

INVITATIONS FROM CHINESE TRADE
UNIONS

***2042. Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any objection was raised by Government to the invitation by the Chinese trade union organisation of individuals chosen by the Communist Party of India for participation in the May Day celebrations at Peking; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the circle of invitees was widened so as to include other trade unionists at the instance of the Government?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). As has already been stated previously, of 35 applicants from all trade union groups, 28 were issued passports. Two applied too late for consideration. Government do not know the political affiliation of many of the persons who applied for passports. Applications came on behalf of trade union organisations. Government did not make any suggestion as to which organisation should be invited nor was the circle of invitees widened or restricted at the instance of Government. Each person's case was considered on individual merits.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: What is Government's policy in respect of invitations by foreign organisations to individuals in this country?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: To consider the cases individually.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Are the Government of India's representatives in other countries asked to report on the activities of such Indian invitees in foreign countries when they go out?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: When they go out?

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: When our people go on a visit to foreign countries, are our Ambassadors or Embassies asked to report over the activities of our people there in other countries?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know what the hon. Member means by report. We do not ask anybody for any report, but naturally, if any distinguished Indian goes anywhere, in the course of his fortnightly or monthly reports our Ambassador tells us, he went here, and whatever public activities he indulged in. We normally get to know of it, but there is no special enquiry about it.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Has any one carried on anti-Indian propoganda in foreign countries?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: If so, who are they, when and where?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think I can answer that question.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what is the meaning of individual merit.

Mr. Speaker: I think it is plain enough.

SALT

***2043. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the quota of salt exports from West Coast ports for the period May to December, 1952 has been doubled?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Yes, Sir.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether sufficient quantity of salt for consumption by cattle has been first considered and kept apart before doubling this export?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, this quota for export is intended for a particular area, because Saurashtra salt is the only salt that is in demand. All relevant considerations have been taken into account before the export quota is allotted.

Shri Dabhi: What are the annual requirements of salt in our country and what is the total production?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid, Sir, that falls within the category of subjects covered by the Production portfolio.

Shri Nana Das: May I know to which parts of the country salt is exported from the West Coast?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Saurashtra salt, as I said, is in great demand even in certain parts of our own country such as U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Nepal etc., but exports out of the country has been largely to Japan.

JUTE GOODS

***2044. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of jute goods exported from India dur-