

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN COMPANIES
OPENING NEW BRANCHES**

*361., SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether there exist any restrictions on foreign companies opening new branches in India?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): Provisions relating to foreign companies (i.e. companies incorporated outside India which have established places of business in India) are contained in Part XI of the Companies Act, 1956. Under the aforesaid provisions, there are no restrictions on foreign companies opening new branches in India.

CRITERION FOR PROMOTION OF NON-GAZETTED EMPLOYEES TO GAZETTED RANKS

•362. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state what is the criterion for promotion of non-Gazetted Engineering Employees of the Central Public Works Department to the Gazetted ranks?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The non-gazetted engineering employees of the Central Public Works Department are Section Officers (Civil and Electrical) Class III. They are recruited from the open market through the Employment Exchanges. The minimum qualification required is

a recognised Diploma in Engineering (Civil | Mechanical | Electrical). Candi. dates with higher qualifications, viz., a Degree in Engineering, also join as Section Officers. There are some who do not possess either a diploma or a degree.

2. Section Officers are eligible for promotion to the grade of Assistant Engineer, a Class II gazetted post. Before a Section Officer is considered for promotion, he has to put in a minimum length of service as detailed below: —

- (a) if he is a permanent Section Officer with no diploma or degree, he has to render 12 years' service;
- (bi) if he is a permanent Section officer with a diploma, he has to render 8 years' service;
- (c) if he is a University graduate or has an equivalent qualification, he has to render 3 years' service; and
- (d) if, after joining service, he has passed parts A and B of the Examination conducted by the Institute of Engineers (India) (which is recognised as equivalent to a bachelor's degree in engineering), he has to put in 3 years' service from the date of acquiring such qualification, or from the date he has started drawing Rs. 160 p.m. in the old scale (or Rs. 240 p.m. in the revised scale), whichever is earlier.

GROUNDNUT CAKE FLOUR PLANTS

•363. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the production capacity of the two groundnut cake flour plants that are being set up in India;
- (b) whether these plants will be in the public sector; and
- (c) what will be the capital required for these plants?