

## RADIO MONTH

\*417. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the special features of the Radio month celebrated throughout India;

(b) the amount spent on the celebrations; and

(c) how many new licences were issued during the month?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** (a) The special features of the 'Radio Month' were as follows:

- (1) Extension of transmission hours.
- (2) Broadcast of special programmes from all All India Radio Stations, including the Sangeet Sammelan.
- (3) Various types of competitions in music, debates, radio plays, etc. with a view to discover new talent.
- (4) Intensive publicity through press, film and radio with the main object of creating greater radio consciousness.
- (5) Radio Exhibitions at various important centres.
- (6) Donation of radio sets for use in Community areas and Colonies.
- (7) Special concessions to purchasers of new sets during the month.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know the number of prizes awarded to the competitors and the subjects in which they were awarded?

**Dr. Keskar:** A very large number of awards were given and quite a number of competitions were held.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know the subjects in which prizes were awarded?

**Dr. Keskar:** It is very difficult to say. For example, a large number of

subjects were debated and the subjects were entirely different in every station.

## MANDI SALT MINES

\*418. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the core drilling operations have reached in the Mandi Salt mines;

(b) by what time these operations will be completed;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a plant for the preparation and purification of salt from the brine water from Maigal, Drang and Guma;

(d) if so, by what time it is likely to materialise; and

(e) the estimated cost of the whole scheme?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey):** (a) The core drilling operations have been practically completed. Only two more holes remain to be drilled.

(b) The operations are likely to be completed by March, 1955.

(c) Natural brine is available only at Maigal. Salt is already being manufactured from this by solar evaporation. The development scheme of Mandi mines envisages the working of Drang mine by wet mining process. Development of Maigal and Guma mines will be taken up after the Drang mines start functioning.

(d) The main scheme of development will be taken up after the results of core drilling at the two sites to be drilled during this winter are available. The scheme is expected to be completed in three or four years' time. Arrangements are being made for carrying out certain developmental works even now which will facilitate the main wet mining scheme.

(e) The scheme for the development of Drang and Maigal mines is estimated to cost rupees one crore. The cost

of the scheme for developing the Guma mines has not yet been worked out.

**Shri Hem Raj:** In view of the demand for Mandi rock salt, will the Government expedite this work?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** Certainly. That is why in the month of May this year, we invited an Austrian expert to visit the spot and we are in a position to say on the results discovered from the bore wells of 1953 December that there are sufficient data to prove that salt reserves will last for 10 years. To be on the safe side, Government are advised to have two bore wells to the east and south of the site. That is being taken up.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** May I know whether it is a fact that a spring of brine water is there in Mandi and that the water is being wasted and is not being used for want of iron pipes? What is the quantity that is likely to be manufactured out of this spring water?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** It is very difficult to assess the quantity. I am in a position to say that arrangements are made to provide the pipes to utilise the brine water in the spring.

**Shri Kamal Singh:** May I know whether any salt prospecting is going on there?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** There are two aspects. One is wet mining process which we can undertake when this winter season is over, and boring is completed. Next year other development will be taken up.

### महात्मा गांधी की समाधि

\* ४२२. श्री नवल प्रभाकर: क्या निर्माण, आवास तथा सम्भरण मंत्री यह बताने की क्या करेंगे कि :

(क) महात्मा गांधी की समाधि पर निर्माण कार्य कब आरम्भ होगा, और

(ख) इसके निर्माण के लिए कितने इन्जीनियरों तथा वास्तु शास्त्रियों (आर्किटेक्टों) की आवश्यकता होगी ?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) Not until a design for the Samadhi is approved by the Government.

(b) It is not possible to indicate this at this stage.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर: क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो माडल एंग्रुव हो गया है उसी के अनुसार बनाया जाए तो इस पर कितना खर्च होगा ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह: अभी माडल एंग्रुव नहीं हुआ है।

सठ गौबिन्धु दास: समाधि का जो माडल अभी तक स्वीकृत नहीं हुआ है उस में किन किन लोगों से राय ली जा रही है और इस के कब तक निश्चित होने की सम्भावना है ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह: इसके विषय में एक नई कमेटी बनाई गई है जिस में श्री डी० पी० राय-चौधरी, श्री जैन चार जंग, श्री रीच शंकर एन० राय, श्री सुरेन्द्र नाथ कर, श्री जी० एच० कुम्हार-गल, लीलत कला अकौंडमी के एक प्रतिनिधि और मिनिस्ट्री के दो नुमाइन्द हैं।

सठ गौबिन्धु दास: क्या इस कमेटी में वार्धा की संस्थाओं के किन्हीं प्रतिनिधियों को रक्खा गया है, और यदि नहीं तो इसका क्या कारण है ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह: अगर कोई खास नाम माननीय मंत्री को सूझें तो वह बता दें, उस से भी राय ले ली जाएगी।

पीडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव: क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट की राय में कब तक यह माडल पास हो जाएगा क्योंकि चार वर्ष तो हो गए ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह: माडल ही पास होना ज्यादा मुश्किल है, पास हो जाने के बाद बनने में ज्यादा दिक्कत नहीं होगी।

पीडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव: इसमें क्या दिक्कतें हैं ?