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Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Inaugural Address of the Minister of External Affairs Shri Swaran Singh at Fourteenth Session of Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee

Following is the text of the inaugural address delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, at the 14th annual session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee held in New Delhi, on January 11, 1973:

First of all, may I extend to the distinguished delegates and observers a very warm welcome to India. I hope that your stay, although short, will be useful and that you will take with you pleasant memories of your visit. India takes a special delight and satisfaction in arranging a family gathering of the representatives of the Asian and African States. We shall make every effort to offer to all of you all the assistance you need during your stay here.

The Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, although devised essentially as a meeting place for exchange of views among the member States, has, in fact, attracted the attention of the world community as a whole. This is reflected by the interest shown not only by other countries from Asia and Africa but also from the rest of the world, who have sent observers to this Session. This is further indication of the fact that the Asian-African Committee, while promoting solidarity and a common viewpoint among the Asian-African States wherever possible, is not parochial in its outlook but universal.

The major field of study and discussions in this Committee, it appears from your records, is international law. Whatever regional variations may exist or be permitted, international law by definition must be universal or international. However, in its crystallization or codification, and in its Progressive development, all segments of the World community must play an effective part. With the change in the political complexion of the world community, particularly during the past 25 years or so, the question of the effective participation of the Asian

and African States in this effort has assumed special importance. In this respect, the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee has played a notable role; established in 1956, the Committee has so far held 13 annual sessions. These sessions have provided a forum for consultation among the member States of the Committee, as well as among the observers from the Asian and African countries, on several problems, such as those concerning the codification of the law of diplomatic and consular relations, on which the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and the Convention on Consular Relations of 1963 were adopted, and those concerning the law of treaties on which the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of 1969 was adopted. The Committee's work has not only been found useful by member Governments but it has contributed substantially to the success of the international conferences on the development of international law. The Committee has also made notable contributions in the fields of the law relating to economic and trade relations, arbitration, treatment of foreigners, rights of refugees, and extradition of offenders.

You have assembled here during this Session to discuss several matters of current international importance. The most important question, I understand, relates to the law of the Sea and the Seabed. Other questions to be considered by you will be the Protection of Diplomats and other persons entitled to special protection under international law, the system of Legal Advisory Services in Foreign Offices, the law of International Rivers, and the law relating to the International Sale of Goods. Most of

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these questions are of particular importance to the developing countries of Asia and Africa, and of Latin America. The Asian-African States have a multiplicity of problems of their own, which may be different from those of the developed countries in Europe or North America. However, we must pool our information, identify our problems, and attempt solutions thereto in such a way that these can form an acceptable part of

international law as a whole, The law relating to international trade and shipping is being examined in the United Nations Commission on international Trade Law as well as in UNCTAD. The law relating to international rivers, although admirably codified by eminent international organisations like the International Law Association in the Helsinki Rules of 1966, is to be presently considered by the International Law Commission.

The question of the systems of rendering advice on international law to the Foreign Offices is essentially a matter of professional importance to the participants, but I am sure, their Governments would also be equally interested in a study of the methods, procedures, or systems adopted by the various countries of the region in this regard and if the adequacy or effectiveness of the various approaches. Whatever be the method adopted by different countries, the aim is essentially the same, namely, how to ensure that the conduct of international relations is made smooth and harmonious, within the acceptable framework of international law. respect for law and the rule of law in international relations will certainly make international relations more stable.

The question of the protection of diplomats and other privileged persons is not only of interest to the members of the foreign Services of the various countries, such protection is in fact the basic foundation for the smoothness and stability international relations. Diplomats and other specially privileged and protected persons are, after all, the representatives of their sovereign States and must, therefore, enjoy special respect and protection of the receiving State and indeed of the international community as a whole. If this special position or protection were not recognised or guaranteed, the very basis of peace and friendly international relations would be undermined. All through history, in India and elsewhere, diplomats have enjoyed special respect in the courts of the receiving States. Withdrawal of this respect and protection could only result in an atmosphere of intimidation, intrigue, treachery,

terrorism and instability. That is why, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, as well as the established international custom over the centuries, guarantee the inviolability of diplomatic premises and of the person of diplomats and other privileged persons, not only during normal and peaceful diplomatic relations between the countries concerned, but also when there is an armed conflict between them or the diplomatic relations are broken off. In the latter case, their property continues to be inviolate and the diplomats enjoy the respect for their person until they leave the country within a reasonable time.

The subject has attained added importance because of a number of incidents which took place in several countries during the past few years, where diplomats were kidnapped, diplomatic missions violated, and diplomatic relations threatened by various practices of questionable validity. A convention on the subject was prepared by the Organisation of American States in February 1971. The International Law Commission has prepared a set of draft articles on the subject, suggesting, *inter alia*, that a sort of universal jurisdiction should be established in relation to the offenders in this case, and that the State where the offenders are found must either prosecute them or extradite them. You will, I am sure, give to these articles and other related principles, your most earnest consideration.

May I now say a few words on the principal subject of your discussion, namely, the Law of the Sea and Seabed? This is a vast subject indeed, like the oceans themselves which cover almost five-sevenths of the globe. The oceans were looked at with mystery and awe before, but thanks to phenomenal technological developments they can now be viewed visually from the air and outer space and their immensity has come within man's grasp and understanding. Technological developments have further allowed man to reach the deepest points on the seabed and retrieve from there the various accumulations, minerals like the

manganese oxide nodules and other formations in the same manner as man has brought to the earth samples of the rock from the moon. This knowledge has aroused a new consciousness in man which has filled his mind with a vision, - a vision of the limitless resources of the ocean to be used first as a supplement to the diminishing resources of the land and, in due course of time, as an important major instrument for development.

The oceans have traditionally been used primarily for two principal functions, one as a means of communications and transport, and two its a source of wealth and resources. The first use involved the development of shipping and promoted trade and human contact in various regions, of the world. In fact, initially it led to the opening of the entire world. The military aspects of this use of the oceans, however, led to the establishment of a long period of colonialism and imperialism, with the imperial powers controlling the crucial gateways to the oceans, having military bases at important places, and in the process, as it was said, "ruling the waves". With the progressive elimination of colonialism, awareness has been aroused for the establishment of oceans as zones of peace, particularly those near the erstwhile dependent countries. For the Asian-African community in particular, the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace is extremely important and has gained widespread support and endorsement by the non-aligned countries and the United Nations. With the removal of military bases from the Indian Ocean and the elimination of Big Power rivalry therefrom, the emphasis will be laid on the normal and essential use of the ocean, namely, as a means of uniting the world and promoting its interdependence and development.

The second use, namely the wealth and resources of the oceans, was limited mainly to fisheries, detrital minerals, sands, and minerals of the adjacent subsoil, like coal and tin, retrieved directionally from the coast by underground tunnels. The right to catch fish has hitherto been regarded as a

part of the freedoms of the high seas. This position however calls for a serious review. More recently, particularly during this century, oil and natural gas have been discovered underneath the oceans contiguous to the coasts of the continents, in the areas which have geologically been known as the continental shelf. This, as you are aware, threw a challenge to the international lawyers and publicists to suggest a proper legal framework for the exploitation and exploitation of these new resources.

Some aspects of both these, functions, as well as of other related functions, were considered extensively during the 1958 Conference on the Law of the Sea held in Geneva, and four Conventions were adopted. Since 1958, the world conscience has been aroused by the leaping technological advancement made in the uses of the oceans and the seabed, both for military purposes as well as for the economic exploitation of its resources.

By now, some 20% of the world's total production of oil is provided by off-shore production. By 1980, the percentage, it has been estimated, may go up to 30 - 40%; by the year 2000 A.D., it may possibly be 40 - 50%; of the total production. The economic implications of the recovery of manganese, copper, cobalt, nickel and other minerals are equally startling. As regards, fisheries, huge factory ships, supported by a network of smaller vessels, and equipped with modern gear, are overfishing in the Atlantic and the Pacific and may now turn to the Indian Ocean where the total catch is today a fraction of the total world catch (a mere 2.5 million tons out of the world's total of 60 million tons). All this has obviously led to the universal demand that a proper legal framework for a fair and equitable distribution of the resources of the oceans should be devised, lest a free-for-all rush to these resources become a new source of conflict which will be to the detriment of the developing countries in particular.

The world as a whole, because of history's accidents, is today lop-sided in regard to economic development, wealth and

resources, and to some extent that imbalance must be corrected by the establishment of a fairer and a more equitable framework for the utilisation of the vast resources of the oceans. The legal order must, therefore, be not only development-oriented but also tilted towards the developing countries' interests whose needs are far greater than those of the developed countries.

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The United Nations has taken an intensive interest in this subject and after establishing the broad principles for the exploitation of the resources of the sea and the seabed has suggested that a new conference be held, starting in 1973, to establish an equitable and viable legal framework for the various uses of the sea. I am sure that in your informed consideration of these issues you will bear in mind the basic need for establishing a fair balance between the essential interests involved of the various States and the need for a stable international legal order. Over-emphasis on national interests of coastal countries or of landlocked countries or of distant-water countries, in the uses of the oceans or in its resources will, I am afraid, never succeed in establishing a useful and viable legal order for the oceans. On the other hand, given the goodwill, moderation and understanding of the various segments of the world community, a fair, legal order should be attainable. In this effort, I am sure, the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee will play a positive and effective role.

With these words, I have great Pleasure in inaugurating the fourteenth Annual Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee.

I wish you every success in your deliberations.

INDIA USA AUSTRIA FINLAND SWITZERLAND

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 1, 1973, on the Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol for 1973 signed between the two countries:

An Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol for 1973 was signed in Sofia on December 30, 1972 by Shri Y. T. Shah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Indian Government and Mr. Vladimir Gruncharov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Bulgarian Government. The Protocol envisages a total trade turn-over of Rs. 660 million.

The principal items of Indian exports will be machine tools, textile machinery, sewing and knitting machines, garage equipment, radios, electronic components, cables, bicycles, castings, steelropes surgical instruments, chemicals, paints, dyes, drugs and pharmaceuticals, vacuum flasks, plastic goods and linoleum haberdashery items besides the traditional commodities, such as, cotton textiles, handloom goods, carpets, leather goods, iron ore, coffee, spices, cashew kernels, jute manufactures, tanned hides and skins, finished leather, deoiled groundnut and other cakes, coir yarn and products, Bengal deshi cotton, etc.

The Bulgarian exports will be mainly steel products, fertilizers, chemicals besides machinery and equipment, non-ferrous metals, essential oils, photographic paper, dye intermediates, etc.

The talks were held in cordial atmosphere. Shri Shah also met the Bulgarian

Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Ivan Nedev when views on expansion and diversification of trade exchanges and prospects of future co-operation in mutually beneficial fields of economic and industrial activities were exchanged.

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BULGARIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Preparatory Work for a New Indo-Czechoslovak Economic Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 11, 1973, on the immediate start of preparatory work for a new Indo-Czechoslovak economic agreement:

Preparatory work will be initiated immediately in India and Czechoslovakia to enable the conclusion of a new economic agreement which will take into account the requirements of the forthcoming five-year plans of both the countries.

This is envisaged in the agreed minutes of discussions signed here today between the leaders of the Indian and Czechoslovak delegations led by H.E. Mr. Zdenek Sedivy, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Czechoslovakia and Shri Mohan Dharia, Union Minister of State for Planning.

The Czechoslovak delegation requested for the early supply of information regarding the projects, programmes and requirements in different fields which would form the basis of economic cooperation between the

two countries during their forthcoming Five-Year Plans. They also expressed their readiness to cooperate in covering the needs of India, especially in the fields of power generating equipment and components and equipment for metallurgical industry. It was agreed to recommend to the respective authorities of both the countries, based on identified areas of cooperation, separate agreements which would ultimately be included in the new agreement.

The need for continuous cooperation in the field of planning was recognised and it was agreed that the next meeting of the delegations should take place in Czechoslovakia at a date to be mutually agreed upon.

The meeting of the delegations of the Planning Commissions of both countries were held here between January 8 and January 11, 1973 in pursuance of the decisions taken by the Prime Ministers of the two countries in 1972 during Mrs. Indira Gandhi's visit to Czechoslovakia. The two Prime Ministers in their joint communique expressed their understanding that "periodic meetings between the Planning Commissions of Czechoslovakia and India will be beneficial for evolving long-term perspectives in the economic, industrial, scientific, technological and commercial fields."

It was also agreed that consultations between the Planning Commissions of India and Czechoslovakia are to be geared towards creation of conditions in the future plans of both the countries for development of mutually beneficial economic cooperation. This cooperation will be concretised and implemented through mutual discussions between the respective agencies in the two countries especially in the fields of international trade, industry and scientific and technical cooperation.

It was further agreed that the growing capabilities and requirements of the two countries should be harnessed towards long term development of industrial cooperation to mutual benefit. In this connection, the scope for long-term cooperation in the field of science and technology between the two

countries was recognised and it was agreed that the import of equipment and technology from Czechoslovakia is to be planned and coordinated with national design, engineering and production potential in India. While the Indian side specially emphasised the need for meeting the requirements of components and parts to be supplied from Czechoslovakia for indo-Czechoslovak projects in India, the Czechoslovak side pointed out the need to relate the development of exports of manufactured Products from India to the technological requirements and possibilities of Czechoslovakia.

It was also agreed that increase in present level of Indo-Czechoslovak trade exchange, which is the common objective of both the countries, could be expanded more rapidly through diversification of the exist-

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ing structure of trade by significant increase in the exports of non-traditional manufactured goods from India to Czechoslovakia. On this basis, it was agreed that it would be possible to develop the export of finished products of Indian industry to Czechoslovakia (simultaneously with increase of Indian imports of Czechoslovak products, especially machines and components with much quicker pace than the current general exchange of goods.

The two delegations also agreed to identify such sectors of production cooperation as early as possible so that these could be taken into account in formulating the future plans of the respective countries. It was agreed that such fields could include among others machine tools, agricultural machinery and implements and some labour intensive engineering products. It was recognised that trade exchange in future should take into account the recent levels of main traditional items of Indian exports to Czechoslovakia like de-oiled cakes, vegetable oils, leather, cotton yarn and iron ore.

In the development of industrial cooperation both sides agreed to take into account the possible areas of cooperation between

scientific and research organisations in India and Czechoslovakia and priority areas for cooperation in science and technology as agreed to in December 1972 between Czechoslovak Deputy Minister of Technology and Investment Development, Dr. A. Mrazek and the Indian delegation led by Prof. Y. Nayudamma. Such cooperation would particularly include the fields of machine tools, electronics and industrial fibre glass. The Indian side expressed interest in the setting up of an agricultural machinery design and development institute in India with Czechoslovak collaboration.

Both sides expressed their willingness to continue to cooperate concerning the supply of technology, equipment and components from Czechoslovakia to India.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Cultural Agreement

Following is the text Of a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 15, 1973, on a cultural agreement signed between India and the German Democratic Republic:

India and the German Democratic Republic concluded here today a Cultural Agreement to promote and develop closer relations between the two countries.

The Agreement was signed by Prof. S. Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, on behalf of the Government of India and by Mr. Klaus Gysi, Minister of Culture of the GDR on behalf of

the Government of the GDR.

The Agreement envisages strengthening of relations between the two countries in the fields of education, culture, science, sports, public health, etc., through exchange of educationists, experts in science and technology, artists, dance troupes and ensembles. Award of scholarships to each other's nationals, extension of facilities to students, sportsmen and scientific personnel of each other's country in the institutions of higher education and research laboratories for study specialisation, exchange of books and publications, exchange of films, documentaries and radio and television programmes are also envisaged. The Agreement also provides for encouragement of tourism between the two countries.

The Agreement shall be valid for five years and shall continue to remain in force thereafter unless either of the two parties wishes to terminate it by giving a prior written notice of six months.

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INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Protocol on German Language Teaching

Following is the text of a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 17, 1973, on the signing of a Protocol on the development of German language teaching in India:

India and the German Democratic Republic signed here today a Protocol envisaging collaboration between the two countries in the development of German language teaching mainly in the field of secondary and higher education at the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad.

The Protocol was signed by Shri Kanti Chaudhury, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare and Culture, on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. H. Fischer, Ambassador of the German Democratic Republic in India for his country.

Under the Protocol, the Government of GDR shall provide the necessary expertise and equipment for developing and strengthening the Department of German language at the Institute and arrange for the training of upto three Indian teachers of German language annually in GDR. The Protocol will remain in force for five years but can be prolonged by mutual agreement.

Speaking after signing the Protocol, Shri Kanti Chaudhury said that the signing of this important Protocol so soon after the conclusion of the Cultural Agreement underlined the close ties and the spirit of co-operation that existed between India and GDR. "Your great country has made many-sided progress and is already using advanced methods of teaching foreign languages on a large scale. We regard your desire to share your experiences and expertise with us as an affirmation of the ever growing feelings of friendship between us."

He said that we were laying increasing stress on the teaching of foreign languages in India as a part of our effort to bring within the reach of the masses the rich storehouse of knowledge that was available in these languages. The German language because of its richness and its history of having been a vehicle of new knowledge, was particularly important for us. It was, therefore, not without significance that the first department of a foreign language other than English to be established at the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages was the Department of German.

He added that it was our endeavour to ensure that out, teachers of German and other foreign languages were well versed in modern techniques so that we could carry out an effective programme of teaching foreign languages to our people. In this context, it was a happy occurrence that our Central Institute of English and Foreign languages should be brought by this Protocol in close contact with the Karl Marx University, Leipzig.

The GDR Ambassador, Mr. Herbert Fischer, said: "The Protocol which we have just signed will be an important measure to implement the Cultural Agreement.

We are glad that by developing this Department of German, we can assist in opening up the values of humanist culture and science which are assembled in the German language and in the German Democratic Republic to broader circles of Indian people.

We are proud that great men have expressed their thoughts and ideas in the German language and that the German Democratic Republic is cultivating the humanist traditions of Goethe, Hegel, Marx, Brecht and many others. But we are also aware of the fact that the German language had also been misused for sinister and barbaric ends. In assisting our Indian partners in developing this Department of German we, therefore, do not forget that language as the means of communication must always be in accordance with the humanist ends which both our countries are striving for.

I should like to assure you that the GDR will do everything in its power to implement the signed Protocol by letter and spirit. It is our sincere desire to do so because of the

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fact that by this project a new and higher form of cooperation between representatives of cultural life of our two countries will be established.

In the GDR, all conditions were created that the department can start its work immediately. The first set of experts are ready to take up their work at the department.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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GREECE

Indo-Greek Trade Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 31, 1973, on the new Trade Agreement concluded between India and Greece:

India and Greece concluded a new Trade Agreement here today providing for the grant of maximum possible facilities, measures within their respective laws and regulations to promote trade between the two countries. The Agreement is in consonance with the GATT provisions stipulating trade in freely convertible currency and grant of most-favoured-nation treatment in matters such as payments, remittances, transfer of funds, operation of commercial establishments, shipping, etc.

Attached to the Agreement are two indicative lists, i.e., a list of 69 items available for export from India to Greece and a list of 44 items available for export from Greece to India.

It has been decided that there shall be annual consultations between the two Governments to identify ways and means of deepening and widening economic and commercial relations between the two countries.

The commercial exchanges between the two countries were about Rs. 1.5 crore during 1971-72, the products of exports to Greece from India mainly being handtools, machinery and appliances (non-electrical), jute manufactures, while the imports from Greece were mainly gum, resin and lac.

Shri B. B. Lal, Foreign Trade Secretary, who signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of India, expressed the hope that the new Trade Agreement would stimulate enlargement of trade and economic co-operation between the two countries.

GREECE INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President V. V. Giri's Republic Day Message

Following is the text of the President's Message to the Nation broadcast by All India Radio on the eve of the 24th Republic Day (January 25, 1973):

Tomorrow the nation celebrates its twenty-fourth Republic Day, and I offer my warm greetings and sincere good wishes to my fellow citizens and comrades throughout the country and abroad on the occasion.

Each Republic Day brings back to us the memories of our struggle for upholding our right to liberty and freedom. We have

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cherished this as the most valued right so that we as a nation may progress according

to the genius of our own people and according to our own needs. Ours has been the path of peaceful evolution and the foundations for free India are rooted in our unshakeable adherence to the unity and integrity of the country. To preserve that unity and integrity unsullied and unhampered, we have deliberately eschewed all forms of communalism, casteism and parochialism in our national life., As a people, we are a single entity, to whichever part of the country we may belong. Living proudly under the tricolour flag, which represents the glory of Mother India, we are all Indians first, Indians last and Indians always.

The developments in Andhra Pradesh have caused me the deepest concern. It was, inevitable perhaps that the Mulki issue gave rise to certain genuine misgivings in the minds of the people of Andhra. But we are a responsible democracy, and the only effective way of advocating a cause is through the democratic process. Violence and destruction of public property, whether in Andhra, or in Assam, or in any part of the country, solve nothing. On the other hand, they ill-serve the cause by rousing bitterness and acting as a stumbling block in realising the objective. I have again and again condemned such activities as being inimical to national interest.

Life in Andhra Pradesh must come back to normalcy and a calm atmosphere restored in the quickest possible time. The problems that have arisen in Andhra Pradesh involving the future of that State would require the most careful consideration in all its aspects. In discussing them it is necessary that there should be a full, free and frank exchange of all points of view without any pre-conditions or reservations. In our system of government, there is no question of any decision being arrived at through compulsion or coercion or under threat of force. It is only when all points of view are heard and differences ironed out dispassionately that we can arrive at satisfactory and lasting solutions to any problem. As an old trade unionist and negotiator of experience, I have consistently held that nothing is the last

word on the subject of negotiations. Where there is a determined will, I am confident that we shall succeed in finding a Way out. I have an abiding faith in the good sense of our people.

Fair and equitable opportunities of employment and steps for developing backward areas are matters which concern all India and not any one particular region or State. In dealing with them, the principal consideration has to be the even progress of all sections of the community, and more particularly the vast number of our people who are still backward socially and economically. Rights conferred by narrow legal interpretations can only be transitory. They can be real and sustaining only when they are looked upon as obligations of the State to the people. We have striven all these years in our Republic to build a society in which disparities between one citizen and another will be minimized, if not altogether eliminated. There is no difference of opinion in regard to our fundamental objective, namely, that every citizen has a right to a decent life and equal opportunities of self-development.

The year that has just gone by has been yet another period of great strain and stress for us. In different parts of the country, we have had to face one of the worst droughts ever, throwing a large number of families in acute distress. The drought has also impaired very considerably our food production, compelling us to import some quantities of food-grains to tide over our present difficulties. Uncertainty caused by the vagaries of the weather or natural calamities is not an unusual phenomenon in any part of the world. But, to us in India who have been striving hard to push forward programmes of development, this uncertainty poses a variety of complex problems. We have a growing population and a vast number of them still living on the poverty line. Rural India which accounts for 80 per cent of our population derives its main source of sustenance from agricultural operations. A set-back to our agriculture upsets vital sectors of our economic development. We have, therefore, to evolve methods and means by which we

would be in a position to meet these scourges of nature and prepare ourselves to overcome them with confidence.

Poverty and unemployment continue to be the two most serious challenges facing the nation. The drought, the power shortage and the rising prices add to our difficulties. The social change which we are committed

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to bring about will be real only when we have devised viable programmes for occupying our vast man-power in gainful employment. Utilising the immense land and water resources in our country to the fullest extent is of fundamental importance in this process. I consider that training in skills related to agricultural operations has to form an integral part of our education at the pre-University stage. This will give the students a more meaningful approach to education and the much-needed self-reliance. This would also enable the wholesome participation of the youth in national life and national development.

The present unrest among the students is attributable to a large extent to their apprehensions as to their future when they complete their education. I would ask the students to give up their agitational approach and devote their time wholeheartedly to equip themselves better so that they may play their due role in the process 'of the social and economic advancement of the country.

I would also like to address a special word of appeal to my comrades, the workers in industry. While strike is an inalienable right of the workers, they should remember that this weapon should be restored to only when all other methods of settlement fail. If it is used indiscriminately, as we so often witness today, its consequences will have a direct bearing on the wider national interest. Developing countries like India can ill-afford to waste available industrial capacity and resources. We have in our country the necessary scientific and technological expertise for industrial growth in a variety of

fields. At this present juncture, when we are passing through what may be aptly called a difficult and crucial decade in our development, I would like to repeat a suggestion I made last year that the workers and employers should agree to a self-imposed moratorium on strikes and lockouts for a period of, say, three years. This will help advance the cause not only of higher productivity but lead to increased employment and overall prosperity.

In our international relations we have consistently followed the path of peace and negotiation. We are extremely happy to note that the peace talks in Paris have finally been rewarded with success and the Vietnam war is coming to an end. We welcome this statesmanlike decision of all parties concerned and hope that this would lead to restoration of peace and stability not only to the Vietnamese people but all the Indo-Chinese people.

Our friendship with Bangla Desh has branched out into cooperation in various fields, and, in the international arena, in concerted action for peace. It is a tribute to the political genius and intellectual traditions of the people of Bangla Desh that a newly independent country should have adopted a Constitution within a year of her independence and should hold general elections within three months of that Constitution coming into force.

We have continued to strive for the establishment of mutually beneficial and friendly relations with Pakistan. The Simla Agreement has been a first step towards the establishment of durable peace and setting in motion the process of reconciliation and good neighbourliness between the two countries. It is a happy augury that pursuant to this agreement India and Pakistan have been able through bilateral negotiations to determine a line of control in Jammu and Kashmir which is to be respected by both sides. This should lead to an era of peace and lowering of tensions in the area. It is my earnest hope that we would be able to work for the economic prosperity and social progress of the peoples of the sub-

continent.

National life to be purposeful requires a total involvement of all our people. The strength of a nation is judged by the capacity of its people for hard and disciplined work. This capacity we have in abundance. our concept of the welfare State will reach fulfilment, only when we are able to provide full employment to all our people. This is a gigantic task. Let us all put our shoulders together and work hard for its achievement.

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INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE VIETNAM PAKISTAN

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Trade Protocol

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 11, 1973, on the Indo-Hungarian trade protocol signed in Budapest on January 5, 1973:

A trade protocol with Hungary for 1973 was signed on January 5 by Shri Y. T. Shah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Government of India and Dr. Bela Szalai, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of Hungary in Budapest.

Protocol envisages a total trade turnover of Rs. 585 million. Major items of exports from India to Hungary will be pharmaceutical products, auto ancillaries, sanitary fittings, chemical products, dyestuffs and intermediaries, tubes and fittings, cast-

ings, textile machinery, machine tools, calculating and office machines, electronic components and various other engineering and durable goods including consumer goods besides the traditional items such as coffee, tea, tobacco, pepper, animal feeding stuff, castor oil, cashew kernels, iron ore, mica, crushed bones, tanned and semitanned hides and skins, finished leather, coir yarn and goods, jute manufactures, cotton yarn, semi precious stones, woolen textiles and knitwear, synthetic and rayon textiles, pure silk textiles, etc.

The principal items of Hungary's exports to India will be rolled steel products, machine tools, printing machinery wheels, tyres, raw materials for electric industry, special electric motors, essential oils, drugs and medicines, dye intermediaries, lamp raw materials, chemicals, textile machinery, caprolactum and synthetic fibres and yarns, etc.

The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere. Shri Y. T. Shah met Dr. Jozsef Biro, Minister of Foreign Trade and exchanged views on the need for further expansion of trade exchanges and increased diversification of trade as also need for mutually beneficial cooperation in economic industrial and other fields. He also met Dr. Gyula Horgos, Minister of Metallurgy and Machine Industry when it was agreed that there was considerable scope for industrial cooperation between the two countries and increased exports of machine tools from India to Hungary.

HUNGARY INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Collaboration In Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

The following press release was issued by the Department of Atomic Energy, from Bombay on January 30, 1973, on the working arrangement on the collaboration in the peaceful uses of atomic energy between the two countries signed on the, same (lay:

At the invitation of Homi N. Sethna, Chairman, Indian Atomic Energy Commission, Prof. Gyorgy Osztrovszki, Chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission of the Hungarian Peoples' Republic accompanied by Prof. Gabor Foldiak, Director, Institute of Isotopes, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Mr. Borisz Szanto, Head of Foreign Relations Department, National Atomic Energy Commission and Dr. Janos Revai, Senior Research Fellow, Central Research Institute of Physics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences; visited India for discussions on the implementation of the collaboration agreement on the peaceful uses of atomic energy between the two countries. The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, Homi Sethna, Dr. R. Ramanna, Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and other scientists and officials of the BARC and the Department of Atomic Energy, participated in the discussions with the Hungarian Delegation. Among the areas that were

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identified for mutual collaboration between the two countries were nuclear physics, solid state physics, radioisotopes and their applications, reactor physics and nuclear plant engineering, chemistry/radiochemistry and radiation chemistry, radiobiology, food preservation by irradiation, nuclear electronics and control techniques, nuclear methods in environmental protection and use of radiation sources for irradiation on semi-plant scale. Under the terms of the detailed working arrangements signed today by the leaders of the two delegations, scientists from the two countries would visit the appropriate institutions for discussions as well as for training and exchange of scientific information on the work carried out in their respective centres within the framework of national

and international conventions in force. Both sides have also agreed to assist each other in the location and procurement of special equipment, materials and other items of supply needed for their respective programmes.

During their stay in India, the Hungarian Delegation visited the BARC and other installations of DAE. The Delegation is leaving for Hungary tonight.

HUNGARY USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Speech of the Union Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals at United Nations Inter- Regional Seminar on Petroleum Refining in Developing Countries

Following is the text of the speech of Shri H. R. Gokhale, Union Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals, which he delivered while inaugurating the United Nations Inter-Regional Seminar on Petroleum Refining in Developing Countries in New Delhi on January 22, 1973:

It gives me very great pleasure to welcome you all, on behalf of the Government of India and also on my own behalf, to this United Nations Seminar on Petroleum Refining in Developing Countries. It is for the first time in many years that a Seminar under UN auspices is being organised in this country on this subject which has such vital importance to developing countries all the world over. The last occasion was in 1958 when a symposium on petroleum was held by the ECAFE in Delhi. We are happy that the UN accepted our invitation to have this Seminar in this country with representation

from a wide range of areas covering Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In the last 50 years or so, petroleum has emerged as the world's most important source of energy and also the most important commodity in international trade. The last two decades in particular have witnessed a phenomenal rise in the importance of oil not merely for energy requirements but also as the principal feed-stock for such non-energy uses as the production of fertilizer, synthetic fibres, plastics and chemicals. The world-wide appetite for energy and petroleum derivatives seems virtually Insatiable. In the absence of any prospect of an economic substitute for oil in the near future, petroleum will undoubtedly continue to retain its dominant position - at any rate for the next few decades. According to authoritative estimates almost as much oil is likely to be used up in this decade as in the last century.

The developing countries of the world not endowed with sufficient indigenous energy resources also share this world-wide hunger for energy fuels as part of their effort towards rapid economic development to raise the standard of living of their masses. Operating under similar restraints arising from the dire need to import energy but with insufficient foreign exchange to do

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so, they have common problems to face in breaking free from the shackles of a vicious circle where the lack of resources hampers their efforts to build up such resources. It is, therefore, quite opportune that the UN has organised this seminar exclusively for the developing countries most of whom are dependent on imports for their petroleum needs. Despite their far flung locations and wide disparity in conditions, they yet share an identity of interests in the field of petroleum. In striving towards the common goal of modernising their industry and agriculture they are up against an almost identical problem - that such economic development postulates an even more rapid growth of energy consumption. As estimated by an expert panel of the UN, petroleum consump-

tion in these countries would have to increase at an average annual rate of 8.4 per cent in the seventies if the targeted annual growth rate of 6 per cent per annum for developing countries set by the Second United Nations Development Decade is to be achieved.

The developing countries are also watching with considerable concern the recent trends in world oil prices which may pose a serious threat to their development efforts. That the oil producing and exporting countries will seek to derive the maximum possible revenues from a wasting asset like oil and claim larger participation in production and others activities is only to be expected. In the ultimate analysis this should be treated as fair and reasonable because such countries have necessarily to create sources of wealth which would generate resources on a more durable basis. On the other hand, the immensely powerful, profit-maximising international corporate bodies which dominate the world oil scene have spared no effort not only to pass on to the consuming countries the entire burden of 'tax-paid costs', but also to maximise their margins by other means. In this situation, what is the economic strength of the developing countries to absorb this intolerable burden on top of the heavy one they already have to carry? It has been said, not without justification, that the poorer a country was, the higher were the price it paid for its oil. The developing countries which are net importers of petroleum, therefore, have an identical problem to face in this situation namely to reduce to the extent possible the heavy impact of the overall oil-import burden on their balance of payments position.

Taking the case of India as an example, the indications are that if the present price trends were to continue, the oil import bill in terms of foreign exchange may well shoot up from the present level of about \$ 350 million a year to as much as \$ 1406 million by 1980 and \$ 2200 million by 1985. The total export earnings of the country last year were of the order of \$ 2200 million. Increase in the quantum of overall exports cannot conceivably match the increase in the petroleum import bill on this phenomenal scale.

The situation in other developing countries cannot be very different.

Crucial strategic and policy decisions are, therefore, at stake for the oil importing developing countries in estimating demand and supply of petroleum, planning to meet the requirements and launching long term investment, production and supply projects. The responsibility becomes all the greater because of the capital-intensive nature of the industry in all its facets starting from exploration for oil, its production, transport, refining and distribution and marketing of refined products. In this process the developing countries have much to learn from each other and also to add to their knowledge in several fields including the management, technical and economic aspects of petroleum in general and refining in particular. This UN Seminar will provide a unique and much needed opportunity for such exchange of ideas and information.

The emphasis in this Seminar on refining is particularly appropriate as the increase in petroleum consumption in developing countries has been accompanied by the establishment of their own sizeable refining capacities and additions to these capacities and facilities are contemplated in a big way. Even where developing countries are short of crude resources, the development of indigenous refining capacity will significantly minimise the foreign exchange burden. The major investment and technical and engineering decisions have to be backed by a full appreciation of all the techno-economic factors involved.

A strong base of domestic refining capacity means for the oil importing countries not only a reduction in the foreign exchange burden, but also other important benefits like regularity of product avail-

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ability, reduced dependence on the powerful international companies, increased opportunities for industrial development and greater employment potential. A refinery often acts as a nucleus of a large industrial com-

plex triggering a chain reaction of further development.

It is common knowledge that in planning and executing refinery projects the majority of developing countries cannot 'go it alone' and need outside help. Apart from lack of capital resources, especially in foreign exchange, such dependence is also on account of basic scarcities in technical and managerial skills, equipment and related manufacturing facilities, etc. Many are forced, therefore, to go into package deals through agreements with an international oil company or engineering company backed by financial institutions or equipment suppliers. Experience has shown that such agreements are not always in the best interests of the host country. Especially because such agreements are of a long-term nature, it becoming important for a developing country to safeguard its interests in the best possible way. It was, therefore, very thoughtful on the part of the organisers to have included a discussion on these features as a special item on the agenda for this Seminar. Here is an area where a developing country could very well avail itself of the assistance of more experienced developing countries who have gone through similar situations in the past and learnt their lessons the hard way.

The experience of India in regard to the developments in the petroleum industry would be of interest to other developing countries in this context. The demand for petroleum products in this country which was a mere 3.3 million tonnes in 1950 rose to about 22 million tonnes last year and is expected to go up further to nearly 50 million by 1980. In 1950 we only had a small refinery in Assam, with a capacity of just 0.25 million tonnes, established as long ago as 1883. To cope with the rising demand, agreements were entered into by the Government of India for the setting up of three refineries in the country by Burmah Shell, Esso and Caltex in the fifties. Since then policy has been to develop oil refining in the country wholly in the public sector on account of the strategic nature of petroleum to the economy as a whole. The sixties saw the commission-

ing of three refineries in the public sector based on indigenous crude at Gauhati (1962), Barauni (1964) and Jawaharnagar in Gujarat (1965). Two coastal refineries based on imported crude were also set up at Cochin and Madras with minority foreign participation. Towards the close of the sixties the indigenous refining capacity was well ahead of the demand and some marginal export was also found possible.

