

COUNCIL OF STATES

Tuesday, 21th April 1954

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN Shri Lai

Bahadur (Uttar Pradesh).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEPUTATION OF A SCIENTIST TO AUSTRALIA

*473. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has invited India to send a scientist to work with Dr. Bowen in rain physics; and

(b) if so, whether Government have deputed a scientist for the purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOH NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not yet.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is the Government selecting anybody to go to Australia and work with Dr. Bowen?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Arrangements are being made to send two selected persons, one from the Indian Air Force and another scientist, an expert in radio physics and electronics. But the selections have not yet been made.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is Dr. Bowen's theory about getting artificial rain?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't think Mr. Malaviya knows very much about it. 18 C.S.D.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Sir. I don't know much about it, but Dr. Bowen is one of the few experts who is said to have done much work on this.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that Dr. Bowen is of the opinion that rains occur immediately after a meteoric shower?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No, Sir. I don't know.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has any similar work been done in Calcutta or elsewhere in India?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, some work has been done in Calcutta and Madras, but it was found that more fundamental knowledge was required and for that purpose very much more work was needed. The Committee which has been set up now under the aegis of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has prepared a programme for conducting such fundamental studies and field work.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know whether Australia herself has become successful in producing artificial rain?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I don't think so.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has it come to the notice of the hon. Minister that artificial rain has been brought about in Indo-China and, if so, may I know whether the Government are sending anybody there for training?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I don't think artificial rain has been produced there. Rains might have been there and sometimes scientists who are interested in producing artificial rain mix up natural showers with those of their artificial efforts.