

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** May I state that thus far among the countries he has mentioned, the USSR has ratified it? The others, the major countries like the UK, Canada, France and USA, are, I believe, on the verge of ratifying or should have done it. There is no particular difficulty about it.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know whether any time-limit has been set for the ratification by the various Governments, and, if so, what is the time-limit?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know about the time-limit, but ratifications are coming in. There is a time-limit that 60 days must elapse between the coming into force of this instrument and the first general conference, and it comes into force after it has been ratified by a certain number of countries. It is hoped that it will come into force in the course of this month.

**Shri Kasliwal:** In reply to part (b) of the question, the hon Parliamentary Secretary has said that the requisite number of other countries have not yet ratified it. May I know what he means by "requisite number of countries"? Is it 20, 30 or 40 countries?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** In accordance with the statute, this will come into force when 18 States including at least three of the major ones, that is, Canada, France, USSR, UK and the USA, have ratified it.

#### World Conference against Hydrogen Bomb

\*142. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**  
**Shri Panigrahi:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a world conference against Hydrogen Bomb is being held in Tokyo (Japan) from August 12 to 18, 1957, and

(b) if so, whether India is participating in the conference?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes, but the Conference is not a world conference. It has been organised by a private organisation called 'Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs'.

(b) No.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** May I know how many nations are taking part in this conference?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** We are not aware of any nation taking part in it.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know whether the All India Peace Council which is sponsoring this conference or is one of the sponsors of this world conference have approached the Government of India to send delegates to this conference?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Somebody did approach the Government of India. As far as I remember, a communication came from Japan, and they were informed that while our views in regard to these matters were perfectly clear—and in fact, copies of resolutions of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were sent to them—we were unable to participate in private conferences of this kind.

**Shri M. Elias:** May I know if any hon Member of this House or any important personality wants to participate in this conference, he will be given a passport?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Nobody objects to participation in this conference. If a person wants to go on his own account at his own expense—I do not know in a particular case what other considerations may have to be taken into account—normally there is no objection to any participation.

**Shri M. Elias:** In view of the statement made by the hon Prime Minister just now, may I know why I was

refused a passport to participate in the World Peace Council meeting held in Colombo last June, being a member of the World Peace Council and of Parliament?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The hon Member has gone off to another country, another conference and another subject

#### Protest Fleet against Hydrogen Bomb Explosion

\*143. **Shri Heda:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether any Indian joined the Japanese protest fleet that was to sail to the Christmas Island to lodge death protest against explosion of Hydrogen Bomb by UK, and

(b) if so, what was the out-come?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) No, sir

(b) Does not arise

**Shri Heda:** May I know whether it is a fact that a few Indians had applied for passport to join the team that was organised in Japan against the Christmas Island explosions?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I do not think. As far as I remember, one or two odd letters were received by us from some enthusiasts who said they wanted to go. In fact, they wanted their travelling expenses to be paid too. As a matter of fact, perhaps hon Members know that nothing came of all this. Even on the Japanese side nothing was sent so far as I know.

#### Munich Handicrafts and Trade Fair

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\*145. { **Shri Panigrahi:**  
**Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) the nature of assistance rendered by Government in organising the exhibition of Indian handicrafts in the

Ninth German Handicrafts and Trade fair held in Munich,

(b) whether the various State Governments were approached to send in their respective handicraft products for display in this trade fair, and

(c) to what extent Indian exhibits were popular?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) The Government of India sanctioned an expenditure of Rs 60,600 - for the purchase and display of Indian handicrafts in this Fair. Two persons were deputed from India to Munich for organising the handicrafts pavilion.

(b) No, but the All India Handicrafts Board purchased exhibits from various State Emporia as well as other sources.

(c) The Indian exhibits were very much appreciated and some items such as Benaras Stoles, ivory goods, brassware, silver and turquoise jewellery were particularly admired. The fair authorities awarded a gold medal to India for best craftsmanship.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know whether the State Board in Orissa was consulted regarding items sent for exhibition in this fair from Orissa?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** As already mentioned in the answer, we did not consult any State Government in this matter but there are emporia spread all over the country, and as I said, purchases were made practically from all the States.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether Government has taken cognizance of the statement made by the senior Director of Industry, West German Government, that Indian handicraft products can be very popular in Western countries if their quality is improved and their demand is met. May I know what Government is doing in the matter?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** We are opening several design centres to improve the quality and standardise the same. The hon lady Member is correct; our