

Shri Raj Bahadur: As the hon. Member knows, we have got a scheme known as the integrated publicity scheme, under which, I think, this particular item can also be covered; and this must have been in the mind of the various institutions and departments which I have mentioned in reply to another supplementary question.

Shri N. M. Lingam: From the statement, I find that certain documentaries on places of tourist interest have been prepared by the Ministry. May I know why no place of tourist interest in South India—especially the hill stations there,—has been selected for these documentaries?

Shri Raj Bahadur : I could not catch the question.

Shri N. M. Lingam: Certain documentaries of places of tourist importance in India, particularly North India, have been prepared by the Ministry. Hill stations like the Kumaon Hills and Darjeeling have been included.....

Mr. Speaker: What is the question of the hon. Member?

Shri N. M. Lingam: There is no documentary of any hill station in South India.

Mr. Speaker: Why is all this preamble necessary? The hon. Member may put the question in this way: Why are there no documentaries relating to the hill stations?

Shri N. M. Lingam: There are some hill stations included, particularly the hill stations along the Himalayan ranges.

Mr. Speaker: All right: Why have no hill stations in South India been included?

Shri Raj Bahadur : I can only say that we will bear the point made out by the hon. Member in mind. But I would add that we are advised in this respect by various institutions and the subjects are selected on suggestions made by them. If there has been any deficiency in the preparation of documentaries in regard to the beauty spots

in South India, that will also be borne in mind in future.

BHILAI STEEL PROJECT

***1202. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreigners at present employed on the Bhilai Steel Project;

(b) the salaries paid to each class or category of such employees;

(c) whether there is any discrimination in the matter of salaries paid to Indian and foreign nationals in the same class or category; and

(d) if so, the reasons for such discrimination?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Seventeen. (Chief Engineer 1, Leading specialists 5, Specialists 6 and Interpreters 5).

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 60.]

(c) and (d). The question of discrimination does not arise as we are not yet employing Indians with similar qualifications.

Shri Kamath: With regard to the statement laid on the Table of the House in answer to part (b) of the questions. ** is the Minister of Iron and Steel in a position to tell the House as to what salaries this class of officers get in their own country, the Soviet Union, for comparable or equal work?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : ** ... I have no knowledge.

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Seth Govind Das: For how long will these 17 foreigners be employed and by what time is it expected that Indians will take their place?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Ordinarily, the foreign technical personnel will remain for a year after full operations start.

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether Government have appointed any technical personnel trained at Jamshedpur and Burnpur, and if so, how their qualifications compare with those of the foreign experts?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government have appointed technical personnel, but not of the superior category. Nor is there any possibility of comparison with regard to the knowledge possessed by Indian personnel *vis-a-vis* the Russians, because we have nothing concrete on which we can test their knowledge.

Shri Kirolkar: May I know whether these foreigners are allowed any kind of accommodation, and if so, whether any rent is recovered from them for the accommodation provided?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the present moment, no. I do not know what will happen in regard to the future when we provide them proper housing accommodation. That is a matter to be discussed in relation to the agreement we have entered into with the Government of the USSR. But at the present moment, we are providing them accommodation.

उ० सत्यवादी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इन प्लान्ट्स (सयंत्र) के लिये जो लोकल स्टाफ लिया जा रहा है, इंजीनियरिंग और अदर (अन्य) टेक्निकल स्टाफ वह किस स्टेज (अवस्था) पर है ?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Proceeding not as fast as I would like it to, but nevertheless, satisfactorily.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how these salaries have been fixed, whether after negotiations with the Government or the organisation which sent them or with the individuals themselves?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, we deal only with the Government of the USSR. It is the Governments of India and USSR that decide the matter of salary and remuneration to be paid to these foreign technicians.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know whether the salaries paid are free of income-tax?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes.

Shri Kamath: Do the foreign nationals who are employed in the other steel project, the Rourkela project, get the same salaries as are being paid, to the Soviet technicians and experts, or do the German technicians get less or more than the Russians?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: To the best of my knowledge, we are employing only one technician on our own at Rourkela—may be there are one or two others. But we are having one technical engineer whose salary, I think, is comparable.

MUNJ WEAVING INDUSTRIES

*1205. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of persons are employed in Punjab in the industry on Munj weaving in the villages;

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to promote organization of the industry as a cottage industry; and

(c) whether Government have directed any research to be conducted in respect of the product to improve its quality?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) The Government have no precise information. It is however understood that the number of persons employed in Munj weaving industry in Punjab is not large.

(b) No scheme has been recommended by the Punjab Government.

(c) Experiments are being conducted to utilize a recently devised spinning wheel for production of yarn suitable for the weaving of door mats and carpets.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know the source of information of the Deputy Minister to the effect that there are not large numbers of persons employed in the Munj weaving industries?