The setting up of these refineries in the public sector has led to considerable experience and expertise being gained in construction and operation of indigenous refineries, substantially reducing our dependence on imported technical know-how and expatriate personnel. Our engineers, technicians and managers have now developed considerable capacity not only to run complete refineries but also in designing and construction of new units with the exception of a few sophisticated items involving licensed know-how. All this will help in the large expansion schemes for more refining capacity contemplated in the immediate future. Besides a new refinery in advanced stages of completion at Haldia near Calcutta and expansion of Cochin and Gujarat refineries, new refineries, all proposed to come up within the next five years, have either already been decided upon or are under contemplation at Mathura, Bongaigaon, Goa, etc. The proposed Mathura refinery with a capacity of between 6 and 8 million tonnes is India's most ambitious effort in the refining field so far. Apart from the complexities from the point of view both of design and technology, it will also involve, for the first time in the country, the installation of a single buoy mooring in deep water capable of receiving 200,000 to 250,000 DWT tankers. Their offshore terminal will be connected through a 1200 kilometre pipeline to the inland refinery at Mathura.

Exploration efforts for oil have also been going apace and these have met with a certain measure of success. From just 6.25 million tonnes in 1960, the indigenous production of crude oil went up to over 7 million tonnes last year representing about a third of the total crude processed in the country.

Exploration, including offshore drilling, has been taken up as one of the biggest challenges before us.

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Petroleum is an international commodity par excellence. I have dwelt upon the difficulties ahead for the developing countries. The affluent developed countries have to face difficulties of their own - their energy requirements are increasing at a galloping rate and their own energy resources are depleting with equal rapidity. They are, therefore, drawing upon the available world reserves and in that process the difficulties of the developing countries are being intensified. While we are beholden to the UN for having provided this opportunity for developing countries to get together and discuss their common problems, we should expect the collective wisdom of all members of the UN, the affluent and the poor, to be brought to bear on the problems of the world energy situation of which petroleum is, perhaps, the most important. It should be our collective endeavour not only to enable all countries to discover new crude oil supplies, but also to assist the developing countries actively to overcome their problems of inadequate resources and technology to be able to do so. I hope that this Seminar, will be able to communicate its views on this subject to the World Body and promote collective thinking on an emergent basis. Any failure in this field will cost us dearly, and I submit that orderly progress in the world cannot afford such a failure.

May I again offer to you felicitations on behalf of the Government of India and express the hope that you will find your stay comfortable, and your deliberations fruitful.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA BURMA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sell's Speech oil Proposal to Hold Security Council Meetings in Panama City

Following is the text of the statement made by the Indian Permanent Representative Shri Samar Sen on January 16, 1973, in the Security Council meeting held to consider the proposal of Panama for holding meetings of Security Council in Panama City during March, 1973:

This is the first meeting of the Council in 1973 and I should like to express to you and to all members of the Council, and to the Secretary-General and his staff of all ranks and ages, ' our best wishes for the New Year and for the work of the Council.

Close and friendly ties link India with Indonesia. My delegation holds you personally in high esteem. We congratulate you warmly on your Presidency of the Council for January and we can assure you of our fullest co-operation. We also welcome your delegation to membership of the Council, together with the delegations of Australia, Austria, Kenya and Peru. We have close and cordial relations with all those countries, and we also look forward to co-operating with them in every possible way in the work of the Council, as indeed elsewhere. We are confident that they will be worthy successors to Japan, Belgium, Italy, Somalia and Argentina, to which we had the painful privilege of saying good-bye a few weeks ago.

Lastly, I have been deeply touched by the personal compliments paid by you, Mr. President, and others to me as the President of the Council for December. While these emotional sentiments and expressions are worthy and worthwhile we cannot in this context forget that between the time we last met and now a great natural calamity has befallen a small country in the region with which we are concerned today, and I should like to express our sincerest condolences to the people and Government of Nicaragua for what they have suffered.

It is pleasant to be back to work and business after a lull of a rather dull period of about a month, and we shall now turn to the business at hand which is the proposal of the Government of Panama for a meeting of the Council in Panama in March. We have heard with utmost attention the statement by the representative of Panama and the comments made on it by previous speakers. The proposal for holding meetings of the Council in Panama City from 15 to 21 March is not a new or sudden one. The delegation of Panama had spoken about it both formally and informally, especially on a number of occasions over the last few months. We have therefore had adequate notice to consider the question in principle. Now, in his statement, the Ambassador of

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Panama has sought to make clear the objectives of the proposal, the attitude of the countries of the region to it, the availability of technical facilities at Panama City, which would be necessary for a meeting of the Council away from Headquarters, and its financial implications. We welcome this offer of the Government of Panama and we greatly look forward to a most satisfactory organization of our meetings in that city.

Our own attitude towards this proposal has been based, after careful thought, on several considerations. First, this proposal has received the unanimous support of the Group of Latin American countries. This endorsement of the Latin American Group means that the Panamanian proposal reflects the desires and aspirations of all the countries of an important region. We believe that it is necessary and indeed desirable - as indeed it was necessary and desirable last year when we met at Addis Ababa - for the Council to respond positively and

speedily to the unanimous wishes of a large and significant group of the United Nations.

In spite of the reservations of some delegations on practical grounds and on their interpretation of some provisions of the Charter, we believe that this is the most important consideration and are glad to note that even those, or some of those, who have expressed - legitimately if I may say so -- their reservations, appear to have accepted the force of the argument that all Latin American countries wish to have a meeting in Panama City.

Secondly, we have noted that the suggested theme for consideration as the agenda for the proposed meeting has been framed in general and broad but nevertheless important terms. Moreover, the delegation of Panama has indicated a flexible approach to its actual wording. We consider that the strengthening of international peace and security and the promotion of international co-operation in any region are legitimate matters for the Council's concern. Very few will question that, in the context of Latin America, an agreed Latin American capital would be an appropriate - indeed, we would hope, a fruitful - venue for such a discussion. Naturally, it would be the prerogative of the Council to discuss in detail the contents of the agenda it should consider.

Thirdly, we think that, while too much emphasis on the regionalization of the world may not always be desirable, we also have

to take into account that different regions face problems which are peculiar to them. For the Council to consider these problems as a whole in the context of the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of international co-operation is a worthy end and should be pursued. Here again we cannot ignore the useful result the

Council obtained during our meeting in Ethiopia last year, both in its work towards finding solutions to some specific African problems, and, perhaps more importantly, in bringing the United Nations and all it stands for nearer the people of Africa. It achieved, as I said before, a most important result. In this connexion, we have particularly noted

from the statement of Panama that one of the intentions is to discuss the problems of the Latin American region as a whole.

INDIA PANAMA INDONESIA AUSTRALIA USA AUSTRIA KENYA PERU BELGIUM ITALY JAPAN
MALI SOMALIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA ETHIOPIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Indian Acting Permanent Representative's Statement on Security Council Meetings in Panama City

The following statement was made by
Shri N. P. Jain, Acting Permanent Represen-
tative of India, at the Security Council
meeting on January 26, 1973, on the proposed
Security Council meetings in Panama City:

Since the Council last met, the world has witnessed important developments, some comforting and others disturbing. Before I address myself to the item on today's agenda, I deem it appropriate to refer briefly to them.

The Government and people of India have welcomed with great relief the news of the initialling of the peace agreement on Vietnam; we welcome this end of the Viet Nam war. India has all along supported

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negotiated settlement as the only way towards a durable peace, and we have therefore expressed our appreciation for the persistent efforts made by the two sides towards a negotiated settlement. We hope sincerely that it will be a step towards lasting peace not only in Viet-Nam but also in the whole of Indo-China. As this tragic war at last comes to an end we should all turn to the two fold task of consolidating peace and co-operating in the economic reconstruction of that war-ravaged region, and in the rehabilitation of its many suffering people.

The brutal assassination of Mr. Amilcar Cabral, the distinguished leader of the people of Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde and valiant fighter for the freedom of that country, has deeply disturbed the Government and people of India. In other forums of the United Nations my delegation has already had occasion to express its shock and horror at the news of this tragic occurrence. My delegation would, however, once again like to offer our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to our African friends, and particularly to the people of Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde, on their loss at a crucial juncture in the struggle for freedom in their continent. We are, however, convinced that though Mr. Cabral is no more, the manner of his tragic removal from the scene of the liberation struggle will give it added impetus. We are sure that the struggle will go on and that the cause for which Mr. Cabral laid down his life in the prime of his youth will triumph in the end.

My delegation also takes this opportunity to express to the delegation of the United States our profound condolences on the demise of their former President Lyndon Baines Johnson. He will be long remembered as a distinguished statesman and a dedicated leader who has left his mark on the history of his country and of the world.

May I now turn to the agenda item before us. My delegation has noted with great satisfaction that the draft resolution recommended by the Security Council Committee on Meetings away from Headquarters has been unanimously adopted. On behalf of my delegation I wish to congratulate you, Mr. President, on the efficient, skilful and persuasive manner in which you conducted the deliberations of that Committee and enabled it to produce a clear and comprehensive report so smoothly and swiftly. The report speaks for itself. The Committee was able to examine all aspects - technical, administrative, financial, legal and political -- relating to the meeting of the Security Council in Panama, on which the Council had already decided in principle. The Secretariat provided valuable information in the course of that detailed examination, following which the Committee put forward agreed recommendations to the Security Council, including a recommendation on the agenda. We are glad that all these recommendations, have been unanimously accepted by the Council.

We should also like to underline once again in this connexion some of the considerations which have determined our attitude in the discussions on this subject. In the first place, the proposal of Panama was unanimously endorsed by the Latin American Group; we therefore considered it as reflecting the desires and aspirations of all the countries of an important region. In accepting the proposal in principle at its last meeting, the Council has already underscored the necessity and desirability of the Council's responding speedily and positively to the unanimous wishes of an important group of United Nations Members.

We have also noted that many Member States from different parts of the world have already welcomed the Council's decision in principle to hold meetings in the very near future in Panama City.

Secondly, it must be emphasized that while the occasion for the Council's decision has been provided by the proposal of Panama, the meetings in Panama will take place as

a result of the decision of the Council. This decision can be based only on the powers entrusted to the Council by the Charter. We believe, therefore, that the Council is proceeding under Article 28 (3) of the Charter, which authorizes the Security Council to "hold meetings at such places other than the seat of the Organization as in its judgement will best facilitate its work".

Thirdly, my delegation is glad that our deliberations at the Committee stage itself

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have resulted in an agreement on a broad and general agenda which on the one hand provides for flexibility and, on the other, gives an opportunity to address ourselves to the problems of the Latin American region as a whole. The attitude of flexibility and pragmatism displayed by the representative of Panama on this matter has undoubtedly facilitate considerably the task of Council members in reaching a consensus on an agreed formulation of the agenda for our meetings in Panama.

As will be seen from the report of the Committee, the financial implications of the decision we have taken today have been examined in detail and discussed at length. The Secretariat has carefully prepared estimates of the likely expenditure in the light of last year's experience of meetings of the Council in Addis Ababa and keeping constantly in view the need to effect economies consistent with efficiency.

We are grateful that on the financial and organizational side our task was considerably facilitated by the generosity of the Government of Panama and the facilities offered by it. We extend our warm congratulations to the representative of Panama on the expeditious translation of his Government's request into a decision of the Council - a process in which his own imaginative handling of various issues and an attitude of flexibility and co-operation have played a notable part. We hope that with the preparations which have already taken place a proper groundwork has already been prepared for our meetings in Panama. We are confident that the constructive spirit which has facilitated the smoothness of our preparations will also ensure the success of our meetings in Panama.

INDIA PANAMA VIETNAM CHINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CAPE VERDE GUINEA
GUINEA-BISSAU USA ETHIOPIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Indian Acting Permanent Representative at Security Council on Zambian Complaint Against Rhodesia

The following statement was made by Shri N. P. Jain, Acting Permanent Representative of India at Security Council on January 30, 1973 on the Zambian complaint against Rhodesia:

It was with close attention and a feeling of deep concern and sympathy that we listened to the statement of the representative of Zambia at the commencement of our present debate. He gave a comprehensive exposition, eloquent and yet restrained, of the extremely dangerous situation which has been created in southern Africa as a result of the most recent and serious aggressive activities of the illegal racist regime in Southern Rhodesia.

Our anxiety and concern at the situation created by the illegal regime on 9 January by its economic blockade of Zambia and the accompanying activities of sabotage and aggression against Zambia has already been expressed both bilaterally to Zambia and in the forum of the Group of non-aligned countries, which sent a message to the President of Zambia on 23 January 1973. The message stated, *inter alia*:

"In this critical moment for Zambia and for peace, the representatives of the non-aligned countries at the United Nations express their complete and fraternal solidarity with the Government and the people of Zambia. They pay tribute to the determination of the people of

Zambia under your leadership to face the challenges which confront them and to their readiness to make sacrifices and undergo sufferings to safeguard their independence and the cause of freedom."

Basically, what is happening is nothing new. The history of decolonization is replete with examples of oppressor Powers which, unable to contain the struggle for freedom, turned in desperation against others to make them scapegoats of their own folly. There have been in recent times a number of such aggressions by colonial Powers against neighbouring States in Africa. The Council has already dealt with complaints by Senegal, Zaire and Guinea. Now it is Zambia which has been afflicted.

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Both by its geographical location and by the courage and dedication of its people, Zambia is in the vanguard of the struggle for freedom in southern Africa. As has repeatedly been pointed out, the present activities of the illegal regime in Rhodesia, in full connivance with the South African Government, are designed to coerce, intimidate and blackmail Zambia into withdrawing its solidarity and just support for the legitimate struggle of the people of Zimbabwe to secure their inalienable rights.

The legitimacy of this struggle has been recognized in resolutions of this Council itself. The Council is also fully aware that attempts to suppress this struggle are not confined to the Smith regime alone. They are, in fact, only a part of the pattern worked out by the unholy alliance of that regime with South Africa and Portugal. My delegation would therefore like to reiterate that it is necessary for the Council to take a comprehensive view of this pattern in the perspective of what is happening between the Territories controlled by Portugal, South Africa and the Smith regime on the one hand, and independent African countries on the other.

In the present instance, despite the denials from South Africa, it has been well

known for a long time that its so-called police force in Rhodesia, by whatever name it may be called, is really an army in disguise. During the meetings of the Security Council in Addis Ababa last February my delegation suggested that we should study methods by which the South African army could be withdrawn from Rhodesia. This question has now assumed a critical urgency in the present context.

The explosive situation arising from the continued denial of the inalienable rights of the people of Zimbabwe has repeatedly come before the Security Council. Repeatedly the question has been asked: what can the Security Council do? Since the commencement of our present debate a number of suggestions have been made. The representative of Zambia provided us with many specific and concrete suggestions. Like the basic causes of crisis they are intended to resolve, these suggestions are also not new to the Council. However, in the present situation threatening international peace and security we have to consider what measures can be effectively applied.

It is clear to us that the present acts of aggression against Zambia should be condemned and stopped, and that the South African forces in whatever form they exist in Southern Rhodesia should be removed. We must extend full support and sympathy to Zambia in its determined struggle to protect its independence and applaud Zambia's bold stand, acute economic consequences notwithstanding, against the economic blockade imposed on it by the illegal regime of Ian Smith in collusion with South Africa. It is equally clear that the sanctions policy should be intensified and made more effective and the Council's Committee in this regard should undertake immediate and appropriate action to this end. We should also reaffirm the inalienable rights of the people of Zimbabwe already enshrined in so many resolutions in the United Nations and hold the United Kingdom Government to its commitment. The unreal air which surrounds these responsibilities, and the consequences which flow from it, were explained by my delegation at the 1666th meeting of the

Council on 29 September last.

Another important measure required of us is to provide support to Zambia in the face of economic pressures which are being exerted against it. The need for this support had already been recognised by the Security Council in operative paragraph 15 of resolution 253 (1968) which was unanimously adopted. This reads:

"Requests States Members of the United Nations, the United Nations Organizations, the specialized agencies, and other international organizations in the United Nations system to extend assistance to Zambia as a matter of priority with a view to helping it solve such special economic problems as it may be confronted with arising from the carrying out of these decisions of the Security Council".

We believe that implementation of this operative paragraph 15 of that resolution is particularly important in the present context. We on our part are ready to co-operate and contribute in relieving these pressures on Zambia in its present time of crisis.

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We know very well that the present crisis has been brought upon Zambia because it opposes colonialism and discrimination, because it stands in the way of the unholy alliance between South Africa, Portugal and Ian Smith, and because this unholy alliance is out to undermine countries like it. The crisis facing Zambia should not be seen only as one threatening its independent existence but also as one threatening the cause of freedom from colonial yoke and endangering the principles which are enshrined in the Charter and which we all cherish and uphold. We deem it our duty to support, as we have consistently done, the cause of the liberation struggle, of justice, and of the human dignity of the subjugated and oppressed people of southern Africa. It is indeed ironical that colonialists and racists in southern Africa and elsewhere continue in total disregard of international public opinion to cling to the

myth of a colonial order that is already dead and desperately defend policies of racialism and human exploitation through intensified provocations such as those now confronting Zambia.

It is in this total perspective that we support Zambia's present complaint. My delegation would be ready to co-operate with other members in devising an effective course of Council action in the present situation.

INDIA ZAMBIA USA SENEGAL GUINEA ZAIRE SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE PORTUGAL ETHIOPIA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

India-Japan Joint Statement

The following is the text of the Japan-India Joint Press Statement issued in Tokyo on January 10, 1973:

His Excellency, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, paid a goodwill visit to Japan from 6th to 10th of January, 1973, in response to an invitation of the Government of Japan. The Minister of External Affairs of India was accompanied by His Excellency Shri M. S. Pathak, Member of the Planning Commission, Shri V. V. Paranjpe, Joint Secretary, East Asia Division, Ministry of External Affairs, and assisted by His Excellency Shri S. Thiruvengada Than, Ambassador of India in Japan. His Excellency Mr. Masayoshi Ohira, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan was assisted in the discussions by His Excellency Mr. Taisaku Kojima, Ambassador of Japan in India, Mr. Shinasaku Hogen, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kenzo

Yoshida, Director-General of Asian Affairs Bureau, and Mr. Kiyoshisa Mikanagi, Director-General of the Economic Co-operation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor at the Imperial Palace on January 9, 1973, and during his stay in Japan, called on His Excellency Mr. Kakuei Tanaka, Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr. Takeo Miki, Deputy Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr. Kiichi Aichi, Minister of Finance, His Excellency Mr. Yoshio Sakurachi, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, His Excellency Mr. Yasuhiro, Nakasone, Minister of International Trade and Industry and His Excellency Mr. Zentaro, Kosaka, Minister of State for Economic Planning.

The two Foreign Ministers had a very friendly exchange of views on 8th and 9th of January in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality on a wide range of subjects of common interest to both the countries. The two Foreign Ministers reviewed the historic developments that had taken place in Asia

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and the world, particularly in the years 1971 and 1972. They welcomed the general trend towards relaxation of tensions in the various parts of the world and the detente noticeable particularly in Asia and Europe, and expressed the hope that this trend would see a further development and have favourable influence upon other areas of the world.

His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh welcomed the normalisation of Japan's relations with the People's Republic of China and expressed his belief that it would contribute to peace and stability in Asia.

His Excellency Mr. Ohira expressed his earnest hope that Indo-Pakistan issues would be settled peacefully and through bilateral negotiations as envisaged in the Simla Agreement and wished the efforts all success.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed bilateral relations and welcomed the growing

desire on both sides to expand the economic and technological cooperation between the two countries. They discussed the specific steps to be taken in that direction. The two Foreign Ministers believed that the activities of the Indian and the Japanese Committees for Studies on the economic development in India and Japan could make a valuable contribution to promoting greater understanding and exchange between the two countries and therefore deserved further assistance.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Government of India expressed his sincere appreciation to the Government and the people of Japan for the cordial welcome and warm hospitality extended to him and his party during their stay in Japan.

His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh extended a cordial invitation to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs to visit India. His Excellency Mr. M. Ohira gladly accepted the invitation and expressed the hope that he would be able to visit India in the near future at a mutually convenient time.

JAPAN INDIA USA MALI CHINA PAKISTAN

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

LAOS

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner to the Prime Minister of Laos

Following is the text of the speech of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi at a dinner given by her on January 28, 1973, in honour of the Prime Minister of Laos, Prince Souvanna Phouma:

I have great pleasure in welcoming

Your Highness to India. You are no stranger to this country and we are always glad to welcome you as a member of our Asian family. Your visit this time is timely: Historic events are taking place in Indo-China. The Agreement which was signed in Paris has led to a cease-fire so long awaited and so long deferred in Vietnam. We are told that the war ended a few hours ago. We can only hope that the present fragile situation will lead to a durable peace. Anyhow this does bring us one step nearer to the possibility of a cease-fire in Laos and Cambodia also. We sincerely hope that this will be so for there can be no real peace unless there is cessation of fighting in all parts of South-East Asia. Historically your country has been peace-loving. In fact one could hardly meet a more gentle people than the Laotians who are still guided by the spirit of the Buddha. And yet, for the last several years your beautiful land and peaceful people have been subjected to the ravages of a destructive war. A great task of reconstruction lies ahead of the peoples

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of Indo-China. I have no doubt that the intrepid determination and the unremitting energy which the people have displayed in battle will now be diverted to the tasks of rebuilding the economy of this area. I hope that the countries of Asia and other continents will stand by you in your endeavours.

In our conversation this morning we have discussed these matters. I was once more impressed by your statesmanly vision. The future of any country is shaped primarily by its own people, but the sympathy and support of friends when offered without ulterior motive or calculation of temporary advantage can be a solace and help.

India has always believed in the concept of One World. But the conflict in South-East Asia has cast its shadow on the whole world and influenced public opinion in many countries which are far removed from us. With Europe moving towards detente it seems tragic that our great continent so rich in history, tradition and culture, yet so steeped in poverty, should be the arena of conflicts which come in the way of our progress and development and which have caused so much needless suffering. I hope that Indo-Laotian friendship and bilateral cooperation will grow and be of mutual benefit to us. We shall always be willing to extend any assistance within our means to the friendly people of Laos. We hope also that such bilateralism will reinforce a multi-lateral approach to regional problems. The nations of Asia can achieve greater economic strength and progress through an imaginative and well-planned sharing of insights and skills. Divided as we may be by a thousand miles, we of the land of the Ganga and you who live along the Mekong, can and should come together for the welfare of our people

and the furtherance of harmony and well-being in the world

May I request all the distinguished personages and guests who have gathered around the table to drink and toast to the health and happiness of His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma, to the continued and growing friendship between Laos and India, to growing cooperation between Asian countries and to peace and stability in Asia.

LAOS INDIA CHINA FRANCE USA CAMBODIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

LAOS

Laotian Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, Prince Souvanna Phouma said:

First of all, permit me to thank you, Madame, and your Government for kindly inviting me to pay this visit and, also, may I express my sincere thanks for the warm speech you just made which is full of friendship and sympathy that you have for my country and its people.

I am particularly delighted to have availed of this occasion for renewing my deep respect to you, Madame, who incarnate the spirit of a great friendly country to which mine is deeply attached by spiritual and cultural ties for centuries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am also glad to express to you all the honour and pleasure that I gain from this visit which specially seems to be opportune because it takes place at the same time as the end of a

long and painful war in Vietnam, thanks to the Agreement signed yesterday in Paris between the United States and the concerned Vietnamese parties.

My country, as you are aware, victim of this tragic and destructive war, wishes eagerly that a general and complete cease-fire be extended, in the coming days, to all operational areas situated in our territory.

We believe that the role of India, at this stage, is more indispensable than ever notably for the restoration of a long lasting peace and an harmonious application of a new agreement under the strengthened control of the ICC of which India is the Chairman in Laos. Thanks to her considerable influence in South East Asia, India, by her combined action with other big powers, is called to assure the maintenance of a just and durable peace.

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While talking about peace in South East Asia, I am glad to remind you that during his visit in March 1963, His Majesty Sri Savang Vatthana, our August Sovereign expressed to His Excellency Dr. Radhakrishnan, the then President of India in the presence of the late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister: "Peace is one and indivisible in South East Asia."

I would also like to state that my short visit is not only a simple visit of confident and respectful friendship but also an indication that it is a visit of goodwill and sincere hope for a just and long lasting peace in this part of the world.

Finally, Madame, this visit gives me the opportune occasion to express the gratitude of the Lao Government and its people to the Government and the people of India for their moral and material support which is being given, since the visit of our Sovereign, in the political and cultural fields as well as in the economic and technical fields, the support that realises by giving facilities to monk and lay students, to our civil servants for their training and also by sending experts and

specialists as technical assistants - and all this in spite of several internal and external problems which your Government is facing.

We are all well aware that the Government of India and its people are unanimous to give great importance to the Indo-Pak Agreement of Simla the implementation of which, though slow, is on the right path and they are proud of the progress realised by your Government in the social, economic and industrial spheres of which the 'Asia '72 Fair' constitutes a just and admirable reward.

To end my speech, may I wish that my visit would help to make the countries of the region understand how important the role of India is in the maintenance of peace and in the promotion of common prosperity in this part of the world and how hopeful it is that nations in this area could freely follow their destiny in the framework of a large cooperation.

Madame, it is in the spirit of peace and common prosperity of the people of our region that I raise my glass for your health and may I invite you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen to drink to the health of His Excellency President Giri and to the happiness of the people of India and to the Indo-Lao friendship.

LAOS USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM FRANCE INDIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

LAOS

Joint India-Laos Press Statement

Following is the Joint press statement on the visit to India of the Prime Minister

of Laos, Prince Souvanna Phouma, issued in New Delhi on January 29, 1973:

His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister of the Royal Laotian Government, paid an official visit to India from 27th to 30th January, 1973.

During the course of the visit, His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma called on President V. V. Giri and had friendly and informal discussions with Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

The two Prime Ministers reviewed the latest developments in Indo-China and their implications for Asia and the world. Both Prime Ministers welcomed the signing of the peace agreement on Vietnam at Paris and sincerely hoped that it would lead to a durable peace not only in Vietnam but also in the neighbouring countries of Laos and Cambodia.

His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma emphasized the greater importance of the role of I.C.S.C. in the wake of a cease-fire in Laos and expressed the hope that India would play her role in restoring lasting peace to Laos and safeguarding her independence, sovereignty and neutrality. The Indian Prime Minister assured the Prime Minister of Laos of India's earnest desire to help in this task.

The two Prime Ministers also discussed bilateral matters including the task of economic re-construction in Laos. The two

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Prime Ministers agreed on the importance of increasing economic cooperation between the two countries and discussed specific measures to promote closer bilateral relations. The Prime Minister of India assured Prince Souvanna Phouma that India would always be willing to extend all assistance within her means.

LAOS INDIA USA CHINA FRANCE VIETNAM CAMBODIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Speech of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi at Dinner to Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic

Following is the text of the speech of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the dinner which she gave in honour of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, Hie Excellency Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz on January 11, 1973:

Your Excellency the Prime Minister,
Madame Jaroszewicz, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The people of India are delighted to welcome as their guest so early in the New Year an eminent statesman who heads the Government of a country with which we have the closest bonds of mutual regard and friendship. We are especially glad that Madame Jaroszewicz, an eminent economist and partisan has also accepted our invitation to accompany you, to Madame Jaroszewicz and to your distinguished colleagues a very warm welcome on my own behalf and on behalf of the Government and people of India.

I first made Your acquaintance in the summer of 1955 when I had the privilege of accompanying my father to Poland. That visit to your country left two indelible marks on my mind. One was the visit to Auswitz, summing up the tremendous suffering of Your People, four and a half million of whom perished in the gas chambers and another million and a half in other parts of Poland facing, combating and finally vanquishing the Hitlerite aggression. Balancing this was the picture of the singlemindedness with which the Polish people were rebuilding Warsaw and repairing the devastation of

war. This frenzy of rebuilding was an expression of the love of their country which the Polish people have displayed over the centuries and the faith which has enabled them to overcome obstacles and challenges

I visited Poland again in 1967 and was impressed by the growth of Poland's industrial power. Much has happened in your country since then, and we in India have watched with great interest the striking progress that has taken place under the leadership of Mr. Edward Gierek and you, Mr. Prime Minister.

Vast changes have occurred in my country also. It is only a little over 25 years that we overthrew the colonial yoke. During these two and a half decades we have laid solid foundations for industrial and agricultural development. Through the expansion of education and technology we have now the means to create a modern, egalitarian society and it is our endeavour to liberate our land from poverty and social inequality in our life time.

In this great task of national reconstruction we have received sympathy and help from friendly nations, including Poland. We deeply appreciate the sustained interest which your government and you personally

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have taken in our progress and the concrete co-operation that you have extended to us. We have set up a number of collaboration projects with your assistance, particularly in the mining sector. Trade between our two countries has shown a dramatic increase in the last 18 months and we now export non-traditional items to your country. We attach great importance to the work of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for the promotion of economic trade, scientific and technical co-operation between our two countries.

Our friendship and cooperation are based not on any transient factors but on certain principles and shared values and experiences. Poland and India are dedicated to peace, equality and human dignity.

Racialism and colonialism of any kind are repugnant to us, and we have stood for the fullest development of the personality of all peoples, in whatever continent they may reside.

In the international field, our two countries have pursued similar policies on most of the key questions of our times. We have had the closest collaboration in the United Nations and its specialised agencies and in the International Commissions in Korea and Indo-China. We have watched with admiration the manner in which your country, under the new leadership, has successfully worked for a detente in Europe to consolidate peace and international security. From the very beginning we have given open support to Poland's boundaries in the West and we are glad that these boundaries have now been recognised in fact and in law

A little over a year ago the Indian people faced a very serious crisis. It was not of our making. The determination and courage of our people enabled us to vindicate our values and to safeguard our territorial integrity. In so doing we were also able to stand by a valiant people who made great sacrifices to secure the independence of their country, Bangladesh. Mr. Prime Minister, may I take this opportunity to thank you for the principled and correct stand that your government adopted on this issue and for the sympathy and support which you and your country extended to India. We are, grateful to you also for the constructive support that you have subsequently given to us in our efforts to achieve durable peace with Pakistan. We wish to have a relationship of equality, trust and co-operation with Pakistan and indeed with all our neighbours.

While the countries of Europe (and I hope of our sub-continent) are trying to build an enduring basis of peaceful and friendly relations, there are other areas of the world which continue to be embroiled in conflict. We are deeply concerned about the situation in West Asia. We share the horror of the world at the savage bombing of Vietnam. We are filled with admiration for the unconquerable spirit of the Vietnamese

people.

This year the world celebrates the 500th birth anniversary of a great son of Poland, Nikolai Copernicus. May I thank you for bringing me a volume of his works? Modern scientific civilisation could be said to have started with the discoveries and theories of this outstanding thinker. I am sure that the sun-centred universe of Copernicus never envisaged that darkness would reside in the heart of man. Man has enlarged the domain of science through his imagination and perseverance. In the process he has acquired vast power. We have now reached a stage, in history where it is essential to reappraise the values which seem to guide contemporary society. Progress means the removal of poverty and drudgery but it must also kindle the desire to understand and to help others if we are to succeed in building a society where all can partake of the fruits of scientific and technological advance. Man should not allow himself to be dwarfed by science but must develop a world conscience and nurture his inner capacities to be able to rise above pettiness, prejudice and rapacity. I hope that governments and individuals can and will join hands in this endeavour to build a new humanity.

Mr. Prime Minister, we are delighted to have you with us, We have today had the first part of our talks which were interesting and extremely useful to us and we look forward to the rest of the talks because in this changing world we are interested to

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know what you think and what you prophesy for the future..

May I ask you all, ladies and gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of the President of the Polish People's Republic, to the health of Mr. Edward Gierek and to the health of the Prime Minister Jaroszewicz and Madame Jaroszewicz. May the Polish people prosper and may Indo-Polish friendship be further consolidated.

POLAND INDIA USA CHINA KOREA BANGLADESH PAKISTAN VIETNAM

Date : Jan 01, 1973

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POLAND

His Excellency Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz's Reply

Replying the Prime Minister of the
Polish People's Republic said:

I should like to express our heartfelt gratitude to you, Madam Prime Minister, for having invited us to pay this visit to your great and beautiful country. May I also thank you for the very warm reception accorded to our delegation and for the warm friendly words which you, Madam Prime Minister, were kind to address towards the Polish People's Republic and towards our delegation.

Indeed, we are sincerely happy to be able to get to know India better, the country, the great and beautiful country with which Poland develops active relations, based on a traditional and strong friendship and sympathy. Having come here we have been able once again to become aware of this while in your capital and in the course of our conversations which we had today with you and meetings with the leaders of India.

Mutual exchange of state visits and meetings of leaders of our respective countries have already proven to be a good tradition of our relations. We of Poland have had the great honour and privilege to play host to such outstanding Indian leaders as your dear father Mrs. Prime Minister - Jawaharlal Nehru, to you personally and to President Giri. Our state leaders, too, were visiting your country.

We believe that visits like these and direct contacts between statesmen make it possible to get to know each other better, to serve well the cause of the consolidation of friendship linking our two peoples as well as the development of fruitful co-operation between us. We are strongly convinced that our present visit, too, will offer all opportunity to learn more of both the old, extremely rich Indian culture as well as of the modern and dynamically developing country of yours.

The feelings we cherish towards your country are indeed ones of respect and friendship. We rejoice at your successes, we share your concerns. The progressive development of India, both social and economic, her ambitious efforts to bring about implementation of the idea of socialism and her outstanding role in strengthening peace, security and international co-operation in Asia and all over the world, enjoy genuine sympathy and support of the people and the Government of Poland. When pursuing your efforts you can count, our dear Indian friends, on the support of the entire socialist community. We, on our part, are only grateful to you for your recognition of the efforts of our people, engaged as they are in the construction of a socialist Poland and in adding to her strength and her prosperity.

Dear Madam Prime Minister, permit me to express our sincere satisfaction of the dialogue which we have been systematically conducting between our countries. Thanks to it we understand well developments in this region of the world. Our two countries were unanimous to welcome the emergence of a new independent state - Bangla Desh. In conformity with our heretofore position, we believe that lasting settlement of relationships on the Indian subcontinent can come about only on the basis of the recognition of existing realities. I wish to take this opportunity and express Poland's support for your country's efforts towards a peaceful settlement of all problems and creating favourable conditions for good-neighbourly co-operation among the states of this region.

Neither Poland nor India spare efforts to maintain peace, to develop relations of friendship and co-operation among nations. That is our common desire and our joint aspiration. Along with the dynamic economic and technical progress, it provides for extensive possibilities for strengthening our bilateral cooperation, based on mutual understanding, confidence and on our growing possibilities.

We are happy that the bilateral relations between the Polish People's Republic and the Republic of India produce - and judging by our conversations, I am sure will produce - good fruits in many fields of endeavour and that they bring visible advantages to both our peoples.

I am convinced that our present Visit will contribute to a consolidation of all-round co-operation between Poland and India, to its expansion commensurately to the needs and potentials of our two countries. This will be an important contribution to the further strengthening of the ties of Polish-Indian friendship. Let me assure our Indian friends that we shall make every effort to achieve this goal.

In this spirit, I wish to propose it toast to the good health and Prosperity of the President of the Republic of India, His Excellency Mr. Giri, to the good health and prosperity of Her Excellency, Prime Minister Madam Indira Gandhi, to friendship between the peoples of Poland and India, to the development and successes of your great country, to the good health of our Indian friends.

POLAND USA INDIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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POLAND

Long-term Indo-Polish Trade Protocol

Follwing is the text of a news release issued in New Delhi on January 12, 1973, on the new long-term Trade Protocol with Poland:

A long-term Trade Protocol between India and Poland for the' years 1973, 1974 and 1975 was signed here today.

The Protocol was signed by Shri L. N. Mishra, Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Government of India and by H.E. Mr. T. Olechowski, Minister of Foreign Trade of the Polish People's Republic on behalf of the Government of Poland. The Prime Minister of India and also the Prime Minister of Poland were present during the ceremony

The Trade Protocol envisages a trade turn-over of Rs. 1308 million between the two countries during 1973 showing an increase of about. 30 per cent over 1972 Trade Protocol provision. The estimates of trade turnover during 1974 and 1975 would be reviewed and negotiated at appropriate time.

In accordance with the provisions of the new Protocol, Poland has agreed to supply, increased quantities of urea, rolled steel products, ships' equipment, mining machinery, textile machinery, drugs intermediates, chemicals, refractory materials, etc.

The Protocol also lays emphasis on increasing export of nontraditional items from India including engineering and consumer goods such as railway wagons, iron and steel castings including spun pipes, steel pipes and fittings, hand tools and pneumatic tools, auto ancillaries, electrical household articles, tinned fruits and juices, readymade garments, woollen knitwear, rayon fabrics, hosiery and knitwear, silk fabrics, etc. These will be in addition to the export of various traditional commodities like tea, coffee, black popper, deoiled cakes, iron ore, processed

mica, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins, jute goods, cotton textiles, handloom goods, carpets, etc.

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POLAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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POLAND

Press Communique on Polish Prime Minister's Visit to India

The following Press Communique on the visit to India of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic was issued in New Delhi on January 17, 1973:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz, and Madame Jaroszewicz have been on an official visit to India from January 10, 1973.

During the visit, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz was received in audience by the President of the Republic of India, Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri, and the Vice President, Shri G. S. Pathak. The two Prime Ministers had talks and discussions on international problems of mutual interest to both countries as well as on the present state of Indo-Polish relations and their further development, which revealed the identity or closeness of the positions of the two sides on all issues discussed. The talks were held in an atmosphere of frankness and friendship, so characteristic of the relations between the

two countries.

Participating in the talks from the Polish side were: H.E. Mr. Tadeusz Olechowski, Minister of Foreign Trade; H.E. Mr. Josef Okuniewski, Minister of Agriculture; H.E. Mr. Jerzy Olszewski, Minister of Chemical Industry; H.E. Mr. Jozef Pinkowski, First Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission; H.E. Henryk Kisiel, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission; H.K. Mr. Jan Czapla, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Mr. Wlodzimierz Janiurek, Under Secretary of State for Press and Information, Council of Ministers, Government Spokesman; H.E. Mr. Wieslaw Waniewski, Under Secretary of State, Council of Ministers; H.E. Mr. Wiktor Kinecki, Ambassador of the Polish People's Republic to India, and Mr. Bogdan Wasilewski, Director of the Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From the Indian side were: Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister of Agriculture; Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam, Minister of Steel and Mines; Shri L. N. Mishra, Minister of Foreign Trade; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Shri K. Natwar Singh, Ambassador of India to Poland.

A Joint Declaration of Friendship and Cooperation between India and the Polish People's Republic was agreed upon during the visit, constituting the basis for the further dynamic development of all-round Indo-Polish cooperation. The Prime Ministers welcomed with particular satisfaction the agreement reached in the discussions between the Planning Commissions of the two countries on long-term economic cooperation, as well as the provisions contained in the 1973-75 Trade Protocol signed in their presence by the Ministers of Foreign Trade of India and Poland. The Polish Delegation visited a number of industrial

plants and research centres as well as historical monuments in New Delhi, Agra, Aurangabad, Bangalore and Bombay. The Delegation, which was accorded a warm welcome everywhere, expressed its appreciation of the achievements of the Indian people in many domains of their social and economic life.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz, invited the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to visit Poland at a time convenient to her. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz, Madame Jaroszewicz and his party will be leaving for home on January 18, 1973 from Bombay at the end of their visit.

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POLAND INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

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POLAND

Joint Declaration on Friendship and Cooperation between India and the Polish People's Republic

Following is the text of the Joint Declaration of Friendship and Cooperation between India and the Polish People's Republic agreed upon during the visit of the Prime Minister of Poland, His Excellency Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz and issued in New Delhi on January 18, 1973:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Chair-

man of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz, paid a State visit to India from January 10 to 18, 1973.

The Head of the Government of Polish People's Republic and his party were accorded a warm welcome testifying to the close and friendly relation-, existing between the two countries.

During his stay in New Delhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic and the Prime Minister of India reviewed all aspects of Indo-Polish relations. Both Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the development of Indo-Polish relations and reaffirmed their determination to expand further their cooperation in all fields. They expressed their conviction that this cooperation serves not only the bilateral interests of the peoples of both sides but also the interests of international peace and security.

The exchange of views on the international situation revealed that the position of the two on all issues discussed was either identical or very close,

Both sides, convinced of the need for expansion and further all-round development of the relations between the two States, have agreed on the following Joint Declaration:

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Both sides stand for the strengthening of the principles of peaceful co-existence of States with different socio-political systems, respect for territorial integrity of States, non-interference in their internal affairs, and non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations.

Both sides favour the expansion of international cooperation in the areas of economy, science, technology and culture, protection of the natural human environment as beneficial for all States and peoples on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Both sides declare their support for the

United Nations and consider it as an important instrument for the maintenance and strengthening of international peace, and security as well as for furthering all-round cooperation among States. The parties state their readiness to join in actions towards enhancement of the effectiveness of the United Nations and its specialised agencies as well as towards achieving universality of membership of the Organisation.

Both sides welcome with satisfaction the Positive developments in Europe seeking to establish permanent peace and cooperation in the region, based on the recognition of existing legal frontiers and on the renunciation of the use or threat of force in mutual relations. Such a renunciation can play a Positive role in ensuring peace not only in Europe but also in the world as a whole.

Recognising the importance of efforts towards normalisation of the situation in the Indian sub-continent, both sides express their conviction that such efforts will lead to the recognition of the existing political realities by all the States concerned and result in the speedy establishment of peaceful and good-neighbourly cooperation in the region. The Polish side expressed, in particular, its appreciation of the initiatives taken by the Indian side in this regard.

Both sides stressed the need for the People's Republic of Bangla Desh to be enabled to take her legitimate place, without further delay, in the UN and other International Organisations and agreed that any attempts to ignore the realities will only add to tensions and instability in the region.

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Both sides state that all available measures should be taken to solve open conflicts, to eliminate the sources of potential conflicts and to create a lasting foundation for peace and security in South-East Asia and other areas of the world.

Both sides fully support the Vietnamese people and other Indochinese peoples in their just struggle. They strongly deplore

the bombings of the DRVN and call for an early political settlement so that the peoples of Indochina may be enabled to shape their future without any outside interference and in accordance with their national interests.

Both sides expressed their grave concern about the situation in the Middle East. They agreed that the establishment of permanent and equitable peace in that part of the world can be achieved only through the consistent implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967.

Both sides declare their support for national liberation movements in colonial territories. They resolutely condemn colonialism and racism in all their manifestations and reiterate their determination to bring about their final eradication. Both sides believe that attempts at neocolonialism should be condemned and eliminated from interstate relations.

Both sides will continue to extend their full support for bringing about the cessation of the arms race, for attaining General and Complete Disarmament, including both nuclear and conventional weapons, under effective international control.

Both sides state that any agreement on disarmament should seek to ensure peace and security as well as improved living standards for all nations. Aware of the importance of and the urgent need for the strengthening of international security through effective disarmament measures, the two sides support the proposal to hold a World Disarmament Conference where all States could constructively participate in finding an early and effective solution to this problem.

The Polish side appreciates and supports India's policy of non-alignment which makes an important contribution to the lessening of tensions and the consolidation of peace and security in the world.

The Indian side appreciates and supports the efforts made by Poland to strengthen the processes of detente and to consolidate

security and to develop cooperation amongst European States.

II

Both sides agree that their mutually advantageous political cooperation should be further expanded and strengthened on the basis of the principles expounded in the first part of this Joint Declaration.

The two sides will hold regular consultations to exchange views on international problems of common interest.

Both sides express their determination to cooperate actively in international forums, in the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies, as well as in other International Organisations.

III

Both sides note that their economic cooperation is of special importance for the strengthening of the friendly relations which exist between them. While holding in high regard the results and experience of such cooperation, the two sides agreed on the importance of full utilisation of the existing potentialities and for their further expansion on the basis of long-term planning and on the principle of mutual benefit.

Both sides look forward to the prospect of a major increase in economic exchanges in the immediate years ahead and to their multiple increase in subsequent years.

In consonance with these propositions, the two sides stressed the importance of:

-- the Protocol signed by Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam, Minister of Steel and Mines of India and H.E. Mr. H. Kisiel, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of Poland, following the discussions between representatives of the Planning Commissions of India and Poland on long-term programmes of

economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

-- the 1973-75 Trade Protocol signed in the presence of the two Prime Ministers by the Ministers of Foreign Trade of Poland and India - Mr. T. Olechowski and Shri L. N. Mishra.

-- the role played by the Indo-Polish Joint Commission established in January 1972.

The two sides reaffirmed their desire to proceed with the broad expansion of their cooperation in science and technology, with particular regard to the exchange of industrial and technological experience.

Both sides state that cultural cooperation occupies an important place in their relations in as much as it plays a useful role in bringing the two State-, and their peoples closer together.

Both sides agree on the importance of exchange of visits at different level-, between the two countries and note with satisfaction that the visit to India by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic and his delegation has led to greater mutual understanding and further strengthening of cooperation between India and Poland.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic extended a cordial invitation to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to visit Poland. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

POLAND INDIA USA MALI VIETNAM CHINA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SUDAN

Following is the text of a news release issued in New Delhi on January 8, 1973, on the new India-Sudan Trade Plan signed in Khartoum on January 7, 1973:

A new Trade Plan for 1973 with Sudan - India's largest trading partner in the developing world - was signed in Khartoum yesterday. Negotiations for the Trade Plan had been going on in Khartoum from December 28, 1972. It was signed by Shri S. J. S. Chhatwal, leader of the Indian delegation on behalf of the Government of India, and Mr. Farouk Ibrahim Magboul, leader of the Sudanese delegation.

This Trade Plan provides for a total volume of about Rs. 100 crore worth of trade between the two countries during the calendar year 1973. India's export would consist of tea, jute goods, textiles, engineering goods of various types, spices and perfumes, etc., while India would be importing from Sudan mainly long staple cotton. The unique feature of the Trade Plan is the agreement by the Sudanese side to introduce 'technical credit' in the working of the Trade Plan as against unlimited interest-free overdraft facilities available to them previously.

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SUDAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Joint Communique on Indo-UK Talks

The following Joint Communique was issued on January 27, 1973, simultaneously in New Delhi and London on Shri L. N. Mishra's discussions with the British Ministers:

His Excellency L. N. Mishra, Minister of Foreign Trade, Government of India, visited London on January 22-26 at the invitation of Her Majesty's Government. During his stay he met Mr. Edward Heath, Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr. G. Rippon, Secretary of State for Environment and Planning, Mr. John Davies, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, as well as Sir Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs.

The British Ministers recalled that it had become necessary to terminate the Trade Agreement of 1939 between the two countries to enable the United Kingdom to meet her treaty obligations on accession to the European Economic Community. Both sides acknowledged that this means the termination of an historic agreement which has symbolised strong ties between the two countries. They agreed that the trading relationship which it has encompassed reflects a broader range of joint interests and cooperation than is recorded by its formal Provisions and that the act of termination will not lead to abrupt and wide ranging changes such as the application of the UK's present most-favoured-nation tariff to imports of Indian goods and commodities. The Treaty of Accession sets out the United Kingdom's obligation to harmonise its tariff with the Community regime over a period of five years. Since this provides that the first increase in the UK duties on Indian manufactures should take place on January 1, 1974, there will be an important transitional period which will enable Indian exporters to plan ahead and adapt themselves to the new situation. In the case of certain important imports from India such as hulk tea, the timetable will not involve any

change, but where there is a duty applicable in the Common Customs Tariff, it will involve a gradual phasing out of British preferences for Indian manufactures.

Mr. Mishra pointed out that the Agreement of 1939 had also afforded non-tariff advantages to Indian exports which did not appear to conflict with the United Kingdom's new Community obligations. One of these was the opportunity which it had afforded for the development of the use of unmanufactured tobacco by tobacco manufacturers in the United Kingdom. Recognising this, the United Kingdom Government will continue to cooperate in any further measures agreed to be necessary to facilitate the marketing of this tobacco in the United Kingdom. The British Ministers affirmed that the United Kingdom will, of course, bear India's interests very much in any discussions in the GATT or elsewhere about duties or charges on tobacco.

The Ministers also took the opportunity to review the prospects of changes in the Common Customs Tariff in respect of goods such as jute textiles and coir which are of particular importance for India. British Ministers expressed their understanding of the emphasis placed by Mr. Mishra on the significance of a speedy elimination in duties in the CCT for the competitive prospects of these two groups of products and of his concern that in the interim there should be the minimum interference with the conditions for importing these goods into the UK market.

The Ministers recorded the importance which they attach to the Declaration of Intent by the members of the enlarged European Economic Community as earnest of its will to extend and strengthen the trade relations between India and the Community's expanding market which can provide a wide and valuable outlet for India's exports. They

acknowledged that if India is to be in a position to take full advantage of this re-orientation of the trading opportunities, the

period will call for the closest consultation and co-operation between all concerned. They therefore noted with satisfaction the decision of the European Council of Ministers of December 4, 1972 that, the Community should prepare a negotiating mandate by the end of this month in order to conclude a commercial co-operation agreement with India.

The Ministers agreed that their own exchanges had made a valuable contribution to a very special understanding of each other's problems. They were concerned that the close valuable contacts which have been built up between the two countries during the years of the Agreement should be maintained and developed. They noted that in the months ahead there would be occasion for further consultation about products of particular concern to India and they also agreed to explore the possibilities, of extending their traditional contacts to sustain the widest range of co-operation between India and the United Kingdom.

UNITED KINGDOM USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Message to President Nixon

According to a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 25, 1973, Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi sent the following message to the US President Mr. Richard Nixon:

Your Excellency, I should like to convey out, warmest congratulations on your statesmanlike decision to end the Vietnam war

and restore peace to millions of Indo-Chinese.

Please accept, Excellency, assurances of my highest consideration.

USA INDIA VIETNAM

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM PEACE AGREEMENT

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Message to Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam

According to a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 25, 1973, Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi sent the following message to His Excellency Pham Van, Dong, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam:

Your Excellency, heard with great relief news of initialling of peace agreement on Vietnam in Paris yesterday. I should like to convey our heartiest congratulations to you and the Vietnamese people who have shown undaunted courage and perseverance in defending the freedom of their country. We share your satisfaction and joy in this hard-earned peace and with your nation all success in the immense task of reconstructing the war-ravaged economy.

With greetings from the Indian people.

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VIETNAM INDIA FRANCE

Date : Jan 01, 1973

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VIETNAM PEACE AGREEMENT

Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement on Vietnam

According to a Press Note issued in New Delhi on January 24, 1973, Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh made the following statement on the Vietnam Peace agreement.

It Is with a sense of relief that we have learnt that a Vietnam Peace agreement has been initialled by the DRVN and U.S. negotiators in Paris,

We welcome this end of the Vietnam war and return to peace.

We express our appreciation of the persistent efforts made by the two sides towards a negotiated settlement. We hope this peace will be a lasting and permanent one to the millions of people who have suffered trials and tribulations.

It is our hope that the present will be a step not only towards peace in Vietnam, but also towards peace in Indo-China. We hope that peace and stability will also now return to the two friendly neighbouring independent States, Cambodia and Laos. As this tragic war comes to a close let humanity as a whole turn its attention to the task of cooperating and collaborating in the economic reconstruction of this war-ravaged region. India will contribute its own share to the efforts in this direction.

VIETNAM INDIA USA FRANCE CHINA CAMBODIA LAOS

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ZAIRE

Speech of President Shri V. V. Giri at Dinner in Honour of President of Zaire

Following is the text of the speech of President Giri at a dinner he gave in honour of the President of the Republic of Zaire, General Mobutu Sese Seko, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on January 22, 1973:

Mr. President, Madame Mobutu, Your Excellencies and Distinguished Guests:

I should like once more to extend to Your Excellency, to Madame Mobutu and to the distinguished members of your party a cordial welcome and wish you a pleasant stay in India. Your visit constitutes a landmark in the friendly relations existing between our two countries, and we hope that it will be the precursor of many other visits between Zaire and India.

You, Mr. President are the founder of the Second Republic of Zaire. The vision, leadership and courage displayed by you in the consolidation of peace and the unification of your country have become a part of history and have earned the admiration of all. You have brought to Zaire a new era of self-confidence, of purpose and of stature in African and world affairs. Your achievements have been a source of inspiration for many countries throughout the world.

Under your guidance and leadership, Zaire, richly endowed with the resources of nature, has set herself on a course of economic development and independence which alone can contribute to the advancement of the masses. We wish you and your people all success in the many tasks that lie ahead.

We are following with interest the progress of your historic reforms in the social and cultural fields in your country, and of the massive programme of "authenticite" which is being launched under your leadership. This programme, we believe, will inject a national consciousness and regenerate your cultural and historical traditions which your country possesses in such abundant

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measure but which under long colonial rule could not find full and free expression.

We have admired the many missions that you have undertaken for peace and co-operation in many African countries. You have championed the cause of the freedom fighters in Africa who today are locked in fierce combat against the colonial powers, and of the peoples struggling for their rights against racial discrimination, injustice and inhumanity. In this struggle also Africa will be successful and you have, as always, out, full support and sympathy. Your recent intervention with a neighbouring African State in support of just, humane and equitable behaviour is a measure of your statesmanship and of your dedication to the principles of civilised conduct.

We in our part of the world, Mr. President, have been through difficult and distressing times. You are of course aware of the events on our sub-continent during the course of the year 1971, of the outbreak of war, of our ceasefire and of the emergence of the new sovereign state of Bangla Desh. My Government has spared no effort to achieve an honourable reconciliation and a durable peace. We have signed the Simla Agreement and we persevere in its implementation. We see no problems with our neighbour, Pakistan, that cannot be settled peacefully by discussion and negotiation; we seek cooperation in the broadest and fullest sense which will enable us all to concentrate our energies on our supreme task and duty to promote the economic and social progress of the masses of the people.

During the course of Your Excellency's

visit to my country, I hope you will find something of interest and significance in our economic activity, in our industrial and agricultural projects and in our technological development. We believe there is considerable ground for increasing our cooperation in all these fields and that such cooperation will give content and mutual interest to our relationship, strengthen our contacts and augment our knowledge of each other's progress and development. With similar problems and experiences, we believe that developing countries can make significant contribution to each other, and it is only this that the widening gap between the advanced world and ourselves can begin to be narrowed, which in the long run will remove many causes of international friction, rivalry and conflict.

Mr. President, the contacts between our two continents have a long history and were only severed by the advent of the colonial powers. Our peoples share common values; they have an inborn sense of individual liberty; they believe in justice and equality between man and man; we are both proud of our traditions, of our customs and of our culture. We are therefore happy to reciprocate warmly Your Excellency's desire for increasing cultural contacts and exchanges between us. By this means our peoples will become more closely acquainted with each other and enrich our relationship.

I have now the pleasant duty to request Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen to raise your glasses and to drink a toast to the health of Their Excellencies President and Madame Mobutu Sese Seko, to the happiness and well-being of the people of Zaire and to the friendship between the peoples of India and Zaire.

ZAIRE INDIA USA PAKISTAN

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

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ZAIRE

Speech of President of Zaire

Replying, the President of Zaire, General Mobutu Sese Seko said:

On behalf of my wife, of the Delegation which accompanies me and in my own name, I want to thank you for the warm welcome which my party and I received since the time of our arrival in your beautiful capital.

I also bring to you the friendly greetings from the Zairian people as a whole united in our great national party, The People's Movement of Revolution.

I also take this opportunity to accomplish a sacred duty, the one to thank you personally for the determined participation of Indian Military Contingent in the United Nations operation in Zaire in order to maintain the unity and the integrity of our national territory.

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The bravery with Which the Indian troops, under the banner of the United Nations, fought against mercenaries and successionists is engraved in the memory of all Zairians. Because of the opportunity you afforded me to Visit your beautiful and Vast country, habited by a mosaic of Peoples representing almost all the religions of the world, We are sure to discover the melinium India, the secular India, the present India, in brief the eternal India.

Your country has the honour and the privilege to be considered as the world seat of wisdom because especially of some of its most illustrious sons, like Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,

Nationalist leader, social reformer, promoter of new forms of political action,

Gandhi Who incarnates the Indian conscience vis-a-vis the colonialist operation has for long time gone beyond the frontiers of his country to incarnate the universal conscience in front of injustice from anywhere.

In fact, during his life he fought against social injustices and colonialism, he led his country to independence because of a new and original method which disarmed and dis-routed the adversary, that means non-violence.

It is undoubtedly the first time in the human history that it was proved that the force of character is above all physical forces of destruction, even with technological machines.

He gave mostly a lesson to the humanity as a whole the one of a fierce fight but without hatred. His motto which the Union of India has adopted was "Only Truth Triumphs". Today the Philosophy of Gandhi has become a new political philosophy of the 20th century people. The non-violence, the refusal to use force are the means par excellence to settle conflict in a peaceful way.

This is why I cannot step on the Indian soil without paying tribute to the one who was called the "Great Soul" - Mahatma Gandhi whom even his adversaries considered him as the true apostle of peace and called him a saint among politicians and a politician among-the saints.

I equally pay a solemn tribute to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, disciple and right successor of Gandhi under whom India became a great power respected and listened to, whose foreign policy is founded on the five principles of peaceful co-existence which he started and which were adopted in Bandung Conference. He was an eager fighter for the liberation of his country. But he did more in fact. Africa and Asia including the Republic of Zaire, my country will always pay tribute to his memory for the active role he played for the liberation of our people from colonial yoke. He also became the father and the champion of non-alignment in the face of the military, economic and ideological

blocs Which divided the world.

Mr. President, Madame Prime Minister, my trip to Asia and especially to the two countries most populated in the World, the populations of which represent one-third of the Whole humanity, has to do with irreversible march of history.

For in Zaire, we are conscious of the fact that Asia and Africa are the two continents of tomorrow, that Asia and Africa must unite their efforts for the fight of development and equipment. In fact, since the reestablishment of the rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, since a faint hope is timidly pointing on the horizon to establish peace in Vietnam and the whole of Indo-China, since the whole world is conscious of the weight of population on the continent of Asia, since the Second Decade of Development of the United Nations is promising for the African continent and especially now that the West in its state of moral disarray gives more and more value to the wisdom of Asia and Africa, wisdom which it lacks so cruelly, one can no longer doubt that the centre of gravity of world politics is moving from the Atlantic Ocean to the Indian Ocean.

So your country is called upon to play a more important role because your geographical position makes of you the door and the crossroad of the Indian Ocean, and because of your determination, you have become a power in many regards.

I said that Asia and Africa are called upon to co-operate because if other people laugh at us affirming that we are behind in equipment in comparison with many Western countries, it is because you and us, we underwent the greatest humiliation of our history,

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and we have known a long period of slavery, that, is colonialism.

The occupants simply destroyed all our values.

It is why they imposed on us a language,

a religion, a way of dressing up, of eating, of walking, of thinking, even to ask us to deny completely ourselves and out, being, to deny our soul, out, origins, thus in fact, We were no longer authentic but certified copies which means according to them you Indians be Englishmen of Asia and we Zairians Belgians of Africa.

This is why our visit to your beautiful and great country is within the framework of our permanent pilgrimage to the sources of authenticity of peoples.

In the name of the authenticity we preach, We declare that theories according to which there exists superior and inferior beings are false. We strongly believe that in the field of science and culture each people has something to give and a message to transmit and I take this opportunity Which is given to me to visit the Union of India to salute the important contribution of your country to the development of the universal science.

In fact Indian scholars invented the numbers known as "Arab" as Well as the number "Zero". The Indian scholars have equally contributed to the development of Geometry, of Astronomy and of Trigonometry.

And this unbelievable thing, the genius Of your country C. V. Raman already forced the West in 1930 to recognise him as the greatest physicist of this era by giving him the Nobel Prize of Physics.

This is why strengthened by this past and this scientific tradition, India is today among the front platoon in the field of nuclear research.

Mr. President and Madame Prime. Minister, true, India has problems inherent to the explosion of its population, but because of your dynamic economic policy you have engaged yourself resolutely to surmount them by the use of various techniques in various five year plans of development, aiming at the production of goods and services necessary to satisfy the needs of the population.

A Latin sentence says "Primum vivere, deinde philosophari", that is, "live first and philosophy after". This is what in Zaire we call the independence of stomach. You were among the first to understand it.

In fact you paid a special attention to the problem of land and I Congratulate you because of your action you are dismantling the mechanism of the theories of some pessimistic economists from the West according to which there exist countries like yours and ours Which are condemned to the perpetual under development.

Today, due to your courage, to your tenacity, to your Organisation and to the confidence you have in your authenticity, you have been able to reverse the affirmations mentioned above and you have confused their authors with what I call today "the Green Revolution of India". It is what these same theorists, who did not believe it, call today "the Indian Miracle".

It is Why your success cannot be considered as a legitimate pride for the people of India only. But it is also a source of joy for all the people: victims of colonialist exploitation.

It is not an exaggeration to say that real progress is achieved in the countries of the third world. However, the third world must understand that the era of empty words has gone and it is time to work hard in order to fill the gap which separates us from the rich countries.

We must make ourselves an effort to unite, in order to exchange our experiences, to confront our means and our methods.

Unlike us, our masters of yesterday are realising their union in the political, economic, commercial, military, monetary and fields and their strength so increased is even more dangerous than ever in order to perpetuate their domination.

We must be conscious of our handicap because our economic structures installed by

the colonisers are in competition instead of being complimentary. In fact We produce

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the same goods, the same raw materials which we sell on the same markets.

The cooperation and coordination of our actions are the only ways to save the countries of the third world.

Let us take an example of Europe which has already nine countries in the common market, an association of free exchange, a centre of nuclear research, a union for the common mean--, for the aeronautics construction, space research and so forth.

I take this opportunity to make an appeal to the conscience of the leaders of countries of Asia and Africa so that at the, level of regions first, and continents after, we may create super-national institutions of economic and scientific character.

Because of this action we will be able to protect ourselves from the monetary crises which are not ours but which penalise us more than those who provoked them. Because of this action Asia and Africa which have the greatest population of the world, it means the biggest number of consumers, will be able to put an end to the constant deterioration of the prices of our raw materials on the Western markets, and will make possible National Industrial Development because we can blindly count on foreign investors who cannot reasonably compete with their own investment in their own country, by investing in the countries of the third world.

Mr. President and Madame Prime Minister, it is unfortunate that present armed conflicts be almost solely localized in the countries of the third world.

Our countries need calm to develop and prosper. This is why we will never cease to ask the protagonists in the Middle East and Vietnam to find as quickly as possible, ways and means to achieve a sure and dur-

able peace.

We cannot fail to mention the fight which many of our brothers in Africa are waging against the greatest plague of our time, that is colonialism.

If Indians and Zairians had the chance to free themselves sooner from the claws of this common enemy, other African countries are still under its yoke and its domination.

This is why the Republic of Zaire will always support the oppressed people in their fight against imperialism and condemn always in the most categorical way the Rascists of South Africa, the Portuguese colonialists and the Rhodesian settlers who have not only silenced the majority of Africans but are also attacking in a shameful and inadmissible way the sister neighbouring Republic of Zambia by depriving her of the electric power to run her industries, by closing her principal route of entry and exporting its goods, despising the international rules on the access to the sea by the land locked countries.

The rebel Ian Smith and all the settlers established in Zimbabwe must know that they are making a heavy mistake because Zambia is not alone.

In fact insulting Zambia is insulting Zaire, threatening Zambia is threatening Zaire and attacking Zambia militarily is attacking Zaire militarily.

This is why officially and solemnly and through me Zaire declares that beginning today, Zaire Puts itself Politically, economically and militarily at the total disposal of Zambia.

Mr. President and Madam Prime Minister, I only have to wish happiness and prosperity for yourselves for the people of India as a whole and for all your colleagues.

Mr. President, Madam Prime Minister, Messrs Ambassadors, distinguished guests and citizens, to end, I am inviting you to pour a drop of your drink on the ground to

the memory of our ancestors, praying them to consolidate the Indian-Zairian friendship, long live President Giri, long live Madam Prime Minister Gandhi, long live the Indian-Zairian Friendship and long live the friendship of the Afro-Asian Peoples.

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ZAIRE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDONESIA CHINA FRANCE VIETNAM SOUTH AFRICA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

Date : Jan 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ZAIRE

India-Zaire Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in New, Delhi on January 25, 1973, on the visit of President Mobutu of Zaire to India:

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of India, the President of the Republic of Zaire, His Excellency General Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, and Mrs. Mobutu, paid a State visit to India from 21st to 25th January, 1973. H.E. the President of Zaire was accompanied by Master Mobutu Mongulu Ndolo, H.E. Mr. Nguza Karl I Bond, Commissioner for State for External Affairs and International Cooperation, Mrs. Nguza Karl I Bond, H.E. Mr. Kayinga Onsi Ndal, Commissioner for State for Agriculture, Mrs. Kayinga Onsi Ndal, Mr. Bisengimana Rwema, Director, Office of the President, H.E. Mr. Lengema Dulia Yabasa Makanga, Member of Parliament and Roving Ambassador, General Babia Zongi Malobia, Chief of Military Staff of the President, Mrs. Babia Zongi Malobia, Mr. Mokolo Wa Mpombo,

Principal Adviser to the President, Mr. Bokana Wondangela, Legal Adviser to the President, H.E. Mr. Senga Wa Nwana Tshibambi, Ambassador, Chief of Protocol and Director of Protocol of the President, Mr. Muabi Mwana Sapu Kumwamba, Director of the Cabinet, Department of External Affairs, Mr. Kalonji Tshikala, Director of Political Affairs, Department of External Affairs, and Mr. Doka Mbaka, Agricultural Technician.

As a reflection of the close ties of friendship existing between the peoples of India and Zaire, H.E. the President of Zaire and Madame Mobutu and his distinguished party received a most cordial welcome from the Government and the people of India.

H.E. the President of Zaire and his party also visited Agra, Bangalore and Bombay where they visited industrial and agricultural projects and places of cultural and historical interest.

During his stay in New Delhi, His Excellency President Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga held talks with President V. V. Giri and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. The leaders reviewed the international situation and the major issues affecting world peace as well as developments and prospects relating to the relaxation of international tension. They reiterated their conviction in the continuing validity of the policy of non-alignment which has made positive contributions to the cause of peace. They also stressed the importance of peaceful co-existence between all countries to avoid conflict and promote international cooperation. Discussions were also held between the two sides with a view to increasing cooperation in the economic, commercial, technical and cultural fields between Zaire and India to strengthen further the relations between the two countries.

Taking part in the talks on the Zairian side were H.E. Mr. Nguza Karl I Bond, Commissioner for State for External Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Mr. Kayinga Onsi Ndal, Commissioner for State for

Agriculture, Mr. Bisengimana Rwema, Director, Office of the President, H.E. Mr. Lengema Dulia Yabasa Makanga, Member of Parliament and Roving Ambassador, General Babia Zongi Malobia, Chief of Military Staff of the President, Mr. Mokolo Wa Mpombo, Principal Adviser to the President, Mr. Bokana Wondangela, Legal Adviser to the President, H.E. Mr. Senga Wa Nwana Tshibambi, Ambassador, Chief of Protocol and Director of Protocol of the President, Mr. Muabi Mwana Sapu Kumwamba, Director of the Cabinet, Department of External Affairs, Mr. Kalonji Tshikala, Director of Political Affairs, Department of External Affairs and Mr. Doka Mbaka, Agricultural Technician. Taking part in the talks on the Indian side were also Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister for Agriculture, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs, Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister for Planning, Professor Nurul Hassan, Minister for Education, Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, and Shri M. A. Rahman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

Welcoming the visit of H.E. the President of Zaire, the President of India paid special tribute to President Mobutu as an architect of peace and unity in his country

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as well as to his outstanding contribution in promoting understanding and amity between African States,

H.E. the President of Zaire recalled the Part played by India in the difficult days after Zaire's independence in upholding the integrity of the country against outside interference. On behalf of the Government and people of Zaire, he thanked the President, the Prime Minister and the people of India for this timely assistance. He also expressed his appreciation of India's role in support of the freedom struggles of the people of Africa, suffering Under colonialism and racialism.

H.E. the President of Zaire and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their be-

lief in Afro-Asian solidarity as a means to safeguard international peace and to promote economic cooperation among Afro-Asian countries. Both sides reiterated their belief in the principles enshrined in the Charter of the U.N. and their determination to continue their opposition to apartheid and to all forms and manifestations of colonialism and neo-colonialism. They strongly condemned the racist policies followed by the Government of the Union of South Africa and urged all member-nations of the U.N. to honour their obligations by implementing the U.N. resolution terminating South Africa's mandate over Namibia. Both sides expressed their shock and sorrow at the tragic assassination of Mr. Amilcar Cabral, founder President of the PAIGC and paid tributes to his heroic struggle against colonialism. They extended their full support to the peoples of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea (Bissau) in their struggle against Portuguese domination. In regard to Zimbabwe, they reaffirmed their stand that the Smith regime must be compelled to implement the principle of one-man-one-vote, and that if necessary, the U.K. should use force in her capacity as Administering Power to achieve this objective. They extended full support and sympathy to Zambia in its struggle to protect its independence and deplored the actions of the illegal Smith regime in attempting to enforce a blockade on Zambia.

The Prime Minister of India explained developments in the sub-continent leading to the emergence of the new sovereign State of Bangla Desh and outlined India's efforts and initiatives for securing peace and co-operation throughout the sub-continent. She expressed the desire to see the full and early implementation of the Simla Agreement which could usher in a new era of peaceful cooperation and permit the dedication of energies towards the problems of social and economic development.

H.E. the President of the Republic of Zaire took note of this exposition made by the Prime Minister of India and promised to report to the Political Bureau and National Executive Council of the Republic of Zaire on his return.

Reviewing the situation in South East Asia, both sides welcomed the ceasefire in Vietnam and hoped that it would bring peace and stability to Laos and Cambodia also and lead to the economic reconstruction of these war-ravaged countries.

The two sides agreed that there exist good possibilities to develop further cooperation in various fields between India and Zaire. With this objective, a protocol of understanding was concluded with a view, to setting up joint committees for economic, commercial, technical, scientific, cultural, aviation and maritime cooperation. These committees would identify areas of cooperation and recommend to their respective Governments specific agreements in these fields.

H.E. the President of Zaire thanked the President of India for the warm and cordial hospitality shown to himself, Madame Mobutu and the members of his party during their stay in India. He extended an invitation to the President of India and the Prime Minister of India to visit Zaire. The President and the Prime Minister of India thanked H.E. the President of Zaire for his kind invitation which they accepted with pleasure.

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ZAIRE INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
ANGOLA GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE ZIMBABWE ZAMBIA VIETNAM CAMBODIA
LAOS

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UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Working Plan of Agreement for Scientific and Technical Cooperation Between Governments of India and Arab
Republic of Egypt for 1973 and 1974

The following is the text of the Work-
ing Plan signed in New Delhi on february 2,

In accordance with Article 4 of the Agreement for Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Government of India and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, signed on September 7, 1964, the Indo-ARE Joint Scientific Board held its fourth meeting between January 21-February 2, 1973, in New Delhi. The Board has agreed on the following Working Plan for the years 1973 and 1974.

ARTICLE I

1. Both Parties shall exchange invitations to senior scientists for short visits of periods from 2-3 weeks and longer visits from 3-6 months, for consultations, lectures and solving problems of mutual interest mainly related to joint scientific research projects.
2. Both Parties shall exchange fellowships for scientific personnel including research workers, specialists, technicians and assistants in the fields of science and technology mainly related to joint scientific research projects.
3. Both Parties shall invite delegates to attend scientific congresses, conferences and other meetings which are organised by either Party. If, however, an invitee is unable to send its delegation, the related documents shall be forwarded on request.

ARTICLE II

Both Parties will carry out joint scientific research in the fields of mutual interest as specified in Annexure 1.

ARTICLE III

Both Sides will nominate a coordinator for each of the projects mentioned in Annexure I, exchange delegations comprising experts for a period up to 15 days, where necessary, for preparing concrete working programmes of joint research on topics mentioned in Annexure I and specifying the forms of cooperation.

Concrete working programmes on joint

research projects shall include:

- a. aim of research.
- b. composition of joint teams on each topic.
- c. responsibilities of each Side (distribution of functions between participating organisations).
- d. period necessary to complete research.
- e. activities carried out in the process of research (joint symposia. Seminars and meetings, mutual visits of scientists and specialists - representatives of organisations of both Sides).
- f. Securing of materials required for research including the provision of necessary equipment.

To fulfil the programmes of joint research, both Parties will set up working teams.

ARTICLE IV

Both Parties will encourage cooperation in areas specified in Annexure II

They will create the preconditions for the competent organs of the two countries to conclude separate arrangements in each field.

ARTICLE V

Both Parties have agreed that the fifth meeting of the Indo-ARE Joint Scientific Board will be held in Cairo during January, 1974.

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ARTICLE VI

1. This Plan of Scientific Cooperation will be valid for two years. It may be amended and supplemented during this period subject to mutual agreement of both Parties.

2. This Plan of Scientific and Technical Cooperation will come into effect on the day of its signing.

Done in two authentic copies in English and signed in New Delhi on the Second Day of February, 1973.

EGYPT INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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ANNEXURE I

FIELDS I OF MUTUAL INTEREST FOR CARRYING OUT JOINT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

S. No.	Field of collaboration	Agency Institute responsible in India	Agency Institute responsible in ARE
--------	------------------------	---------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

PRIORITY 'A'

1 . Production of protein from conventional and non-conventional sources.

2. Pesticides:

a) Control of pests attacking crops and fruit trees in the field and in storage.

b) Production technology of known pesticides.

c) R & D on new potential pesticides

d) Research on Pheromones and Hormones

3. Combat of Hyacinths

4, Leather tanning and tech-

nology

5. plant tissue culture

6. Beneficiation of low grade ores, specially Iron ores

7. R & D on sponge iron

PRIORITY 'B'

8. Resources of cellulose fibres from local materials to be used for the production of newspaper.

9. Food canning and dairy

10. Packing materials

i) CFTRI, Mysore NRC
ii) HP, Dehra Dun
iii) RRL, Jot-hat
iv) RRL, Hyderabad

i) CFTRI, Mysore ARC
ii) ICAR

FP

i) RRL, Hyderabad FSCU
ii) NCL, Poona

NRC

I) RRL, Jorhat NRC
ii) ICAR ml
CLRI, Madras NRC

NCL, Poona NRC
FSCU

FSTU

I) RRL, Bhubaneswar EGOM
II) NML, Jamshedpur
NML, Jamshedpur EGOM

I) RRL, Jorhat NRC
II) FRI, Dehra Dun

CFTRI, Mysore EGOFI
I) RRL, Jammu EGOFI
II) Institute of
Packaging, Bombay.
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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

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ANNEXURE II

FIELDS FOR DIRECT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CORRESPONDING INSTITUTIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES

S. Field of collaboration Agency Institute Agency Institute
No. responsible in India responsible in ARE

1. Information and docu-
mentation
2. Electronics and computer
sciences
3. Scientific instrumentation
4. Science Policy

INSDOC, New Delhi NIDOC

i) Department of FECU
Electronics.

ii) CEERI, Pilani
CSIO, Chandigarh SIC

RSPD (CSIR), ASCIRT
New Delhi.

INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

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BAHRAIN

Statement on Talks between Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh and Foreign Minister of Bahrain

The following statement was signed by the Foreign Ministers of India and Bahrain at the conclusion of Shri Swaran Singh's visit to that country:

On the invitation of His Excellency Shaikh Mohamed Bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, State of Bahrain, His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Republic of India, visited Bahrain from February 10-11, 1973. During the visit, His Excellency Sardar Swat-an Singh called on the Acting Amir and Defence Minister, His Excellency Shaikh Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa, His Excellency Ibrahim Urrayyed, Speaker of the Constituent Assembly, His Excellency Shaikh Mohamed Bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Foreign Minister and His Excellency Yousif Ahmed Al-Shirawi, Minister of Development and Engineering Set-vices.

During this visit views were exchanged in an extremely cordial atmosphere on a wide range of subjects and measures to be adopted to further strengthen the economic ties between the two countries. It was agreed that:

(i) Bahrain has substantial unexploited reserves of natural gas. India on the other hand has a large and growing demand of chemical fertilisers. The two countries will collaborate to establish a fertiliser plant in Bahrain based on the locally available natural gas. The entire production of this plant, surplus to Bahrain's requirements, will be purchased by India. Details of this

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project will be finalised by a high-level Indian delegation which would visit Bahrain within six weeks' time.

(ii) India would send to Bahrain a team of experts to prepare a feasibility report and submit concrete proposals to put up a cement plant based on clinker to meet

the growing needs of Bahrain for this commodity.

(iii) In order to promote trade between the two countries, an Indian commercial delegation will visit Bahrain soon to explore export prospects for a ranged of consumer goods and industrial equipment including construction materials, engineering goods of various types, transportation vehicles, refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment, house-hold goods, including electrical and sanitary fittings, textiles, fresh vegetables, fruits, meat and poultry products and drugs and pharmaceuticals. Similarly, a commercial delegation from Bahrain would also visit India in the near future.

(iv) India will provide all possible training and educational facilities in different fields as required by Bahrain. A list of training facilities available in India was provided to the Bahrain delegation and it was further explained that if any other special training facilities were required, these could also be arranged by the Government of India.

Sd/- Sd/-

(Shaikh Mohamed Bin (Sardar Swaran Singh)
Mubarak Al-Khalifa), Minister of External
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Affairs,
State of Bahrain. Republic of India
11th February 1973. 11th February 1973.

BAHRAIN INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-German Cooperation in Field of Science and Technology

The following Press Note was issued in New Delhi on, February 25, 1973, on the Indo-German cooperation in the field of science and technology:

An official fact finding mission in the fields of science and technology from the Federal Republic of Germany visited leading institutes and laboratories in India from February 12 to 24, 1973. The mission was headed by Professor Dr. A. Boettcher of the Technical University of Aachen. It included six more scientists covering the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, mechanical engineering, material sciences, electrical engineering, geosciences, agriculture and economics. Representatives of the Federal Ministry of External Affairs, the Federal Ministry of Research and Technology and the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation were also members of the group.

The purpose of the visit was to explore jointly the possibilities for entering into a new phase of Indo-German scientific and technological cooperation with a view to increasing the exchange of Information and to promoting collaboration in the fields of scientific research and the development of new technologies in areas of mutual interest taking into consideration the special requirements of economic and social development in India.

The delegation held discussions with representatives of the Government of India, especially with the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Indian Council of Medical Research and the University Grants Commission.

The German delegation was impressed by the remarkable level of research carried out in the Indian institutes. It expressed

its satisfaction with the already existing Indo-German scientific cooperation.

Both sides started that it would be desirable to strengthen Indo-German cooperation in science and technology by making suitable, inter-Governmental arrangements as a basis for future activities in this field.

GERMANY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Protocol on French Credit to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the Protocol signed between India and France in Paris on February 7, 1973, providing for a new French credit to India:

A protocol was signed at Paris on February 7, 1973 between India and France for the Development Assistance for the year 1973-74. The Indian Official Delegation was led by Shri R. Tirumalai, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs. The new agreement provides for French Credit totalling Rs. 33.56 crores comprising of Rs. 16.35 crores for projects, Rs. 9.24 crores for non-projects and Rs. 7.96 crores for Special projects. The total French Assistance has thus increased from Rs. 26.31 crores in 1972-73 to Rs. 33.56 crores and there has been an improvement in the terms of the assistance.

It is also noteworthy that France is the first member of the Aid India Consortium. to conclude a Development Assistance Agree-

ment for the year 1973-74.

FRANCE INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

GATT

Tariff Preferences Among Developing Countries

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on February 11, 1973, on the Agreement on tariff preferences among the developing countries:

An Agreement on mutual exchange of tariff concessions on products of interest to eight developing countries, including India, has come into force from today, February 11, 1973.

These countries are: India, Brazil, Israel, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia. India has not, however, agreed to extend the concessions to Pakistan and Israel and similarly these two countries have also excluded India from receiving the concessions.

In 1971, India and fifteen other developing countries participated in trade nego-

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tiations under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT). These negotiations culminated into an Agreement and eight out of sixteen countries have so far ratified it.

Under the Protocol, embodying the Agreement, India will receive tariff conces-

sions for rails, steam turbines, generators, public telephone sets, etc., in Brazil; tobacco, hydraulic cement, certain medicines, etc., in the Republic of Korea; sugar confectionary, biscuits, perfumery, etc., in Spain; rubber tyres, wires, cables, refrigerators, certain electrical appliances, etc., in Turkey; certain steel items, refrigerators, calculating machines (cash registers), medical and dental equipment, etc., in Yugoslavia.

India will also accord tariff concessions to the other five countries for items such as olive oil, certain chemicals, aluminium bars, sheets, tools, steam boilers, industrial sewing machines, etc.

Pending the finalisation of the rules of origin, the rules applied in the case of the Generalised System of Preferences will be applicable presently. Organizations, which are authorised to issue certificates of origin on the same lines as for the exports under, the GSP, are: Export Inspection Council, Central Silk Board, Coir Board, Textile Commissioner (Textiles Committee), All India Handicrafts Board, Jute Commissioner, and Chief Controller of Imports and Exports (Officers-in-Charge of export promotion work).

INDIA BRAZIL ISRAEL KOREA PAKISTAN SPAIN TURKEY YUGOSLAVIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech at Dinner in Honour of U. N. Secretary General

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, gave a dinner in honour of U.N. Secretary-General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim in New Delhi on February 5, 1973. Speaking

after the dinner, the Foreign Minister said:

Your Excellency, Secretary-General, United Nations, Mrs. Waldheim, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: It gives me great pleasure to extend to you Mr. Secretary-General, to Mrs. Waldheim and your colleagues a very hearty welcome on behalf of all of us. We greatly value this visit and we have tried to make it as pleasant as we could under the circumstances. You have seen, Your Excellency, already a little bit of historical India and we have had several opportunities of exchanging views with Your Excellency. We wish you and your colleagues could spend a little more time so that we could show you a little more of the new India, of rural side and several other aspects of the Indian scene. But we know how busy you are and we are glad that you have found even this much time to spend with us.

In your person, Mr. Secretary-General, the international community and the United Nations have found a distinguished statesman, well experienced in international affairs and you have been in office for about a year and this year has shown that you have been able to deal with very complicated matters in a very effective, if I may add, in a very able manner. Besides being the Head of the United Nations Organisation personally we have great admiration for you. You are no stranger to our country and you have visited India in your earlier capacities on occasions more than one. Whether it was in your capacity as the distinguished representative, distinguished Foreign Minister of Austria, or now in your capacity as the Secretary-General of the United Nations, you have endeared yourself to one and all with whom you have come into contact.

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We know full well that the United Nations has a tremendous task to perform. All of us are aware of the usual criticism levelled about the United Nations. We are also aware of the replies to those points of criticism. But this is not the occasion to do

that. There is definitely a positive aspect of the United Nations Organisation. The fact that in the last about one quarter of a century, the United Nations has been able to keep some sort of balance and equilibrium in the context of international tensions and troubles of various types and the fact that except for local conflicts, the global peace has been maintained is by any standard not a mean achievement. The fact that countries who do not see eye to eye with each others are able to meet, are able to express themselves unmistakably on issues which are complex and complicated and full of controversy does result in loosening of attitudes and in lessening of tensions and from that point of view, it is a great forum which is always trying to reduce tensions and to promote understanding.

Positively, in the technological, in the economic field, in the field of education, health, development of agriculture, industry, in a vast variety of subjects, the contribution of United Nations has been really remarkable. It was the forum of United Nations which enabled greater part of Asia and Africa to become free by shaking off the colonial rule. Unfortunately there are still pockets left of colonial rule or racist regimes, but the United Nations continues to exercise a consistent pressure for eliminating these pockets of colonialism and racist regimes. The problem of poorer countries, underdeveloped countries, also is a matter in which United Nations has played a leading role and serious efforts are being made to bridge the gulf between the poor and the rich although all of us are aware that much more has still to be done in this respect, but the fact that this matter is being tackled and handled in a purposeful manner is gratifying.

Your Excellency, we in the United Nations family have to ensure the establishment of peace and the problem of disarmament, therefore, assumes considerable importance. Under your dynamic leadership and your wise guidance, I have no doubt that the United Nations will grow from strength to strength.

May I request Your Excellency, ladies

and gentlemen, to raise your glasses and join me in drinking to the health of His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Mrs. Waldheim and for strengthening the United Nations and for adherence to the United Nations Principles and Charter.

INDIA USA AUSTRIA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Dr. Kurt Waldheim's Reply

Replying, the U.N. Secretary-General Said

Mr.Minister, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to thank you most sincerely, Mr. Minister, for inviting us - my wife, colleagues and me - coming from the United Nations to this very nice dinner which we enjoyed all very much indeed. It is a special pleasure for me to return to India. You, Mr. Minister, have very kindly referred to my previous visits. So I knew what was expecting me and I was looking very much indeed to this visit, and surely I was not disappointed. My wife, however, did not know India and for her it was the first experience and I was, therefore, very grateful to you and your Government for its great hospitality and for your kindness in giving us the opportunity to see not only the capital of this great, beautiful country, but also historical sights, the great culture of this country. I had already told my wife before we came here what was expecting us and she told me after we have seen the Taj Mahal, the temples and a number of other historical sights: "Well, you were not only

right, but it was much more interesting, it was much more beautiful than I had expected", and she referred to the seven wonders of the world when we stood in front of the Taj Mahal and admired this great example of an old culture which has given so much to the world.

I am also happy to be here because in my long career as a diplomat and as a politician I found out that the most important thing in life is the personal contact. We can write long letters, we can make long speeches

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in the General Assembly and different Committees of our great Organisation. We can send memoranda to the different Governments. All this cannot replace the personal contact between human beings, whether they are politicians, diplomats or just human beings. And it has helped me - this approach has helped me in all my life - and I am deeply convinced that one of the greatest importance of the United Nations,; and the greatest advantages of the United Nations is the fact which you, Mr. Minister, has mentioned so rightly, namely. the fact that the United Nations is a meeting place where people can get together, exchange views, sit together quietly, informally, talk to each other. I remember one day when I was Ambassador to the United Nations, our Prime Minister came to the General Assembly and one day he said: "Couldn't I meet the Foreign Minister of that country and perhaps another country? Do you think it is possible? How long will it take? Should I stay a few days longer to see them?" "Well", I told him "this is very easy. I just go over to his bench and I shall ask him and I think all this can be done within one morning, or one afternoon." Well, it was easily done and I know that everybody else is in exactly the same situation.

I think this great Organisation has not lost at all its importance. It is true, Ladies and Gentlemen, that there is a certain tendency today to bilateralism and to say that we do not need really the United Nations any more. Well, I am glad that you, Mr. Minister, referred to the fact that we need this or-

ganisation and I think we all agree that there is no alternative for having such an important international Organisation and I am convinced that it is right that countries try to settle their problems directly bilaterally. This is only natural and it should be done. It is, I think, the best way of handling problems. But at the same time, the United Nations should be helpful and whenever we are needed, we should lend a hand to our member States and all others who want our help. So, I think, this is the right approach to the international situation that we try both bilateral efforts and multilateral efforts.

I came here to this country in a moment where we have again hope for the future. Asia has given mankind so much in all these past centuries and at the same time, we witnessed so much suffering. In this continent, - bitter wars going on for much too long and I am happy that my coming here, my visit coincides with the beginning of a peaceful development in this great continent. We are all very happy that a ceasefire was achieved in Vietnam and that this agreement will finally lead to peace in Indo-China and in this way, Ladies and Gentlemen, open the door to agreements in other fields where there are still conflicts and crises. So I am hopeful that there will be real lasting peace in Asia, in your continent, and in this way all over the world because believe me one thing. The world today is a small world. We cannot believe that a conflict in one area of our globe can be isolated. Therefore, if we are unable to solve regional conflicts, we risk that those conflicts are widening and threatening the whole world. It is for this reason that we have to do everything possible to be helpful to contribute to the solution of regional conflicts.

Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, we are talking a lot about detente. I think it is justified to welcome detente. But we should not think that detente is coming by itself alone. It has to be created and I think that we have a good chance that the greatest powers will continue to understand that they have to cooperate. But this alone is not enough. We need in addition the coopera-

tion and the help of the many small and middle powers in the world. In the United Nations these countries, the middle powers as they are called, and the small countries, are the great majority of the United Nations and I am, therefore, deeply convinced that without their cooperation, without their understanding, without their contribution, there will not be permanent peace. So all these countries have to play a role in achieving what the world wanted to achieve, peace - peace for us, peace for children, peace for our generations and peace for generations to come. It is in this spirit that I wish to express my deep gratitude to you, Mr. Minister, for your contribution and for the contribution of your people to the cause of the United Nations. I wish you and your Government and your people full success and I ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to His Excellency the Foreign Minister of India, and to the Indian people.

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INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM CHINA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri N. P. Jain's Tribute at Commemorative Session In Honour of Late Dr. Amilcar Cabral

The following is the text of a tribute paid by Shri N. P. Jain, Acting Permanent Representative of India, to the memory of the late Dr. Amilcar Cabral at a special commemorative session held in his honour of the special committee on the situation in regard to the implementation of the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples. The meeting was held on February 2, 1973. Shri Jain

spoke also on behalf of Indonesia, since the President had appealed to delegates to combine in view of the shortage of time and the very large number of speakers:

The hour is late, but the occasion is solemn, and it is only natural that each one of us should wish to express his sentiments, not only on behalf of himself but on behalf of the people and Government he represents. In response, however, to your appeal, Mr. Chairman, India and Indonesia have agreed to make a joint statement on this occasion, and I have the proud privilege of speaking not only on behalf of my country, India, but also on behalf of Indonesia.

Dr. Amilcar Cabral is dead and buried, but is he gone? No, he lives; his spirit lives - not only among the people of Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde, moving them to march forward to eventual victory, but also in the hearts of freedom fighters the world over.

His life was one of passionate devotion to, and complete involvement in, the cause of freedom, human dignity and justice. In the manner of his death he comes back larger than life to give further impetus to the liberation struggle. In his death he has honoured not only his country and his people but all Africa and all humanity. And, if I may add, he has truly honoured the youth which he represented and to the young men of our time, to the young generation of today, who will build the future of an independent world free from injustice, inequity and colonial and racist domination, he has left a legacy as well as a challenge.

President Sekou Toure said at the funeral rites: "No tears, comrades: the only action that must count now is the revolution."

My delegation, as well as that of Indonesia, has had occasion to pay tributes to the memory of Dr. Amilcar Cabral in other forums of the United Nations, but in this Committee it is only fitting and appropriate to meet in special commemorative meeting to recall the achievements of Dr.

Amilcar Cabral, to remember his outstanding human qualities, to take stock of the res-trained yet revolutionary manner in which he aroused his people to throw off the shackles of colonialism.

In evoking his memory one might say we should not shed tears-, but, then, one might also ask, "Why not?" Why should we not shed tears in memory of a hero who sacrificed his life while in the flower of his youth - why not shed tears to keep his spirit alive among the people and inspire them to carry forward the unfinished task of his life?

He shed his blood; therefore let us shed our tears. And let us with those tears redouble our vigour, confidence and determination to continue the task of removing the last vestiges of colonial rule and domination - not only in Africa but wherever these little "pimples" still exist on the face of the world, against the march of history, against the march of time and against the standards of inter-national morality, human justice and the freedom of man.

At an early age Cabral emerged as Africa's most imaginative and distinguished freedom fighter. He was, as many have described him, a gentle yet determined rebel - a rarity among revolutionaries: soft-spoken, as we all know, moderate, and a reluctant convert to violence.

He may have fallen victim to an assassin's bullet, but the Government of Portugal, against which his struggle was directed, will not find any relief in his passing from the scene of the struggle. His death will not, and cannot, end the liberation struggle or stem its tide. On the contrary, it will give it much more impetus; his death will bring to life and action many more Cabrals, many more Amilcars, on the field of the freedom struggle.

Amilcar Cabral was a constructive revolutionary and had the makings of a potential statesman - of Africa and the world of

tomorrow. What a cruel blow, therefore, to mankind, He had to face an unscrupulous enemy, and yet he conducted the struggle moderately, with a view to bringing the struggle for freedom to fruition, as far as possible through peaceful means. He once said: "We fight only to persuade Portugal that it is in her interest to reach a political agreement."

He had, if I may be permitted to say so, the Gandhian quality of lack of bitterness towards the enemy. He was like a true Christian, forced to fight. Cabral's achievements have indeed been notable, and hardly need recounting. He made the PAIGC into a force which fought with schools, clinics and ballot boxes, as well as with weapons, a force which can sustain its momentum - and this is significant - even without his leadership.

Amilcar Cabral was one of the founders of PAIGC. He played a central role in the development of the party, stressing the importance of the peasantry and emphasizing the need to engage in an extensive programme of political education in the countryside before embarking on his struggle for freedom, so that he could make it a mass movement. He was a man of the masses. He rose from within the masses and led the masses to an objective which was the only right and correct objective for the down-trodden masses.

Ten years after the launching of the liberation struggle Guinea (Bissau) is virtually independent. And what he did not achieve in his lifetime his death will achieve even more quickly and more expeditiously.

On this solemn occasion when we pay tribute to his memory, we cannot ignore an element of personal emotion, as most of us around this table had the privilege and honour of knowing him personally, of having broken bread with him, of having talked and discussed with him in the long hours of the night about the problems of the national liberation struggle of people all over the world. We therefore share among ourselves the loss of a true friend, philosopher and

guide, whose dedication should indeed be a constant source of inspiration to us, and whose sacrifice will be a constant source of sustenance to the cause of freedom, to the cause of human dignity and to the cause of justice.

The Government and people of India and Indonesia have paid their warm tributes to the dear departed leader and friend, and I could perhaps do no better than to conclude my tribute by saying that an independent Guinea (Bissau) would be the greatest and most appropriate monument to the memory of Cabral, our friend whom we have so tragically lost.

Let us therefore renew our determination to help the people of Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde to build that monument and to complete that monument as early as possible.

Cabral was a man who had envisioned a world of peace and freedom and who possessed within himself the dedication and courage to strive towards the realization of that vision. Though he lives no more, his hopes and his ideas will continue to flourish in the minds and hearts of those who survive him and who mourn his passing. He has won for himself a distinct place in the history of the liberation struggle of mankind against tyranny, against Injustice, against oppression, against exploitation and against outmoded colonialism and racism.

Before closing I should also like to support the very appropriate suggestion which has been made by my colleague from Ethiopia that the verbatim records of this commemorative meeting be forwarded to the people of Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde as well as to the members of the bereaved family, to whom we extend, on behalf of India and Indonesia, our most sincere condolences and a warm handshake.

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri N. P. Jain's Speech at Security Council After Adoption of Resolutions on Zambian Complaint

The following is the text of the statement of the Indian Acting Permanent Representative, Shri N. P. Jain, in the Security Council on February 2, 1973, after the adoption of resolutions On the Zambian complaint:

Mr. President, this is the first time that my delegation has taken the floor since your assumption of the presidency. Allow me, therefore, to offer you our warm congratulations and to assure you of our fullest co-operation in the discharge of your duties. In the context of close and friendly relations existing between India and Kenya we are particularly delighted to see a distinguished representative of Kenya and a longtime friend of India as President of this important organ of the United Nations, the more so at a time when the Council is debating a serious problem arising out of the struggle against forces of colonialism and racism in Southern Africa.

We should like to express to you, Mr. President, our admiration for the able and efficient manner in which you have already conducted our deliberations and brought to a successful end the protracted consultations which have now led to the adoption of the two resolutions.

May I also take this opportunity to pay a warm tribute to Ambassador Anwar Sani of Indonesia for the distinction, skill, ability and persuasive style with which he presided over the proceedings of the Council during

one of its busy months.

We are glad that these resolutions have been adopted and that the Security Council has thus initiated action which we sincerely hope will have a positive effect on the present tense situation in southern Africa created by the aggressive activities of the illegal regime in Southern Rhodesia with the connivance of the South African Government. We have joined as cosponsors of both resolutions with the confidence that, with their adoption by such an overwhelming majority, the Security Council should be able to initiate immediate action to be of effective assistance to Zambia in the crisis facing that country and in de-escalating the situation.

While these resolutions have been adopted, we should remind ourselves that the situation in that area remains critical. All of us have just seen the letter which the President of Zambia has addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in which he has pointed out that tension continues to rise and wanton acts of aggression underline the grave threat which the current crisis in southern Africa poses to international peace and security. Our concern and anxiety for this situation and our great admiration of the people and Government of Zambia for their steadfastness and sacrifices in this crisis remain as before. The Zambian Government and people have shown commendable restraint and calm in the face of a very grave crisis and have done everything to prevent escalation of tension.

We should like to express once again our sympathy and solidarity with Zambia in its hour of trial and our admiration for its people under the inspiring leadership of President Kaunda, a great humanist and fighter for freedom whom we had been looking forward to welcoming in our country on a State visit during which he was to have received the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for international peace and understanding which has been awarded to him in recognition of his services to that cause. While his visit was unavoidably postponed due to the present situation, we hope that we shall have an opportunity of welcoming him soon in our

country.

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Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

KUWAIT

India-Kuwait Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued at the end of the Foreign Minister, Shri Swaran Singh's visit to Kuwait:

At the invitation of H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al-Jaber, the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, H.E. Sardar Swaran Singh accompanied by a delegation, paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait from 11th to 14th February, 1973.

The distinguished guest and the accompanying delegation received a warm and hospitable welcome, reflecting the spirit of friendship existing between the two countries.

In the course of this visit, H.E. the Minister of External Affairs of India and his delegation were received in audience by the Amir of Kuwait H.E. Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al-Sabah and by the Crown Prince and Prime Minister H. H. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al-Jaber; he also exchanged views with H.E. Sheikh Sa'ad Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Minister of Interior and Defence, H.E. Mr. Abdulrahman Salem Al-Ateeqi, Minister of Finance and Oil, and H.E. Mr. Khaled Sulaiman Al-Adsani, Minister of

Commerce and Industry.

The esteemed guest also held wide ranging discussions with H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait. These talks were attended from the Indian side by H.E. Shri M. A. Rahman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, H.E. Shri V. A. Kidwai, Ambassador of India, Shri R. Axel Khan, from the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri A. P. Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals, Shri S. J. S. Chhatwal, Director, Ministry of Commerce and Shri K. Srinivasan, Director, Ministry of External Affairs; and from the Kuwaiti side by H.E. Mr. Essa Al-Hamad, Acting Under-Secretary and Director of the Political Department, H.E. Mr. Essa Abdulrahman El-Essa, Ambassador of Kuwait to India, Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Khoder, Director of the Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Khalid Babbain from the Political Department, Mr. Abdulmohsin Nasir El-Jeaan from the Economic Department and Miss Nabila Almulla from the Political Department.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations as well as issues of current international importance. They expressed their satisfaction at the close and developing relationship between their two countries and explored ways and means of further co-operation in the political, economic, technical and cultural fields.

Both sides agreed to establish an inter-governmental joint committee for economic and technical cooperation. The Committee would meet at high official level at least once a year in India and Kuwait alternately.

On current world issues, discussions covered major international problems and revealed a close similarity of views.

The two sides reaffirmed their dedication to the policy of non-alignment and the necessity of cooperation and coordination among the non-aligned countries so as to make a positive contribution in the removal of tensions in the world and in establishing peace and International cooperation. They also reaffirmed their commitment to the principles

of peaceful co-existence, mutual respect and non-interference.

The two sides expressed their conviction that the dangerous situation in West Asia arising from Israeli aggression against Arab States in flagrant disregard of the United Nations resolutions seriously threatens world peace and security. They considered that the restoration of all Arab territories occupied by Israeli aggression and of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland was essential for a just and lasting peace. They upheld the right of the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle for the recovery of their inalienable rights.

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The two sides affirmed their genuine concern for the stability and peace in the Gulf area, asserting that the security and independence of the area are the sole responsibility of the Littoral States alone and without foreign interference.

They also reaffirmed their support to the principle of declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, free of rivalries and tensions, as embodied in the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions on this subject,

The two sides reviewed the situation in the Indian sub-continent. The Indian side explained in detail the situation in the sub-continent. The Kuwaiti side emphasised the great importance they attached to the establishment of a just and lasting peace among the people of that area.

Regarding the situation in South East Asia, the two sides expressed their satisfaction at the conclusion of the agreement on ending the war in Vietnam and their hope that this would lead to the consolidation of peace and stability in the whole area and give an opportunity to the people to determine their own future free from any foreign interference.

The two sides also expressed their full support for all peoples in Africa and elsewhere engaged in a just struggle against

colonialism, racialism and apartheid.

The Indian delegation expressed their admiration for the remarkable progress made by Kuwait in various fields and their gratitude for the warm welcome they received during their stay in Kuwait.

H.E. the Indian Minister of External Affairs extended an invitation to H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait to visit India. The invitation was gratefully accepted,

KUWAIT INDIA USA ISRAEL VIETNAM

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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1995

LAOS

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Message to Prime Minister of Laos

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, sent the following personal message to His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister of Laos, on February 22, 1973, on the conclusion of a cease-fire agreement in Laos:

Your Highness,

I have just heard the welcome news that an agreement for ceasefire in Laos is being signed today. I have no doubt that your personal statesmanship has helped in achieving this result. Please accept our warm congratulations on this happy outcome. I sincerely hope the ceasefire will usher in durable peace for the people of Laos and pave the way for the rapid reconstruction of the country.

The Government and people of India

join me in wishing peace, progress and prosperity to the Laotian people.

LAOS USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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LAOS

Prime Minister's Message to Prince Souphanavong

In her message to Prince Souphanavong, the Prime Minister said:

I am delighted to hear the happy news that an agreement for peace in Laos has been signed today after the successful conclusion of the talks that have been going on in Vientiane. I should like to convey our warm felicitations to you and all your colleagues, and send you our best wishes for the peace and prosperity of the Laotian people.

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LAOS USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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MALAYSIA

India-Malaysia Cooperation in Exchange, of News and T V Programmes

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on February 7, 1973, on the decision of India and Malaysia to cooperate in the exchange of news and T V programmes:

India and Malaysia are likely to cooperate in the exchange of news and TV programmes. This was agreed at a meeting between Tan Shri Ghazali Shafie, Minister of Information, Malaysia and Shri I. K. Gujral, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, here yesterday. During the discussion, Shri Gujral expressed how Asian countries were practically working in isolation due to the absence of effective communications among themselves. The result was complete dependence on the foreign news agencies which projected the news of one Asian country to another in a rather unsatisfactory and prejudiced manner. Asian countries had, therefore, to depend entirely upon the foreign news agencies.

The news agencies of the Asian countries were working under a serious handicap mainly due to the want of adequate finances. The cable rates being high, they could not effectively compete with the international news agencies. He therefore suggested a beginning should be made in exchanging free flow of information between the two countries. Similarly, exchange of TV programmes between India and Malaysia could not only strengthen their friendship but will be mutually beneficial to both the countries. This might prove a forerunner to similar arrangements between other Asian countries.

Tan Shri Shafie briefly explained the progress made by the television in his country and described how this media was being utilised for bringing a closer relationship between various nationalities. He also extended an invitation to Shri Gujral to pay a visit to Malaysia.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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MAURITIUS

India-Mauritius Cultural Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on February 7, 1973, on the signing Of a cultural agreement between India and Mauritius in Port Louis on February 5, 1973:

Professor Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, who arrived in Mauritius on February 5, signed a cultural agreement between the Government of India and Government of Mauritius at an elegant ceremony held at the Government House in Port Louis. The agreement was signed by the Acting Prime Minister, Mr. V. Ringadoo on behalf of the Government of Mauritius.

Before signing the agreement, the Acting Prime Minister, in his speech, said that since the emergence of India as an independent country, relations between the two countries which were in the nature of a cultural bond had "grown into a cast iron link across the shores". He warmly recalled the Indian Prime Minister's visit to Mauritius in 1970. Referring to the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, he said that it would be a monument symbolising unity in diversity in Mauritius. Referring to the technical assistance given by India, he appreciated the dedicated service of Indian technicians which

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had contributed to the development of Mauritius in a significant manner.

Earlier, Professor Hasan paid courtesy calls on the Acting Governor General, Sir Maurice Latour Adrien, Acting Prime

Minister, Mr. V. Ringadoo, Minister of Housing, Lands and Town and Country Planning, Sir Abdul Razak Mohammed and Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, Mr. R. Jomadar.

MAURITIUS USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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1995

MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Honour of the Prime Minister of Mongolia

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech delivered at the banquet on February 24, 1973, given in New Delhi in honour of His Excellency, Mr. Yumiagiin Tsedenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian Peoples Republic:

It is a privilege to have in our midst His Excellency Yumjagiin Tsedenbal, eminent leader of a people with whom we have close ties of friendship and himself a friend of long standing.

Your country will soon complete 50 years of the proclamation of the People's Republic. Although our diplomatic relationship is comparatively recent, the link between our two lands is an ancient one and has enriched our respective histories. Centuries ago Buddhist scholars and pilgrims travelled between our two countries as did traders carrying rich merchandise. Later, for many decades, Mongolia was the political centre of the then known world. I remember as a young girl reading with wonder my father's letters which told the story of "the amazing Mongol people who suddenly burst forth and astounded the world" (to quote his

own words). From him I learnt that the word "Bahadur" which we use to denote a brave man, is derived from a Mongol root (Bagatur). So in my mind your land has always remained associated with courage. My father used to tease the late Prime Minister (Shri Lal Bahadur) that his name was the same as "Ulan Bator".

Your Excellency, we have pleasant memories of your earlier visit to India in 1959. You had occasion then to travel to various parts of our country to see for yourself the work which was being done in various fields of national development. Against that background you will now be able to evaluate the further progress we have made in the intervening years.

I look back with nostalgia on my very brief visit in 1965 to Ulan Bator, with its vast open spaces and its revitalising air. I participated in your National Day function. The people were engaged in building a modern socialist state with great energy. My colleagues, who have been in your country more recently, have informed me of the strides made in your capital city and the entire country.

We are, glad that trade between our two countries has grown under the trade agreement of 1968. Mongolia's participation added colour and interest to the Asian Trade Fair which was recently held in Delhi. As a result of the cultural agreement of 1961 our cultural relations have become closer. We are pleased that many Mongolian teachers and students have been coming to India. I hope that more Indian scholars will go to Mongolia.

A nation grows through the vision and work of its people. But the progress of a people should be such as to contribute towards the solution of the major problems which confront mankind as a whole and to avoid the creation of new difficulties. We believe that nations should progress together in a climate of friendship and cooperation.

serve their resources and to channel their energies into constructive activity. Co-operation with advanced countries is necessary to acquire modern technology. But there is considerable scope for the enlargement of trade and economic ties among developing countries and such exchanges will greatly strengthen our self-reliance.

We have sought friendship with all countries, near and far, and have stood for the peaceful resolution of issues. In spite of several attacks on our borders, we have not allowed ourselves to drift towards the path of militarism but have firmly adhered to the principles of peace. We prefer peace not merely because it is a noble ideal but because we feel that it is essential to progress. This conviction has guided us in our initiatives towards Pakistan, especially after the events of 1971. We shall persevere with the methods of peace - and the path of bilateralism outlined in the Simla Agreement - even if the response is not encouraging. I take this opportunity of thanking you for your principled support to us at a trying period.

The futility of war as a means of achieving objectives has been graphically demonstrated in another Part of our continent. We rejoice that war has ended in Vietnam and Laos. We hope that the fighting in Cambodia will soon cease. All countries of the world should now come to the aid of the long suffering people of Indo-China in rebuilding their war-destroyed societies. It is especially necessary for the nations of Asia to do so. Political independence needs positive economic content. The stability and progress of each country in Asia will help to strengthen the whole of the continent and will be guarantee for peace and prosperity in the future.

Your Excellency, we have had fruitful talks with you on subjects of common interest to us both. I am sure your visit will further consolidate the close ties and understanding that exist between our two countries.

May I ask you all, Excellencies, Ladies

and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the good health and happiness of His Excellency, Mr. Tsedenbal, and to the health of our other distinguished guests from Mongolia, and to lasting friendship between the peoples and Governments of Mongolia and India.

MONGOLIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA PERU PAKISTAN VIETNAM LAOS CHINA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Mongolian Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, His Excellency Mr. Tsedenbal said:

May I express once again to you, distinguished Prime Minister, my profound thanks for the kind invitation to visit your beautiful country, for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to me and my party by the Government and the people of India.

I wish to express also my sincere thanks to Your Excellency for the words of welcome and friendship addressed to my country and the people of Mongolia.

Fourteen years ago, I have had a happy occasion to visit your country for the first time on the invitation of the outstanding statesman of India - Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru. MY first visit to India has made the profound unforgettable impressions on me about your great country, its industrious people.

I am extremely pleased to have again this opportunity to see the tremendous changes that have taken place since then on the soil of friendly India.

The Mongolian people sincerely rejoice at the achievements gained by the Republic of India in strengthening national independence, in bringing about socio-economic changes and scientific and technological progress, in the development of state sector, above all, of important heavy industries and transport.

I am pleased to note that the ideas and thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, the great sons of India, about free,

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happy life and progressive development of their country without poverty and exploitation, are being embodied in the achievements of the Indian people, of which they are legitimately proud today, and the selfless creative efforts.

We feel a profound satisfaction, Your Excellency, that the friendly relations between the Mongolian People's Republic and the Republic of India are developing steadily and successfully in the interest of our two peoples. These relations have deep historical roots and are now expanding and strengthening under new conditions and on a qualitatively new basis - on the basis of mutual understanding, complete equality and friendly cooperation.

The Mongolian and Indian peoples who had been in the past equally subjected to colonial oppression and domination of foreign invaders, have sincere feelings of sympathy and regard for each other. In the result of long liberation struggle, both our peoples have cast off the colonial yoke once for all and created sovereign independent democratic states. The peoples of Mongolia and India have common goals in the struggle for building a new life, for peace and social progress, against imperialism and aggression.

From the very inception of her independence India proclaimed democracy and socialism as the fundamental principles of building a new society.

Beginning from the first days of the

people's revolution, the Mongolian people have chosen a non-capitalist way of development, i.e., the way of building socialism by-passing capitalist stage of development. The life has later approved that non-capitalist way of development was the only correct road for our country. In historically short space of period we could eliminate the aftermath of colonial past and century-old backwardness. Mongolia has been transformed from a solely cattle-breeding country into an agro-industrial state with flourishing culture.

Thus, the historical experience convinces us that for formerly backward societies non-capitalist road of development is the only alternative to capitalism, which brings social inequality, exploitation of man by man,

I wish to express once again our confidence that the friendly relations between the peoples of Mongolia and India as well as our cooperation on international arena will continue to grow and strengthen in the interest of peace and international security.

Distinguished Prime Minister, we have today exchanged views on the Mongol-Indian relations and on urgent international issues of mutual interest. It is pleasure for me to state that the position of our two Governments on the issues discussed were either identical or very close.

Mongolia and India are striving not only for the development of friendly relations between each other but also with other countries of the world on the basis of equality and mutual respect. Our two countries are continuously developing the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union - the strong-hold of peace and progress.

As an Asian country Mongolia like India is deeply interested in strengthening peace and security in Asia and developing friendly cooperation among states of this continent. We believe that in order to improve the situation and ensure durable peace in Asia it is essential to eliminate the hotbeds of tension in the continent, to stop foreign inter-

ference in internal affairs of Asian peoples, to settle disputes by peaceful means.

The Mongolian People's Republic, which from the very beginning stood firmly by the Vietnamese people and supported its just struggle against the American aggression wholeheartedly welcomes the signing of the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam. We regard the conclusion of this agreement as a great victory of the valiant Vietnamese people, of all peace-loving and progressive forces of the world.

We are convinced that the strict and consistent implementation of the Paris agreement by all the parties concerned would result in establishing a genuine peace in Vietnam. The Mongolian People's Republic welcomes the achievement of the Agreement on ceasefire in Laos. We are also for the political settlement of the problems of Indo-China which are not yet solved, for that the other peoples of this area be enabled to shape

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the future without any outside interference in accordance with their own national interests. In our view peace and stability in Indo-China can be achieved only with this in mind.

Distinguished Prime Minister, the Mongolian People's Republic highly appreciates and supports the peaceful foreign policy of the Government of India directed to strengthening peace and friendly cooperation among nations. The Government and people of Mongolia sincerely welcome Your Excellency's efforts to establish a solid foundation for peace and stability in the Indian sub-continent and to settle disputes through negotiations. In this respect, Your Excellency's personal initiatives are of particular importance. We regard these initiatives as a great state wisdom, as important realistic steps taken with a view to normalising the situation and establishment of relations of confidence and good-neighbourhood between the countries of the sub-continent.

Mrs. Prime Minister, I wish to express

the hope that all the countries concerned would continue to take steps for the complete normalisation of the situation in this region on the basis of recognising the existing realities.

Permit me, Shrimati Gandhi, to wish you every success in your noble activity and prosperity to the friendly people of India.

I express the conviction that our friendly meetings and talks with you, Mrs. Prime Minister, and with other leaders of India would promote the further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between our countries, and serve the cause of peace and security of nations.

May I propose a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Giri, President of the Republic of India, to the health of Her Excellency, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister, to the friendship between the Mongolian and Indian peoples, to the great Indian people.

MONGOLIA INDIA USA VIETNAM FRANCE LAOS CHINA MALI

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

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NEPAL

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech on Arrival in Nepal

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on arrival at Tribhuvan Airport, Kathmandu, on February 7, 1973:

Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Excellencies, friends:

The Prime Minister Shri Kirti Nidhi

Bista's kind Invitation has made It possible for me to travel once again to this 'country of great natural beauty and historical wealth. Nepal is a close neighbour and a good friend. I am glad to be amidst friends.

We deeply mourned the passing away of His late Majesty King Mahendra and we have watched with respect the dedication and energy with which His Majesty King Birendra has borne responsibilities and led his people along the path of progress.

I was last here a little over six years ago. In this period many events have taken place in our two countries and amidst them all we see the steady growth of our respective economies and strengthening of national life. Being neighbours we naturally are keenly aware of each other's problems and achievements. We have a similar cultural background. We share a similarity of outlook in our international policies. We stand for sovereignty and equality among nations. We both subscribe to a policy of

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non-alignment and peaceful co-existence. Above all we know that international problems can be solved only through friendship, co-operation and peaceful means.

Prime Minister, we had the privilege to welcome you in India some months ago. The discussions we then had gave me a fuller understanding of the goals Nepal has set for herself. I hope you also were able to glimpse something of what we are doing in India.

Fortunately there is no major problem between our two countries. Our relations rest on a foundation of trust and,, goodwill. I hope that my visit will strengthen that foundation.

Thank you for your welcome. I bring with me the greetings and good wishes of the Government and people of India to his Majesty the King and the Government and people of Nepal.

Volume No

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NEPAL

Welcome Speech of the Nepalese Prime Minister

The following speech was delivered by the Rt. Hon'ble Kirti Nidhi Bista, Prime Minister of Nepal, at the Tribhuvan Airport welcoming Her Excellency, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India:

Your Excellency

On behalf of my colleagues and myself I wish to express my warm affection and cordial feelings to you and the members of your party. We are much delighted to have this opportunity in welcoming you today as the head of Government of a very close and friendly neighbour.

You are not a newcomer to this country. Nor you are unfamiliar to the Nepalese people. Your earlier visits to Nepal are still fresh in our memories which afforded us the pleasure of exchanging views in furthering the close and friendly relations between our two neighbouring countries.

We cherish the feelings of deep affection and esteem towards the people and Government of India. We hope and believe that your present visit will result in further mutual understanding and co-operation.

It is indeed a matter of satisfaction that the development of personal contact such as this between the leaders of our two countries will enable us to exchange views both on matters of common interest as well as international problems.

I wish you and the members of your party a happy and pleasant stay in Nepal.

NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

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NEPAL

Address of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi at Lunch by Prime Minister of Nepal

Following is the text of the address of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at a lunch by the Prime Minister of Nepal at Kathmandu on February 7, 1973:

Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Excellencies:

It is a pleasure to be in Nepal once again and have the opportunity of meeting you.

The people and Government of India have always had goodwill for the people of Nepal and regard for the Royal Family. My father and I had the privilege of knowing His Late Majesty King Tribhuvan, whose valiant fight brought Nepal out of the feudal age, and also His Late Majesty King Mahendra, who strove so unrelentingly to lay the foundations of Nepal's progress. His Majesty King Birendra has inherited the challenge, the responsibility - and also the determination - to build a new Nepal and create conditions for the full blossoming of the personality of the people of Nepal.

The relations between our two countries are close and cordial. But good-will and friendship can never be in surfeit. Visits of governmental leaders help friendship to be enlarged. I am sure, Mr. Prime Minister, that your visit to India some months ago must have enabled you to have a deeper

understanding of our work and I hope my journey will also enlarge the area of mutual understanding.

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Fortunately, there are no intractable issues or irritants between our two countries. It is obvious that no two countries can agree on every question. Friendship does not mean a total identity of approach. Friendship is a basic framework of regard based on equality and trust in which there is sympathy for each other's difficulties and which enables differences, should they arise, to be settled through discussion and negotiation.

Even countries which are geographically far apart are able to have such understanding of each other's point of view and translate friendship into positive cooperation for mutual benefit. How much more is this necessary between two countries like Nepal and India which share a common border, have grown in the shadow of the Himalayas, venerate the same heroes and heroines of history and legend, and face similar social and economic tasks. We are both developing countries. While each developing country must find strength from within to overcome its Problems, cooperation can supplement personal efforts and lighten one's task. It is our privilege to have been of some assistance to you in your country's development. May I assure you that we shall always be ready to share with Nepal and other developing countries-what experience and skills we have gained in various fields of economic endeavour.

Although I have been here only a few hours I have noticed the changes that have occurred in Kathmandu. Visitors to India who come after a few years, interval also notice the changes in my country. Apart from these long Overdue changes in the lives of our peoples, big changes are taking place in the community of nations. In our region of the world a new nation, Bangla Desh, has come into being, born out of the courage and sacrifice of its people. Nepal was one of the first countries to realise the significance

of the events in that country and to accord formal recognition to its government. In so doing Nepal displayed wisdom and realism. Bangla Desh has gone through unbelievable suffering. Today it is facing tremendous challenges of reconstruction in addition to the old challenge of poverty which you and we and all countries of our region have faced in common.

The nations of our region can prosper only by treating one another as sovereign equals and by making a positive effort to convert distrust into trust. This was the spirit which urged our initiative for talks with Pakistan in Simla. We voluntarily offered to withdraw from nearly 5,000 square miles of territory which we had won in the war. We did so not in a passing phase of generosity but out of the conviction that peace is the only practical policy and a recognition of the serious responsibility that we owe to the future. The future is too precious to be jeopardised by past prejudices and animosities or small advantages. Peace in our Sub-Continent, apart from strengthening each of our nations, will also contribute to peace and stability in Asia and to that extent inhibit military alliances and great-power politics. This should be of special interest to our two nations which subscribe to the path of non-alignment.

We are glad that war has ended in a part of Asia which was subjected to much hardship. We hope that the cease-fire will lead to a stable peace. At the same time, we regret that while the world is moving towards peace, there is still tension in some parts of Asia. We, however, hope that the prospects of stable peace in Asia would continue to improve.

We in India feel deeply that while modernisation is essential, we should be careful to regulate it in, such, a manner that it does not make a clean sweep of some of the more desirable elements of tradition along with the Outdated Ones. Progress cannot be equated with merely the acquisition of goods. Nepal and India have certain great intangible treasures of the spirit which we should be careful not to barter away. The good of the

past must be guarded.. the evil cast aside.

Excellencies, distinguished guests, I request you to raise your glasses to wish long life, health and happiness to Their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal, long life to the Rt. Hon'ble Shri Kirti Nidhi Bista and Mrs. Bista, and progress and prosperity to the people of Nepal.

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NEPAL INDIA USA PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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NEPAL

Prime Minister's Address to Nepal Council of World Affairs

Following is the text, of the address of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to the Nepal Council of World Affairs at Kathmandu on February 9, 1973:

Mr. President, Excellencies and distinguished guests:

It is a pleasure to address the Nepal Council of World Affairs and to meet so many academic and political leaders of Nepal. It is a great pleasure and privilege to be in Nepal and to have talks with the leaders, especially with His Majesty who, as you have rightly said, is today the symbol of Nepal's unity, stability and progress. We in India wish all of you and the people of Nepal success and prosperity.

It is natural for the citizens of any country to look at the world from their own national angles. The outlook of the people

is conditioned by their own geographical location and distinctive political and cultural history. As you pointed out, Nepal and India belong to the same region of the world and have cherished and shared many common traditions. When our two nations came out of the long period of darkness and political stagnation and emerged as equal members of the family of nations, these historical experiences predisposed us both to adopt policies of friendship with all nations and to remain non-aligned with power blocs and military alliances. The pursuit of these similar policies has brought Nepal and India even closer.

You have spoken, and in other forums there has been mention of common traditions and other links which bind India and Nepal together. But the basis of friendship can never be merely such links. It has to be based on present interests and on how we view the future. As I said in one of my speeches yesterday, friendship is a simple thing in a way but it is also very complicated, and like all worthwhile things, it has to be worked for. That is why it must always be renewed in the context of the changing national and international situation. That is why it is important to have meetings between leaders and to have exchanges at other levels so that we renew our friendship keeping in view the changes that are taking place within our own country and outside.

Indian philosophy has always believed in one world. Since Independence we are trying our utmost to work towards it. We know that in many ways the world is coming closer together through science and technology, through cultural exchanges and other efforts. But what we really mean by one world is a feeling of brotherhood between the nations. Today with the power and knowledge which are in the hands of mankind and which are unfortunately still quite often used for destruction, it becomes all the more necessary that we try to create and strengthen these links of friendship between the nations. The realisation that we should help one another did not grow in India only after Independence. It was there even before Independence.

I should like to give two earlier examples of India trying to help other countries before Independence even though we ourselves had no resources and we were not independent. At that time India sent (that is, our party, because it was not the Government) a medical mission to help the Government of Spain when there was a civil war there. And our young doctors worked there in extremely difficult conditions. They helped those who were fighting, with medical aid and medicines and so on. Also around that time there was the war in China, and again we sent a medical unit to China. It was supposed to go to Nanking, I think, but when they arrived in China, they felt that the real need was in Yen-an, where Mao Tse-Tung was with his army. They could not get in touch with us. They took the decision themselves and they marched all the way to Yen-an and they were there with the Eighth Route Army. That Army was passing through the most difficult period of its history and of the Chinese struggle. I am merely stating that even at that time, absorbed as we were in our own independence and in our own difficulties, we were not unaware of the difficulties of others and we felt that we had to show our concern and we had to try and share the troubles of other countries because, as we so often said, freedom and peace are indivisible.

So far as China is 'concerned, I think that our friends in Nepal know that in spite of many ups and downs in our relationship,

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our attitude has been the same. We were, I think, one of the very first Governments to recognise the present Government in Peking. After that we consistently worked and stood for the admission of China into the United Nations. Many people misunderstood' our stand. We also had aggression from China on our soil, but we never viewed our relationship with China in an opportunistic manner or confined it to what was happening just at that moment. Even when the Chinese were fighting against us, our basic stand of supporting China's admission into the United Nations remained un-

changed for the simple reason that we felt that it was unrealistic to ignore such a large country and that the United Nations could not function if such a large mass of humanity was not represented there. I am giving this merely as an example that we have always tried to assess matters and events independently and have not changed our stand merely because a person happened to oppose us or to be against us.

In the last couple of years, important changes have taken place in this region and in the world. Rigid attitudes are being softened and this change is reflected in a number of instances where confrontation is gradually being replaced by conciliation, animosity by understanding, and conflict by search for co-operation. It is some consolation to us that the steps towards detente are not confined to Europe but are being extended to Asia. The next few months will show whether there has been a firm basis for peace. We can only hope that the truce that has been agreed upon in Paris will open an opportunity for durable peace in Vietnam and other parts of Indo-China. It should be our endeavour to co-operate fully with these nations in the task of reconstruction which awaits them.

I should like to refer to some remarks I made in Delhi which seem to have attracted adverse notice. Those remarks, or any remarks that I have made, are not against any particular country. They were an assessment of what I think the future could be. We have an example - for instance - at the end of the First World War. Many historians have stated that had the victors of that war shown greater understanding of the situation, there would never have been a Second World War. But because of the attitude at that time, in the peace that was arrived at was born the situation which led to the Second World War. Now this is what I was trying to say in my speech there, that there are some of those elements in this truce agreement. It is obvious that an agreement of this kind is not a simple matter, in fact it is an exceedingly complicated agreement and perhaps nothing else was possible. The remark I made was in

no sense a criticism of the Vietnam accord but to point out that there are dangers which face all of us in the future events in South-East Asia, and nobody knows what it will lead to. Even with the best of goodwill on all sides things can come about. And if we can see the danger it is only honest on one's part to point it out, because if it does not go right then it is not just one area which will be unhappy but the whole world will be unhappy, and the effects will be widespread.

Apart from this, there was tension in another part of Asia. India, being next-door neighbour to Bangla Desh and Pakistan, had to share the travails of 1971. We tried to avoid war, and when it was forced upon us, we strove to limit its scope. The moment Pakistanis surrendered in Bangla Desh, allowing the people of that country to achieve their aspiration, we unilaterally ended our operations on the Western front also and took the initiative, without pride or passion, for talks with President Bhutto. It is our conviction that durable peace can be established only on a footing of goodwill and equality. It was in this belief that we signed the Simla Agreement. Again in Simla, we unilaterally offered to withdraw from territories which had come under our control. The withdrawals have since been completed but the foundations which we had hoped to establish with Pakistan as a prelude to the solution of our problems are still elusive. However, we on our part shall keep on working for it, for the very good reason that the interests of all of us in the subcontinent are complementary. In our scheme for the future, there should not only be sympathy and co-operation but an effective working together to help Bangla Desh in the task to rebuild its economy and to solve the other problems common to our subcontinent in a spirit of equality, trust and active friendship.

For many years the very word "non-alignment" was regarded as somewhat bad and there has been a great deal of misunder-

standing and even misinterpretation about it. I have been often asked to explain neutrality. We in India have never been neutral and we think no living person who is interested in what is happening can possibly be neutral in anything. You have a view of everything that happens, whether it concerns you or not, and we think that most things concern almost everybody. When we said we were non-aligned, it meant that we had far too many problems of our own to get entangled with the problems of other countries. Like any newly-independent country, we were very jealous of our freedom. Independence to us did not mean only that we had our own Government but that we had independence of judgment and action regardless of what other countries and governments did. Non-alignment to us meant not belonging to any military bloc or group and also to have the freedom to make our own assessment of each situation and to act about it in our own interests and in the interests of world peace, and we have always considered these two interests to be the same. Now that members of each power bloc are building bridges with their rivals as well as with non-aligned nations, one might say that the period of bipolarity and Cold War attitude of the post-war world has come to an end. And in the process, the policy of non-alignment stands vindicated.

However, this is only a beginning. Human history does not run a smooth course. The nations of Asia and Africa and other non-aligned nations must remain on their guard. We feel that non-alignment continues to be valid and that despite moves for detente, military machines have not been disbanded. Despite the efforts to reach an agreement, pressures on smaller nations have not abated. So long as certain countries wish to follow a policy of balance of power and to extend their spheres of influence, nations like ours must stand with the resolve to pursue an independent foreign policy and to seek friendship and to safeguard our national personality.

There is some talk, especially here in Nepal, of India's vast size. But the prob-

lems that confront us, of providing food, shelter, education, health and fuller opportunities to 570 million people, are equally vast. Our endeavour has been to employ our own resources for the benefit of our people. If we can share our skills and experiences, as we have done with Nepal and some other countries, we shall be glad. We entirely agree with you, Mr. President, that each country should be independent. But the world also needs interdependence. We think that in today's world no country, however big, can be fully self-sufficient. But we also think that unless a country has enough strength, there is danger for it and that is why we work towards self-reliance

Mr. President, you have mentioned historical and traditional ties that Nepal has with India. Yet the personality of Nepal is a very distinct one. And because we ourselves wish to keep our personality, we can fully understand and appreciate your desire to keep yours and to grow and develop in your own way. I should like to assure that India has neither the desire nor the inclination to be a power - big, small or of any kind - nor to interfere with her neighbours in any way. As I said earlier, it is in our interests that our neighbours are strong and stable, and therefore if we can help them, we shall be glad to do so, even though we ourselves are fully absorbed in our own problems.

In the past few years of planned development we have achieved considerable progress. We have doubled our agricultural production and secured big diversification of industry and technology. This year, because of the drought which has also affected several other parts of Asia, our agricultural production has been affected. Although we still estimate a harvest of over 100 million tons of foodgrains, compared to 55 million tons 20 years ago, there is apprehension in the mind of the people. This of course is partly because people need more foodgrains, because the population is larger, but also because vast numbers of people who were not eating wheat and rice all these years now want to eat it. Our people's expectations grow faster than our ability to

fulfil them. And unfortunately the course of development is always such that first benefits go to those who are slightly better off, rather than to those who are in greater need. We feel that growth and development are of utmost importance, but planning cannot, ignore social justice - Therefore we must pay special attention to the weaker sections of our society. Even in the interest of development one has to see that social justice is done and that the people

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have a feeling that the development is not for a few sections but that the fruits of development will reach all sections of the people.

It is with this objective that we have undertaken our vast programmes of provision of land, house sites and work for the landless in the countryside. We have embarked upon a programme to curb the concentration of wealth and economic power and to reduce economic disparities in our society through ceilings on land and urban property, progressive taxation and other similar measures. Our Fifth Five-Year Plan will be launched next year. It proposes to take the programmes of social justice a great deal further. Simultaneously, it aims at making fuller use of the potential which we have built and reducing our need for aid.

I am happy to see that in Nepal people are making strenuous efforts for all-round development under the dynamic leadership of His Majesty King Birendra. You have our sincere good wishes for success in your efforts. The bonds of friendship between India and Nepal have their origin in a common cultural heritage and have been enriched in recent years by fruitful co-operation based on equality and mutual benefit.

Once again I express my gratitude to you, Mr. President, and to the Council of World Affairs for giving me this opportunity of addressing this distinguished gathering. Thank you.

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NEPAL

Speech of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira, Gandhi at banquet for Their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal

The following is the speech of Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the banquet for Their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal on February 9, 1973 in Kathmandu:

Tomorrow morning my three day's visit to your beautiful country and to your friendly people comes to an end. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking you very much, indeed for your generous hospitality and. for the warmth of the welcome and the friendship which you personally, Your Prime Minister, members of your Government and the people of Nepal as a whole have shown.

In today's world, distance has not much meaning because one can reach out to the farthest corner, and sometimes one does not go so often to the places which are nearest. I know this happens to me in Delhi. I find myself going far more often to the farthest comers of India and not so often to the places in Delhi because we feel that they are very close and one can go there any time, with the result that the visits are postponed.

In today's world, although communication is very much easier and much faster, perhaps for that very reason, we have neglected having deeper relationship. We have lakhs of tourists, but whereas in the olden days people came and stayed and tried to

understand the country and the people, today they want to see as much as possible in one day - they even want to see the whole of India in one day - and many of them go back and write a book immediately. I suppose they do the same about Nepal. In fact, just a little while ago when I was in Bhutan somebody had written a book on Bhutan and His Majesty there said that he had never even come to Bhutan. So, I think, that visits such as the one, which your Prime Minister paid to India and, this one of mine, will help to deepen the understanding of what the countries are doing now. We know something about past traditions and culture, but the whole world is changing, India is changing and Nepal is changing. And friendship has to be based on these changed circumstances and on what our interests and concerns are today. I believe that our major concern in India and of Your Majesty here in Nepal is to change the life of the people and to help them to take advantage of the science and technology which have changed the nations of the West and some nations

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of the East. This is one of the greatest challenges which any people or any Government has ever faced. Because we know our own difficulties, we can appreciate yours.

So one of the main objectives of my coming here was not only to deepen friendship, to try and have a better understanding of the new Nepal, but also to bring to Your Majesty, to Her Majesty and to your Government the very good wishes of the Government and people of India in this great responsibility which you are shouldering so ably.

I hope, as I said to Your Majesty, we in India will have the privilege and pleasure of welcoming you both to India whenever you can find time to come there. I think you will find a very warm welcome awaiting you because there is regard for you and affection for the people of Nepal. Mr. Prime Minister, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to drink a

toast to the health and happiness of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal, to the prosperity of the people of Nepal, and to peace and stability in our part of the world?

NEPAL USA INDIA BHUTAN

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ONE ASIA ASSEMBLY

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Address to One Asia Assembly

Following is the text of the Prime minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the 'One Asia Assembly', in New Delhi on February 6, 1973:

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates and guests,

I am glad of the opportunity of meeting you all and warmly welcome the distinguished editors, economists and governmental leaders from many countries of Asia and of other continents. This Assembly has been discussing a variety of themes and we hope to benefit from the insights and ideas which you have brought.

This year India is celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of her Independence. Our freedom marked the beginning of the period of decolonisation, during which many other countries of Asia, Africa and the Caribbeans have attained political independence. In a parallel process has taken place the rebirth of China. Some of the problems which you are discussing in depth, problems of hunger and nutrition, economic development and education are a consequence of the long period spent under subjec-

tion. Any kind of mercantile, industrial and intellectual enterprise which was inconvenient to the colonial rulers was discouraged and the evolution from within our traditional societies was perforce inhibited. Some other problems - which are not on your discussion papers - arise from the relationships between ourselves and from the changing relationships between our nations on the one side and the world's dominant military and economic powers on the other. The advance of technology brings a third set of problems which disturb our society no less than that of the advanced nations.

Asia is a continent vaster and older - not in geology but in terms of remembered and recorded history - a continent of extraordinary cultural diversity, of a variety of historical experiences which are difficult to grasp. Europe had the benefit of three or four major unifying factors - the

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Greeco-Roman tradition, the Christian Church, the colonising thrust and the Industrial Revolution. Marxism itself was a response to these conditioning factors and incorporated the major features of western thought and outlook. Asia has had no comparable unifying factors. Buddhism and Islam, remarkable as their spread was, did not pervade the whole of the continent. The experience of Western domination should have given the nations of Asia a new awareness of a common destiny and of the importance of working together in overcoming their problems. It is possible today to speak of the emergence of a common Asian quest. Asian goals include economic development, the modernisation of traditional societies and the assertion of national sovereignty and identity.

Except in a few known and glaring instances, Western nations have withdrawn as colonial powers but their political or military presence continues on our continent. This has been done in the name of filling a vacuum or to wage a crusade against communism or other doctrines. In India we

have always rejected what we consider the rather naive theory of political vacuums. Europe shed its colonies not out of altruism or caprice but because of the rising pressure of Asian nationalism. With this assertive nationalism, how can there be a vacuum? The very theory of a power vacuum is thus a continuation of the colonial outlook in another garb.

The West has not been able to assess the power of nationalism, even when forced to yield to it. This explains the paradox of the West's involvement and failure in Asia in the past two decades. Various alliances which were forged seem rather pointless now. The forces which were sought to be eliminated through these alliances are still in evidence and, since the policy and the methods adopted were such obvious failures, there is now an effort to build bridges with the very nations whom they had sought to contain.

We welcome any effort towards peace and understanding. We are glad of the belated confirmation of the views expressed by the non-aligned nations. But we are aware of the dangers which still hover over us. Detente should not become an occasion to build new balances of power and to le-draw spheres of influence or to reinforce the opinion of certain big powers that they alone can be responsible for the shaping of the destinies of small nations.

I cannot help feeling that the very manner of ending the Vietnam war may create new tensions. The cease-fire should not lull us into comfort that there will be peace all the way. To many nations, peace itself has often been war by other means.

But the truce in Vietnam has opened out new opportunities, of which we must avail, to devise and to take concerted steps. It is unrealistic to talk of any move towards normalisation in Asia when military action continues in any part of Indo-China. The Vietnam truce should also extend to Laos and Cambodia. All countries of Asia must cooperate with the nations of Indo-China in their immense tasks of reconstruction.

Indian tradition has always spoken of one world - I have grown up in this belief and I abhor chauvinistic nationalism or racialism of any colour and type, but I would like to ask a question: would this sort of war or the savage bombing which has taken place in Vietnam have been tolerated for so long, had the people been European?

The interests of trade and commerce and of the manufacturers of armaments do not distinguish between ideologies and have no compunction about making an about-turn should it suit them to do so. A declaration of love for democracy does not seem to be incompatible with open admiration for dictatorship. While this attitude remains can there be clear thinking or positive action for real peace?

Discussions in this Assembly have ranged over problems of economic development - I am specially glad to see that the distinguished author of "Asian Drama" is also present with us. Most experts equate development with the prototype of the affluent countries of the West. 'In the middle of the nineteenth century, scientists evolved concepts of natural selection which were adopted by political theorists to justify the exploitation of one class by another, one race by another and one country by another. In the last part of this century, certain new economic, technological and biological theories have been put forward which would

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consign a large number of nations to perpetual backwardness. They imply that a late starter could never catch up. Many of our own political and economic scholars in Asian countries seem to be converted to this opinion reiterating that the rate of growth is all important, that progress is synonymous with urbanisation, with established patterns of industrialisation and production and an advertisement-and-acquisition-oriented society. Do they really justify all that has occurred in the advanced countries as desirable and worthy of emulation by the poorer countries? Ideas on drugs and diet

- the value of proteins or calories for instance - have fluctuated but each in its time has been held as indisputable. Advance in modern medicine has provided cures for many old diseases but such treatment is becoming increasingly expensive and new ailments have appeared. Pesticides eradicate insects but also affect the health of human beings. The list is a long one. There is blind reverence for the written word. But has literacy increased comprehension or brought any kind of wisdom?

This gathering has been convened by an organisation concerned with the Press. All of you have, I hope, seen that 'the Press in India is not only alive and well, but kicking hard. Occasionally, I receive representations from the International Press Institute and the Press Foundation of Asia about threats to the freedom of the press in India. We have no intention whatever of abridging the freedom to gather and to publish news and express views. This freedom is an essential part of our entire way of functioning. In a free India a fettered press is unthinkable. For historical reasons, freedom in many systems has come to mean more freedom for the big, the strong and the propertied rather than for the smaller man. This tendency has received support from conservative judicial pronouncements. In our own country, freedom of the press is being used to further property interests and the protection of the courts is sought. For our part, we do recognise the right of a newspaper to champion any cause. But we feel that it would be useful, even in these days of advertisement dominance, to maintain a distinction between the editorial room and the business office. The proposals to diffuse economic concentration in the industry which we are discussing will not by any means limit an editor's freedom to criticise Government. I don't think there is any editor in the country who is afraid of me, though some do their best to, try and irritate me - with little success, I might add.

However, are newspapermen themselves not limiting the scope of their calling? They have been content to speak only

to the elite and are not in touch with the vast masses of our country whom they largely ignore. That is why the press as a whole has often been wide of the mark in its assessment of the people's feelings and in its forecasts of the shape of things to come. In India where literacy is not very widespread but political consciousness and political judgment are highly evolved, there must be new methods of reaching people and arguing with them, persuading them and recording their views. There are so many worthwhile causes. This is the challenge before the press of India.

Poverty in India is centuries-old and deep-seated. It would be unrealistic to expect dramatic transformation. It is a deeply distressing situation which we are determined to change. Yet we have to reckon with a perpetual constraint of resources and many other obstacles. Little by little, step by small step, some of our people are moving out of this morass. Much much more needs to be done. And so we are shocked to read in prestigious journals that even in the glittering cities of affluent countries, there are groups which suffer from malnutrition and are beyond the reach of education or health services. And what is worse that their plight does not seem to evoke much concern.

Freedom and progress to us mean not merely self-government and the generation of material benefits but the ability to create conditions in our country where the weak and the small would not feel threatened by dominant economic and political forces or by the power of a mighty State. This is our inner conviction and the basis of our belief in democracy. Totalitarian methods might give a higher rate of growth, but they cannot give new dimension to the human personality. Sooner or later reaction must set in and tensions arise.

In the last 25 years our endeavour has been to broaden the social base so that the

people wield effective political power and

feel involved in economic processes, working not from compulsion or fear but from the knowledge that governments are what the people make them and the future is for them to mould. As I said earlier, poverty continues to be widespread and visible, but so are the changes and the improvements. Those who knew India in 1947 can judge the long and difficult road we have travelled. Our industrial sector has gained variety and versatility - especially in machine building, chemical and electronic industries. Our agricultural production has doubled, even though this year, like many other Asian countries, we are experiencing the consequences of a severe drought.

A question persistently asked by visitors concerns the increase in our population. Our official programmes of family planning have made some little dent (the birth rate has gone down in the last 5 years) though, of course, not as much as we would have liked it to. Only as development gains further momentum will the people appreciate the relationship between small families and welfare. This is one area where compulsion is not possible. .

Our present system is being buffeted from all sides but it has inherent strength. What other structure can have the flexibility to accommodate our contradictions, our diversity and our high aspirations? The prevailing mood amongst many intellectuals is one of cynicism and lack of faith in the ordinary people, the inability to enjoy ordinary every-day things and happenings. I have found that the way to replenish one's faith is to go to the people and to harness their enormous inner reserves of strength to meet the challenges which confront us. Perhaps it is a help not to be advanced in some directions. We have faith in our people and they have faith in the future.

Once again may I give all good wishes to the Conference and thank you for this opportunity of being with you.

Following is the transcript of question-hour session at the end of the Prime Minister's address to One Asia Assembly:

QUESTION: Supposing that recognition of Bangla Desh is not forthcoming on the part of Pakistan, would the question of Pakistan prisoners-of-war remain unsolved?

PRIME MINISTER: I am sure distinguished delegates and others present here will appreciate that one cannot set a date to such things. One has to see what is the background to this question. India certainly does not want to keep the prisoners-of-war here for a day longer than we must. I am sure you will appreciate that it is a big burden for us - financially and in other ways. But it is not a question which involves India alone. It does involve and concern another country which is now independent and which is recognised by a large number of other countries. So it is a matter which can only be decided by all the three countries of the sub-continent.

QUESTION: In what way does India envisage to cooperate in the post-war reconstruction of Vietnam?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, we do think that it is our duty to help Vietnam who has been through such tremendous human suffering and devastation. Well, we can only do it by ... of course we are seeing what we can give, whether in terms of things or people who can help to set up . . . It is really for the Vietnamese to decide what sort of help they want and then only the helping nations can see what they can give.

QUESTION: Do you think a developing country can progress fast without recourse to totalitarian methods?

PRIME MINISTER: I thought I said something about it in my speech. There is no system in the world which is perfect. Every system has some advantages and some disadvantages. I do not know if it was Mr. Winston Churchill or somebody who said that democracy is the most fragile of systems; but there is none which is stronger. This is our own belief also that although it seems to be full of contradictions, it seems to generate obstacles and opposition even

which is a slowing process but simultaneously it strengthens the people and ultimately the destiny of any country or the strength of any country depends on the people. In a totalitarian system, it is different. You could have a person who is very good and who can go very fast and do very good

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things, but there is no guarantee that the next person will be a good person and he might act in the opposite direction, whereas if the people are strengthened and they have political education and they have the power, then they can see that nothing is done which is against their interests and they do see it.

QUESTION: Madam Prime Minister, what is the state of India's policy of neutrality and its adherence to the Third Nation approach in world affairs at the present moment?

PRIME MINISTER: Before getting on to this question, if I may just say or add a word more to my reply to the last question, which is that in political affairs we are not dealing with numbers or with machines. We are dealing with individuals and there always are differences of opinion, there is a desire to establish your identity and so on and if this does not have full play, then there are tensions. In a democracy there is that flexibility where you can give vent to your feelings - you can oppose, you can agitate, and so on and let out some of the steam. If this is not allowed, and this is what I said in my speech, then there is a danger that this build up - may incite you and of course, there is a tendency to explode in one form or another later.-)

Now, to come to the Policy of non-alignment, India never had a policy of neutrality. We don't think that any living human being can be neutral about matters which affect his country or other countries because what happened anywhere does affect everybody else in the world. We have been non-aligned and what we meant by non-aligned is firstly, that we did not belong to any military bloc and secondly, that we

reserve the right to judge an issue and to take action according to our own interests and what we consider to be the interests of world peace. That is, we don't decide on any issue because one bloc says something or another bloc or one Big Power or small country said one thing or another. We decide things on the basis of our own views and assessment. This is what we have meant by non-alignment and we think that this is the only policy which one can have in order to be truly independent. And as I said in my opening remarks, we find that although people felt very strongly about their military alliances and about various blocs, they are today making friends, having trade, economic relations, cultural relations with the countries in opposing blocs or which were in no bloc. Therefore, there must be some virtue in this for these Big Powers and countries to have changed their opinions and changed their policies.

India has also never used this phrase 'The Third World' because that means that there is another third bloc whereas we are against such blocs. We think that we are all individual countries, but, for instance, countries of the developing nations have very many interests and problems in common and we should certainly cooperate on economic and other sides, but the formation of any kind of military thing creates a reaction leading to tension and then the whole purpose which I suppose was to keep peace or to lessen tension, that prospect is nullified.

QUESTION: Can you please tell us why women in India have achieved so much immense emancipation?

PRIME MINISTER: I would say, thanks to England, because whereas in other countries, including Great Britain, women had to fight with their own menfolk to get certain rights, whether it was the right to higher education, or to employment and so on, here the British gave us a cause in which the men and women struggled side by side. Therefore, there was no sense of competition with our menfolk but the question of cooperating in a common cause and this,

as you know, is the greatest unifying or strengthening pattern.

Of course, equally important was the perceptiveness of our leaders. Mahatma Gandhi, for instance, felt we did have some sort of women's emancipation movement before which was trying for educational institutions and things like that for women but it was Mahatma Gandhi who realised that a non-violent struggle simply could not succeed if the womenfolk were ignored - that is, if they did not know what it was all about. In a way, a non-violent struggle asks much more of a person because it is a little cold-blooded. It is not like you suddenly go and face a great danger and feel very brave and so on. But in a non-violent and non-cooperative movement, it is something

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that goes on and on and on. If your family says: How are you going to manage the house, no body is earning and so on, men might be discouraged. If on the other hand the womenfolk say: I am going to do this work and it is right you should do your part, then it gives that added strength. This is what happened here. And, as you know, Mahatma Gandhi had a very small and soft voice but somehow it managed to pierce all kinds of defences and reach out into the hearts of the people. And women who were illiterate and who were in every manner suppressed, many who would never have gone out of their house except to fill water at the well or something like that, they all came out in large numbers in the political movement and when the menfolk were arrested, it was automatic that women should be elected as Presidents of District Congress and Treasurer or Secretary of the province and all sorts of things like that. And perhaps you know that the first woman President of our political party, the Congress, was Dr. Annie Besant, and a English woman at that. So this was the background and naturally when the freedom came, it was natural that women should want to and be given an opportunity to participate in development.

QUESTION: What are your views on the proposed neutralisation for South East Asia and now that the Peace Treaty for Vietnam has been signed, what do you think of the prospects of the proposed neutralisation for South East Asia being realised?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, as I said, we all sincerely hope that this peace, this ceasefire will lead to a lasting peace and will be extended to those of the countries where it has not so far been accepted. At this moment, I think it is rather a fluid situation and it is very difficult to say what will happen next. We would like certainly the Whole of Asia to be an area of peace and co-operation because Asia, perhaps of all the continents, has suffered very much and it is high time that we got together to look after ourselves and to solve our vast problems, rather than being involved in this kind of conflict. But it is very difficult to say exactly what shape this will take. Perhaps the coming weeks will give a clearer picture,

QUESTION: What could be the main difference between an Asia without American military presence and Asia before the American pull-out?

PRIME MINISTER: For one thing the Pull-out is the step towards peace. So, obviously it is a very big step and those who are optimistic will hope that it will lead towards a lasting peace. We in India are against military presence anywhere because, as I said earlier that one military presence attracts another military presence. Nobody in this world is willing for one group to extend its spheres of influence and not to be concerned or not to do something else. So not only has in Asia, but anywhere in Mediterranean or anywhere else when there is one presence, that gives an excuse for another presence and this is how gradually a tension can build up.

QUESTION: What is the best kind of help the developed countries can give? Can conventional foreign aid really help?

PRIME MINISTER: If by 'conventional foreign aid' is meant aid with strings or

aid which largely directs you what you should do, then it has not been a big help. Also the burden of repaying these credits is a very heavy one and a crushing one. So far as India is concerned, I think always you must know, to certain countries whatever we now get, we have to return straightaway. It is rather a ridiculous situation. It does not help further at all. The best way of helping of course is to help the developing country to stand on its own feet. That is primarily through trade and other steps which would encourage production and strengthening of the economy of the country and also perhaps in helping in certain sophisticated areas which we are not capable of doing ourselves. But this is the situation or a picture which is constantly changing. India wanted help in certain regions. Today that picture has changed because we have more know-how, we are making more machines and so on and naturally we do not want to duplicate that from anywhere else. But it looks like that in areas which we cannot manage by ourselves, that situation after ten years may be quite different.

QUESTION: Do you visualise the economic cooperation between Nepal and India subsequent to your forthcoming visit to Nepal beginning from tomorrow?

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PRIME MINISTER: I certainly hope so. Nepal believed in friendship with all countries, but we have very special warmth for Nepal and we think that any relationship which we build up or trade relations economic cooperation, will be to our mutual benefit of both the countries.

QUESTION: "The Economist" calls you Empress of India. Do you think this is like the Indian press which is kicking hard?

PRIME MINISTER: I would say that a left-handed compliment.

QUESTION: Do you think peace in Asia is possible in any way without the participation of China?

PRIME MINISTER: Obviously, all the countries of Asia should cooperate, but if one country is not cooperating, that does not mean that others should wait. They should go ahead with their cooperation and build up and strengthen economy. Perhaps that itself would encourage China's cooperation.

QUESTION: Which other media is possible to communicate with Indian masses when big newspapers are only read in urban areas?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, obviously small newspapers. We have a large number of them and one of our problems here is that the big papers are not just content with the public that they reach to. There is a tendency to try and make things difficult for the small newspapers. Not all small newspapers, just like not all big newspapers, are good but it certainly gives an outlet to local people for local news and so on and we think that they should be encouraged.

QUESTION: What can be done to assure the Vietnamese political prisoners are not exterminated?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I think that the international community should look into this. I don't think that . . . it is very difficult in such matters for outside countries to interfere.

QUESTION: Does the enlargement of the European Community pose new problems to India? How do you propose to solve them?

PRIME MINISTER: Any new step poses new problems to India as well as to other countries. For instance, European Community has posed new problems for Europe also, and even for England which wanted so much to join it. But it has created problems and it has created problems for us also. Well, we hope that it won't become another rich man's club and that they will consider the needs of the developing countries. Some of them have assured us that they will, and, again, we can only wait and

see, what happens.

QUESTION: Do you see enough future for Indian help for reconstruction of South Vietnam as "Fell as North?"

PRIME MINISTER: That has been dealt with.

QUESTION: How do you see the role of India in building a peaceful Asia after Vietnam?

PRIME MINISTER: Role of India would be the same, that is to make every effort to lessen tension, to build up friendship and conditions where there can be closer and greater cooperation.

QUESTION: Do you think that the two hands of men and women are the biggest wealth in under-developed countries? Have you any plan to use them?

PRIME MINISTER: I do not know whether this has a reference to unemployment, because I do not know what else it can be. Obviously the hands of men and women and also the brain part of men and women are exceedingly important in building any country. We have this problem of unemployment but it is far more complex than it seems. That is we do not really know what the problem is, I mean what the scope of the problem is because in the names of the people registered in employment bureaus or agencies, a lot of people do not register at all and there is a fair number of people who have registered who are employed but who either want a better job or they want job in another part of the country. I think the major problem in India is under-employment. It is a bit of vicious circle, but it is only greater development which can create more jobs. We have got some special schemes and they have created more jobs. That is, of course, a small part of the prob-

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lem. It can be dealt with basically only with greater development and also with the growth of greater self-reliance in the

people's minds because today there is a tendency to want a particular type of jobs, white-collar jobs and government jobs, office jobs, whereas there is a great need for people to go into the villages and most of the villagers are willing and want to pay for the services which they need, but our people still have a certain reluctance to take the risk.

QUESTION: Is India taking any initiative to form a close-knit alliance in the subcontinent severed by the Himalayas?

PRIME MINISTER: I do not know what you mean by close-knit alliance, but we do believe that the friendship between the three countries of the sub-continent is very necessary to the growth and development and progress of the three countries. And that is why all the initiatives we took with regard to Pakistan were for this reason, which was not a passing phase of generosity or anything like that. It is because we firmly believe that peace and friendship are a 'must' for, us and we have been trying to do everything possible to normalise relations.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA OMAN VIETNAM MALI LAOS CAMBODIA
RUSSIA PAKISTAN NEPAL

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

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ONE ASIA ASSEMBLY

Speech of the minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Shri I. K. Gujral, at One Asia Assembly

Following is the text of the speech made by Shri I. K. Gujral, Union Minister of State for information and Broadcasting, at the panel meeting on "Stewardship of Mass Media" on February 7, 1973:

Mr. Chairman, Friends:

I am grateful to all of you for asking an amateur like me to come in the realm of the professionals. Since all of you have been applying your mind to this very important subject of stewardship of mass media, whatever I might say would be primarily the point of view of, if I may repeat the word, an amateur.

But one thing, I think, we have to keep in mind is, and as you have rightly said, Mr. Chairman, that whenever we are discussing on this subject, we have to keep in mind that there are different types of social set-ups in the country and of the world which have their own approach to the problem, and it would not serve any useful purpose, I think, if in this discussion and in this debate, we think of the systems and their merits and demerits.

We are, I think, primarily discussing today the factors which contribute or constitute towards determining the future set-up or the present set-up of the stewardship of mass media. Now, Naturally, I think, we all agree on this basic hypothesis that these factors and the emphasis vary according to the socio-political environment of any society. It is also certain that no discussion about mass media can be divorced from the social and political set-up of a society in which the mass media functions. I think that it would be relevant to discuss the social set-ups of the various societies because ultimately we have all decided - internationally at least - in the spirit of co-existence that it is for a people to decide what type of society they want. But by and large the issue may be considered in the broader context that we may discuss as we proceed further.

CAPITAL INTENSIVE

In the course of technological revolution, the media today has become very capital intensive. It has also become exceptionally powerful. It has also become a very potent medium for social change.

When we therefore talk in international forums like the UNESCO, where emphasis on the communication policies and desirability of countries having communication policies are discussed and where people's right to information is discussed and agreed to by everybody, this is one of the dilemmas which is posed before the world as a whole.

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The dilemma in Asia and other developing countries is, to an extent, a vicious circle, or, may I say, even a tragedy! This is because the inadequate growth of mass media retards even social growth and when the social growth is retarded, the mass media gets further retarded. We therefore find ourselves in this vicious circle because investment needed for building up an effective mass media structure is considerably more than most of the developing countries can possibly afford.

COMMUNICATION GAP

I think almost all the developing countries world over and in Asia particularly, are conscious of the communication gap. We are also conscious of the handicaps what this gap means. Therefore, when we see around us that for the first time, thanks to the audio-visual media, that it is possible for us to break the literacy barrier or the illiteracy barrier, we are also confronted simultaneously with the problems of the resources, and the resources pose a very serious handicap and an impediment.

I therefore think that every debate in any international get-together on the communication policies or on the stewardship of mass media, is in reality a debate on 'who owns the resources'. It is neither about the merits, nor about the desirability, nor about the functions, 'nor about the potency of the mass media but ultimately again it comes round to resources and the money. In every international forum like the UNESCO, we have been talking increasingly of free flow of information. In every UNESCO session particularly free flow of information becomes a subject of vital interest. I said in

the UNESCO session - and I don't mind sharing it with you today - that in international sphere, the free flow of information is a myth.

COMMUNICATION EMPIRES

This is because I do feel that since the World War, the communication empires have emerged. Those countries who are rich and are resourceful are today trying to inflict their value structure in the garb of information. And whether we talk of cassette or the video-tape or of film, or of a news agency, or even the latest fad - the satellite - the basic issue remains.

Those who have the adequate resources are using these as the cultural arm and new imperialism. I think of these countries who are now trying, what I would like to call a "cultural invasion" of those countries which do not have these resources. This is a war between unequals - between those who control the mass media, have resources and all the methodologies of mass media and those who are subjected to this invasion.

In an Assembly like this where predominantly Asians are sitting together, we have to be conscious of this new imperialism which I may call the "information imperialism" and we should be conscious that only collective survival is a possibility. Otherwise those of us who live in the developing societies will see that our entire cultural structure and our entire method of thinking is in serious danger. Whether we call it a free flow of information or call it by any other name, this reality has to be faced and resistance offered.

Now, the resistance can be offered in many a methods and in many a ways. Codes of conduct for the operators of mass media which we have been pressing in the UNESCO and other international forums also are the conventions for use of satellites and how it will be used and what will be fed into the satellites. These are the manifestations of the attitude of the two sides of the fence.

Those who own satellite do not want to abide by any conventions while those who are subjected to this cultural invasion are trying to resist this. To put in a different way, those who are owning the mass media in international life are again set up on the same mission. I think we should resist this, because we have our own rich and proud civilisation which we want to preserve and develop our own of life.

COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP OF SATELLITE

I therefore feel that the stewardship of mass media will become relevant only and will become useful only if its ownership of satellite is collective. I also feel that a comprehensive code of conduct to limit the power and will of the communication imperialists is a 'must' and unless we do it, the difficulties can be considerable.

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Coming to a national life, the communication policies in any society are today becoming a reality and a must, whether a society is developed or developing. Every society is becoming conscious that unless it has a communication policy it cannot meet today's challenges. Even those societies which have been traditional - we may choose to call them 'free societies' - even there the problem posed by the media let-loose is now so serious that commissions after commissions have been sitting to determine the role of media itself.

OWNERSHIP OF RESOURCES

But in the developing societies particularly, I feel that the communication policy has a very very big impediment before a communication policy can be evolved; and that is again the ownership and the resources. In a society like ours or for that matter any other Asian society, whenever we talk of the mass media, we have to think of this as the keystone of the entire controversy. Now this keystone as to who owns the mass media has historical background also and whether we talk of the printing

media or of the electronic media, we cannot divorce it from the historical background in which a media has developed in a particular given society.

Now in India, for instance, the basic issue like every other developing society is always to strike a balance between three pertinent factors, namely - what is socially desirable, what is economically meaningful and what is technologically feasible. Until and unless a developing society is able to determine the equation to its own satisfaction between these three basic factors, the communication policy does not become realistic.

The communication gap of which we generally talk in the developing societies basically is a gap between needs and resources. This is what we have to understand because it is not wilfully thought that any developing society wants to have a communication gap. Every society wants to fill this gap as quickly as possible.

ATTITUDE TOWARDS SOCIAL MEDIA

Even in India, like other societies, we are keen and are trying to fill this gap as quickly as possible whether it is through electronic media or through the printing media, but the difficulty of resources remains. I, therefore, think the attitude towards social media in every society again is determined by many factors. Now, for instance, one of the factors in Indian society has by itself been the freedom struggle.

Freedom of expression in India, for instance, has been a part of the national liberation struggle. When we were fighting for years for our own emergence, we were always thinking, and rightly too, the freedom of expression as an essential ingredient of any future step as a free country. During our freedom struggle, electronic media had not yet emerged. That is why those who were running the press or were writing in the press in those 50 years or 60 years were also the participants and were in the vanguard in our fight for freedom. Almost all eminent national leaders were also the

media men and that is why I feel that freedom came because these gentlemen and the leaders had sacrificed and paid heavily the price for the fight - of writing and expressing freely. They also came to be respected naturally in the course of the struggle and after struggle also.

In India we have two types of presses - one that I have mentioned just now, and the other which we choose to call 'the Anglo Press'. The 'Anglo' press was naturally supporting the rulers at that time and I won't take your time in discussing that.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION GUARANTEED

As I have said that we cherished and relished the values of the freedom of expression as our struggle was going on. When the freedom came, our commitment both socially to ourselves and in the Constitution to freedom of expression has been and continues to be absolute and unconditional. We in this country believe that there can be no freedom in reality without freedom of expression.

But unfortunately this Constitutional guarantee - this social commitment to freedom - is sometimes mixed up and in that mix up it is sometimes felt that the freedom of expression is meant for those who own the mass media. Now the owners, I feel, have their own way of looking at things and their own purpose.

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You have heard our Prime Minister spelling out how free the Press in India is and as an eminent editor from India, sifting here with us who summed up some time ago that "press in India is free, but not independent". By 'independent' he meant that it is not independent of the money bags. It is free so far as governmental intervention is concerned, but is not independent. The money baron intervenes, interferes, affects the editorial side and this has been really disastrous. I want to quote two lines from, the Hutchin's Report, which remains relevant to every democratic society and it

said, "No democracy will tolerate concentration of private power, irresponsible and strong enough to thwart the aspirations of people".

FREE COMMUNICATION MOVEMENT

This, I think, is a reality in our state also like elsewhere. The struggle of media men in India therefore is against the vested interests. This is also a part of the international struggle for what may be called "free communication movement". This free communication movement is now spreading not only to America and Europe, but also coming to the developing societies also because those who want to express freely, also want to be free not only from the governmental interference but also from the effects of ownership and stewardship of mass media.

That is why, as the Prime Minister said yesterday, we wish to delink the big industry from the stewardship of the mass media because we do feel that it conditions and limits the freedom of expression of the press in India. I therefore feel that we have to make the press free and independent to make the media men play their role in the social transformation on which India has launched.

In Asian society and in India when the printing media is big, and I think unfortunately it has copied, - Mr. Chairman you will excuse me in saying so, - the western style of depending too much on advertisements. Now the advertisement policy is basically urban, The advertisements of those who advertise tend to be urban, status quo and spokesmen of vested interests. That is why in every developing country and in our national lives, we have to see that the media continues and builds itself as an instrument of change and growth and expression of people's aspiration and assertion of freedom of expression of the media men.

Therefore, we, nationally or internationally, will have to be pluralistic and that pluralistic can be varied in various societies. We can decide as to what type of combina-

tion is possibly feasible in any particular given society. But I think the potency of media is too strong to be left in the hands of those whose only qualification and merit is that they have money, whether in the international life or in the national life. The fewer rich can neither be allowed to convert their riches into international invasion or international imperialism of communication, nor nationally dwarf the life of all the people so that interests of a few can be served and interests of many suffer.

USA INDIA

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PARLIAMENT

Address by the President of India to Parliament

The following is the text of the address delivered by the President, Shri V. V. Giri, to 'the joint session of the Parliament on February 19, 1973:

Honourable Members,

You have assembled to perform the exacting tasks which lie ahead of you. Not only have you to transact the formal legislative business but also to take stock of the problems that the nation faces and give guidance to the Government and the people.

Barely had the country overcome the extraordinary challenges of 1971, when we were confronted with fresh problems. The

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after-effects of the influx of refugees and the war were aggravated by drought In

several parts of the country. Our hearts go out to all those who have been affected by drought and in certain other areas by cyclone and floods. Works on a large scale have been undertaken in all affected areas to provide employment and relief. Our buffer stock of foodgrains, along with the strengthening of the public distribution system, enabled the Government to meet the situation. In 1972, about 10.6 million tonnes of grains were distributed through the public system.

Inevitably, the drought led to a fall in food production, particularly in the areas of rain-fed cultivation, and this, in turn, influenced prices, which have registered a sharp increase since May last year. This has been a matter of grave concern to my Government. In addition to strengthening the public distribution system, as mentioned above, an emergency programme was launched to increase rabi and summer foodgrains production to offset the loss of kharif output. We expect a good rabi crop this year. None the less, we must husband all available food resources and avoid waste.

Prices of food articles can be brought under check and the interests of the common people safeguarded by taking over the surplus of wheat and rice, by eliminating wholesale traders and by organising distribution of foodgrains, especially to scarcity areas and the vulnerable sections of the population. The whole-sale trade in wheat will be taken over from the coming wheat marketing season. This will be followed by the take-over of wholesale trade in rice. The success of this programme calls for the whole-hearted co-operation of surplus as well as deficit States.

The emphasis on credit policy continues to be one of restraint, consistent with the need to maximise production, meet priorities and attend to hitherto neglected sectors. The Government's programme of market borrowings during the year was designed to absorb the surplus liquidity of the commercial banking system.

The relatively sluggish rate of growth

of industrial production in 1970 and 1971 gave place to an upward trend in 1972. Industrial production increased by over 7% during the year, (It would have been) still higher but for the shortage of power in most parts of the country. Government is taking short-term and long-term measures to improve the generation, transmission and distribution of power.

Government has recently clarified its Industrial Licensing Policy of curbing monopolies and the concentration of economic power, consistent with the objectives and the priorities of production during the Fifth Five Year Plan. Several measures which should stimulate investment on a wide front have been announced. The larger number of applications and approvals for licences, capital goods, finance from industrial financing institutions, registration of companies and capital issues - all indicate a gathering tempo of industrial activity. Government is also laying emphasis on the active implementation of industrial licences already granted and is devising practical measures to increase the pace of implementation.

Government has devoted attention to the problems of textile and engineering units which have been lying closed or are facing serious difficulties due to mismanagement and failure to re-invest surpluses and to modernise the plants. The management of a number of these units has been taken over this year in order to revive production and ensure continuous employment. With the restoration of law and order in West Bengal, industrial recovery is gaining momentum under a 16-point programme.

In our steady march towards socialism, an increasingly wide segment of economic activity has been brought under public ownership and management. This covers a major part of transport and communications, power, coal, steel, heavy engineering, banking, insurance and important segments of external and internal trade. As a result of the vigorous steps taken by Government, a definite improvement was discernible in

most public sector units last year. Ultimately, production and the quality of service to the people in all these fields depend on the dedication and sense of involvement of managers and workers. In the changed context, both managers and workers have to give up the traditional concept of their roles. Management has to develop new attitudes and look upon workmen as participants in

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the service of the people. Workers should not allow trade union rivalry to prevent them from fulfilling their historic role of being in the vanguard of socialist transformation by making our public enterprises successful and models of service to the people. On its part, Government recognises the central role of the worker in the economic process and will do everything in its power to ensure that his legitimate rights are protected. I appeal to workers, particularly in vital industries and sectors, to place the country first and keep in mind the conditions of the vast multitude of the low paid and the unemployment.

Government will continue its efforts to bring about a consensus among trade unions on the critical problems of uninterrupted production, increase in productivity, wages and participation in management.

Government has been considering methods of improving the performance of public sector undertakings. Some of these need to be restructured as holding companies so as to combine entrepreneurial vigour with effective public accountability. The Steel Authority of India Ltd. has been set up to reorganise the steel industry on these new lines. Further improvements in management practices and general administrative procedures are under examination.

The Approach to the Fifth Five Year Plan has been approved by the National Development Council. The Approach indicates the effort necessary to attain the twin objectives of self-reliance and the removal of poverty within a reasonable period. A number of programmes proposed to be taken up

in the Fifth Plan - the National Programme of Minimum Needs, the Employment programme, the accent on the development of backward classes and backward regions and the reorientation of the pattern of production with emphasis on goods of mass consumption - are designed directly to attack the problem of poverty. The Approach is based on Government's considered view that growth and social justice are interlinked. Social justice needs growth to be meaningful and growth needs social justice to be sustained and durable. The quality and content of growth are more important than growth by itself.

The new directions given to the Fifth Plan and the magnitude of its targets call for major efforts on the part of all sections of our people. We have to sustain and transfer the unity, morale and confidence which we demonstrated in meeting external danger to the fields of economic and social transformation of the country. I have no doubt that the people will respond to this challenge. It will be the privilege of this fifth Parliament of our Republic to give shape to the Fifth Five Year Plan and make it the turning point in our advance towards economic independence.

A number of programmes intended for the benefit of rural masses have been in operation for the last two to three years - the small and Marginal Farmers' Programme, the programme for Rural Employment, Drought Prone Areas Programme, provision of house sites to landless labour in rural areas and the Nutrition Programme. A special programme to provide employment opportunities for 5 lakh educated persons in the coming year has been formulated. These schemes for the provision of house sites to landless labour, creation of rural employment as also provision of water supply and electricity to rural areas will be further accelerated. The implementation of land reforms will be expedited.

Simultaneously, a programme of advance action for the Fifth Plan has been prepared. It is proposed to increase the production of pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane

and cotton, and to accelerate irrigation projects, improve the working of power stations and hasten the commissioning of those which are nearing completion. The production of steel and fertilisers is also being increased.

Realising the significance of education, both for social transformation and economic growth, Government has decided to take steps, in concert with State Governments, for programmes of educational reconstruction and development in the Fifth Five Year Plan.

A Science and Technology plan, which will form an integral part of the economic plan, is being prepared. This will help us to harness science and technology in a more purposive way for self-reliance and economic growth. At the same time, we must take measures to preserve the quality of the natural environment.

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A new Department of Space and a Space Commission have been constituted to utilise fully the benefits that can accrue to the country as a result of the peaceful uses of outer space.

Government has been deeply concerned at the recent developments in Andhra Pradesh. The problem in that State has a long history. We view with grave anxiety the resort to violence in an attempt to settle this problem. Such violence is opposed to the basic values we cherish; it has resulted in the loss of valuable lives and extensive damage to public property. I express my sympathy and sorrow for those who have suffered. There is no problem for which a reasonable solution cannot be found through calm and rational discussion. Government's sole consideration is to safeguard the interests of all sections of our people. I appeal to the people of Andhra Pradesh to cooperate fully with the Government in finding a peaceful solution.

I now turn to relations with neighbours, near and far. We have desired the estab-

lishment of mutually beneficial and friendly relations with Pakistan. We signed the Simla Agreement as the first step towards the establishment of durable peace. The Agreement lays emphasis on bilateralism for the solution of differences by peaceful means and excludes outside agencies and third party involvement. I am glad that India and Pakistan have been able, through bilateral negotiations, to determine a line of control in Jammu and Kashmir which is to be respected by both sides. Similarly, both sides have withdrawn their troops to the international border; in the process, India has vacated about 5900 sq. miles of Pakistan's territory. This by itself is concrete evidence of India's friendly intentions towards Pakistan.

The prisoners of war of the Western front have been exchanged. It is hoped that Pakistan will create the necessary conditions which would enable the three parties to the conflict in the Eastern theatre to hold discussions for the repatriation of the prisoners of war who surrendered to the joint command of India and Bangla Desh Forces. The Simla Agreement holds promise not only of improving and normalising relations between India and Pakistan but also of establishing durable peace in the sub-continent as a whole. This will enable the countries of the sub-continent to devote their energies and limited resources to the urgent task of furthering the economic and social well-being of their peoples.

Our friendship with Bangla Desh has taken concrete shape in the historic Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Peace and in Agreements on various matters of mutual interest. Bangla Desh has made remarkable recovery from the ravages of the liberation struggle. Within a year, Bangla Desh has adopted a Constitution and is about to hold her first General Elections. Seldom has a nation which has been through so harrowing an ordeal progressed so rapidly on the road to political stability and economic recovery. We hope that Bangla Desh, which has been recognised by 95 countries, will take her rightful place in the United Nations. We share Bangla Desh's concern

for her nationals who are detained in Pakistan and hope that they will soon be released.

In the death of His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuk, Bhutan lost a great statesman and India a dear friend. The news of his demise in Nairobi was received in India with a deep sense of shock and sorrow. We extend our co-operation to the new King, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuk and are confident that during his rule the existing ties of close friendship between Bhutan and India will be further strengthened.

We are happy that the long-delayed peace agreement in Vietnam has been concluded and that the terrible war that raged for a whole generation, causing great suffering and hardship to the people, has ended. We hope that the ceasefire will lead to a durable peace which will enable the people of Vietnam to address themselves to the tasks of reconstruction. We hope also that peace and order will come to the neighbouring States of Laos and Cambodia.

We have strengthened our ties of friendship, mutual understanding and co-operation with all countries. It is gratifying that with many of them our trade has also registered an increase. We value our close ties with the Soviet Union and will continue to strengthen them.

It is our earnest desire to improve understanding and co-operation with the United States of America.

The emergence of a new Western Europe, following the entry of the United

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Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland into the enlarged European Economic Community is a major development. It is our hope that this bigger European Community will look outward rather than inward and pursue a helpful approach to the problems of the developing countries.

We welcome the positive trends in the international situation which have created

an atmosphere of detente. My Government would like to normalise relations with China. We view the moves towards reconciliation between the United States of America and China, Japan and China, and between North and South Korea as positive steps in favour of the relaxation of tensions. In Europe, the acceptance by the Federal Republic of Germany of existing frontiers has led to relaxation of tensions between the Federal Republic of Germany and German Democratic Republic, in particular, and other European States in general.

We shared with the Zambian people their shock and anger when Rhodesia closed its border with Zambia and stopped the transit over Rhodesian soil of all Zambia's imports and exports. We have offered to help the Zambian Government with such assistance as we can give. We regret that because of the situation created by the Rhodesian action, the Zambian President, Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda, could not pay his State visit to India last month.

The expulsion of Asians from Uganda has been a matter of serious concern to the Government as it has led to the uprooting of several thousands of people of Indian origin who had made Uganda their home and had contributed to its development. During my visits to Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zambia, I found how these actions had embarrassed enlightened opinion in African countries which are striving for rapid economic development and racial equality and tolerance.

We continue to make common cause with the people of Africa who are fighting against colonialism, injustice and oppression. I am happy that our technical and economic co-operation with African countries is rapidly increasing.

We regret that there has been no progress towards a solution of the problem created by Israel's occupation of Arab territories. Our stand on this critical issue is based on principles which we have again supported in the last resolution in the United Nations calling on Israel to vacate these territories.

Honourable Members, the correctness of our internal and external policies and the basic vitality of our economy, our institutions and our people have been proved time and again whenever the country has had to face grave Situations. I am sure that our present difficulties are temporary and that we shall overcome them and emerge more united and disciplined. We shall have to work with clarity of vision and unity of purpose to meet these challenges.

During your present Session, you will be dealing with the Demands for Grants for the next financial year as well as with legislative business. Government will bring before Parliament a Bill to replace the Coal Mines (Taking over of Management) Ordinance, 1973. Government also intends to bring before Parliament a Comprehensive Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill. In addition, legislation to regulate foreign contributions and to establish a Newspaper Finance Corporation for rendering financial assistance to small and medium newspapers as well as Bills to amend the Election Law, the Cinematograph Act and the Delhi Development Act will be among the measures that will be brought before Parliament.

Honourable Members, I summon you to your new endeavours and wish you well.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA PAKISTAN MALI BHUTAN UNITED KINGDOM
KENYA VIETNAM CAMBODIA LAOS DENMARK IRELAND CHINA JAPAN KOREA GERMANY
ZAMBIA UGANDA ETHIOPIA TANZANIA ISRAEL

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Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Reply to Lok Sabha Debate on President's Address

Replying to the debate on the President's Address, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on February 27, 1973:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, some of our friends opposite have called the President's Address a ritual. Now, it is not a ritual, it is a requirement of the legislature; it is an assessment of the state of the nation and it indicates the work ahead, as the President has said, for the executive, for Parliament and for the country as a whole. If I may say so, as regards the action of some of our

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friends opposite who chose to boycott the Address, whatever their motives, whatever the reasons that they have given here, I think the country and the general public has taken it as not merely a protest, but as not honouring the President. I am not using strong words.

Although many Members have declared that this was not their intention, yet this is the way in which the public looks at it. Merely saying something else will not change the situation. Personally I think that it is a disservice to those who have elected the Members, because this is a part of parliamentary procedure, and if I may say so....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: What did her party members do in the Madras Assembly?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: That does not mean that I approve of their action there.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We are here to reflect the miseries of the people who have sent us here.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu has had his say, not once but a hundred times every single day. So, let him leave this time to me. Have we not been elected for that reason? Have the people elected us for some other reason?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We do not say that at all.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Then, why say the other. I consider their abstention an empty ritual. One hon. Member said that there was no juice and colour in the Address. IF the hon. Member's idea of juice and colour is what is provided here by the Opposition, I would say that he and they are welcome to it.

The Address has qualities which are far more solid and far more important, that is, truth, earnestness and determination. We have no need to indulge in verbal heroics. This Government, this party and indeed, I would say, the people of India, are deeply immersed in a very heroic task, not an easy task, but a task that needs all the qualities and all the strength of which this nation is capable.

This time last year, we were in the after glow of a war, a war which fully vindicated our ideals, our policies and our judgment. I said then that this crisis, the Bangla Desh-Pakistan crisis, which had overflowed on to our territory was an interruption in our own national battle for economic and social construction.

Hon. Members will perhaps remember that at that time I also said that our victory would involve a price in the form of great hardship in every field of activity in the country. Each measure We took then had financial and economic implications and it was obvious that the subsequent months would show the repercussions of what had happened then.

I mention this bit of recent history not to find a scapegoat, as one hon. member said, but to put these problems which are serious, grave problems, about which we are all deeply concerned, problems of price rises, of commodity shortages, of economic hardships in their proper perspective. Hardships are there. We knew they would come. We had warned the nation, we had warned Parliament. What we had not known and what constituted an added burden and increased our difficulties was the fact of drought. But

I have no doubt that the Government and the people of this country will overcome these difficulties, as they overcame the vast challenge that was posed to us in 1971.

The Opposition has a vested interest in Government's failure. But I hope they will also realise that, any failure at this point means tremendous increased hardship on the people. It does not 'mean hardship for Government but it does mean hardship for the people.

Many Opposition friends are fond of saying that 'you will not be there' or 'this will happen to Government'. I am equally keen on repeating as many times as is necessary that our interest is not in being here, our interest is in pursuing a particular policy and in seeing that that policy succeeds. If in pursuing that policy we do not succeed, it still does not mean that we give up policies which we consider to be right and which we feel have been vindicated by every event that has taken place.

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Hon. Members would do well to look back at their own speeches which they have been making. Is there any time when they thought the nation would make good? Is there any time when they thought that anything was succeeding? Yet in spite of those gloomy predictions, we did make good. We did meet the biggest challenge that perhaps any nation, developed, rich, affluent or poor, has faced and we did emerge a stronger country with greater self-confidence.

We are used to these speeches. They have been made today, they will be made tomorrow and they will be made all time to come. But Government is not going to be diverted from its declared, accepted policy or its programmes. Government has no intention of failing. Government is going to succeed in what it has set before itself. We may have shortfalls, we may have setbacks, as every country, every government, every people do have, have had and will continue to have. But we have no doubt at all that we face the future with confidence and that just

as we have overcome them, in spite of the gloomy forecasts made by hon. Members opposite and many other people in this country and their friends abroad, we are going to come through this with success.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY Bosu: Success with monopolists.

SHRIMATI. INDIRA GANDHI: At least I do not monopolise the time of the House.

In 25 years, the country's intrinsic strength and maturity have increased tremendously and have enabled us to face the multitude of challenges. The country must, and will, take the challenges of 1973 in its stride. The Opposition leaders spoke of galloping inflation, of galloping corruption, if I may say so, with galloping rhetoric in the House, and outside they have been encouraging disruptive activities of every kind.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: You have been doing it.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: No. Please, Shri Mishra, if you will take the trouble to read my speeches, you will find that even at the time of victory, I did not boast of the victory.

I would like to remind the hon. Member that the elections were held at the right time.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: You betrayed the Opposition in the elections. You were insulting us.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Shri Mishra has his own way of judging how our country proceeds. He might perhaps study what happens with regard to the elections in other countries. In fact, this is the first time we had one election a year ahead. The last elections of the State Assemblies were after due time, just a little later. We had decided that -

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Were you not discussing with us for postponement?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: We were certainly discussing, but what did we discuss? We discussed that since there was a war we could not have the election. But when the war ended, there was no excuse whatsoever to put off the elections, and therefore, the elections were held.

Now, in this Government, the road is a far too steep and difficult one for us to go galloping it much as we might like to gallop or cantor. I am afraid the road is far too difficult; the task is far too big a one, and the Government has to work hard. There is no time for any gallop on this side or that.

The biggest concern, and the immediate concern before us is naturally the question of organising relief. We have been and we are mobilising all the resources in money and in materials to overcome this crisis. Forty-eight lakhs of people are engaged in relief works in Rajasthan, in Gujarat, in Maharashtra, Mysore, Andhra Pradesh and Tripura. These relief works are being undertaken on a scale never before envisaged. The difficulties are indeed great, but this is the first time that the Government has come forward with such a vast programme of help. About 90,000 different kinds of relief work are under implementation.

The greatest hardship is due to the shortage of water-supply and certain steps have been taken: massive programmes for loans and grants for the digging of wells, for the production of rigs and arrangements for the transportation of water. There is hardship with regard to cattle. Relief camps have been opened. Subsidy for loans for the

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movement of fodder crops have been arranged from forests. We are trying to search out new items which can be used as fodder; for instance, the tops of sugarcane. There may also be other such items. Rs. 445 crores have been released.

There is also a special food plan for 1973-74 which includes an increase of rabi production and inputs for a higher kharif

output,

I am sorry that sometimes a case is tried to be made out that we are partial to one State and not to another. We are deeply concerned with the hardships in all parts, wherever they exist in different parts of India, and it is our earnest endeavour to see that all parts are helped equally within the resources which are available to us.

One hon. Member remarked that we always have droughts. If I may submit, such a blanket statement is an exaggeration and an over-simplification of the very grave issues involved. The drought this year is not a normal drought. It is a very unusual drought. The very fact that even those countries which are not usually importers of grains have imported enormous quantities shows how many countries have been affected this year. In fact some agency of the United Nations has taken special cognisance of the fact and is trying to mobilise world-wide resources and funds in order to help the countries which are affected. They have approached us also in this regard. It is as a result of the progress we have made on our agricultural front and our policy of building UP buffer stocks that we were able to manage this very difficult year with marginal imports. I do not agree with the honourable friends who feel that there is something shameful in imports. We should like to be self-sufficient but if there is a drought of such magnitude which has affected many people, we should not consider it as something wrong if we can help them by imports. Nevertheless we have been able to manage with only marginal imports. I share the agony of the honourable Members at the distress that is being caused in some parts of the country.

I am not one who usually quotes from newspapers, nor do I think that what the newspapers say is gospel truth. But honourable Members are very impressed when something comes out in print and since this paper happened to come to me only a few minutes ago, I thought I would read out what a foreign correspondent who has travelled in all the drought affected areas,

- Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Mysore, With the exception of Tripura, I believe - has said:

"I found the bulk of the Indian farm-lands were substantially better prepared than before to withstand the shortage of rain. The green revolution has not failed. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was only a little wrong when she said proudly last year that India has reached self-sufficiency in food."

This is the Christian Science Monitor; ...

AN HON. MEMBER: The name of the correspondent?...

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Davis.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I would like to invite him to my area.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Our production has gone up. Your shouting there is not going to change that fact. I do not think that Mr. Piloo Mody could have produced rains at the right time; if he could then I must say it was very remiss of him not to do so just because the Government is not his.

As I said, our economy has the capacity to deal with such situation. What has happened this Year is that Production of coarse grain in the rain-fed areas has been mainly affected. There is a steady increase in the Production of wheat from year to year because of our development activities. The drought-prone areas of the country do need to be dealt with on a separate footing. From the point of view of their overall development, as the House knows, a special group is currently finalising the strategy for the development of such areas and I am sure that in the Fifth Plan it will be possible for us to undertake the programme in a big way.

The other matter of great concern to us is that of the rise in the prices of food. A situation of shortfall in agricultural pro-

duction has been exploited and a psychology of scarcity has been created by painting every effort that is made as failure even from the beginning, leading to speculation and retention of stocks at various levels. The House knows of our scheme to take over the wholesale trade in wheat from the coming season. This is designed to eliminate some of the factors from our food economy which encourage hoarding and speculation. I know that this is a major structural reform, which will evoke opposition from interested groups and that every attempt will be made to scuttle it. But Government is determined to face this situation squarely. The State Governments will be enabled to make all administrative and organisational arrangements necessary for the success of the working of this scheme.

The other great problem is that of unemployment. But again, in spite of what some hon. Members have chosen to say on the floor of the House, these programmes have not crashed. On the contrary, although they took some time in taking off, they are now in full swing in the States and a large number of people have been provided with employment on worth-while schemes. I do not say that we have solved the entire problem, nor had we said that we would be able to do so. All that we had said was that it was a beginning and a help in the midst of a specially difficult situation, and that is what has happened. The major effort made in this direction in the last two years and the achievements gained so far cannot be simply brushed aside. It is Government's determination to go ahead and expand these programmes in the coming year, as announced in the President's Address.

Some people, of course, have made up their minds that nothing can succeed, and the minute a programme is announced they start announcing what a big failure it was, even before it has begun to function, and they start deriding the programme.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is based on past experience.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I am afraid the experience is rather limited, with all due respect to the hon. Member. Let me say modestly that the programmes launched by Government have succeeded to some extent.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: What is the success?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Had we not succeeded, we could not have faced the challenge. You cannot get away from that, no matter how much you try. This time two years ago hon. Members were all saying that we could not face the Bangla Desh situation. Well, now it is proved that we did face it. I say here and now that two years hence we will show that everything you have said today was wrong.

In the field of power, a group of Ministers have looked into the whole question during the last few months, and as a result of various studies that have been made, a concrete programme of obtaining additional power of nearly 500 MW by May, 1973 from the existing thermal generating plants has been drawn up. Production programmes for all the generation plants will be drawn up within the next three months and implemented in a coordinated and time-bound manner. Selected power projects will be accelerated to obtain an additional capacity of about 1300 MW by the end of 1973 and another 1750 MW by the end of 1974. The transmission projects necessary for this will also be accelerated. I am sorry for the difficulties which the Tamil Nadu Government is facing, but let me say that they are not more than those being faced by U.P. or Punjab or Haryana and perhaps some other States as well, just to quote a few instances. Effective measures will be taken for the linkage of power plants with coal mines and rail transport and control room operations for this purpose. These measures have already begun.

Similarly time-bound action programmes have been drawn up for fertilizers, etc. Our public enterprises have had their share of teething trouble and opposition members

should be happy because it gave them many talking points all these years. But now these enterprises are about to make good.

One hon. Member has spoken of uncertainty in the industrial climate. I think the answer to that is that there are some people who always feel uncertain. I do not know what we can do to make them feel less uncertain. Our industrial policy is quite clear... I am very sorry, Shri Banerjee, we cannot oblige you. Because there was always talk of uncertainty, we decided to re-state our policy very clearly a short time ago.

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Governmental decisions are taken in the light of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956, which clearly lays down the fields reserved for the public sector and fields which are reserved for the private sector and others in which both sectors could play their respective role. The priority given to them has been revised from time to time, according to the needs of the plan and our development. When the management of a mill or mine is mismanaged or is allowed to deteriorate without modernisation or re-investment, and it is taken over by the government in order to ensure continuity of production and employment and in order to modernise it, the bogey is raised that "government is going to nationalise everything" and "there is a climate of uncertainty". This uncertainty, if any, apart from being in the minds of the lion. Members opposite, is largely the making of some elements in the private sector.

So far as we are concerned, our socialism is not co-terminous with nationalisation. I have said it many times. Where nationalisation is necessary for the better running of anything or for the public good, we shall not hesitate to do it. But we do not believe that there should be nationalisation merely for the sake of taking over concerns or factories.

One hon. Member asked me for my definition of socialism. I have spoken on this subject quite a lot in various forums and I believe my views have been made perfectly clear. My socialism does not envisage

government doing everything. We neither expect this nor do we desire this. What we want to create is a climate of equality of opportunity in which our vast millions can help themselves.

I am not a Marxist. But I must say that the word does not frighten me either. Some of the insights given by Marx have been acknowledged even by apologists of the capitalist system. Men like Marx or Gandhi or other great men are too big to be imprisoned by any isms, -- of Marxism or Gandhism. Their ideas are too solid to be effected by this sort of criticism.

There are many forces in the world which do not want India to succeed. They are disturbed at the mood of self-assertion and the splendid performances of our people in facing the challenge. India can only follow an independent foreign policy, and our successive actions have proved this. Since December 1971 a new theory is being evolved, that of being a dominant power. I have never regarded this as a compliment. In fact, when I first read the phrase, I mentioned it to a newspaper correspondent who was interviewing me that in my view this was a crude attempt to sow suspicion against us amongst our neighbours. I have made the same remark during my visit to Nepal and on various other occasions. So this is not in reply to the speech reported in today's newspapers. We in the Government of India do not believe in power politics. We do not desire the status or the perquisites of what is known as conventional power. Events in Asia have proved that this kind of thinking by anybody that he is or that a big power has dominant or some kind of divine right of a big power to a sphere of influence, just does not apply in the contemporary world. Woo, of course have never believed in this. Now it has been proved to the entire world. If India has any strength, its strength is first to be used for the solution of our own national problems and then for the support of the independence and individuality of other countries, especially, developing countries.

This is the philosophy which was the

basis of our position in Simla. We are sorry that some countries still choose to indulge in anti-India tirades. Any indulgence in dramatics by certain elements will not encourage friendship or understanding. I heard one honourable Member saying here that it was a matter of shame and sorrow that we kept on talking about friendship with certain countries when those countries did not wish to be friends. Now, it is not a question of who wishes to be friends; it is a question of what we consider to be in our national interest. Other countries cannot be interested in our national interest. They will be interested in what they consider to be their national interest. But we have to pursue whatever steps, whatever policies, serve our interests and which we think are going to ultimately strengthen this nation. The Government of India is not ashamed to do anything to pursue friendship. Saying that we want friendship with a particular nation is not going to weaken us. We have always stood for friendship with all nations. This does not mean that we beg for friendship.

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Not at all. We stated our point of view. When we are asked for it. If we are asked, "Do you want to be friends?", either we have to say yes or no. We cannot say anything in the middle. Therefore, we do believe in friendship with all nations. But we believe in friendship with honour, friendship with equality and friendship which is to our mutual interest and benefit. It is that sort of friendship for which we are working.

There is some concern in the Press and elsewhere about the prisoners of war. I heard that one hon. Member was very unhappy over this matter. The question of prisoners of war is not insoluble. Neither Bangla Desh nor India has put any obstacles in the way of its solution. But to expect India to free the prisoners of war without the concurrence of Bangla Desh is wholly illogical and unrealistic. Also, how can we take seriously the plea of those who raise the humanitarian side of the question when they are so strangely and suspiciously silent over the fate of over 4 lakh Bengali civilians and

military personnel who have been dismissed from their jobs herded into camps? All the so-called world opinion which is agitating today about the prisoners of war has not thought about these poor people. So far as we are concerned, we are not interested in keeping them. It is a burden to us and it does not help our policy in any way. But certain international realities have to be understood and faced. You cannot ignore the existence of Bangla Desh or the interest which Bangla Desh has in this question.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Why not all the three heads meet?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I am only one head of Government, Mishraji, We are not stopping any meeting, we are not interfering in this matter. Bangla Desh is an independent sovereign nation and must be treated as such.

Now a rather very important problem is that of law and order and of violence. It has been stated in this House that violence, has grown and that the law and order situation has deteriorated because we have roused the expectations of the people. I hope the honourable Members will consider this statement in some depth. What is the alternative? Either you tell people about their right or you tell them that they should remain suppressed. There is no middle way. If you want to change society, then it must bring certain benefits to those who have not so far had them. The only other way is that to keep the status quo, which means that those who have so far been neglected remain neglected.

One of the weaknesses of our country was the apathy of the so-called weaker sections.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: You want to change the status quo through promises or performance?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The performance is going ahead. If some people do not want to see anything

SHRI JYOTHRMOY BOSU: Spectacular performance!

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: No. It was spectacular until 1962. After that there were many difficulties. As I said earlier, there is no galloping, it is a slow forward movement. Nevertheless it is a forward movement. It is not a static situation... But what is strange ... are the methods employed by the Opposition. I do not know Whether this is supposed to improve performance or to improve the law and order situation - these methods seem to be intended to create as much agitation and disturb as many things as possible. So far, I have not been able to see any constructive method nor, with all respect to the honourable Members opposite, have I heard a word from the Opposition parties condemning such violence or the sabotage which has taken place...

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: CRP atrocities.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The CRP is normally asked for by the State Governments when they feel that the situation cannot be met by ordinary means. There is no doubt that the loss of property and life would have been far greater had it not been sent to meet the situation for the CRP.

I see that friends from Andhra and Telangana are present in force. I do not know what they are expecting me to say.

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Obviously, I cannot say very much. This problem has a long history. We did not create the problem. We are not writing today on a clean slate. Whatever the situation today, it is the result of a number of things that had happened over the years, involving many issues. The present trouble has not arisen out of anything which we have initiated.

I am deeply concerned about what has happened in Andhra Pradesh. I have heartfelt sympathy for those who have suffered, for the loss of lives and other hardship. I

have respect for the emotions of the people and, especially, of my sisters of all parts of Andhra Pradesh. I can understand their agony. The manner in which the situation has developed, the manner in which, if I may say so - I hope my friends will not mind this - when misunderstandings arose, there was hardly any effort to correct the situation, and the misunderstandings were allowed to grow. And development took quite a different turn.

I have deliberately not spoken on this issue because I felt that it was not fair to pronounce judgements in such a highly emotional and surcharged atmosphere. We all know that whatever the motives, whatever the emotions - I am not passing judgement on them here - I am not saying whether they are right or wrong, but we know that this has resulted in a great deal of violence. It has resulted in acts of sabotage. The people who have interfered with the railways and other installations are not ordinary people. They are people who obviously knew just what to do in order to disrupt communications, the railway lines or whatever it was. We know also that there was a certain amount of coercion. Several people have written to me telling how they were forced to put their names on to a statement or to say something, etc. AU these things have happened.

SHRI PILOO MODY: That must be your own M.Ps.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: They were not M.Ps. and they were not legislators. They happen to be a very large number of people in Andhra Pradesh and even though Mr. Piloo Mody has perhaps been there, I probably know a large number than he does.

The students and the NGOs who have taken a prominent part in the struggle have been the ones to have suffered most. The students in their studies and the time they have lost, and the NGOs and their families in many other ways. And, of course, the ordinary, common people have also suffered great hardships. I am deeply sorry for all this, but we are told that one of the reasons

for this agitation is economic backwardness, and economic disparity or that some people have been made to feel second-class citizens. All kinds of things have been said. There may be some justification for them. But, backwardness can only be fought by pooling our resources in unison, not in isolation. And, the destruction of public property cannot but make the country poorer. Most of the property destroyed - apart from a couple of houses and so on - are utility services used by the ordinary, average citizen.

So, not only has there been suffering during the struggle, but hardship due to interruption of communications and other things is going to continue for a long time since it is not possible to repair them. I don't know whether it is fair to ask that other projects and things be given up in order to give priority to this work.

All I want to say is that decisions cannot be taken on the streets, or under any type of pressure. There must be calm and rational thinking. There must be discussion on all aspects of the problem. We know that no solution, however good a solution it is, can ever be the last solution or the perfect solution. Any solution to this problem or to other problems raises a number of new questions and problems. I should like to know what the answers to these problems are. Some problems we already know. Others will arise. What will be the answers to them? I have met and am meeting a large number of people, M.Ps. and others who are coming. I have met those who stand for integration, for one State. I have met those today who are speaking of separation and I have also met those who are trying to bridge the gap between the two. Now, I have told them, as I have stated publicly, that all aspects and all opinions will be given due consideration. As I said, all opinions that are expressed, all aspects of

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the problem which have been brought before me, will be given due consideration, but the decision must be taken in a calm and

unexcited atmosphere.

SHRI S. B. GIRI: We are waiting for your announcement. We are peacefully agitating for it. There was no violence in Telangana. It is better to announce it immediately. There is agony among the people.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: These decisions cannot be made that way. May be the Telangana people, having had their agitation, have remained peaceful afterwards. But now the other people are having an agitation. One cannot say that there is peace.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I would like to, know, is there no democratic process by which this decision can be taken? Does it have to be left to you and to you alone?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: It has certainly to be left to the Government - not to me alone, but to the Government. In a democratic system, the decisions are taken by Government and not just by the Opposition or by people collecting on the roads.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: How long is the gestation period going to be?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Only when people are calm and they can talk about it rationally and in an unexcited manner can the discussions go on properly; and anyhow, at this moment, we are in the midst of the discussions.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I am not excited. But she is excited. Why do we not talk about it?

SHRI S. B. GIRI: How long would this go on?

MR. SPEAKER: Let not Shri S. B. Giri do this every time. He may resume his seat now.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: My request and appeal to students would be to resume their studies and to all Government servants,

especially the NGOs who have suffered so greatly and are undergoing hardships to resume their duties.

As you have seen in the newspapers, whenever and wherever peace is restored and there is no longer danger in a particular area, the CRP and the Army units are being withdrawn.

Therefore, let us all think calmly on these questions and on all the likely repercussions of whatever decision is taken.

Some hon. Members felt that we had not said enough about education or about students.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: SO, Andhra is over?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Obviously, this is a question with which we are all deeply concerned, and Government is trying to deal with it. It is not an easy problem because it is touched by all that happens in the country.

The other day, somebody came to see me, I cannot remember who; he said that a person was scolding some students and others for making a noise and the manner in which they are behaving. One student turned and said 'Sir, are we worse than Parliament?' and there was no answer that could be given.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Therefore, she must give tickets to better people next time.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: So his point is that we are....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: It is a very unkind remark, so far as Parliament is concerned. If the Prime Minister is speaking this with approbation, then it is the unkindest cut of all, and the Prime Minister should not feel proud of it....

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: This was a thought which arose in a person's - something in the mind of someone. I am not

feeling proud at all. Nobody will and nobody could possibly feel proud. But this is the view of someone who has nothing to do

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with our party or politics told me. This was a spontaneous remark by a young person.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Why does she bring in a juvenile remark?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I do not think that it is a juvenile remark...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: She is a grown-up person and she should not have brought in this juvenile remark.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Obviously she said this to blame us in the Opposition. That was the only purpose for which she was recalling this remark by that person. But she is exempting her own party from this....

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: No matter what the purpose is... I am not exempting anybody. But anybody who sits in the visitors' galleries or sees the record Will know who makes more noise. The Opposition is welcome to attack the Government. And if they think that making baseless personal allegations is going to strengthen them let them make them, I do not wish to comment on what happens in the House, because, you, Sir, are witness to it all the time... On the rare occasion when one of our Members tries to rise to say something, then the entire Opposition gets up to shout him down. if this is the Opposition's version of democracy - well, it is not my version - nor do I think that this can. (Sic)

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: She has never been in the Opposition, and, therefore, she does not know what being in the Opposition means.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: We are not in Parliament to play political games we are here to build the nation. I think the majority of our people have accepted the path which we have outlined. It is true that

we have made mistakes, but we try to correct them. We have shortfalls in our programmes. But as I said earlier, we are nevertheless going ahead, in spite of the most tremendous difficulties which any people have ever faced, in the long history of the world or especially this continent.

Parliament should reflect the people's will and by the quality of discussion, I think they should educate our people...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: We do not require these homilies from the Prime Minister.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The Prime Minister will say when she feels like saying. The Prime Minister always listens to your homilies. No, if homilies are not allowed, let nobody give homilies. This right is not going to be reserved for Shri S. N. Mishra.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Let us not quarrel between homilies.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: When we see that smaller loyalties are being pursued, it is certainly the duty of all of us to put the larger picture. Therefore, it is a matter of some pain and sorrow when we see what often happens here. I am not laying blame on one or the other because each person should really see...

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: What happens?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Well, they can see what happens. What image of Parliament is being projected outside? What image of the country is being projected? Does this help the poor of the country or does it help those who do not have the interest of India at heart.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We are not here to be carried away by your gimmicks; we are here to reflect the feelings of the people.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: One honourable Member has spoken of scapegoat. I seek no scapegoat. I have never been one to shirk

my responsibility. It is the Opposition which is seeking scapegoats for its inability to formulate any policy which they can put before the country or for them to find popular support.

One honourable Member spoke about a sort of what he called the motley crowd in our party. We do have people of different opinions in our party. We have a range of opinions but that entire range is contained within the main policy which we want to pursue and to which we are committed. But look at the honourable Members opposite. What is there in common between the policies of the Swatantra and the CPI(M), for instance?

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SHRI PILOO MODY: Nothing at all.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: But they are always together. They function together. After consulting outside, they come in and have a united forum here.

SHRI PILOO MODY: What do we consult on? On matters of corruption, mal-administration, bad government ...

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: It does not matter what.

SHRI PILOO MODY: ... cheating, thug-gery; we want to consult these to attack the Government.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Shri Piloo Mody, if you wanted to speak you could have spoken before. I do not know whether you did or not. But anyway I am speaking now and I would like to say...

SHRI PILOO MODY: You Should have known that I did not. I only comment on what is worth commenting.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We are not a bagula party; we are not opportunists.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: In all seriousness, I should like to say that what

the Opposition is doing in India is, I think, weakening the will of our people. It is belittling the achievements of our people. Why are they so touchy, Sir? They abuse us in the worst possible language and we are supposed to listen to them and we do but they are not prepared to listen to even a small remark.

The world situation is changing. The situation in Asia is also a very fluid one. If I may repeat what I said in my party meeting, this is a time when long-established patterns in many parts of the world are changing, are shifting. It is time when the entire Indian nation must be extremely vigilant, and on its toes, so as to be aware of any nuances that take place... Including the Opposition -- that is what I am justifying to say.

We must be on the look out for the dangers that can arise in these situations which are forming and un-forming for India. We must all keep before us a picture of a country which is socially better, economically stronger and intellectually and morally free.

AN HON. MEMBER : Convenient Opposition.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I do not want a convenient Opposition at all. Not at all.

AN HON. MEMBER: A silent Opposition.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Neither a silent Opposition. But I do not think that it is necessary to shout together all the while to make a point. A point can be made more firmly and effectively by speaking normally rather than by people getting up together and everybody shouting and shouting down the other people.

Therefore, Sir, I appeal to my party, to the Opposition parties, to rise to the great challenge of the moment, to justify the faith which the people have reposed in Parliament. We are, as I said, at the juncture where faith and hard work can and will see us over this

difficult hump. Let us not fail the nation.

So, Sir, I request all honourable Members not to press their amendments and to support the motion on the President's Address.

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USA INDIA PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU NEPAL TUNISIA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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SRI LANKA

India-Sri Lanka Telecommunication Services

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on February 1, 1973, on the new procedures to be followed in the telecommunication services between India and Sri Lanka from April 1, 1973:

New operating and accounting procedures are to be introduced on the telegraph and telephone service between India and Sri Lanka. This is understood to have been decided at the recent talks held here between P & T officials of the two countries. The Indian team at the talks was led by Shri N. V. Shenoj, Secretary, Ministry of Communications and the Sri Lanka delegation by Shri C. J. Serasinghe, Secretary, Ministry of Posts & Telecommunications.

It is understood that the two countries have agreed to go over to the international methods of operation and accounting on the India-Sri Lanka telecommunication services with effect from April 1, this year. With effect from that date, ordinary and urgent telegrams, with minimum charge for 7 words,

will be available between the two countries. Press telegrams will have a minimum charge for 14 words. The revenue on the telegraph traffic will be shared in the ratio of 3 (India): 2 (Sri Lanka).

The method of operation of India-Sri Lanka telephone service will also be revised with effect from April 1. For this purpose, India will be divided into two Zones. Zone One will comprise Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry and Zone Two the rest of the country. On calls between Zone One in India and Sri Lanka, the "finder-keeper principle" will be in operation, i.e., each country will keep its share of revenue. On calls between Zone Two in India and Sri Lanka, the revenue will be shared in the ratio of 4(India): 1(Sri Lanka).

The pattern of telephone service will also be modified. There will be two classes of calls, namely ordinary and urgent with P.P.(Particular Person) facility. The minimum charge for a call will be for the first three minutes: thereafter the charge will be for every additional minute. The charge for an urgent call will be double that for an ordinary call. P.P. charge will be equal to a call of one-minute duration. There will be no concessional tariffs.

It is understood that during the talks, there was agreement on the need to strengthen and modernise the existing telecommunication links between India and Sri Lanka. Instead of wireless morse working, it is proposed to have a radio teleprinter circuit. The existing three-channel carrier system, which is of obsolete design, is also to be replaced by a bigger and modern carrier system in the immediate future. Also on the existing open wire lines, on which the carrier system is in operation, the copper wire, which is subject to theft with consequent disruption of service, will be replaced by aluminium wire. India has offered to assist Sri Lanka with the supply of necessary materials.

It has also been agreed in principle to have a microwave link on a long-term basis between the two countries to provide more stable and a larger number of circuits.

The decisions taken at the New Delhi talks will be ratified through exchange of letters between the telecommunication administrations of the two countries.

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SRI LANKA

India-Sri Lanka Joint Press Statement

The following Joint Press Statement was issued in Colombo on February 17, 1973, at the end of the visit of Indian delegation of officials to Sri Lanka:

A delegation of officials from India led by the Foreign Secretary, Sri Kewal Singh, visited Colombo from February 12 to 17, 1973, to discuss with a delegation of officials of Sri Lanka led by the Secretary, Ministry of Defence and Foreign Affairs, Mr. W. T. Jayasinghe, matters relating to the progress in the implementation

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of the Agreement between India and Sri Lanka of 30th October, 1964.

The two delegations discussed these matters in a friendly atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual accommodation. Both delegations reviewed the implementation of the 1964 Agreement and reiterated that it was their common interest to ensure its smooth, speedy and effective implementation.

The leaders of the two delegations agreed to hold another meeting during the latter part of the year at New Delhi to re-

view further progress in the implementation of the Agreement and study further development of their bilateral relations. The date for the next meeting will be mutually agreed upon in due course.

The leader of the Indian delegation was received by the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka with whom he had the opportunity to discuss the international situation and to survey bilateral relations. Shri Kewal Singh also had a very useful discussion with the Deputy Minister of Defence and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Lakshman Jayakody, on matters of mutual interest. The Foreign Secretary had a useful exchange of views with the Secretary of the Ministry of Defence and Foreign Affairs, Mr. W. T. Jayasinghe.

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Date : Feb 01, 1973

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SRI LANKA

Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement in Rajya Sabha on Repatriation of Stateless Persons from Sri Lanka

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, made the following Statement in the Rajya Sabha on February, 23, 1973, in reply to a Calling Attention Notice, regarding speeding up the repatriation of stateless persons of Indian origin from Sri Lanka:

The House is aware that the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964 (also known as the Shastri-Bandarnaike Agreement) envisaged that over a period of 15 years starting from 1964, 525,000 stateless persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka would be repatriated to India while at the same time and

in agreed proportion 300,000 such stateless persons would be granted Sri Lanka citizenship. The Agreement further stipulated that the repatriation would be conducted in an evenly phased manner; this would mean that some 35,000 persons should be repatriated annually for settlement in India.

During the first four years after the signing of the Agreement, very little repatriation took place since various administrative measures could not be finalised. Till the 17th February, 1973, 84,801 persons have been repatriated to India, while Sri Lanka had granted citizenship to 48,249 up to the end of November 1972.

An officials meeting for reviewing the implementation of the Agreement took place between the 14th and the 17th of February this year in Colombo. On our side the Foreign Secretary led the Indian Delegation. The officials of both governments reviewed various aspects of the working of the Agreement and agreed to take all measures possible to ensure its smooth and full implementation. The repatriation at the agreed rate of 35,000 persons per year could not be achieved for the last eight years. Government of India has agreed in principle to increase the rate of repatriation in the coming years. Details are being worked out.

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SRI LANKA

Foreign Minister's Statement in Lok Sabha

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, made the following statement

in the Lok Sabha on February 26, 1973, in reply to a Calling Attention Notice, regarding the repatriation of about 35,000 stateless persons of Indian origin from Sri Lanka to India this year:

As the House is aware, the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964 envisaged that India

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would accept for repatriation 525,000 stateless persons of Indian origin, while Sri Lanka would grant citizenship to 300,000 such persons, in an evenly phased manner over a period of 15 years; this would mean that India would accept repatriation of an average of 35,000 persons per annum and Sri Lanka would grant citizenship to 20,000 persons per annum beginning from the date of the Agreement.

Since various prior arrangements had to be made, implementation of the Agreement has been delayed. Till the 17th February, 1973, 84,801 persons have been repatriated to India, while Sri Lanka has granted citizenship to 48,249 persons upto the end of December, 1972.

A meeting of officials of the two countries led by their respective Foreign Secretaries was held in Colombo from 14th to 17th February this year to review progress in the implementation of the Agreement. The Agreement was considered in all its aspects and both sides agreed to take all possible measures to ensure its smooth and full implementation. During the last eight years, the stipulated rate of repatriation of 35,000 on Indian side and the grant of citizenship to 20,000 on Sri Lanka side could not be achieved. Government of India has agreed in principle to accelerate the rate of repatriation in the coming years. The details are being worked out.

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Date : Feb 01, 1973

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SWITZERLAND

Indo-Swiss Air Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Note issued in New Delhi on February 28, 1973, on the conclusion of an agreement on co-operation between Air India and Swissair:

Consultations between the delegations of the Aeronautical Authorities of India and Switzerland took place in New Delhi on February 26 and 27, 1973.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri N. Sahgal, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. The Swiss delegation was led by Dr. W. Guldemann, Director of Swiss Federal Air Office.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and goodwill and led to an agreement on the operations of Air India and Swissair and cooperation between them.

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TANZANIA

Speech of Vice-President Pathak at Banquet in Honour of First Vice-President of Tanzania

The Vice-President, Shri G. S. Pathak,

gave a banquet in honour of His Excellency Mr. Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi, First Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania in New Delhi on February 20, 1973. Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said:

I have great pleasure in extending to Your Excellency a cordial welcome tonight

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on behalf of the Government and people of India on this, the first official visit of a most distinguished representative of Zanzibar to our country.

On this occasion we recall the whole panorama of history which has linked India and Zanzibar together down the ages. Zanzibar and India have had flourishing mutual contacts from the earliest period of recorded history. Over twenty-five centuries ago, the great Carthaginian explorer Hanno described what he found in Zanzibar - and I quote - "wheat, rice, clarified butter, sesame oil, cotton cloth, girdles, honey and sacchary from India". According to the same source Zanzibar sent even then - and I quote again - "spices, cinnamon, ivory, rhinoceros horns, tortoise shells and coconut oil to distant lands including India". There are not many countries geographically so far apart which can claim such ancient kinship. These contacts, Your Excellency, were nurtured by the winds which carried not only the rain-bearing clouds to both our lands, but also the sturdy Dhows to our shores. In subsequent history both our lands have been enriched by the culture, language and religion which came through Arabia and Persia. In more modern times we have suffered similar vicissitudes in history when ships and colonisers from Europe came in search of profit and conquest to Asia and Africa. The colonial era, by compelling us into a common empire and subjugation, separated us from our ancient, independent and mutually beneficial relationship.

Your Excellency, we view your visit today as symbolic of, the rediscovery of Zanzibar and India by each other and of the

recognition, that' the bonds of nature such as the winds and oceans remain indestructible.

It is the inexorable strength of this time-honoured and natural relationship on two sides of the Indian Ocean which is now unfolding before us. Recently, our President during his visit to Tanzania was your guest in Zanzibar. He told us he found himself instinctively at home in your country, in the midst of your multiracial culture and above all, in the warmth of your hospitality and friendship. We are, indeed, privileged to host, I believe the first, planned official visit that you are paying to any country after you assumed the reins of your present high office. If the people from India were one of the earliest visitors to Zanzibar, it is only appropriate that India should have the privilege to be one of the first to receive you.

Your Excellency, it is not enough for us to dwell on our geographical proximity, the links of our cultural heritage, or even on the ups and downs, of our, respective histories. I think you would agree that in our newly-won freedom we have to fulfill the promise of a better life and redeem the pledges which we made when we became independent. We must build our nations so that we eradicate poverty, rid our society of exploitation and provide social justice to our people. Our President, after his visit to Zanzibar, has come back immensely impressed with the great strides you have made under the leadership of the Afro-Shirazi Party in the quest for such social justice by providing free education and housing and security against want, unemployment and old age. We in India, with a vast population and gigantic dimensions to our problems, rejoice that the democratically expressed will of our people has given a similar mandate for the establishment of social and economic justice and equality. We believe that Tanzania, under President Nyerere, has been a torchbearer, not only to Africa but for the entire developing world, in its chosen strategy towards a socialist society and principled policies both at home and abroad. Even while we must, in our different circumstances, find our own paths to progress, these affinities in our ideals

naturally bring us together.

In our independent self-chosen paths, none of our countries can isolate itself and stand aloof from the rest of the world. Our commitment to non-alignment does not mean isolationism. It implies that regardless of Ideology we must discover mutually beneficial partnerships to achieve international peace and security. We must seek to learn from each other; for otherwise we may again slide into a new kind of servitude born out of imitation and borrowed patterns for our political and economic systems.

Our governments have found ready agreement in such a strategy for our separate and common endeavours. In these last few months we have already exchanged ideas on our future economic cooperation. Just as our President came back, stimulated and

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impressed by what he saw in Zanzibar, I hope during your visit to India you will see what progress we have achieved during these 25 years of our independence. We do not seek to hide our shortcomings or minimize the heavy agenda of unfulfilled tasks before us. But I would repeat that whatever merit you may find in our experience can unhesitatingly be placed at your disposal for you to draw upon.

The tasks before our nations are immense; the challenges before us are the greater because it is a difficult world in which we have to struggle on our paths to progress. Colonialism has retreated in vast areas in the face of our will to independence, but it viciously holds on to large areas in Africa. However, colonialism must, inevitably, retreat before the indomitable will of the people to liberation from those pockets of minority or colonial domination. The recent challenges thrown by the illegal regime in Rhodesia against Zambia are a reminder, if reminders are needed, that the racialists and colonial regimes are not reconciled to their inevitable doom. But racialism, in all its manifestations, must be smothered to keep the torch of multi-racialism burning as our ideal

and inspiration. It cannot be left to the affluent world to resolve the economic problems of developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our quest for self-reliance depends above all on our determination and sacrifices and our will to promote co-operation between developing countries. We have been and will remain united against Imperialism and colonialism. We are true to our put-pose and our vision - of social justice at home, world peace and friendship with all nations - we will undoubtedly conquer the obstacles before us. Therefore, the rediscovery of each other and the bonds we are forging between Tanzania and India will, I hope, provide a model of such mutual respect and cooperation and be a contribution towards the wider vision for Asia and Africa.

It is in this confidence that I request my colleagues and guests to raise the toast to His Excellency Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and our guest this evening, His Excellency Mr. Aboud Jumbe, President of the Afro-Shirazi Party, First Vice-President of Tanzania and the Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Zanzibar, and to the welfare and progress of the people of Tanzania.

TANZANIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA ZAMBIA

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TANZANIA

Tanzanian First Vice-President's Reply

Replying, His Excellency Mr. Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi said:

First of all let me take this opportunity to express on behalf of my colleagues and myself, our sincere thanks for the kind invitation which you, Mr. Vice-President, have extended to us, and for the very warm and cordial reception which you and your countrymen have accorded to us since our arrival in this great country. We have been much moved by the hospitality which has been showered upon us, and we believe that the warmth with which you have received us indicates the strength of India's friendship towards Tanzania. We would like to assure you, Sir, that your feelings of friendship for us are fully reciprocated by the Government and the people of Tanzania.

My colleagues and I thus bring warm greetings from our President, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, from our Government, and from the people of the United Republic of Tanzania. We shall be grateful if Your Excellency Mr. Vice-President will kindly convey these genuine assurances of friendship and goodwill to the President, the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of India.

