

## SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

**World Peace Council Session in Delhi**

**S.N.Q. 10. Shri Mahavir Tyagi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the World Peace Council is having its session in Delhi from March 24th to 28th, 1961;

(b) how many visas have been issued to the representatives of various countries; and

(c) what is the number of delegates from the Communist China?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) 210 visas have been issued to persons coming from 47 countries, including 2 visas granted to persons whose nationality is not determined.

(c) 20.

**Shri Tyagi:** As reported in the press, was any understanding arrived at between the Prime Minister and Pandit Sundar Lal, the promoter of this conference, to the effect that Sino-Indian border dispute shall not be a subject of discussion in this conference?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** No, Sir, there could be no question of any understanding of this kind. I have no clear recollection, but so far as I remember, I had told Mr. Sundar Lal that this Peace Council was an organisation which, in its desire to work for peace, often indulged in warlike declarations and it did not help much and, therefore, while we did not wish to come in their way, we could not help them in any way. And in the course of my talk I had broadly mentioned, I think, this question of our border troubles and said, here was a test about the views of the Peace Council—something like that. I cannot remember what happened, but I think probably it was he who might have said that, "Oh, this kind of thing will not be

considered". There is no question of agreement by me. So far as I am concerned, they could certainly consider it—they should consider it in the right way, not in the wrong way.

**Shri Tyagi:** Is it true that Government gave any help to this organisation?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No help of any kind has been given.

**Shri Ansar Harvani:** Is it not a fact that hundreds of our countrymen had accepted the invitation of the Peace Council in the past and the visas had been issued for the return visits of those people?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know about hundreds, but some people, and some Members of Parliament even, have attended this conference in other countries in the past.

**Shri Goray:** In yesterday's *Times of India* Mr. Sundar Lal has been quoted like this: "Mr. Sundar Lal claimed that there was a tacit understanding between the sponsors of the session and the Government of India"—he is referring to it—"that the border issue would not be raised at the conference. He did not explain the reasons for the tacit understanding, nor did he say at whose initiative it has been arrived at". So he makes a specific allegation, or rather a specific point that there has been an understanding.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the point of the hon. Member?

**Shri Goray:** My point is, if no such understanding was there and if the leader of the Indian team made such an allegation, should we not refute it and see that such allegations are not allowed to be made, because they create a misunderstanding throughout the country.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know whether it is true or false.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** As a matter of fact, I had not seen this report to which he refers. But last night I got a letter from Mr. Sundar Lal.

He was thinking that this would be reported and he wanted to explain to me that it might create a wrong impression. I read it last night and passed it on. But absolutely, he himself said that "I quite agree you gave no understanding". There can be no question of an understanding on any issue between me and him.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Will the Prime Minister tell us if there is a revaluation and reassessment on the part of the Government of India regarding this Peace Council, because the Prime Minister told Parliament this about the Peace Council: "There is an organisation that calls itself the All-India Peace Council. What kind of peace it wants and talks about is not clear. I am deeply shocked"—this is the Prime Minister—"that any person calling himself an Indian should degrade and defame his own country in this manner". We want to know if there has been any change, because earlier, when the Council wanted to hold its session we think the Government of India had not been very enthusiastic about it. So we want to know whether since then there has been any reappraisal and therefore permission was granted to hold the session here.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** There has been no basic change in the Government of India's attitude towards this organisation. The organisation has quite a number of distinguished persons whom normally we would welcome when they came to India. But I believe there has been some rather not basic, but nevertheless, some change in the activities of the Peace Conference or Council, as it is called. Some of its very, what I consider, objectionable features have been dropped off. But, as I said, basically there is no great change. Our attitude in regard to this matter is, we do not wish, as far as possible, to exercise our right of preventing the freedom of coming into India. We allow people to go there. We do not associate ourselves with these organisations in any way, either by help or otherwise. But it is only rarely that

we want to come in the way of an organisation meeting in India, especially a committee or a small council.

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** I hope that the Prime Minister's attention has been drawn to the behaviour of the Chinese representatives at this gathering the other day when the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs was speaking, and I also hope that his attention has been drawn to the statements made by the Chinese representatives that the overwhelming majority of the people of India were in favour of whatever they stood for. In view of these facts, I would like to know from the Prime Minister as to what the purpose was in having this conference here and in allowing 20 delegates from China to come and participate in a manner which is likely to be very provocative to the country?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** My attention has been drawn, though I do not know the details of those statements made by the Chinese in this conference; but, I have broadly, gathered that they made some statements of the kind that the hon. Member has mentioned.

**Shri Goray:** They staged a walk-out and made a statement to the Press.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** But I do not know what this has got to do with the conference being held here. Naturally, I think that the statements made on behalf of the Chinese people here, who attended this conference, were very objectionable.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I submit, Sir....

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** May I submit that I am speaking now? This has nothing to do with the holding of the conference. But the problem which comes before us is—we cannot see what future incidents might be, but—whether we should be very strict in preventing conferences of organisations with which we do not agree being held here or not

That is the basic question. We have allowed conferences of various types—we do not agree with them—to be held here, and broadly, we should like to adhere to that. Of course, we do not associate ourselves, but once we start the practice of preventing meetings of this type to be held, it is difficult to draw the line; and on the whole, we would rather draw the line such as to allow people to come here rather than to prevent them from coming here. Of course, the line has to be drawn somewhere. But, so far as this particular incident is concerned about what the Chinese delegates to this conference said, it is clear that it was a very objectionable attitude to take up for those people who have come here.

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** Did the Prime Minister expect that the Chinese representatives would behave in any other manner than the one that they have shown here? Knowing that they were likely to behave in that manner, I do not know why they have been permitted to come to India to insult our country in our own capital city.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** In any case, I did not know how many Chinese were coming or whether any Chinese were coming.

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** But you said, 20.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I know now.

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** But when the visas were issued, surely, you must have known.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I know, but the Prime Minister does not issue visas.

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** We are talking about the Government.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Government have liberalised their policy of issuing visas for all—I am not talking about the Chinese—for Americans, for the French, for the Germans and for everybody, and be-

cause there have been complaints often expressed in this House about delays in issuing of visas, we have liberalised them. And the general rule is that unless we have something special about an individual, concerned, we allow the visas to be issued. I do not know how many Chinese were coming in this conference or council. It is only lately that I have heard that 20 people have come. Certainly, the hon. Member would be right in thinking that the visa-issuing authority knew about it, because they issued the visas.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I draw the attention of the Prime Minister to the fact that this Chinese delegation attending the Peace Conference in session at Delhi today is carrying on Mr. Chou En-lai's campaign of slander and calumny against India to the very heart of our country, and when they had characterised Indians as inheritors of British imperialism, and when they had tried to 'glamourise' the reasonableness of our neighbours, Nepal and Burma, in order to isolate India? I want to draw the attention of the Prime Minister to these things. I also want to know from the Prime Minister what steps Government propose to take to check all these things, because Mr. Chou En-lai's campaign of slander and calumny is brought to the heart of this country?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is more or less a repetition in somewhat more forcible language, of what other hon. Members have said, which I have answered.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I have said certain specific things, and I have pointed out that they characterised Indians as inheritors of British imperialism, and at the same time, they have 'glamourised' the reasonableness of our neighbours, Nepal and Burma, in order to isolate us.

**Mr. Speaker:** Once again, it means this, that the conference must not have been allowed to be held here, and he wants to know what the Prime Minister has to say on this. (Inter-

ruptions). I understand the hon. Member to say once again that the conference ought not to have been allowed to be held here, and the conference is something like giving an opportunity to the Chinese to carry on their adverse propaganda in the heart of this country. What answer does he expect from the Prime Minister? Having allowed it, what is the answer that can be given now?

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I submit that our concern is this? So long the propaganda of slander and calumny against this country was confined to the frontiers of China. Mr. Chou En-lai used the television and the Press to condemn us. Now, we have allowed representatives of China to do Mr. Chou En-lai's job in the capital city of this country. And that is my quarrel with the Prime Minister.

**Shri Vajpayee:** In view of the fact that the Indian Peace Council has adopted an anti-national attitude on the question of Chinese occupation of Indian territory, and the Chinese delegates have exploited the situation to vilify India, may I know whether Government have taken any steps to post the foreign delegates with all the facts in regard to the Sino-Indian boundary dispute?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Post with what?

**Shri Vajpayee:** May I know whether the foreign delegates have been posted with full facts in regard to the Sino-Indian boundary dispute?

**Shri Ranga:** Supply copies of your report?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Facts? I think the hon. Member means that we should post them with facts. I think the persons who make these allegations against India, to which the hon. Member Shri Hem Barua referred, are so fully acquainted with the facts that they would not require more facts, but there are other reasons, whatever they might be....

**Mr. Speaker:** He means the other foreign delegates.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know whether they have carried on special propaganda amongst the Members of the Peace Council, but we have provided some of them with the recent publications on this subject.

**Acharya Kripalani:** The tragic part of it is that the Indians who were participating in this conference did not say anything when things were said against India and in favour of Chinese aggression; and the most tragic part of it is that chief inviters and those who were present at the conference were Congressmen.

**Shri Tyagi:** There were no Congressmen.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** They are not Congressmen. They are fellow-travellers.

**Acharya Kripalani:** Most of them are Congressmen.

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** Diwan Chaman Lall is there; is he a fellow-traveller?

**Acharya Kripalani:** For instance, there is Diwan Chaman Lall; then, there is Mrs. Nehru.

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** There are no Congressmen in it.

**Acharya Kripalani:** May I say that the Prime Minister had said on a remark that I had made on a previous occasion, when we were talking of the espionage, that he would not like Indians to be members of the associations that are connected with foreign countries? If that is so, would he not advise Congressmen to refrain from being associated with these organisations?

