

1949-50

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Jan 01, 1949

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPORT
OF THE

Ministry of External Affairs
1949-50

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

This report falls into four parts:

Part I describes the general set up of our diplomatic representation abroad.

Part II deals with points of special interest in those countries where India is represented.

Part III deals with international conferences; and

Part IV with External Publicity.

2. The designation of the Ministry has now been changed from "Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations" to "Ministry of External Affairs".

INDIA

Jan 01, 1949

A. Legations and Embassies.

Jan 01, 1949

PART I

Since the last report was published India's diplomatic representation has been established in the following countries: -

A. Legations and Embassies.

- (1) Argentina Embassy.
- (2) Baghdad Legation. (The Ambassador at Tehran is concurrently accredited as Minister to Iraq).
- (3) Ethiopia Legation.
- (4) Denmark Legation. (The Minister at Stockholm is concurrently accredited as Minister to Denmark and Finland)
- (5) Finland Embassy.
- (6) Holland Legation. (The Minister at Berne is concurrently accredited as Minister to the Holy See).
- (7) Holy See Embassy. (The High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom is concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Ireland.)
- (8) Ireland Legation.
- (9) Portugal Military Mission. (The Head of the Indian Federal Republic (Western Germany) is concurrently appointed as Head of the Indian Mission).
- (10) German Legation. (The Consulate General at Batavia, (Djarkarta) has been raised to an Embassy with the inauguration of the United States of Indonesia).
- (11) Indonesia

B. Consulates:

- (1) Jogjakarta
- (2) Hanoi Consular Agency (Under the administrative control of the Consul-General, Saigon)

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In addition the Consulates at Saigon and at Goa were raised to Consulates General during the year.

Several important diplomatic Missions were established in Delhi during the year bringing the total to 32.

Economy measures.-In view of the imperative need for all possible economies in expenditure the proposals for establishing consular representation at Meshed and Khoramshahr (Iran), Basra, Bahrein and Muscat (Persian Gulf) have been

kept in abeyance. Reductions in the existing establishments of Indian Missions have been made wherever possible and vacant posts left unfilled. The Information offices in our Missions in Prague, Rome, Colombo, Bangkok, Singapore, Nanking, Johannesburg and Mauritius have been discontinued. The post of Cultural Relations Officer at Rio de Janeiro has similarly been abolished.

The Indian Foreign Service.-The problem of finding suitable personnel for staffing India's newly started Missions has now been solved. A total number of 89 persons above the age of 25 the normal age for first appointment to Government service have been selected with the assistance of the Federal Public Service Commission and a Special Selection Board. The future recruitment will be by means of open competitive examinations held by the Union Public Service Commission. Seven candidates were selected on the basis of the examination held in 1947 and four in 1948. These candidates are now undergoing the prescribed three years' training at foreign universities and in Missions abroad.

Accommodation for Missions.-The problem of securing accommodation for our Missions for office as well as residential purposes continues to be difficult. To purchase properties has been found by experience to be cheaper than to rent them. Properties have been acquired at: -

1. London
2. Paris
3. Berne
4. Cairo
5. Rangoon
6. Singapore
7. New York
8. Washington

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It is proposed to buy properties or construct houses in a few more places during the financial year 1950-51. The majority of our Missions, however, are housed in rented buildings and this will have to continue until we are in a position to purchase properties.

INDIA

ARGENTINA IRAN IRAQ ETHIOPIA DENMARK SWEDEN FINLAND SWITZERLAND IRELAND
PORTUGAL GERMANY INDONESIA VIETNAM OMAN USA CZECH REPUBLIC ITALY REPUBLIC
OF SINGAPORE SRI LANKA MAURITIUS SOUTH AFRICA UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE EGYPT

Jan 01, 1949

A. Middle East

PART II

A. Middle East

With the establishment of our Legation in Baghdad we have now diplomatic representation in most of the important countries of the Middle-East. The Governments of Syria and Yemen have also expressed their desire to exchange diplomatic relations with India.

Egypt.-Negotiations are in progress for concluding a treaty of friendship with Egypt. A bilateral air agreement between the two countries is also under negotiation.

Turkey.-The question of a trade agreement with Turkey has been under examination.

Iraq.-The establishment of our Legation at Baghdad in September 1949 has led to a greater understanding of Indian problems in Iraq.

