

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALICK: Sir, I am asking a supplementary. I am happy that the hon. Prime Minister is also here. *(Interruptions)* Because the hon. Minister is very new. The Vizag and Vijayanagar steel plants are election based—as early as in 1971. Anyway, I am not making that point. We want steel plants wherever it is possible, because we want self-sufficiency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What are you asking?

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALIK: I am just coming to that *(Interruptions)* I want to ask about the second steel plant in Orissa. Already Rs. 1 crores have been spent in Orissa steel plant. It is not enough. I want the hon. Minister to tell how the second steel plant in Orissa is going to come up, where actually there are mineral deposits and Paradip also *(Interruptions)* I want to know the exact position in this respect. And I request the hon. Prime Minister also to intervene.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: He started with elections and then he ended up in Orissa. Where is the relevance? The question has to be relevant. It does not arise out of this question. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have asked a question about one crore of rupees being spent on the Orissa steel plant. You say it is not enough. Is the Orissa steel plant in question?

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALICK: Whereas the question is on steel plants, why not Orissa? *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I rule it out. Next question.

Denial of Visas to Foreign Delegates to the All India Conference of Student Federation of India

†362. **SHRI GULAM MOHI-
UDDIN SHAWL:**†

**SHRI SYED
SHAHABUDDIN:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign delegates were granted Visas to attend the Indian National Congress (I)'s Session in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the number and nationality of the delegates;

(c) whether it is a fact that foreign delegates to the all India Conference of Student Federation of India were refused Visas;

(d) if so, the nationality of such delegates; and

(e) what are the reasons for denial of visas to them?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME
AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATA-
SUBBAIAH):** (a) and (b) According to information available, the Indian Embassy in Moscow granted, on application, visas to three Soviet nationals to attend the Conference at Calcutta of Indian National Congress (I). Two GDR nationals are also reported to have attended the Conference as observers.

(c) to (e) As per report of Indian Embassy in Beijing, the letter of invitation reportedly sent out by the Student Federation of India was couched in a

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Gulam Mohi-ud-Din Shawl.

language derogatory to a self respecting nation. No list of foreign delegates proposed to be invited was also received from the local organisers. Keeping these in view, it was decided to decline visas to foreign delegates who might have been extended invitation to participate in the Conference.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anybody else? Mr. Shahabuddin is not here.

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: May I know from the hon Minister whether he has got this invitation letter with him, because I have got one?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then why are you worried about the invitation letter?

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Because he is saying that there are words which are highly objectionable. I want to know what are the words you find objectionable. This is No. 1. (Interruptions) I am not going to read it. He can answer. No. 2, if you think so, why have you given it to the Press, that since the Students Federation of India has not submitted the names of delegates that is why you cannot allow them to come. You have reported it to Mr. Jyoti Basu and it has gone to the press. I have also a Press report with me. It appeared in the *Sunday* and *Times of India*. Which one is true? My specific question is, stated to the Press one thing and he is stating another here, which one is true?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The whole tragedy is the list did not come to our Ministry here. How could we

know? This Government was not at all aware whether such convention is taking place and whether there is any such invitation. So in the absence of that what can the Government do in this matter? Sir, he said about Mr. Jyoti Basu also. There is a caption in the *'Sunday'* "Whose Slip?" Sir, "The refusal of visas to the Soviet and Chinese delegates to the National Conference of the Students Federation of India, the CPM's Front Organisation, has left a trail of confusing stories while the CPM has raised a furore over this issue. When the West Bengal Chief Minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu, took up the matter with Union Ministers on 24th January, he was left wondering as to whose fault it was that the visas had not been issued. The External Affairs Minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, said that only the Home Minister, Mr. Sethi, was empowered to grant visas. When Mr Basu spoke to Mr. Sethi about it, he was asked to submit the names of the delegates. There was nobody in Delhi who could help Mr. Basu with the details of the two delegations. Apparently, no one had seriously taken up the matter with the Union Government before his intervention." This is the fact of the matter. In this position, we cannot do anything. (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will explain to you what the Minister has said. Your information is, of course, hot. He did not know it before nor did the Government of India.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: He said that there was some objectionable language and that is why the visas could not be granted. What is the objectionable language on the basis of which the visas could not be granted?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Reply only to those whom I have selected to put the question. There are four standing. One by one. The second question is still there.

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: He is explaining so many things. The basic thing is that Mr. Basu spoke to Mr. Sethi about it. He was asked to submit the names of foreign delegates. Then the story is there that nobody was there in Delhi which cannot be possible. Everybody was there in Delhi. (*Interruptions*). When Mr. Jyoti Basu had a talk with Mr. Sethi, he asked him to submit the names. Then the story is there in Sunday saying that nobody was there in Delhi to submit the names of delegates. I think you also don't believe it. That is not the question. The question is that Mr. Sethi said to the press and to Mr. Jyoti Basu that because of non-availability of names, they are not granting the visas. I can show you the telegram from our Soviet friends from Moscow. They sent this telegram saying, "Will arrive on Monday or Wednesday if we receive visas. Please assist." Now, my question is whether for every delegation you require the list of names. If it is so, I can give you one instance and that is that last March one delegation from the Soviet Union arrived here without submitting the list of the names. It was also in response to our invitation. If now you say that it is necessary, then have you started this practice only a few months back? If the non-availability of names is the only question, why is he saying that there is something objectionable in the invitation letter? If so, what was objectionable? Shall I read?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I don't want that.

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Which word is objectionable?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, I have said in my original answer that the language used while extending this invitation was derogatory to a self-respecting nation. He wants to know which are those words which have been objectionable. For his information and for the information of the House, I will read. In fact, they did not care to send this letter and the invitation to our Home Ministry in India. It came from our Embassy in Beijing. The letter is enclosed with the invitation. I will quote the language used: "Since the Fourth Conference held in December, 1981, the S.F.I. has grown tremendously both in terms of organisational strength and mass influence amongst students. It has emerged today as the foremost organisation championing the struggle against imperialism and in defence of world peace and progress against the anti-people policies of the Indian ruling classes and Government."

"during the period since our last Conference, over a score of our comrades have been martyred in these struggles. The 5th SFI Conference is being held in this background and in the midst of a deepening economic and political crisis in our country".

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it is enough. (*Interruptions*.)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: What are the derogatory words? The Minister must say. (*Interruptions*). It is a democratic country. Let the Minister say the words which seem to be derogatory. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: We are entitled to know the contents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dhabe, please sit down. In my judgement, the hon. Minister has made out his point that the language was derogatory.

(Interruption)

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERVEE: Let us know the guidelines.

(Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am passing on to the next Question because you are not allowing him to proceed. Question. No 363.

(Interruption)

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: He read half of it. The letter which he read should be placed on the Table.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is there. Mr. Dhabe, you understand sufficient English to know that certain observations were derogatory. Question No. 363. (Interruptions). I have ruled and I understand English a little bit, not as much as you. But they are derogatory. Question No. 363.

(Interruption)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, in your ruling, you say what are the words that are derogatory.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is hardly necessary to spell this out. I have already said it. And I stand by it. And if any of you want to come and be instructed in English, come to my Chamber (Interruptions). Question No. 363.

*363. [The questioner (Shri N. P. Chengalraya Naidu) was absent for answer, vide. col 36 infra]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 364.

Special Census in Border States

364. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a demand made at the National Convention on Infiltration of Foreign Nationals into India which was recently held at Calcutta for a special census in the border States; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purpose of Census taking is to collect information on demographic and socio-economic aspects of the population. It is not possible to detect infiltrators through a Census.

SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Sir, the Minister's answer seems to be evasive. Special census meant detection of foreign nationals. So, I want to know definitely from the Government whether the Government is considering holding of a special Census and detection of infiltrators. If so, when? If not, why?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Sir, my colleague has replied that as far as the census operation is concerned, according to the Act, it has nothing to do with the infiltrators it is....