

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

handicrafts are very much appreciated in foreign countries

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether, in addition to our exhibits being admired at the Fair, any orders have been received as a result of the exhibition of our handicrafts at that Fair? If so, what is the extent of the orders?

Shri Manubhai Shah: During the last three years, we have participated in about 18 international exhibitions in foreign countries and the orders directly received as a result of exhibitions run into about Rs 6 lakhs. But more than that there is a lot of indirect commerce generated as a result of this propaganda and publicity.

Shri Heda: As a result of this Fair, a certain interest would have been created in Indian handicrafts. What steps of a permanent nature are being taken to exploit that interest?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The whole work of the Handicrafts Board is actuated and directed towards that end.

श्री विभूति मिश्र जिन चीजों का जननी में अधिक सम्मन्द दिया गया उन की गुणकारिता बढ़े, इस क लिए सरकार क्या प्रयत्न कर रही है ?

श्री मधुसूदन शर्मा जैसा कि मैंने कहा है, बनारसी स्ट्रीट्स आइवरा गुड्स और उड़ीसा और मीरापुर की टाई गूड्स आइवरा चीजों को स्टैंडर्ड करने और उनकी क्वालिटी इम्प्रूव करने के लिए अब हमारा क्या प्रयत्न है ?

Second Five Year Plan Targets

*146. { Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha.
Pandit M. B. Bhargava:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state whether the production in different spheres specially in Agriculture, Industry and Minerals

and progress in the field of Community projects, National Extension Service and irrigation and power have been up to schedule so far under the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): Attention is invited to a brief review of the progress of the Plan during 1956-57 issued on the 28th June, 1957. A copy is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No 39]. As stated in the review a comprehensive study of progress during 1956-57 will be undertaken when more detailed information becomes available.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: It was decided by the Planning Commission to increase food production by 40 per cent. It was also expected that food production for the first year would be of the order of 26 million tons. Now the actual estimated production has gone down to 14 million tons. May I know what was the cause of this over-estimation? Is it that the Planning Commission had no statistics or its thinking was defective in over-estimating production, or was there any serious defect in the implementation of the agricultural programme during the first year?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I may submit that the hon Member is slightly confusing the concept of the production potential and the actual production. What was stipulated was that the production potential to the extent of 25 million tons would be created during 1956-57. In that respect also we have to confess to our regret that probably the achievement has only been of the order of 15 million tons. But it was not stipulated that the actual production would be 25 million tons. It was thought production potential of that order would be created.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of the fact that the Planning Commission has realised that the actual production was much short of the potential agricultural production