

the shortage of foreign exchange import of foreign cotton had to be regulated. Consequently, licensing of imports of Egyptians, Sudans and East Americans is confined to mills and merchants against prior sales to mills. In case of American cotton, no such distinction is made. Licences are issued freely both to mills and the trade.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know Sir, what is the ceiling fixed under the present arrangement?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Well, ceiling is fixed according to the actual requirements of the mills, as far as Sudanese and Egyptian cotton is concerned.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: I wanted to know what was the actual ceiling fixed so far.

SHRI MARARJI R. DESAI: No ceiling has been fixed that way. No Ceiling is fixed but the amount is fixed from time to time according to requirements.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether the quantitative ceiling is going to affect the supply position of the country in the face of the rising prices in the outside market?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir, because the prices are not rising.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: In view of the shortage of foreign exchange, is the Government thinking of stopping the import of this Egyptian and Sudanese cotton and replacing it partly by artificial yarn mixed in Indian produced cotton?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir, because we are keeping the import of Egyptian and Sudanese cotton to the actual requirements.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: My question was: Is the Government of India

thinking of replacing that foreign cotton by artificial yarn mixing it with Indian cotton to produce fine yarn?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir, we are not doing that.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: From the statement I find that licensing of imports of Egyptian and Sudanese cotton is confined to mills and merchants against prior sales to mills. May I know, Sir, whether, before the trade is allowed import licence, it is conditional that the trade must have prior sales to the mills completed before it is actually imported?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Yes, Sir, it is to confine the imports to the actual requirements of the mills.

COOKS IN ASHOKA HOTEL, NEW DELHI

*472. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cooks employed in the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi, and their individual emoluments; and

(b) with how many of them the management has entered into contracts and for what periods?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). The Ashoka Hotel has 52 cooks. A statement giving the emoluments and period of contract of each cook is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Number of cooks	Emoluments (excluding boarding and lodging)
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I	20,000 Swiss Francs per annum. (About Rs. 1,845 per month). Period of contract—One year from 3-12-1956 in the first instance.
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Number of cooks	Emoluments(excluding board- ing and lodging)
2	10,000 Swiss Francs per annum. (About Rs. 920 per month, each) Period of contract—one year from 9-1-1957 and 16-1-1957 respectively
1	Rs. 600 per month
1	Rs. 300 per month.
9	Rs. 200 per month each.
1	Rs. 190 per month.
1	Rs. 175 per month.
1	Rs. 165 per month.
1	Rs. 160 per month.
5	Rs. 150 per month each.
1	Rs. 140 per month.
3	Rs. 135 per month each.
3	Rs. 130 per month each.
4	Rs. 125 per month each.
1	Rs. 120 per month.
2	Rs. 115 per month each.
2	Rs. 110 per month each.
9	Rs. 100 per month each.
2	Rs. 80 per month each.
2	Rs. 75 per month each.
Total	52

*Period of contract—not yet fixed.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, how many out of these 52 are getting free boarding and free lodging in the Ashoka Hotel?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: All of them are getting free accommodation and also food when on duty.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, when the salaries of these 49 other cooks who are not foreigners will be fixed?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Their salary is fixed; their contract has not yet been fixed.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if there is any scheme to train Indian cooks and, if so, how many Indian cooks are under training?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Each of the foreign people on the staff of the Ashoka Hotel has an Indian under-study. Of the 3 Swiss cooks, 2 are leaving very soon, and only 1 would remain for sometime more.

DR. P. C. MITRA: What are the terms of contract, Sir?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The terms of contract of the Swiss people? They are allowed free travel to India and back home. Their salaries I have given in the list, and they have permission to transfer money. That is about all.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: Will the hon. Minister say what kind of food these foreign cooks cook here, which the Indian cooks are not cooking?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The cooks are there catering to the people who live in the hotel, Sir. There are some special cooks for Indians, but most of the clients are foreigners and it is mostly foreign food that is prepared.

DR. R. P. DUBE: What is the average number of persons staying in the Ashoka Hotel and for how many people do they cook?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The full strength of the hotel is, roughly speaking, about 425 guests. As far as my information goes, for sometime past, the hotel has been practically full every day.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: What is the highest salary of a cook and the lowest also?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The highest is Rs. 1,845 and the lowest is Rs. 75.

SHRI SATYENDRA PROSAD RAY: Is their remuneration free of income tax, Sir?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: For the foreign people, Yes, Sir.

BUNGALOWS AND FLATS FOR M. PS.

*473. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 208 in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1957, and state: