan :**

Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that experiments in the National Physical Laboratory on the utilisation of solar energy for domestic and industrial purposes have yielded good results;

(b) whether any scheme has been finalised for the development of power from solar radiation; and

(c) if so, main features thereof ?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya) :** (a) to (c), Researches on utilisation of solar energy in various ways for domestic and industrial purposes are under way as a part of the normal research programme of the National Physical Laboratory. The work has, however, not yet reached a stage at which the value of the results so far achieved may be assessed. The researches include experiments on solar heating, development of solar engines, refrigeration and air-conditioning,

industrial application and solar water distillation.

**Shri Gidwani :** May I know whether the scheme for the production of solar cookers has been given up ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** No, Sir. It has not been given up and it is not likely to be given up. I would like with your permission to remove the misunderstanding that solar cooker is something which can just go ahead because the technical processes are completed. There are many other problems involved around it, for instance the acceptability of the people. The acceptability of the people will only depend on its economic price and various other facilities that they like. I would like to inform the hon. Members that a thing like pressurised cooker devised about 60 years back has not yet been accepted by the people. Therefore in spite of the technological progress made in this connection I still think it might be decades before the solar cooker could come anywhere near being accepted.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha :** May I know whether the Government has calculated the cost of utilising solar energy for industrial purposes as compared with the cost of utilising electricity and other energies for industrial purposes and if so what is the conclusion that the Government has arrived at ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** We are still a very long way from the economics of solar heat utilisation for industrial purposes. It is nowhere near electrical energy that we are getting economically and the energy from the sources that are quite near us. The fundamental experiments and the investigations that are going on are giving us hope that perhaps we may be able to utilise solar energy for industrial purposes in certain cases.

**Shri Velayudhan :** May I now how many solar cookers we had produced, how much we had spent for that and how much was wasted ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** We have not wasted any money so far as manufacture of the solar cookers is concerned. Those people who are manufacturing ought to spend more money to popularise it.

**Shri G. S. Singh :** The hon. Minister referred to solar cookers. May I know whether he has any comparative figures regarding the money that could be saved on fuel and that might be spent on medical fees by people contracting heat stroke while using these cookers ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** I have not yet got that information.

**Shri Dabhi :** May I know the extent to which people have accepted solar cookers ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** They have not yet accepted the idea.

**Shri S. C. Deb :** May I know whether there is any idea of promoting some scheme on a domestic basis ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** Yes, the solar cooker scheme and the utilisation of solar energy for heating water are all inter-related and are meant for giving benefit to the family units.

**Shri P. C. Bose :** May I know whether it is a fact that in America and some other countries solar energy is being used for working radios and telephones and if so whether the Laboratory has taken note of this ?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** The hon. Member is giving information and not seeking.

#### National Theatre

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 { **Shri D. C. Sharma ;**  
 \*595 { **Shri Ram Krishan ;**  
 { **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha;**  
 { **Shri Shree Narayan Das ;**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the present position in regard to the building of a National Theatre in New Delhi ?

**The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das) :** A special Architect has recently been appointed for preparing the design of the National Theatre. Negotiations are under way to appoint a consultant. The construction work will start after the design has been prepared and approved.

**Shri D. C. Sharma :** This question was put during the last session and it is being put again during this session also. May I know the progress the Ministry has made during the period between the asking of this question during the last session and the asking of this question during this session and how far the blue-prints have advanced ?

**Dr. M. M. Das :** I have said that we have taken steps for the construction of the National Theatre. It is a building that will cost about a crore of rupees. So, we cannot go so swiftly as the hon. Member thinks we ought to.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** May I know why Government want to spend a crore of rupees on a theatre which would accommodate seven hundred persons or below one thousand\* instead of.....

**Some Hon. Members :** Not seven hundred\* but more.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :** Not seven hundred\* but two thousand.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** You are not yet a Minister.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** The hon. Member should ask a question and not try to argue with others.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** Is it a fact that, as stated in the press reports only about seven hundred or below one thousand will be accommodated in this theatre ?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** What would be the number that would be accommodated there? That should be the question.

**Dr. M. M. Das :** I would request the hon. Member not to rely too much on press reports. We ourselves do not yet know because the precise details are not yet in our hands.

सरदार झ० सि० सहगल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो आर्किटेक्ट चुकर किये जा रहे हैं उनका नाम क्या है, जो कंसल्टेंट हैं उनका नाम क्या है, और उनकी क्वालिफिकेशंस क्या हैं और उनको क्या तनख्वाह मिल रही है ?

**Dr. M. M. Das :** The Architect-in-Chief who has been appointed recently by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply is Mr. M. M. Rana, Senior Lecturer in Architecture in the Delhi Polytechnic; and the consultant is Nawab Zain Yar Jung. So far as the Architect-in-Chief is concerned he has been appointed on a scale of Rs. 1,300—1,600, besides the allowances that are admissible in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply for such post. The consultant Nawab Zain Yar Jung has intimated to us that his consultation fee will be three per cent of the total expenditure; that is if the total expenditure is about a crore of rupees it will be Rs. 3 lakhs.

**Shri Veeraswamy :** May I know whether such theatres will be constructed in the capitals of the States as well and if not, why ?

**Dr. M. M. Das :** At present there is no National Theatre at all. At least let us build one National Theatre in the capital of India. Then the suggestion of the Hon. Member will, be considered.

**Shri V. P. Nayar :** The Deputy Minister stated that he was not in a position to say how many people the National Theatre will accommodate. Do we take it from that that the only information about the Theatre, which the Minister has, is that an amount of Rs. 1 crore will have to be spent on that ?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** What is the information that the hon. Member wants ?