

FOREIGN FIRMS

*2677. { Pandit S. C. Mishra :
Shri Rishang Keishing :
Shri Mushar :

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether many of the Foreign Firms and Managing Agencies in India are still incorporating foreign employees on fabulous emoluments and are not utilising the services of Indians having same qualifications ;

(b) whether Indians of equal qualifications are drawing very much lower emoluments than their foreign counterparts ; and

(c) whether it is proposed to stop this discrimination ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) to (c) Government are interested in the progressive Indianisation of key posts in foreign firms. Statistics collected by Government in this regard show that the percentage of Indians drawing Rs. 3,000 and above has been increasing.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

*2681. **Shri K. K. Basu :** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state :

(a) total amount sanctioned and spent on Local Development Projects during the last three financial years in West Bengal with special reference to Midnapur and 24 Parganas ;

(b) the amount spent on sub-divisions of Ghatal, Diamond Harbour and 24 Parganas Sadar ; and

(c) the amount that was asked for by the Districts or the Sub-divisions ?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra) : (a) to (c) The hon. Member presumably refers to the Local Development Works Programme which was inaugurated in 1953-54. Against a total Central grant of Rs. 82,700 lakhs released to the Government of West Bengal for that programme during the last three years, a total utilization of Rs. 61,628 lakhs has been reported by the State Government in 1953-54, 1954-55 and during the first three quarters of the year

1955-56. Details of expenditure by districts and sub-divisions are being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

I. N. A. MEMORIAL, SINGAPORE

*2682. **Shri Kamath :** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1437 on the 14th April, 1956 and state :

(a) whether Government have approached the Chief Minister of Singapore with a request for reconstruction of the I. N. A. Memorial at Singapore ;

(b) if so, the progress made so far ; and

(c) if not, where the matter rests ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Necessary information is being obtained before approaching the authorities concerned in Singapore.

NEW ENGINEERING COLLEGES

*2683. **Dr. Rama Rao :** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state the steps that are being taken to open new Engineering Colleges and Technical Institutes to meet the serious shortage of qualified staff for the envisaged Industrial and Developmental projects ?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra) : The recommendations made in his regard by the Engineering Personnel Committee are under consideration.

DIVERSION OF TUNGABHADRA WATERS

*2684. **Shri Eswara Reddi :** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of the dispute, over the diversion of Tungabhadra waters into the proposed high-level channel, between Andhra and Mysore Governments ; and