Persian Gulf.-There are no Indian representatives yet in the Persian Gulf--Where large numbers of Indians are employed by the Oil Companies. The proposal to appoint a Trade Agent at Bahrein and a Consul at Muscat and a Consul at Basra, with jurisdiction over Kuwait has had to be kept in abeyance as an economy measure. Meanwhile it has been proposed that the Secretary to the Indian Legation at Baghdad should pay periodical visits to Bahrein and Kuwait for keeping in touch with Indian nationals there. Our Ambassador at Tehran has paid a non-official visit to Kuwait recently in order to acquaint himself with the living conditions of Indian employees there.

Aden.-It is proposed to appoint a Commissioner for the Government of India shortly in Aden to look after Indian interests. The consent of the U.K. Government to this appointment is awaited.

Yemen.--A Yemen delegation visited New Delhi in July last to negotiate a treaty of friendship and commerce which is expected to be signed by both the Governments shortly.

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Haj.-Arrangements were made for about 14,000 Indian

pilgrims to visit the Hejaz on pilgrimage during the last year and a Special Haj Officer was appointed during the Haj season to render assistance to the pilgrims.

Iran.-A treaty of friendship between India and Iran is hoped to be signed shortly at Tehran.

Pending the conclusion of a bilateral air agreement between India and Iran, the temporary agreement with Iran has been extended for a further period of six months from December, 1949.

An Iranian Economic Mission arrived at New Delhi in December 1949 to explore possibilities of promoting trade between the two countries and the draft of a treaty of commerce and navigation has been handed over to the members of the Mission. Negotiations are also in progress for concluding a direct wireless agreement and for finalising the Anti-locust Convention.

As a measure of economy the opening of the Consulate General at Meshed and the Consulate at Khoramshahr has been postponed and the Ambassador has been asked to assume responsibilities for the welfare of Indian employees of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company in Southern Iran.

Afghanistan.-A treaty of friendship between India and Afghanistan was signed on the 1 January 1950 at New Delhi and will come into force after the exchange of the instruments of ratification. An Afghan trade delegation arrived in India in January 1949 to hold discussions for the conclusion of a treaty of friendship and commerce. The draft of a treaty was presented to the Afghan delegation and negotiations for its conclusion are in progress.

A direct wireless telegraph agreement between India and Afghanistan was signed at Kabul on the Dec 14, 1949 and the service was inaugurated at Bombay on the 12th January, 1950.

Our Ambassador at Kabul is conducting preliminary negotiations with the Afghan Government in connection with an air agreement.

The Deputy Minister, visited Afghanistan in 1949 to participate in the Afghan Jashan celebrations. Indian hockey and football teams and exhibitions of Indian paintings were sent to Kabul in connection with the celebrations.

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The Vice Consulates at Jalalabad and Kandahar started functioning during the year.

B. South East Asia and the Far East

Pakistan.-The important matters dealt with during the year were the Kashmir question the canal water dispute the evacuee property dispute devaluation and its consequent effects on Indo-Pakistan trade relations and the setting up of a boundary disputes tribunal to resolve certain boundary disputes in terms of the agreements reached in December 1948 and the publication of the decision of the tribunal. Matters falling within the specific jurisdiction of other Ministries were dealt with by them the Ministry of External Affairs acting in a coordinating capacity. Attempts were continued in the year to resolve all outstanding issues with Pakistan by friendly negotiations or by mediation or arbitration etc. as might be suitable in the different cases.

Ceylon.-The Indian and Pakistan Residents (Citizenship) Act was enforced on the 5th August, 1949 and Indians in Ceylon who are qualified under the provisions of the Act to be citizens of Ceylon by registration have been required to apply for such citizenship within two years from that date. The Ceylon Indian Congress, the most influential and representative body of Indians in Ceylon, decided to boycott the provisions of the Act as it considered them to be unsatisfactory. Methods of resolving the present impasse are now being considered. The Emigrants and Immigrants Act was also brought into force with effect from the 1st November 1949, as a result of which Indians going to Ceylon are required to be in possession of a passport and residence permit (temporary or permanent) or a visa. Difficulties have arisen over the working of this Act, some of which have been overcome through the intervention of our High Commissioner in Ceylon and efforts are being pursued for overcoming the rest.

A new system for permitting remittances from Ceylon on the basis of permits has been introduced with effect from the 1st January 1950. Certain difficulties experienced by Indians over the new arrangements are being tried to be removed in consultation with the Government of Ceylon.

Burma.-In accordance with the agreement reached in the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference held in Ceylon in January 1950, it is proposed to grant a short term loan of (pound) one million to Burma out of the blocked Sterling Account.

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This will be part of a Commonwealth loan to Burma of six million pounds. The Government of Burma passed the Nationalisation Act, 1948 which provides for the resumption of agricultural lands by Government for distribution amongst cultivators. Representations were made to the Government of Burma regarding the inadequacy of the compensation proposed under the Act. A delegation was also proposed to be

sent to Burma early in February 1949 to discuss this matter but the visit had to be postponed indefinitely at the request of the Government of Burma who were then preoccupied with internal disturbances in the country. The Act has however now been applied to certain areas and the Land Compensation Commission has also been set up to determine the basis of compensation and the Government of Burma have agreed to receive our delegation sometimes in March 1950.

Repatriation of Indian destitutes from Burma.-Due to the unsatisfactory internal situation in Burma, repatriation of Indian nationals rendered destitute by the activities of insurgents had to be continued throughout the year, our Embassy making all necessary arrangements to bring them from the interior and for repatriating them to India. About 13,000 destitute Indian nationals have so far been repatriated at a cost of approximately Rs. nine lakhs incurred by the Government of India.

Provision of alternative employment to destitute Indian employees of the Burmese Government.-Efforts to secure alternative employment in India for Indian nationals discharged from Burma Government services on grounds of alien nationality were continued during the year. Employment assistance is being given through employment exchanges and concessions such as exemption from the upper age limit and higher order of priority have also been granted by the Government of India. On 13th November 1949 one thousand and thirty four ex-employees of the Government of Burma had been absorbed under the Government of India.

Siam.-Negotiations for a bilateral air agreement and a treaty of friendship commerce and navigation between India and Siam are under consideration. A temporary authorisation has in the meanwhile been given to an Indian company to operate an air service to Bangkok and beyond.

The Consulate at Songkhla in South Siam has been closed down as a measure of economy.

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Malaya.-Internal disturbances continued in Malaya and the Malayan authorities have recently launched an Anti-Bandit Month in an all out effort to crush the terrorist activities. The vast majority of Indians in Malaya continued to keep away from all terrorist activities though about 270 have been kept in detention under the emergency regulations on suspicion of having directly or indirectly aided the terrorists or their agents. A number of Indians, together with their dependents have also been repatriated to India at the cost of the Malayan authorities. The Government of the Federation of Malaya passed a legislation on the 22nd December 1949 withdrawing facilities so far

given to the Agent of the Government of India in Malaya to inspect work places etc. where Indian labourers are employed. The question as to what extent the functions which the Agent has hitherto been discharging in respect of Indian labourers can be performed by him in his capacity as Consul, is at present under examination.

Indonesia.-A conference of 19 Asian and other nations was held at New Delhi on the 20th January 1949 to discuss ways and means for the settlement of the Indonesian problem. Certain specific recommendations were made to the Security Council. This was followed on the 13th April 1949 by an informal conference on Indonesia held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and was attended by representatives of 11 countries. The end of the year marked the successful conclusion of the Round Table Conference at the Hague and the consequent transfer of power in Indonesia from Dutch to Indonesian hands culminating in the formation of the new Republic of the United States of Indonesia. Our Consulate General in Batavia has been raised to the status of an Embassy. The Government of India sent Rajkumari Amrit Kaur as their representative to take part in the Indonesian freedom celebrations and Dr. Soekarno President of the Indonesian Republic, paid a visit to India on the occasion of India's becoming a Republic in January 1950.

Indo-China.-Our Consulate at Saigon has been raised to a Consulate General. Our Consul General has succeeded in inducing the French passport authorities to abolish the practice of obtaining finger-prints of Indians arriving in Indo-China.

China.-The year 1949 saw the overthrow of the Chinese Nationalist Government by the Communists and the establishment of a Central People's Government with its capital at Peking. In October 1949 this Government proclaimed itself as the only lawful Government of China and expressed a desire

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to enter into diplomatic relations with India. The Government of India accorded de jure recognition to the new Government of China on the 30th December 1949 and agreement has been reached with the Chinese People's Government to establish diplomatic relations. Discussions on preliminary and procedural matters connected with the establishment of diplomatic missions, are now being conducted by the Indian Charge d'Affaires in China with the new Government.

Sinkiang.-Sinkiang was taken over peacefully by the Central People's Government of China on the 26th September, 1949. This has resulted in an influx of about 700 refugees into India. Transit facilities are being afforded to them; and the Indian Red Cross has also given them relief.

Japan.-Significant changes in the attitude of the occupation Authorities towards Japan have taken place. The process of Japan's economic revival has been accelerated; and the dismantling of factories stopped. Little progress, however, has been made in negotiating a Peace Treaty with Japan.

India has entered into a Trade Agreement with Japan. An Indian Delegation was sent to Japan to study and report on Japan's cottage industries. They have brought with them numerous exhibits of cottage industry products from Japan, machinery to set up similar cottage industries in India and also a team of Japanese technicians to train our refugees to work the machinery imported from Japan.

In response to requests from Japanese children, the Prime Minister sent an elephant, together with a message of good will to the children of Japan.

Philippines.-On the 26th November, 1949, an Indian Consulate General was established at Manila, the capital of the Philippines.

An air agreement was signed between India and the Philippines in October 1949, and a treaty of friendship is under consideration.

Hong Kong.-The Colonial Government of Hong Kong have been moved to restore pre-war conditions for the entry of Indians into Hong Kong. Efforts are being made to remove the restrictions imposed during the war.

Tibet.-In the year under review an Indian Political officer, Mr. H. Dayal, paid an official visit to Lhasa for the first time. A Tibetan Trade Mission visited China, the U.S.A. and the

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U.K. and returned to Tibet via Delhi where the mission held discussions on trade matters.

Nepal.-India sent a Scientific and Cultural Mission to Nepal in the summer of 1949. A similar mission from Nepal is due to visit India in April 1950. Negotiations for a new treaty with Nepal have reached an advanced stage and are expected to be finalised shortly. The Maharaja of Nepal paid a visit to New Delhi in February 1950. Agitation for constitutional reforms continues in Nepal.

Sikkim.-The conflict between the Sikkim State Congress and the Government of Sikkim menaced the administration of Sikkim in the early part of 1949. In June 1949 the Maharaja

wrote to the Political Officer expressing his inability to carry on the administration without the Government of India's assistance and requesting the Political Officer to take over the administration pending the appointment of the Dewan. The Political Officer accordingly took over the administration and continued to be responsible for it until Mr. J. S. Lall an officer of the Government of India whose services were loaned to the Maharaja of Sikkim assumed charge as Dewan.

The Dewan is now engaged in reforming the administration of the State. On his recommendations the Government of India have agreed to grant funds to the State to meet the cost of a land revenue settlement and for a forest survey.

It has been decided to convene a conference of representatives of various Parties in March in New Delhi in order to discuss the administrative relationship of Sikkim with India.

Bhutan.--Bhutan and India entered into a new treaty of friendship on 8th August, 1949. The treaty has since been ratified by both Governments. Under the treaty the Government of Bhutan will continue to be guided by the Government of India in regard to its external relations and the Government of India have undertaken not to interfere in the internal administration of Bhutan. As a measure of goodwill, the Government of India have ceded the territory known as Dewangiri to Bhutan and have raised their annual subsidy to Bhutan to Rs. 5 lakhs.

Assam Tribal Areas.--To improve the administration of the inaccessible tribal areas, a new administrative centre at Laimakru in the Abor Hills District was established in 1949, and it is proposed to open another centre at Nizamghat in the Mishmi Hills District.

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The Pasighat-Tuting Road is under construction and the work on a leper colony at Pasighat is under way. The proposal for the construction of essential roads and bridle paths in the tribal areas is under active consideration.

A party of anthropologists under Dr. B. S. Guha visited the Abor Hills during the first half of 1949. Their detailed report is awaited.

Several outposts of the Assam Rifles have been established on the Indo-Burma border as well as in the interior of the tribal areas.

In order to check head-hunting raids by certain Naga tribes, a punitive expedition of the Assam Rifles was sent in November, 1949, to punish the offending villages. The expedi-

tion was successful.

In the year under review, progress has been made in implementing schemes in relation to education, agriculture, medical relief, etc. in the tribal areas. 45 schools have been opened at Pasighat. A "Jeane" school has also been opened at Pasighat.

The Deputy Minister visited the tribal areas twice during the year and efforts are being made to give effect to his suggestions.

C. Europe

Portugal.-An Indian Legation was opened in Lisbon in November, 1949.

Negotiations are in progress for the elimination of the patronage, exercised by Portugal over certain ecclesiastical appointments in India under a convention between the Holy See and Portugal, known as the 'Padroade'.

France.-On June 19th, 1949, a referendum was held in Chandernagore to decide whether it should be merged with the Indian Union or remain within the French Republic. By an overwhelming majority the people of Chandernagore voted for merger with the Indian Union. A Treaty between France and India for the transfer of Chandernagore to India is now being negotiated.

No date has yet been fixed for the referendum in the four Southern Settlements, mainly because complete agreement has not been reached between the Governments of India and of France regarding the modalities of the referendum. The Government of India have been pressing for arrangements which will ensure that a free and fair referendum is held.

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The Netherlands.-An Indian Embassy was opened at The Hague on August 15, 1949. The presence of our Ambassador at The Hague was useful during the negotiations for the establishment of Indonesia as an Independent State.

Austria.-Diplomatic relations have been established with Austria at Legation level. Pending the appointment of a Minister a Vice-Consulate has been set up in Vienna.

Denmark.-In September 1949, diplomatic relations were established with Denmark at Legation level and our Minister in Sweden was accredited- concurrently as our Minister to Denmark.

Finland.-In September 1949, diplomatic relations were established with Finland at Legation level and our Minister in Sweden was accredited concurrently as our Minister to Finland.

Germany.-At the invitation of the Allied High Commission at Bonn, the Government of India have accredited the Head of the Indian Military Mission in Germany as Chief of the Indian Mission to the Allied High Commission.

Norway.-In 1947, Norway and India agreed to exchange diplomatic missions at legation level. It is proposed to accredit our Ambassador to France as Minister to Norway. India entered into a temporary air agreement with Norway in October, 1949.

Sweden.-In September 1949 an Indian Parliamentary Delegation consisting of four members attended the Inter-Parliamentary Conference held in Stockholm.

Switzerland.-A Treaty of Friendship and Establishment with Switzerland was ratified on the 5th May 1949. India entered into a Provisional Air Agreement with Switzerland on the 24th June 1949. In December 1949, our Minister in Berne signed on behalf of the Government of India an agreement relating to Red Cross Convention, formulated as a result of the Diplomatic Conference in Geneva.

United Kingdom.-Consequent on India's becoming a Republic during the year, the Government of India have approved certain proposals received from the High Commissioner for the reorganisation of the Central Departments of his office. These do not involve any appreciable additional expenditure.

Most of the agency functions are now being performed by

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the High Commissioner, excepting a few which still remain with the Commonwealth Relations Office, London. The question of taking over such residual work also from the Commonwealth Relations Office is being examined.

Ireland.-Shri V. K. Krishna Menon, India's High Commissioner in the U. K. was accredited concurrently as India's Ambassador to Ireland in July 1949. Owing to the present financial stringency, no staff has been appointed for the Embassy in Dublin so far.

D. America

U.S.A.-The most important event of the year under

report was the visit of the Prime Minister to the United States at the invitation of President Truman. The visit which lasted for three weeks, has promoted friendship and understanding between India and the United States of America.

Negotiations for a Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between India and the United States of America have not yet been concluded.

We have signed an agreement under the provisions of U.S. Public Law 584 Of the 79th Congress, popularly known as the Fulbright Act, to provide for the financing and execution of educational and cultural programmes for the mutual benefit of both countries. The agreement provides for an expenditure not exceeding \$400,000 annually, in rupees, from the funds, realised from the sale of American surplus property in India.

Canada.-In October last the Prime Minister paid a visit to Canada at the cordial invitation of the Canadian Government.

Efforts to secure an annual immigration quota for Indian nationals into Canada are continuing.

British West Indies.--Under the new Constitution for the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago, elections to the Legislative Council, to be held under a system of universal adult suffrage without reservation of seats for any particular community or interest, are expected in the latter half of 1950.

The Royal Commission on Sugar Industry in British Guiana has now submitted its report which is being considered by the United Kingdom Government.

Three hundred and four Indian repatriates from British Guiana returned to India in February, 1949. There has been

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no further repatriation from the British West Indies or British Guiana since then.

E. South America

Brazil.-The Commercial Secretary attached to the Embassy also looks after India's trade interests in Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Equador and French Guiana.

Argentine.-Our Ambassador presented his credentials on the 23rd June, 1949. The Argentine Ambassador to India has been appointed and is likely to arrive in-New Delhi shortly.

An agreement has been entered into between the Governments of India and Argentina for the supply of wheat in exchange for raw jute from India.

The jurisdiction of the Commercial Counsellor at Buenos Aires has been extended to Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Chile.

Chile.-Diplomatic relations were established between India and Chile at Legation level during the year under report. The Chilean Charge d'Affaires arrived in India in March, 1949. Our Ambassador in the Argentina was accredited as Minister to Chile in October, 1949.

F. Africa

Ethiopia.-Ethiopia's Minister to India has been in New Delhi for some time and our Minister has left recently for Addis Ababa.

East Africa.-Mr. Peter Koinange, an influential and prominent African leader of Kenya paid a visit to India during the year.

The failure of the Exchange Bank of India and Africa Ltd., which ruined many African depositors in East Africa, created considerable resentment among the Africans. As a special case the Government of India sanctioned rupees one lac to enable the Indian Commissioner in East Africa to make ex gratia payments to the poor African depositors, as well as to poor Indian depositors in particularly hard cases.

South Africa.-During the course of the last year the position of Indians in the Union of South Africa has further deteriorated. In active implementation of their repeatedly emphasized policy of 'apartheid' the Union Government are opening separate telephone booths, post offices, entrances to

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railway stations, aerodromes, etc., for Europeans and non-Europeans respectively. A further tightening up of the provisions of the Asiatic Land Tenure Act in Natal and Transvaal is envisaged in the recent speech from the Throne in the South African Parliament.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a Resolution on the 14th May, 1949 recommending the holding of a Round Table Conference between the Governments of India, Pakistan and South Africa on the question of treatment of Indians in the Union of South Africa. Tripartite Preliminary Talks were held at Cape Town in February 1950 to find a mutually acceptable basis of discussion at a Round Table

Conference in accordance with the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Madagascar.-The Secretary to the Indian High Commissioner in South Africa paid a visit to Madagascar in order to enquire into the necessity of opening an Indian Consulate in that Island.

Miscellaneous.-The scheme of cultural scholarships for Indian and indigenous students from certain Asian and African countries for studies in India was inaugurated in 1949 with the object of fostering cultural and friendly relations with such countries. Seventy scholarships were sanctioned but only about sixty students could be selected and out of these 53 arrived in India. Another 70 scholarships have been sanctioned for 1950.

G. Australia and New Zealand

Australia.-In Australia, Indian businessmen permanently settled there, had some difficulties due to the Licensing Act, 1917-46, and the Factories and Shops Act, 1920-47. As a result of the representation made by the High Commissioner for India in Australia, the Australian Government amended the acts in question in 1948 and thereby removed the disabilities from which Indians had been suffering.

An agreement between Australia and India relating to Air Services came into force on 11th July, 1949.

New Zealand.-There are about 1,200 Indians in New Zealand. They are mostly farmers, shopkeepers and professional people. They enjoy equality of citizenship and do not suffer from any disability on account of their race or colour. There is a ban on the entry of fresh Indians into New Zealand. But, as a special case, that Government permits entry of the children of permanent residents there.

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During the war, about fifteen Indian children were given permits to enter New Zealand. But they could not avail themselves of these permits owing to shipping difficulties. Subsequently the Government of India recommended the names of seven out of these fifteen persons to the New Zealand Government as deserving special and sympathetic consideration and that Government has agreed to their permanent settlement as a special case.

Fiji.-The land tenure policy of the Fiji Government has adversely affected the interests of Indian agriculturists. These difficulties are now engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Another steam-ship, the 'Sirsa' with greater accommodation and better travelling facilities, has now been put on the India-Fiji run in order to meet the demand of the Fiji Indians.

A request from a Muslim Member of the Fiji Legislative Council for separate electorates for the Muslim community was recently rejected.

IRAQ

SYRIA YEMEN INDIA EGYPT TURKEY OMAN USA KUWAIT IRAN UNITED KINGDOM
AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN BURMA INDONESIA CHINA JAPAN PHILIPPINES HONG KONG
NEPAL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BHUTAN PORTUGAL FRANCE AUSTRIA DENMARK
SWEDEN FINLAND GERMANY NORWAY SWITZERLAND IRELAND CANADA BRAZIL PERU
COLOMBIA VENEZUELA BOLIVIA PARAGUAY URUGUAY CHILE ARGENTINA ETHIOPIA
KENYA SOUTH AFRICA ITALY MADAGASCAR AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND FIJI

Dec 14, 1949

India and International Conferences

PART III

India and International Conferences

By virtue of her position and status and because of her many-sided interest in international co-operation India has assumed the obligation of membership of numerous international organisations and was concerned with the following International conferences during the year under review.

- (i) Second part of the Third Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations: (April-May 1949) ;
- (ii) Economic and Employment Commission;
- (iii) Economic and Social Commission;
- (iv) Human Rights Commission;
- (v) Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East;
- (vi) Fiscal Commission;
- (vii) Statistical Commission;

- (viii) Commission on the Status of Women;
- (ix) Transport and Communication Commission;
- (x) Narcotics Commission;
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- (xi) Social Commission;
- (xii) Fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (September-December 1949) ;
- (xiii) Security Council ;
- (xiv) Special Committee on non-self-governing territories appointed by the General Assembly;
- (xv) Interim Committee of the General Assembly;
- (xvi) Korean Commission.

Apart from these, India was also indirectly concerned with a number of Conferences of the Specialised Agencies such as FAO, UNESCO, ILO, ICAO, WHO, ITO, etc.

Problems of interest to India discussed in the United Nations and its bodies.

General Assembly.-The General Assembly held the second part of its third regular session in New York from Apr 05, 1949 to 19th May 1949 and dealt with the items left over from the Paris Session of 1948. These included the questions of the disposal of the former Italian colonies and the treatment of Indians in South Africa.

The Assembly adopted a resolution recommending the holding of a round-table conference by India, Pakistan and South Africa. On the initiative of India and Australia, the question of Indonesia was placed on the agenda of the General Assembly at this Session. No discussion of substance, however, took place on this item as an agreement was reached between the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia on 7th May 1949.

The fourth regular session of the General Assembly was held in New York from 20th September to 10th December, 1949.

The Indian Delegation under the leadership of Shri B. N. Rau took an active interest and made a substantial contribution to the deliberations of the Assembly on the various problems before it. Particular mention may be made of India's contribution to the Assembly's decision on the disposal of the former

Italian colonies. Most of the suggestions made by India on this question were accepted and the draft constitution, proposed by the Indian Delegation, formed part of the resolution adopted by the Assembly. India's contribution on questions, relating to Trusteeship and non-self-governing territories, was also widely appreciated.

India was elected as a member of the Security Council for a period of two years from 1st January, 1950. India was also

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elected a member of the Special Committee appointed to examine information on non-self-governing territories for three years from 1950. One of India's delegates, the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, was also elected in his personal capacity for a period of three years as a member of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.

Security Council.-India took her seat as a member of the Security Council in January 1950. She is represented on this Council by Shri B. N. Rau, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Economic and Social Council.-India was elected to the Economic and Social Council for a three year term commencing on the 1st January 1949. The Council held its eighth and ninth sessions during the year 1949. The tenth session of the Council commenced on the 7th February 1950, when Shri Ramaswami Mudaliar was elected Vice-President of the Council. Of the more important subjects, considered by the Council in 1949, India evinced particular interest in issues like the Economic Development of the under-developed countries, President Truman's "fourth point" in so far as it related to the activities of the Council, Technical and social welfare fellowships.

Functional Commission of the Economic and Social Council and its sub-commissions

During the ninth session of the Economic and Social Council in July 1949, India was re-elected to the Human Rights Commission, the Statistical Commission and the Economic and Employment Commission for a term of three years from 1950 and to the Narcotic Drugs Commission for an indefinite period. Thus India's membership in seven out of nine Functional Commissions of the ECOSOC remains unaltered.

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

This is one of the Regional Commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council which deals with the question of the economic development of Asia and the Far East. It came into existence in 1947 and has so far held five regular

sessions.

The Commission's work extends to various fields of which the more important items are given below:-

1. Flood Control.
2. Industrial Development including Technical Assistance.
3. Trade Promotion.

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4. Inland Transport.
5. Travel Facilities.
6. Financing of capital goods.
7. Research in the development of Iron and Steel.

