

Meeting of Indo-U.S. Joint Commission in Washington

4192. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
SHARMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the Indo-U.S. Joint Commission was held in Washington in January, 1973;

(b) what were the main decisions or conclusion of the said meeting; and

(c) when is the next meeting of the Indo-U.S. Joint Commission scheduled to be held?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Self-Sufficiency in zinc Production

4193. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the total indigenous zinc production and whether there are any prospects of our becoming self-sufficient in this important non-ferrous metal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : Information regarding capacity for zinc—existing, under implementation and proposed—is given in the table below :—

	Tonnes
(i) Installed capacity of the existing 2 smelters in operation	33,000
(ii) Production—	
(a) actual during 1973-74	20,776*
(b) estimates for 1974-75	23,000*
(iii) Work in progress for additional smelting capacities likely to be commissioned during 1976-77	57,000
Total of (i) & (iii)	9,005

(iv) Additional capacity covered by 'letter of intent'	20,000
Total	115,000

*including zinc ingot equivalent of zinc cathodes produced by Hindustan Zinc Limited.

The above will meet 60—70 per cent of the country's requirements. Further addition to zinc smelting capacity would depend on proving of additional ore reserves of the metal in the country.

World Hindi Conference

9194. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) how many countries had formally been invited through their Governments to send official representatives to the World Hindi Conference recently at Nagpur and how many of them responded to the invitation and in which capacities;

(b) whether the Government of Nepal was not formally invited despite intimation about the same and Nepal was represented through its Embassy staff in India;

(c) whether the latest special issue of Hindi Dharmyug and Daily Hindustan of 21st February, 1975 carried the news that Nepal did not send its representatives to the World Hindi Conference; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS) : (a) to (d) The Government has seen the reports which appeared in these newspapers. Invitations for the Conference were issued directly by the Secretary-General of the Vishwa Hindi Sammelan, a non-official organisation. Official invitation was extended to the Prime Minister of Mauritius, who had agreed to preside over the conference. A list of the countries from which delegates participated in the Conference is attached.

Invitations were extended through our Embassy in Kathmandu for two Nepalese delegates to be chosen by the Tribhuvan University. The University in reply expressed their inability to send anyone due to the impending semester examinations. However, the Cultural Attache of the Nepalese Embassy in Delhi attended the Conference as a representative.

Statement

LIST OF THE COUNTRIES FROM WHICH DELEGATES PARTICIPATED IN THE CONFERENCE

1. Bangladesh
2. Belgium
3. Burma
4. Canada
5. Czechoslovakia
6. Denmark
7. Fiji
8. France
9. German Democratic Republic
10. Federal Republic of Germany
11. Guyana
12. Hungary
13. Iran
14. Italy
15. Japan
16. Sri Lanka
17. Mauritius
18. Mongolia
19. Netherlands
20. Poland
21. Sweden
22. Thailand
23. Trinidad
24. United Kingdom
25. U.S.A.
26. U.S.S.R.
27. Yugoslavia
28. South Africa
29. Surinam
30. Nepal

Implementation of Protocols And Agreements With U.S.S.R.

4195. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state. (a) what are the follow-up steps taken by the Government of India in co-operation with its counterpart in U.S.S.R for the effective implementation of the various Protocols and Agreements signed by our Prime Minister and the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Soviet Union, Shri Brezhnev, when latter visited; and

(b) what are the results achieved so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAI DAS) (a) During the visit of H E Mr L. I Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU to India in November, 1973, various areas of co-operation in the field of industry, iron and steel production petroleum and chemicals, coal, trade production co-operation, planning etc., were indentified by the two countries

There has been regular review of progress in these fields through the exchange of visits of experts from both sides and also under the aegis of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

(b) As a result of these discussions, both sides have been able to take a step forward in various fields as given in Statement attached.

Statement

PROGRESS IN VARIOUS SECTORS OF INDO-SOVIET CO-OPERATION

1. *Agriculture.*—*Prima facie* Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir have been considered suitable for Karakul Sheep Breeding. It also appears that some areas in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh may be suitable for breeding Merino Sheep.

2. *Trade.*—Both sides have intensified negotiations for preparing a long-term Trade Plan for the year 1976—1980. This