**Shri Tyagi:** But where are the Congressmen?

**Shri Ranga:** May I know how many out of these two hundred odd delegates who have come here to this conference have hailed from the Communist countries?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know. I shall find out. I have not got the records here.

**Mr. Speaker:** He has not got the records here.

**Shri Ranga:** Is it not the duty of the External Affairs Ministry which is responsible for issuing these visas to have that information ready with themselves even for their own information?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not accept that statement, that because a question might be asked in a supplementary or on an adjournment motion which comes unexpectedly, we should have all the information ready.

**Shri Ranga:** Even otherwise, is it not the duty of the External Affairs Ministry to have that information ready?

**Mr. Speaker:** They have information, but not now.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No, Sir. As a matter of fact, I have got it even now. But I do not accept this demand that I should have it all the time on any unexpected matter.

**Shri Ranga:** Why do we have the External Affairs Ministry? Only to go on sleeping there?

**Mr. Speaker:** He cannot carry all the information with him.

**Shri S. A. Dange:** As one of the participants in the Peace Conference that met in Delhi, I wish to strongly deny the innuendoes that are conveyed through some of the questions put by hon. Members.

**Shri Vajpayee:** What is this clarification? Is he speaking on behalf of the Peace Council?

**Mr. Speaker:** I will proceed to the next question.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not wish that any one Member should feel that I am reluctant to give information. In fact, I have got a list here of the 48 countries to whom visas

have been issued. As regards the number of delegates from each country, if I may, I shall read out...

**Mr. Speaker:** Not necessary. They only wanted to know the number from the Communist countries.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot distinguish them, unless I take each of them separately. There are 48 countries.

**Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** Are they all Communist?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Not at all.

**An Hon. Member:** The majority of them are.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I will just read out the names of the countries: Czechoslovakia, Israel, Ceylon, Belgium, Spain, Sudan, Austria, Vietnam, Cyprus, Italy, Poland, Mongolia, East Germany, Mexico, Lebanon, Tunisia, America, Bulgaria, France, Iran, Russia, UAR, Jordan, Rumania, Japan, Sweden, Congo, Burma, Venezuela, Philippines, Peru, Iraq, Indonesia, Hungary, Finland, Denmark, Brazil, Argentina, West Germany, Albania, Laos, Mali, Guinea, China, North Korea, Greece, Chile and others.

**Shri Nath Pai:** I want to ask one question.

**Mr. Speaker:** I allowed him already.

**Shri Nath Pai:** When the adjournment motion was referred to you said you would permit questions. I have personally one question to ask.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Whereas not disagreeing with the Prime Minister in his eagerness to uphold the traditions of hospitality of our country, may I ask a very simple question? This Peace Council has every dispute under the sun on its agenda. Is the fact of its refusal to discuss the dispute that concerns this country most vitally a measure of its having discarded and shed off some of its unpleasant features, to which he referred just now?

He said that the Peace Council gradually has shed off some of its unpleasant and less appealing features. Is the refusal to discuss the most important issue for the host country a measure of its improved and better behaviour?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not quite understand the question. I cannot give answers for the Peace Council, as to what it seeks to do or does not seek to do. What I wish to make clear is that any kind of impression from the reported statement of Shri Sunderlal that there was some kind of understanding as to what they should discuss is completely wrong. There is no question of my coming to an understanding with them (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** You have permitted all the questions from the other side, but you have not permitted any question from Members on this side. All the questions, once, twice and thrice are being permitted on that side. What is all this? Due attention must be shown to Members standing on this side. Shri Kasliwal and myself have been wanting to ask questions.

**Mr. Speaker:** I allowed Shri Tyagi and Shri Ansar Harvani an opportunity. If hon. Members are not satisfied, I will allow them an opportunity.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** There should be equal opportunity.

**Shri Kasliwal:** The hon. Prime Minister said that there was no understanding as such between him and Shri Sunderlal. That is perfectly correct. May I know if Government are aware that there was a clear tacit understanding among the members of the Indian delegation—38 or 39 them—not to raise the India-China border dispute in this Conference?

**Some Hon. Members:** Shame, shame.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know I have no knowledge of who

the Indian delegates are and what the delegation is.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know when these Chinese delegates are leaving this country and whether any steps are taken to see that they leave this country straightway?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I want to know whether he knows at all when they are leaving.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No, Sir; I understand the Conference would be over probably tomorrow.

**Acharya Kripalani:** Will they go?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I hope so. I imagine they will.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** The Prime Minister said that the Government of India are not associating themselves with this Peace Council that was held two days ago. May I know then, how did the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs associate himself with the Council; either in his individual capacity or as a Minister of the Union Government?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not quite know myself in what capacity he went there.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** He was inaugurating the Tagore Centenary.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Oh, yes. There is a difference. I am sorry. On this occasion some meeting was held of some members of the Peace Council in connection with the Tagore Centenary, and Shri Humayun Kabir was invited to the Tagore Centenary function held by them (*Interruptions*).

**Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura)**  
rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Reported Interview by King of Nepal**

**S.Q. 11. Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state: