

**Mr. Speaker:** If the House agrees to that; otherwise, I cannot allow it.

**Shri Hem Barua:** If the Minister agrees to reply, it may be taken up. It is of the same nature.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not only the agreement of the Minister. That comes after that. If there is some important question that the Minister wants to answer, he may ask after the time is over.

### X-Ray Films

\*284. **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Indian Radiological Institute and similar other bodies representative of radiological and medical opinion in the country urging the restoration of import cuts of X-Ray films;

(b) whether it is a fact that X-Ray films have been classified with general photographic goods for the enforcement of latest import cuts; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the enforcement of the latest import cut in regard to X-Ray films have made X-Ray diagnosis beyond the reach of patients belonging to poor and middle class patients suffering from T.B. and such other diseases?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. A general cut of 50% on all Established Importers' licences was announced on 8th June, 1962.

(c) To relieve the shortage of X-Ray films, the cut imposed in the quota of X-Ray films has been restored on 9th July, 1962.

**Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Am I to understand that the quota of X-ray films is now the same as was given last year?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, it is the same as last year.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In view of the fact that restrictions on imports of X-ray films and books were put simultaneously in a very unimaginative way, may I know why it is that Government proposes to kill people physically by restrictions on X-ray films, and intellectually by putting restrictions on books?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. That should be enough.

### Indian Cultural Delegation to Japan

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\*286. { **Shri Morarka:**  
**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**  
**Shri Kappen:**  
**Shri Narasimha Reddy:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article in Indian Express of the 3rd July, 1962 by one Mr. Shasi Desai regarding the behaviour of Indian Cultural Delegation which went to Japan for the Congress for Cultivating Human Spirit;

(b) if so, who are the sponsors of this Congress;

(c) how many delegates from India attended this Congress; and

(d) whether Government had given any facilities to these delegates?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Congress was sponsored by a private organisation called 'The International Foundation for Cultural Harmony' which has its headquarters in Japan. Its New Delhi branch was actively associated with the selection of delegates to the Congress.

(c) About 350 delegates from India attended this Congress.

(d) Government had no hand in the selection of the delegates. The

facilities extended by Government to delegates to the Congress were limited to the grant of passports in accordance with the existing regulations on the subject.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Morarka.

**Shri Kappen:** May I know....

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member did not wait for my permission. Shri Morarka.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether the Government has ascertained about the veracity of the various allegations made in this article?

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Government has no responsibility, why should they go about ascertaining things?

**Shri Morarka:** It was an Indian Cultural Delegation which went there.

**Mr. Speaker:** But the Government had no choice.

**Shri Morarka:** Even if the Government was not responsible for sponsoring this Delegation, the Delegation misbehaved to such an extent that it has brought shame to India; and it is the lack of Indian culture that they exhibited.

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** Government have instituted enquiries, in consultation with the Indian Embassy in Tokyo, following the receipt of the reports.

**Shri Kappen:** May I know what is the result of the enquiry made by Government?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** We are awaiting the results.

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Did the Government have any connection with the Delegation, either in sponsoring the Delegation or in approving the names? May I know how 350 delegates were allowed to go and how much of foreign exchange was allotted?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** No foreign exchange was allotted. We have done nothing except issuing passports.

**Shri Tyagi:** Am I to take it that no financial help of any kind was given to the Delegation?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is what is being said.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Before any delegation goes abroad, either official or non-official or even a single individual goes on behalf of any organisation, does any officer of the Ministry hand over to them any set of instructions about Do's and Don'ts?

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

**Shri Joachim Alva:** I am asking whether....

**Mr. Speaker:** He had asked and I had thought that it is a suggestion for action.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** What is the procedure?

**Mr. Speaker:** Procedures cannot be asked.

**Shri Morarka:** In view of the answer given that no foreign exchange was allotted to any member of the delegation, may I know whether Government had enquired or proposes to enquire as to how such a big delegation went there and how they made purchases and brought so many things from Japan?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** I have already stated that an enquiry is being made.

**Mr. Speaker:** The enquiry is being made.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether, before allowing such delegations, sponsored even by individual organisations, to go abroad, and bringing disgrace to the country, Government do enquire into the background of the delegations that are selected?

**Mr. Speaker:** Government did not do anything in that regard.