

The next point is about the contract system which is prevailing in the MES establishment. Sir, lakhs of rupees can be saved on this item if the contract system is abolished and if the department itself takes up the works. Today, the original works, and even the maintenance works, are given to contractors and the contractors are making a lot of money. There is a lot of wastage. This can be saved. Not only that. People who are going to be retrenched can be absorbed for these works: there is no necessity for retrenchment.

Then, Sir, there is lack of building accommodation for the employees. Various schemes have been submitted by the employees to the Ministry. So far the Ministry has failed to take up this matter and there is no accommodation for the employees. They say that retrenchment is resorted to because there is no work. There is ample work for the employees, but unfortunately the Minister is not taking any steps in this matter.

Then, Sir, I come to the most important thing, about foreign experts who are.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Why does the hon. Member reserve the most important point to the last?

**Shri S. S. More:** To impress on our minds!

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** So that it may remain in the minds of hon. Members. Sir, the Prime Minister was saying that from 8,000, the number had been reduced to nearly 200 or so. That answer was given by the Minister concerned to one of my questions a few days ago. But the matter is very important, not because we are very much against, or we are afraid of, those foreigners, but the situation that exists today in the land is such that it demands that there should not be any foreigner in important positions.

7 P.M.

Defence is a very important matter and Defence Organisation is a very important thing. If Defence secrets go 60 P.S.D.

out of the country it means the danger for us. We should not allow any foreigner to know anything about our Defence. If it had been normal times, we could have allowed 200 or even 300 foreigners in our service. The number is not important. What is important today is to realise that there is a marked alteration in the situation, and the security of the country is subject to increasing danger. The Middle, South and South East Asia are in a fluid condition and in such a context, should we allow any foreigner to come and work in our Defence Services? That is all the point. As I said, the number is not the important factor; it is the opportunity and scope given to foreigners to know what is happening in our Defence system which is important. There may be thousands of foreigners or there may be one or two of them, but in a matter like this the consequence is the same. Even one foreigner is enough to know defence secrets. So I say that there should be complete Indianisation in all the branches of the Defence Organisation and there should not be any foreigner and we should not allow such people to work hereafter in such positions.

Lastly, I say that the Defence Minister should think of establishing a common defence policy for the South Asian countries. Some of them like Ceylon, and Burma are allied with us. They represent the same area. So we must have a pact or an understanding for the whole area for the purpose of common defence. That will save not only money but also will increase our collecting defence strength. Not only that; it will stabilise our neighbouring countries which means our own stability. So I suggest that we may take positive steps to bring about some sort of an understanding or a pact if necessary to have a common defence for this area.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have to make an announcement. I have to inform hon. Members that the House will sit

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker.]

from 2 P. M. to 7-30 P. M. on the following days for the transaction of Government and Private Members' business—

Friday the 26th March 1954;  
Friday the 2nd April 1954;  
Friday the 9th April 1954; and  
Saturday the 17th April 1954.

The first two hours will be devoted for official business and the next 2½ hours for non-official business on each of these days.

*The House then adjourned till Two of the Clock on Friday, the 26th March, 1954.*

---