

THE
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(Part I—Questions and Answers) Dated 2/11/2014
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 8th May, 1953

The House met at a Quarter Past
Eight of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOREIGN EXPERTS IN BHAKRA NANGAL
PROJECT

*1943. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. M. H. Slocum, Director, Construction and Plant Design, Bhakra Nangal Project has lately asked for some more experts to be imported for this Project; and

(b) the number of foreign experts already working on this Project and their annual bill charged to the works?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No. Sir.

(b) (i) 44.

(ii) Rs. 40,88,000/-

Sardar Hukam Singh: Could I know the number of Indian engineers that are assisting Mr. Slocum in the construction of this project?

Shri Hathi: There are about one hundred or even more. The total, I think, is 116 or so.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Did Mr. Slocum or did he not make a complaint that the Indian engineers that he wanted were not given to him, and that those whom he did not approve of were thrust on him, and he was the sole traveller in the journey?

Shri Hathi: No, that is not the position. No engineers were thrust upon Mr. Slocum. He never made any selection by name of any particular person. He would say that he wanted a particular type of engineer with some qualifications, and those were given to him.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the latest estimate about the period for which these experts are to be retained?

Shri Hathi: May be four years or so.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it true that quarters of different designs have been constructed and are being constructed in Nangal for American engineers?

Shri Hathi: Quarters of different designs are not being constructed. There might be some difference in the accommodation, but not in the designs.

Shri Jasani: May I know the annual salary paid to Mr. Slocum and other experts engaged in this project?

Shri Hathi: They are 44 in number. If he wants, I can lay a statement on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has been asked so many times.

Shri Jasani: May I know whether that salary is taxable?

Shri Raghbir Sahai: When is the work likely to be finished?

Shri Hathi: The first phase will be over in 1955/56.

Shri Achuthan: What is the latest tendency in regard to foreigners in this project? Is it on the ascending or descending stage?

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know, Sir, the nationalities to which these experts belong?

Shri Hathi: Mostly they are Americans.

TRADE WITH TIBET

*1944. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether normal trade relations between Tibet and India have resumed;

(b) the approximate value of Tibetan goods imported into India in the year 1952-53; and

(c) the approximate value of Indian goods exported to Tibet during the above said period?