

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether any industrial and commercial concern has given these concessions?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Yes; quite a few. As a matter of fact it was about 2½ years ago when I went to Bombay and had a discussion with the various Chambers and they were kind enough to agree to extend quite a lot of concessions. At the moment the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay; the Millowners' Association, Madhya Pradesh; the Hindustan Aircraft, Bangalore; the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Dassnagar Factory, Howrah; the Bata Shoe Co. Ltd., Batanagar; Sur Enamel and Stamping Works, Calcutta; the Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills, Calcutta; and many other firms have given special concessions.

SHRI V. G. GOPAL: May I know, apart from this basic thing, if the industrial concerns also pay, as incentive, production bonus to the employees?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: How does that come into the picture?

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not a fact that the Bombay Merchants Chamber and other Chambers of Commerce are not themselves employing agencies and, therefore, all that they could have done was to express their goodwill?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: No, it is not only goodwill, for instance, the Hindustan Aircraft Factory

PROF. G. RANGA: Hindustan Aircraft Factory is a different thing.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Chambers of Commerce and the Merchants' Chamber have given the lead and the other companies are following.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not clear from this that the Government are hard put to it to increase the number of agencies that are supposed to

be giving these concessions, in view of the fact that the Chambers of Commerce and the Merchants' Chamber are not themselves employing agencies.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The main thing is that the people who join the Territorial Army, when they are embodied, get the privileges of their pay and all concessions, this service being considered for their pension, etc. When they are under training they get an additional allowance which is according to our Territorial Army rules and therefore, they benefit financially. Therefore, the individual companies do not come in that way. It is only bonus which certain companies are giving. That is why I mentioned the Hindustan Aircraft Factory and the Bata Shoe Company.

PROF. G. RANGA: Anyhow, may I know for how long these people are kept on the casual list before they are taken on the grade which has been mentioned by my hon. friend in his answer?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: As I said, the period that is spent on training in camps • and also when they are embodied, as casual leave or special casual leave, as the case may be, depending upon the time of embodiment.

EXPANSION OF BOMBAY NAVAL DOCKYARD

*552. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state the agency which has been entrusted with the work of expansion of the Naval Dockyard in Bombay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): The actual work of construction etc. has been given to certain firms on contract after inviting global tenders Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, London, are the Consulting Engineers in to the Government of India.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, how many firms furnished the tenders?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Quite a few firms, and we have accepted the firm giving the lowest tender.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, how many firms are in India at least which furnished these tenders.

DR. K. N. KATJU: They are generally foreign firms with Indian associates. It is a very ticklish matter and ordinary firms cannot tender for these things.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Is it true that this work has been divided into several phases, and, if so, into how many phases?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: It is divided into two phases.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the contract that has now been accepted has been given for the two phases?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: No. The first contract is for the first phase which has been given to Messrs. Hind Constructions, Limited. And about the second contract, it is still being finalised.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, if the second contract also will be accepted on the basis of lowest tender?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Certainly.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How long will it take to finish this expansion work of the Dockyard?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Contract number one is expected to be completed by May 1957, and contract number two by the end of 1958.

DR. K. N. KATJU: Sir, may I add one word, so that there may be no I

confusion? It is a matter of very exceptional importance. This contract of the lowest tender is generally given the greatest consideration, but if there is a difference of a few thousands here or there, then we are guided in this technical matter by the advice of our consultants and by the advice of our expert advisers in India.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, the total remuneration that will be paid to the Consulting Engineers?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: It is on a percentage basis. I have not got the figures at the moment, but I believe it is about one per cent.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know what is the total amount of finance involved in this contract?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The contract for the first part is for Rs. 1,82,41,933.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: What is the amount of the highest tender?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I have not got that information here.

NATIONAL FESTIVALS

*553. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state the amount spent on each of the National Festivals during the years 1953 and 1954?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): The additional expenditure incurred on the two National Festivals at Delhi in 1953 and 1954, in round figures, was:—

Independence Day—

	Rs.
1953	6,100
1954	9,200

Republic Day Celebrations—

	Rs.
1953	1,57,000
1954	1,67,000