Recruitment to the U.N. Secretariat

As a result of our continuous efforts, we have been able to secure greater Indian representation in the higher grades of the U.N. Secretariat. Shree S. Lall, Secretary Ministry of Labour, has recently been appointed to one of the eight posts of Assistant Secretaries-General.

United Nations Fellowships

During 1949, the United Nations offered some Fellowships to Indian nationals in the field of economic development and social welfare services. Nominations for the 1950 programmes are now under consideration by the Ministry in consultation with the other Ministries concerned.

INDIA

USA KOREA FRANCE SOUTH AFRICA PAKISTAN AUSTRALIA INDONESIA THE NETHERLANDS

Apr 05, 1949

External Publicity

Jan 01, 1949

PART IV

External Publicity

During the early part of 1949-50, new publicity posts were established at the following places:-

1. Rio de Janeiro
2. Buenos Aires
3. Mauritius
4. Baghdad
5. Rome

Subsequently however, as a measure of economy, the following publicity posts had to be abolished:-

1. Prague
2. Rome
3. Johannesburg
4. Mauritius
5. Colombo
6. Bangkok
7. Nanking
8. Saigon

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This, together with economies effected at Headquarters, have resulted in a total saving of Rs. 6,48,360 in the budget for 1949-50.

There are 20 publicity posts functioning at present at Ankara, Baghdad, Batavia, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Canberra, Dacca, Karachi, Kabul, Lahore, London, Nairobi, Ottawa, Paris, Rangoon, Rio de Janeiro, Singapore, Tehran, Tokyo and Washington.

During the period under review, 14 Publicity Directives were issued to Missions abroad on special subjects to enable them to present India's point of view on those subjects.

The Ministry's multiple address broadcasts of news in Morse to Missions abroad through the Overseas Communications Service kept Missions informed of latest developments in India. Increasing attention is being given in these broadcasts to regional requirements, e.g. the Middle East, South East Asia and Far East, and special material likely to interest these regions is being sent. These broadcasts are made twice daily and are at present picked up by 19 Missions abroad. Copies of the broadcasts are sent by air to Missions which are not themselves picking up the broadcasts.

As a result of the recent expansion in the capacity of the Photographic Studio of the Press Information Bureau, there are better prospects for Photographic publicity in foreign magazines. Specially produced material is also being supplied to Missions abroad for use on special occasions like Independence Day, Republic Day, etc.

Pamphlets.-A pamphlet entitled "About India" has been

produced for distribution 'abroad. This pamphlet gives in short outline the historical, cultural and economic aspects of India and satisfies a widely felt need for general information abroad about India. Arabic, Urdu and French versions of the pamphlet "India's Minorities" have been distributed abroad.

Magazines.-Two special magazines are being produced for external publicity. These are (1) March of India (in English) and (2) Soet-el-Sharq (in Arabic). Certain journals produced for internal use are also being sent abroad to the extent that this is considered suitable, especially for Indians overseas.

Libraries in Missions abroad.-Fourteen additional libraries have been set up in Missions abroad, bringing the total to 41. It is proposed to make additions to these libraries from year to year.

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External Broadcasts.-Improvements have been effected in the programme content of the External Services of the All India Radio. The Pushtu and Arabic Services have been extended. Priorities have been laid down to govern the extension of External Broadcasts to various target areas, in the light of the requirements of Foreign Policy.

Films.-A number of Documentary films, produced by the I & B Ministry and considered suitable for External Publicity, have been supplied to Missions abroad for non-commercial exhibition as a part of Government publicity. Suitable items from the home releases of Indian News Reviews are also sent abroad as newsreel footage for similar showing. A number of films specifically intended for External Publicity are under production by the Ministry of I & B.

Arrangements have been made for television in the U.K. and U.S.A. of special news items appearing in our newsreels.

Cultural Relations.-An Indian Council of Cultural Relations has been established and branch organisations of this body have been started in Egypt, Turkey and Iran with a view to fostering cultural relations between India and the Middle East.

All possible assistance has been given to well-known Indian Dancers and Artists to hold exhibitions of pictures and dancing shows abroad.

ARGENTINA
MAURITIUS USA IRAQ ITALY CZECH REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA SRI LANKA AUSTRALIA
EGYPT TURKEY AFGHANISTAN CANADA KENYA PAKISTAN UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE IRAN
JAPAN REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INDIA

Jan 01, 1949