PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HIGHEST RUSSIAN AWARD FOR SHRI TENZING NORGAY SOVIET UNION HONOURS EVERAST HERO

New Delhi, Phalguna 12, 1884 March 3, 1963

Shri Tenzing Norgay, the Everest hero, was awarded the highest medal for outstanding achievement in the field of sports by the Union of Sports Societies and Organization of Soviet Union, at a meeting held in his honour in Moscow on March 1. Shri Tenzing Norgay is the first foreigner to receive this medal, the other recipients of which include the Russian cosmonauts, Gagarin and Titov. The meeting at which the presentation was made to Shri Tenzing was attended by 1,500 sports enthusiasts including prominent Soviet sportsmen and mountaineers.

Shri Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary were the first to scale the world's highest peak, the Mount Everest, in 1953. Shri Tenzing is at present visiting the U.S.S.R. as a guest of the U.S.S.R. Mountaineering dederation. He left for Moscow on February 26 and is expected to return here by the third week of March.

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