

Shri Anil K. Chanda: As I indicated in my answer, preliminary plans have been received, most of them, but in the meantime our technical officers consider that pile foundations, which were not envisaged earlier would be needed, and therefore, the architect has to prepare his detailed plans on the basis of this need

श्री अन्नत दर्शन श्रीमन्, क्या शासन के ब्यान में गांधीजी की प्रतिष्ठ शिष्या मीरा-बेन की यह सम्मति आई है कि गांधीजी के आदर्शों के अनुकूल समाधिस्थल को इसी तरह सादगीपूर्ण रहने दिया जाये और क्या इस सम्बन्ध में विचार किया गया है ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: We have seen the remarks made by Shrimati Mira Behn, but I would like to suggest that in a matter like this opinions are bound to differ. Many other very important disciples of Mahatma have enthusiastically approved of this plan.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any non-officials are associated with this architect for the approval of this plan, and if so, who are they?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The architect himself is a non-official. There was open competition, over a hundred plans were submitted. There was a technical committee which went into all these plans. They made their recommendation, and the recommendation was accepted by the Government.

Shrimati Sneheta Kripalani: Who were the members of the committee who were associated with Gandhiji or Gandhiji's ideas who could give some opinion about this?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: This committee was a technical committee which scrutinised the plans. The past history of this matter is well known to the Members of this House. From the earliest times there have been, I believe, two or three committees which had gone into this question.

Shrimati Sneheta Kripalani: May I know, Sir

Mr Speaker: There have been a number of questions; almost every session this is coming up.

Indianisation of Foreign Firms in India

*1162 **Shri Rameshwar Tanti:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state—

(a) the number of non-Indians and Indians who are working in foreign-owned Plantations and allied companies on salaries of Rs 1000 and above per month, and

(b) what action Government is taking to induce these firms to Indianise their staff?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b) The Indianisation programme for foreign owned/controller firms was taken up in 1952 and the position is reviewed every year. The present position is that in the pay groups not exceeding Rs 1,000 p.m. almost all posts—whether in the Plantation and allied industries or others—are manned by Indians. In the higher pay Groups also the progress has been satisfactory. In the year 1952 the Plantation and allied industries had 79 Indians representing 67 per cent of the total number employed in those industries (1103 being Non-Indians). In the year 1958, this figure of 79 rose to 370 Indians representing about 25 per cent of the total.

The over all employment position in the foreign owned/controlled industrial and commercial concerns in the salary groups of Rs 1000 from and above is as indicated below

	Indians		Non-Indians	
	Num-ber	%	Num-ber	%
1952	2,290	24.4	7,104	75.6
1958	6,704	54.3	5,652	45.7

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: From the statement it seems that the over-all employment has improved to 54 per cent, while in the plantation industry the employment of Indians in the higher posts is only 25 per cent. May I know whether the reason for this is that the tea and other plantations are mostly controlled by European shareholders and they have given instructions to their agents in India not to encourage Indianisation in the higher posts? If so, may I know whether Government will check up why the percentage in plantations is much less than the over-all percentage?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is true that the total number of Indian officers in the tea plantation group is lower than the total number of Indian officers in the foreign companies, but the reason was that the tea plantations at the time of Independence were more or less completely manned by foreign officers; thereafter, there was an understanding arrived at between the Indian Tea Association and the Government of India; and the present target which has been reached is well over the target fixed for 1st January, 1959. I can assure the House that there are completely competent Indians who can replace the foreigners, but we have got to go in a gradual phased manner in the Indianisation programme.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether Government are aware that eleven tea gardens in Cachar are being laid off on account of the high administrative expenditure, because they have all European managers, and if so, whether Government will inquire into their expenditure structure to see whether the lay-off can be avoided by reducing their expenditure?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The question tabled is in respect of the number of Indian officers in tea plantations, but the hon. Member is asking about the lay-off in certain tea gardens, which has nothing to do with either the

number of Indian officers or the number of foreign officers. If the hon. Member feels that any plantation has to be looked into by Government independently of this question we are prepared to enquire into the matter.

Shri Mansen: Apart from the question of inducing these firms to Indianise the superior staff, do Government consider it reasonable to 'hill-manise' or, may I say, 'tribalise' the superior staff, or do Government subscribe to the view or the policy, or the apparent policy, of the industry not to take anyone for the superior staff, who belongs to the labour class?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The main question relates to how the foreign officers are being replaced by Indian officers, and the House can see from the statement that the progress has been completely satisfactory according to the agreement arrived at with them. There is no question of non-recruitment of Indian officers in the foreign tea plantations either on account of the officers not being found or because they do not want to recruit anybody from the working class or any other class.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Are these firms periodically asked to furnish data with regard to the superior officers?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, as a matter of fact, as the House has shown considerable interest, I may say that we divided the different agencies into four groups called Group A, Group B, Group C and Group D. Group A consists of such tea plantations where Indianisation exceeded 25 per cent. They have been asked, and they have agreed, to recruit 2 Indians for every non-Indian. In Group B where the Indianisation was between 20 to 25 per cent, they have been asked to recruit 3 Indians for every non-Indian; in Group C where the Indianisation is between 10 to 12 per cent they have been asked to recruit 4 Indian officers for every non-Indian; and in Group D where the Indianisation is below 10 per cent, they have been

solved to recruit 5 Indians for every non-Indian.

Shri Muhammed Elias: May I know whether the attention of the Minister has been drawn to the news which has appeared from time to time in the newspapers about the misbehaviour of the British and other foreign officers towards the Indian workers? Recently, news has been appearing in the newspapers about the misbehaviour of a British officer in Durgapur district?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Muhammed Elias: May I know whether Government propose to stop at least this misbehaviour of the British and other foreign officers towards the Indian workers?

Mr. Speaker: That does not arise out of the main question.

Shri Warrior: The statement says that in 1958 there were only 370 Indians whereas the European officers numbered about one thousand odd. May I know when these posts will be Indianised, and the European officers eliminated from there?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No target has been fixed. We are gradually Indianising, consistent with the national policy of the country.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
rose—

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions already.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: There is one very important question that I want to ask, in regard to Indianisation.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow it. All questions are important equally.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is a question of principle and the national interest.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. The hon. Member will take some other opportunity.

Shri F. C. Banoiah: May I ask one question? I come from that area, but I do not get a chance to ask a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will have other opportunities. If they are not satisfied with this, and the subject is so important, I shall allow a half-an-hour discussion. But nobody thinks of any other method than monopolising the time of the question hour only for a single question. I have not been able to progress sufficiently with the questions today.

Now, next question.

Accident in North Kujama Colliery

*1103. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 998 on the 16th December, 1958 and state—

(a) the action taken by Government on the report of the enquiry held into the accident in the North Kujama Colliery by the Mines Inspectorate; and

(b) whether full compensation has been paid to the family members of the dead workers?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) Since the accident was found to be one of mis-adventure and nobody has been held responsible for it, no further enquiry or action seems to be necessary.

(b) Full information is not available as the Workmen's Compensation Act is administered by the State Government. It is understood that the management have deposited Rs. 12,500 with the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation for payment in respect of six workers. No complaint has been received about non-payment of the dues.