It is the hope of our delegation that our visit to you will further enhance the good and friendly relations which already exist between India and Tanzania. For this, our present delegation does not serve to inaugurate mutual friendship between our nations. That is of long standing. It developed out of the common ideals and the common stand on many important matters of principles which have marked the policies of our two countries, and it was consolidated by the exchange of visits between President Nyerere

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and President Giri - whom we were very happy to welcome in the United Republic last year.

Tanzania views this warm relationship since 1961 as a natural thing, although it was inhibited for too many years by the colonialism we both suffered from. For this foreign domination meant that over a long contact between our two peoples was like

contact between menials whom a common master uses one against the other for his own benefit. Yet the truth was that the Indian people and the Tanzanian people both suffered under the grinding weight of colonialism; both experienced the effects of being divided and ruled in order to be the more effectively ignored, humiliated, and exploited. Nonetheless, both of our peoples ultimately gathered strength to challenge and fight the alien domination which had been ruthlessly imposed upon them. And through the inspiration and guidance of able and dedicated leaders, first India, and then Tanzania, successfully fought British imperialism. Both of our peoples broke the ties which had fastened a foreign yoke to our backs.

That success took place twenty-five years ago in your case, and about ten in ours. But in fact the association between our two countries goes back much further than that; it existed long before either of us was colonized. Indeed, there is a great deal to be said for the statement that the history of Zanzibar and the East Coast of Africa was written by the Monsoons and the Dhow. The North-East and the South-West Monsoons, which regularly blow to and fro across the Indian Ocean, brought to the East Coast of Africa, from very early times, Visitors from Persia, India, and South Arabia - and even from the Far and Middle East. Contact between those countries, and between Tanzania and India, actually began about 18 or 19 centuries ago! What colonial rule did was to organise these contacts, to systematize and regularise them. Unfortunately, whatever advantages our peoples' gained in the process of this expansion and Organisation of contact were merely incidental. The purpose was, quite literally, the exploitation of our natural resources in manpower and materials. We were being used by our colonial master for the benefit of his Empire and the interests of Europe. It is therefore very fitting that after we had both attained independence we should begin to work together to transform the exploitative relations into mutually beneficial contact. This task is still continuing in the knowledge that whatever ties we now choose to forge, and whatever relations we decide

to develop and maintain, will be of our own choice, and can therefore be directed towards the real benefit of our own countries and our own peoples.

During Mwalimu Nyerere's visit to India in 1971, during President Giri's visit to Tanzania in 1972, and throughout the subsequent exchanges of delegations by our two countries, the possibilities and potential of cooperation have become clearer. On our side, we have been confirmed in the belief that Tanzania could use India's experience to her great benefit. And on your side has come the repeated demonstration that you are very willing to help us do so.

Let me take this opportunity to repeat that Tanzania genuinely appreciates your readiness to cooperate with our government and people. We have already received valuable aid and assistance from the people of India, and that experience has made us realise how much we can learn from your country. We are realising that the notion that developing countries must always turn to Europe or America for ideas, norms, and practical assistance, is not just nonsense; it is an example of colonial mental attitude which are so much more difficult to eradicate than the physical manifestations of domination. Therefore, we look forward to still further development of trade, and of technical and economic co-operation between our two nations. We believe it can help us, and that it can serve to strengthen the Third World generally.

Of course, we are aware that India, like Tanzania and the other new nations, is faced with many problems, both internal and external. Internally you must be faced with the usual problems of development, plus the extra problems arising from the vital effort to establish socialism in a society that has long been accustomed to a different social order, and the problems posed by the need to maintain peace and order even while you effect the vast changes which every visitor to India comments upon.

Externally, you have to tackle the problems arising from the need to normalise and

stabilise relations with your neighbours, so as to maintain cohesion and harmony both in the Indian sub-continent and further afield. These are Asian problems; but they are nevertheless Africa's problems too. For we need the national, and the collective, effectiveness of Asia in the struggle against colonialism and neocolonialism; we need a strong and peaceful Asia for the Third World's struggle to make an impact on world international relations.

We in Tanzania are confident that in all these matters pertaining to the development of the oppressed members of mankind, India will continue to play a leading role. Already India's example and leadership has contributed to the freedom struggle in Africa and elsewhere. In the United Nations, and in the Commonwealth, your country has played a vital part in the struggle for the total emancipation of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Unfortunately, we have a great deal still to do, but in the doing of it we shall be contributing to much needed peace, stability, and sanity, in this world.

Let me add that, in these, as in so many other matters, Tanzania and India are working in harmony. We are fellow-fighters in the struggle against racialism, colonialism, and neocolonialism. And I can assure you that we in Tanzania will not falter in the struggle. We shall march with you and other freedom, loving countries until colonialism and international exploitation are dead and buried.

Finally, Mr. Vice-President, let me briefly touch on more direct and recent happenings.

Between the 5th and 13th December, 1972, a Tanzanian delegation led by the Hon. Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr. Amir Jamal, visited India. That delegation saw many places and many things of interest to Tanzania, held fruitful discussions with their counterparts, and on their return to Tanzania had nothing but praise for what they had learnt. Even more recently, and

at our request, a delegation from India led by Mr. Nanjappa visited Tanzania. Unfortunately, I have not yet had the opportunity to acquaint myself fully with the findings and recommendations of this latter delegation. But I can already say that the Revolutionary Council of Zanzibar has, in principle, accepted the recommendations made by the delegation as regards to Zanzibar. And I am able to speak for the whole of the United Republic when I express our appreciation of the magnificent work done by this delegation during the short time they were able to spend in our country.

We hope that during our present visit we shall be able to build on this past work, and even finalise some plans for mutually beneficial co-operation so that work can be started on agreed projects with the very minimum of delay. By this and other means we hope that we can make a reality of what President Giri so eloquently said at the Dinner Party in Zanzibar last year. He then said that instead of the Indian Ocean being a barrier separating our two countries, we should use it as a highway of communication and trade, that will strengthen our contact, enrich our co-operation, and bring peace and prosperity to our two peoples.

May I therefore ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to raise your glasses and drink with me a toast to the health and well-being of the president, the Vice-President, and the Prime Minister of India, to the further expansion of the friendship between our two countries and to the development of ever closer contacts across the Indian Ocean that joins India and Tanzania.

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TANZANIA USA INDIA MALI

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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The following Press Note was issued in New Delhi on February 17, 1973, on the first session of the Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation:

The Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, which was set up in accordance with an Agreement signed by India and USSR in Moscow on September 19, 1972, held its First Session in New Delhi from February 9 to February 17, 1973. The Soviet side was led by H.E. Mr. S. A. Skachkov, Chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR. Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister for Planning, led the Indian side.

The Soviet side included Mr. L. N. Effremov, Vice-Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, Mr. I. T. Grishin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, Mr. V. A. Sergeev, Vice-Chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Mr. V. B. Spandarian, Member of the State Planning Committee, Chief for Foreign Trade Department. The Indian side included Shri B. D. Pande, Cabinet Secretary, Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Ministry of Finance (EA), Shri B. B. Lal, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Electronics, Dr. S. Dhawan, Secretary, Department of Space, Shri K. A. Wadud Khan, Secretary, Department of Steel, Dr. R. Ramanna, Member, National Committee on Science and Technology and Director B.A.R.C., Trombay and Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary (ED), Ministry of External Affairs. The two delegations were assisted by their respective experts. The teams of experts were headed by Mr. V. A. Sergeev on the Soviet side and Shri M. S. Pathak, Member, Planning Commission, on the Indian side.

The members of the Soviet delegation availed themselves of the opportunity of their stay in India to visit Heavy Electrical Equipment Project, Hardwar and Bokaro Steel Plant.

H.E. Mr. Skachkov was received by the Prime Minister. He also had discussions with Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam, Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of Finance, Shri D. K. Borooah, Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals, and other high dignitaries.

The Indo-Soviet Joint Statement issued in Moscow on September 29, 1971 at the conclusion of the visit of the Prime Minister of India to the USSR, stated that there were favourable prospects for the further expansion and deepening of cooperation between the USSR and India, particularly in the fields of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy; prospecting, production and processing of oil, natural gas and minerals; petrochemical industry; production cooperation between industrial enterprises of the USSR and India, and in Science. In pursuance of this, the experts of India and USSR have had meetings in New Delhi in November and December, 1972 and in Moscow in January, 1973, and worked out proposals on cooperation in these fields. The results of the work of these groups were reviewed and approved by the Joint Commission at its first session.

The deliberation of the Joint Commission were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and, mutual understanding, reflecting the spirit of growing friendship and cooperation between India and USSR. At the end of these discussions, an agreed Protocol was drawn up.

The Protocol envisages continued cooperation between India and the USSR in various fields. This includes expansion of the steel plants in Bhilai and Bokaro; design and construction of a mine and concentrator based on copper deposits in Madhya Pradesh; development of production cooperation between the organisations of India and USSR

in selected items; the application of geo-chemical methods for geological prospecting, production and processing of oil and natural

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gas as well as setting up of additional oil refining capacity; supply of completing parts and components required for Soviet-aided projects; different areas in the field of electronics; increase of exports of non-traditional items from India to USSR and the construction of the Calcutta underground railway.

The Joint Commission also took note of the programme drawn up for 1973-74 in accordance with the Agreement on cooperation between USSR and India in the field of Applied Science and Technology signed in Moscow on October 2, 1972. The Commission further noted that immediate measures could be taken for the promotion of cooperation in the setting up of training centres in India in specialised fields of industry.

It has been agreed that the next Session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission will be held in Moscow in 1974.

INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Oil Exploration

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi On February 26, 1973, on the decision of the two countries to further cooperate in oil exploration:

India and the U.S.S.R. have agreed to further cooperate in geological exploratory work to increase the oil and gas reserves in the country.

The arrangements were agreed to following detailed discussions with the Soviet delegation led by Mr. D. A. Takoev, the U.S.S.R. Deputy Minister of Oil Industry. The delegation which arrived on February 2 was due to leave for Moscow today.

The discussions were held in accordance with the decision of the Joint Indo-Soviet Commission, on. Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation. During the talks with the Soviet delegation, representatives of the Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals and the Oil & Natural Gas Commission examined the main directions in which the two countries could further cooperate in developing the public sector oil industry.

The two sides examined questions regarding implementation of the Indo-Soviet Protocol of March 1972 and issues relating to the present position and further development of the oil industry in India.

It was observed that in accordance with the Protocol, the geological exploratory work aimed to add to the country's oil and gas reserves had been continued and that steps had been taken to increase its volume of work as suggested in the techno-economic feasibility report jointly prepared by ONGC and Soviet experts.

FIVE YEAR OIL EXPLORATION PROGRAMME

The Soviet delegation was informed that the Government had approved and accepted variant I of the report, which envisaged adding 64 million tonnes of crude to the country's oil reserves and establishing an oil production rate of 8 million tonnes by ONGC at the end of the 5-year period. The programme for the first year was expected to commence from April 1973.

It was agreed during the discussions that there was a great necessity to prepare

estimates of oil and natural gas reserves in the various sedimentary basins of India and intensify geological, geophysical and exploratory drilling work in the more prospective basins. It was also felt that the volume of drilling activity should be considerably increased and old drilling equipment and tools should be replaced gradually by new and more efficient equipment and tools.

It was further felt that there should be a wide use of modern methods of oil field development to increase recovery of oil. Methods should also be devised for maximum utilisation of the existing number of oil wells and reduction in the number of idle wells.

It was also agreed that scientific research, which may contribute to the solution

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of tasks before the oil and gas industry in the public sector and help in its development, may be expanded.

The Soviet delegation agreed that the U.S.S.R. would be prepared to render assistance in solving these problems and would be ready to depute highly qualified experts in different specialised fields. Soviet organisations would also be ready to supply equipment, materials and spares required by the Oil & Natural Gas Commission.

Technical assistance from the U.S.S.R. in the form of services of experts for jointly assessing oil reserves and preparing plans, for exploration of sedimentary basins would also be available.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Feb 01, 1973

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Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement in Parliament on Attack on Indian High Commission in U.K.

The following statement was made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, in the Lok Sabha, on February 22, 1973, in reply to Calling Attention Notices regarding the attack by Pakistani gunmen on the Indian High Commission in U.K.:

At 9-30 A. M. (London time) on February 20, 1973, when the front doors of the Indian High Commission in Aldwych, London, were opened a few minutes before office opening time, some intruders in possession of arms, came into the building and attempted to hold up some members of our staff who were coming in, or were already inside. The intruders put on masks, took out arms and started rounding up, and tying up, some members of our staff, threatening them by flourishing arms and assaulting them. One of our Security Guards on duty grappled with them and was injured in the scuffle.

Two of the masked men tied up two employees of our High Commission and threatened them, while demanding the keys of the main door. One of our officials was able to leave the building by a side door and alert the police. The police arrived on the scene within minutes and engaged the gunmen. In the encounter two of the intruders were killed, and one was injured and arrested. Enquiries are now on and we hope to know if there were any other assailants who escaped.

Apart from the Security Guard two other members of our staff received injuries. All of them received treatment in hospital, and none of them is now in danger. The London police acted with commendable promptness and brought a potentially ugly situation under swift control. I am sure the House would like me to express our appreciation for this. So far not much is known about the motivation for this outrage, but

the assailants are believed to be of Pakistani origin. We understand that the police have taken possession of one sword, 3 daggers, and 2 replica guns. Police also seized from them a sizeable quantity of acid and a spray Pump

Lord Balniel, Minister of State in the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office, called on our Acting High Commissioner in London, and expressed the regret and sympathy of Her Majesty's Government on this incident. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of U.K., Sir Alec Douglas-Home has sent a message to us expressing deep concern over the attack on our High Commission.

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The personnel of our High Commission displayed commendable presence of mind and patience in dealing with the situation.

In view of the unfortunate tendency towards violence in almost all parts of the world, especially against diplomats, quite some time ago all our important missions abroad were given detailed guidance about dealing with security problems of this nature. These instructions were further reinforced on the 20th February, 1973, to all our missions abroad.

Two senior officials of the Government of India left Delhi last night for London to assist the U.K. authorities, if necessary, with further investigations, and to ensure full and appropriate security measures for our buildings and staff in London.

WORLD MONETARY SITUATION

Statement by Government of India

The following statement made by a Government of India spokesman in New Delhi on February 15, 1973, on the international monetary situation:

On Monday night (12th February) the USA announced its decision to devalue the

dollar by 10 per cent. The pound sterling continues to float and the yen has also floated. A new central rate of Deutsch Mark 2.9003 equal to one dollar has been fixed by West Germany. The Italian, lira is also floating.

We have been watching these developments primarily from the point of view of their effect on our trade and our economic position in general. As you gentlemen, know, after the Smithsonian agreement we fixed a central rate of $\text{£} 1 = \text{Rs. } 18.9677$. Subsequently, after the pound floated Reserve Bank has been buying and selling sterling since last July at rates around Rs. 18.80 equal to one pound sterling operating within margins notified by Government. This was the prevailing situation even three days ago. In the wake of the developments in the international currency markets, the Reserve Bank suspended forward transactions on 13th February and also notified the authorised dealers that spot transactions would be at rates which may be regarded as provisional.

This was primarily a precautionary action in view of the prevailing uncertainty and the closure of the major exchange markets in the world.

After markets opened the pound sterling has appreciated vis-a-vis the devalued US dollar. Before the devaluation of the dollar, the London market rate was one pound sterling equal to 2.38 dollars. The latest available rate is one pound equal to 2.47 dollars. This represents an appreciation of about 3.7%. The Indian rupee has also, likewise, appreciated similarly vis-a-vis the dollar. The cross rate of Indian rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar has stood at Rs. 7.9 just before the dollar devaluation. Currently it is around Rs. 7.6.

Exchange rate is, of course, a relationship between the currencies. Even if no action is taken by us, the value of the rupee in relation to other currencies necessarily changes as a result of action taken by others. Leaving out the rupee trade, bulk of our external trade is invoiced in the two major currencies of the world, namely, the pound

sterling and the US dollar. It is for this reason that the sterling - dollar rate is of the greatest importance to us. We are watching the movements in this rate; as of

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now, sterling's appreciation vis-a-vis the US dollar is relatively small, and therefore, its impact on our trade is not likely to be significant. Because the stronger currencies of the world, namely, the Deutschmark and the Yen have appreciated vis-a-vis all other currencies, including the Indian rupee, our exporters should gain an advantage in competition with German or Japanese goods in third markets. It remains to be seen, however, how international prices readjust in the light of currency movements.

In sum, having considered the matter, Government does not at present feel it necessary on the basis of the present situation to change the central rate of Rs. 18.9677 to the pound fixed on 20th December 1971.

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PANAMA MALAYSIA MONGOLIA NEPAL NORWAY PAKISTAN USA TANZANIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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AFGHANISTAN

Indo-Afghan Joint Statement

The following Joint Statement was issued in New Delhi on March 29, 1973, at the conclusion of the Afghan Delegation's seven-day visit to India:

In pursuance of the decision of the second Indo-Afghan Joint Commission for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation a 4-member Afghan delegation led by Mr. Abdul Karim Amin, President Finance, Ministry of Planning, and comprising Mr. Abdul Majid, President Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Dr. Raoof Roashan, President, Institute of Child Health, Kabul, and Mr. Abdul Wakil, Director-General of Planning, Ministry of Mines and industries, visited India from March 22 to 29 in order to review the implementation of the decisions of the first and second Indo-Afghan Joint Commission of 1970 and 1972. The Afghan delegation called on Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, and held talks with the Indian delegation led by Shri K. Srinivasan, Director in the Ministry of External Affairs, in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality reflecting the close relations existing between the two, countries.

It was considered by both delegations-

that progress had been made in the implementation of the decisions of the Joint Commissions. Both delegations noted with satisfaction that the momentum of the implementation was likely to be accelerated during the course of the year. Both delegations were of the view that the second scheduled meeting of the Planning and Implementation Committee should take place in Kabul in October this year to review the further progress of implementation, and to exchange views on proposals for future cooperation under the Joint Commission. This would be followed by the third meeting of the Joint Commission in New Delhi early next year at the convenience of the Indian and Afghan Ministers concerned.

The Afghan Delegation expressed their thanks to the Government of India for the hospitality and welcome extended to them while in India.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA LATVIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Indo-ARE Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the Joint Communiqué issued in New Delhi on March 10, 1973, on the visit to India of Dr. Mohamed Hassan El-Zayyat, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt:

On the invitation of Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs of India, His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Hassan El-Zayyat, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, paid an official visit to India from March 8 to 11, 1973. His

Excellency was accompanied by Madame El-Zayyat and a number of officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

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During his stay in India, His Excellency met the President, the Vice-President, the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Minister of Planning, the Minister of Education & Social Welfare and the Minister of Irrigation & Power.

He had a series of talks with Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs of India. In these talks, he was assisted by H.E. Ambassador Zakaria El-Adly Imam, Director, Cultural Relation & Technical Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Olema, Chief of Protocol, Mr. Hisham Amer, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the A.R.E. in New Delhi and other officials. The Minister for External Affairs of India was assisted by Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Shri M. A. Rahman, Additional Secretary, Shri N. P. Alexander, Joint Secretary, and other officials of the Government of India. These talks were held in an atmosphere of the closest friendship and understanding, in consonance with the warm and friendly ties existing between Egypt and India.

His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Hassan El-Zayyat informed Sardar Swaran Singh of the latest developments in West Asia and of Egypt's determination to achieve a just solution to the West Asian problem. The Government of India fully appreciated and supported Egypt's efforts to this end and reiterated the necessity for the vacation of Arab territories occupied by Israeli aggression, as demanded in Security Council Resolution No. 242 of November, 1967, and for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The Minister for External Affairs of India explained the situation in the Indian subcontinent and India's desire for, and efforts towards, the normalisation of rela-

tions among all States of this area. The Egyptian side appreciated India's position and supported her efforts and expressed the hope that the countries of the subcontinent would be able to resolve their differences and live together peacefully and in mutual friendship, for the benefit of all the people of the subcontinent. The Minister for External Affairs of India emphasised India's resolve to implement the Simla Agreement and to settle all differences with Pakistan by peaceful means through bilateral discussions.

The two sides also discussed possibilities of further intensifying cooperation in the economic, technical, cultural, commercial and other fields. His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Hassan El-Zayyat and Shri Nurul Hasan, India's Minister for Education & Social Welfare, signed an Executive Programme of cultural cooperation between the two countries providing for mutual exchange of professors, doctors, sports teams, artists, scientists and journalists, as well as of publications, educational aids and information.

Both sides considered that the principles of non-alignment were as valid today as ever, and pledged themselves to work for strengthening these principles for the sake of world peace and the equality of nations.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Madame El-Zayyat and the members of the Egyptian Delegation expressed their deep appreciation of the cordial reception and warm hospitality accorded to them by the Government and people of India.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt extended a very cordial invitation to the External Affairs Minister of India to visit Egypt. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

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EGYPT INDIA LATVIA USA ISRAEL MALI PAKISTAN

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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BANGLA DESH

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Greetings to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on March 8, 1973, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, has sent the following message of congratulations to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Prime Minister of Bangla Desh:

My colleagues in Government join me in sending to Your Excellency and your colleagues our warmest felicitations on your outstanding electoral success. It will always remain a tribute to the people of Bangla Desh that so soon after so grim a struggle they have elected the government of their choice by free and popular vote.

We are confident that under your stewardship Bangla Desh will march ahead on the path she has chosen for herself. We look forward to working in the closest co-operation with you, your government and the people of Bangla Desh for the ideals to which both Bangla Desh and India are dedicated.

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Date : Mar 01, 1973

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BALGA DESH

Statement of Minister of Shipping and Transport on Indo-Bangla Desh Cargo Services

Minister of Shipping and Transport, Shri Raj Bahadur, made the following statement in reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on March 21, 1973, on the working of, Indo-Banqla Desh cargo services:

Consequent on the signing of the protocol on the 1st November, 1972 between India Bangla Desh, cargo services, were inaugurated on the 19th November, 1972. No difficulty is experienced in operating these services between the two countries. The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta, a Government of India Undertaking, who are operating the services, has already moved about 16,000 tonnes of coal in the last three months, besides general cargo of about 2,700 tonnes from Calcutta to Bangla Desh. Arrangements have been made to transport jute from Narayanganj to Calcutta on behalf of the Jute Corporation of India, the movement of which has commenced from the second week of March, 1973. About 1300 tonnes of timber has also moved from Assam to Bangla Desh. The Corporation have engaged 20 steamers and tugs and about 55 flats, barges, hopper barges, and small barges for these services. In addition, a number of small barges are also hired as and when required. The normal turn-round of vessels ranges from 10 to 15 days, excluding time taken in loading and unloading, bunkering, etc. Another private company has also commenced its first voyage with 1247 tonnes of coal between Calcutta and Bangla Desh on the 15th March, 1973.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

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CANADA

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on March 16, 1973, on the new agreement signed between India and Canada:

Canada has agreed to give India a loan of 7.5 million Canadian dollars (Rs. 5.25 crores) to meet the foreign exchange costs of a polybutadiene synthetic rubber plant.

The plant is being set up by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., a public sector company, as one of the downstream

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units of the petrochemical complex at Koyali near Baroda, adjacent to the Gujarat Refinery. Feedstock butadiene for the rubber plant will be one of the streams available from the Naphtha Cracker under construction by IPCL. The Canadian loan will cover the foreign exchange costs of technology, services, equipment and materials for the rubber plant.

The agreement for the loan was signed here today by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary for Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and by the Canadian High Commissioner, Mr. Bruce M. Williams.

The loan is on the soft terms applicable to Canadian assistance; it is repayable over 50 years with a grace period of 10 years and carries no interest, service or commission charges.

The establishment of the synthetic rubber plant will meet the polybutadiene rubber requirements of the tyre industry which will be its main consumer. The requirements were hitherto being met through imports in small quantities. The plant will fulfil a very important economic need and will mark a further step in fruitful economic cooperation between India and Canada.

Messrs. Polymer Corporation Ltd. of Canada, a recognised world leader in synthetic rubber production, will help IPCL in procuring equipment and materials for the plant. The process know-how and technical assistance will be provided by Messrs. Polysar International S.A., Switzerland, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Canadian Polymer Corporation.

CANADA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA SWITZERLAND

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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CANADA

Canadian Development Loan to India

The following press release on an agreement for a new Canadian loan to India was issued in New Delhi on March 31, 1973:

An agreement for another development loan of C \$ 10 million (Rs. 7 crores) was signed here today between India and Canada. This line of credit will be used to import from Canada machinery, equipment and services. The first line of credit of a similar amount for similar purposes was given by Canada in July, 1971.

The new loan is on the soft terms which have applied to all Canadian assistance to India during the last six years. It is repayable over 50 years, including a 10-year grace period, with no interest, service or commitment charges.

The agreement was signed for Canada by its High Commissioner, Mr. Bruce M. Williams, and for India by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary for Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Including the loan granted today,

Canada's financial assistance to India during 1972-73 will be of the order of \$ 59.84 million (Rs. 41.88 crores) in the form of loans, \$ 13.55 million (Rs. 9.48 crores) as grant and \$ 1.99 million (Rs. 1.39 crores) in the form of debt rescheduling.

CANADA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Protocol on Exchange of TV Programmes

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on March 6, 1973, regarding the protocol signed between AIR and GDR - TV:

A three-year Protocol between All India Radio and the German Democratic Republic Television was concluded here today under which both organisations have agreed to exchange various television programmes. These programmes would be in the form of films and video tape recordings on subjects like music, drama, sports, and those pertain-

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ing to scientific, educational and cultural matters.

The Protocol which was signed by the Director-General of All India Radio, Shri S. K. Mukherjee on behalf of All India Radio and Dr. Kurt Ottersberg, Director for International Relations of the State Committee for Television, on behalf of the German Democratic Republic, comes into effect immediately.

Under the Protocol, both sides will reciprocally guarantee that the exchanged programmes will be free of rights of third parties and that they will be exchanged on commercial basis. It envisages a free and quick exchange of newsreels from the news programmes for the benefit of the audiences of both the countries about the important events including programmes of their national days.

FACILITIES FOR CORRESPONDENTS

Under the Protocol, both sides will give expert advice and necessary facilities to correspondents and camera-teams in their activities and in producing features and programmes on a mutual basis. They will also maintain regular contacts by exchanging delegations to negotiate on further cooperation and to view and select television programmes.

Exchange of information about the development of each other's TV organisations and projects by means of their programme journals and other material has also been provided in the Protocol.

An agreement for exchange of radio programmes already exists between All India Radio and the German Democratic Republic since 1971.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Mukherjee observed that cultural and intellectual ties between India and Germany existed for over a century. He expressed the hope that this Protocol would go a long way in further strengthening this relationship.

INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM GERMANY

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, gave a banquet in honour of His Excellency Mr. Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, German Democratic Republic, in New Delhi on March 19, 1973. Speaking on the occasion, Shrimati Indira Gandhi said:

It is a pleasure to have you in our midst. I welcome you and the other members of your delegation on my own behalf and on behalf of the Government and people of India. We are glad that you have been able to come to our capital soon after the relations between our two countries were raised to a new status last October. Our people have always admired the people of Germany - for their energy and discipline, for their love of literature, philosophy and music and for their advance in science and technology. The pioneering work of German scholars in studying Indian classics introduced a special element of goodwill into our relationship.

India became free shortly after World War II. The German Democratic Republic came into being soon afterwards. We have high regard for your fight against fascism, for the manner in which you have overcome the ravages of war and for your tireless contribution to the building of a new social order for your people. The range of your industrial products, of which our people have got some idea in your pavilion in the Asia 72 Fair, and the achievements of your athletes in last year's Olympics are two striking examples of the tremendous vitality of your people.

In the table of international comparisons of per capita income or consumption, our accomplishments in India in the last 25 years may not create a great impression. And yet our progress has not been inconsiderable. Our main absorption has been in consolidating our triple liberation from colonialism, from domestic feudalism, and from inherited

social injustice and superstition. Our endeavour to modernise our political, economic and social systems and to build the infrastructure of modern technological growth has received sympathy and support from several friendly countries including the German Democratic Republic. Growth in the commercial and other economic relations between our two countries has been heartening and has been appreciated by our people.

Our progress has been interrupted several times by well-organised, major armed incursions from across our borders. These have compelled us to divert the advance that was solely needed for development.

It is ironic that this should happen to a nation which has always stood for the indivisibility of peace and progress and has worked for co-existence and cooperation among nations, irrespective of their political persuasion. However, this will not affect our own work for friendship and cooperation. Indeed, events of the last couple of years in our region and in other regions of the world have vindicated our position. They have shown that policies of confrontation and military intervention and attempts to find military solutions to basic political questions cannot succeed.

The map of our sub-continent has changed. It is our earnest hope that responsible people of the sub-continent will realise that peace, friendship, goodwill and cooperation can be achieved and consolidated through bilateralism, by avoiding confrontation and by adopting the path of negotiation.

Your Excellency, you have just returned from a visit to North Vietnam, a land of heroes, which has demonstrated how the will of a determined people can withstand the use of military power and technological ingenuity. The guns are silent at long last. We hope that the people of Vietnam will now be helped by the entire world in their efforts

to rebuild their nation.

We are glad that in Europe the area of reconciliation is growing. We are aware of the contribution which your country and you personally have made to this developing detente. We wish the GDR and other countries of Europe success in their efforts to allay the suspicions of yesterday and to build an enduring structure of understanding and cooperation through bilateral and multi-lateral discussions.

We are at the beginning of an age when nations, in addition to safeguarding their inner strength, must cooperate with one another in meeting challenges which are truly global. I have no doubt that the GDR and India will work together for mutual benefit and in defence of the ideals we cherish - freedom, the equality of nations, the liberation of mankind from ideas of colonial and racial domination and the united development of peoples in a climate of peace.

Once again I welcome you, Excellency, and your colleagues. Your stay is very brief and as our Foreign Minister has said just now, we don't really count this as a visit. We hope you will take back with you some of the warmth of our hearts and our climate and give to your people the greetings of the people of India.

Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health of His Excellency Herr Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the Council of State of the GDR, to the health of His Excellency, Mr. Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the progress and prosperity of the German people and to the continued friendship between GDR and India.

INDIA USA GERMANY FRANCE VIETNAM PERU

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

GDR. Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, His Excellency Mr. Willi Stoph said:

Permit me to thank you for your cordial words of welcome and to express our pleasure at your kind invitation to this dinner which gives us the opportunity of being together with you, Madame Prime Minister, and the representatives of your Government during our short stay.

In the name of my delegation and on my own behalf I should like to thank you most heartily that - in spite of the short

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notice of our short stay and in spite of the fact that you are celebrating Holi today - you have made this meeting possible. My friends and myself consider our talks which we had today and, above all, the cordiality and friendship with which we were received in your great country, as a manifestation of the growing friendly relations between our two states.

May I assure you that the people and Government of the GDR with high admiration, sympathy and solidarity take great interest in your untiring and selfless struggle for the solution of the great political, economic and social tasks facing your country for the normalisation of the situation on the sub-continent and for securing peace in the entire world.

With great joy and satisfaction we can state today that the friendly relations between our states and peoples are further developing and consolidating in all fields.

With the establishment of diplomatic relations to the GDR in October last year

your Government, Excellency, has contributed to the normalisation of the political situation in Europe and thus to the strengthening of world peace.

By the treaties of Moscow, Warsaw and Berlin as well as by the Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin, the USSR and the entire community of socialist states have initiated a new offensive for peace in Europe with the aim to promote detente and safeguard peace in Europe. The Government of the GDR has consistently held the view that normal relations are necessary and possible also between the GDR and the FRG and these relations can only be based on international law and Peaceful coexistence between the two states of different social orders.

I should like to assure here that the Government of the GDR is ready and determined to fulfil the Berlin Treaty in letter and spirit, and we also expect this from the Government of the FRG. The early ratification and coming into force of this treaty as well as the admission of the GDR to the United Nations are urgent issues.

We also hope that the Preparatory Conference in Helsinki will be successfully concluded and that the Conference on European Security will be held as soon as possible. This is in the interest of strengthening world peace.

The increased strength of the USSR and the community of socialist states as well as the wide conformity of our policy with that of India and many other countries aimed at peace and security gives us the confidence that in Europe and in other parts of the world we are at the beginning of a new historic phase of peaceful co-existence and cooperation to the benefit of all concerned.

The GDR which in the meantime has diplomatic relations with 75 states attaches great importance to international cooperation on the basis of equality.

Excellency, as you know, I am returning from an official friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. It was a

great honour to me to visit this heroic people so shortly after the peace settlement. I was on the one hand dismayed to see with my own eyes the barbaric devastation of the country through United States imperialism. But on the other hand I was deeply impressed to see how this brave and courageous people have fought and sacrificed over decades against the strongest power of world imperialism and gained a decisive victory. The Government and people of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam make enormous efforts at present to overcome the tremendous damages and wounds of war. I am sure, Excellency, you will agree with me that the forces of peace all over the world are now facing the task to prevent any violation of the Vietnam peace settlement and to give every possible help to the sorely afflicted Vietnamese people in the reconstruction of its devastated country.

Excellency, the examples of the process of detente in Europe, of the peace settlement in Vietnam, of the national liberation of Bangla Desh, demonstrate the power and strength of the joint efforts of all anti-imperialist and progressive forces against the forces of imperialism and reaction. We hope that the peaceful forces of the world will succeed in the near future in solving successfully the still unsettled urgent problems in world policy.

You personally, Excellency, and your Government have greatly contributed to the restriction and liquidation of the hot-beds of tension in the world and to the strengthening

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of peace. The GDR highly appreciates and supports your continuous efforts for the normalisation of the situation on the Indian sub-continent after the liberation of Bangla Desh.

I am glad to state that in many international questions both our Governments have identical or very similar points of view.

The Government and the people of the GDR wish you further success in your foreign policy as well as in the implemen-

tation of the social reform programme of your Government in the Interest of the social Progress of your great country.

Excellency, permit me to propose a toast to the further strengthening of all forces of peace and anti-imperialism in the world, to the policy of your Government for the consolidation of national independence and social progress of your country, to the further deepening of the friendship and cooperation between our two states and peoples, as well as to the health of your President, Mr. Giri, to your personal well-being, and to the health of all Indian friends present here.

USA MALI RUSSIA POLAND GERMANY FINLAND INDIA VIETNAM

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

India-GDR Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint Communiqué issued in New Delhi On March 20, 1978, at the conclusion of the visit to India of H.E. Mr. Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic:

A delegation led by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic and Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party, His Excellency Mr. Willi Stoph, Stopped over in New Delhi on March 19 and 20, 1973, on their Way back to the German Democratic Republic after their visit to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

During their stay in New Delhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers' and

the GDR delegation held talks with the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the Indian delegation. The exchange of views between the two sides revealed the Identity or closeness of the positions on the issues discussed.

The talks between the delegations of India and GDR were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding and covered both bilateral relations as well as current international questions of mutual interest. The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of GDR and the Prime Minister of India welcomed the new phase of Cooperation between the two States after establishment of diplomatic relations. They agreed to expand further their all-round cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples and in the interest of world peace. Both sides stressed that there is considerable further scope for fruitful cooperation in the political, economic, technical, scientific and cultural fields. They will accordingly undertake further steps to strengthen exchanges in these fields.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR informed the Prime Minister of India of the endeavours and recent initiatives of the community of Socialist countries to promote peace and security in Europe. In this connection, he emphasized the determination of the GDR to fulfil the Berlin Treaty in letter and spirit and thus to contribute to the normalisation of the relations between the GDR and FRG based on international law and the principles of peaceful co-existence. The Prime Minister of India welcomed the initiatives in Europe directed towards promoting detente and constructive cooperation amongst all European States. Both sides expressed the hope that these developments in Europe will favourably influence the solution of conflicts, help eliminate tensions and contribute to strengthening of peace in other parts of the world.

The Prime Minister of India informed the GDR delegation of the recent developments in the Indian sub-continent after the conclusion of the Simla Agreement. The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR fully supported the efforts made by

India to achieve durable peace and good neighbourly relations amongst the States of

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the Indian Sub-continent. Both Prime Ministers emphasized the need for recognition of the existing political realities by all the States concerned and for the speedy establishment, by direct negotiations amongst themselves, of peace and security in the region.

Both sides welcomed the Agreements on ending the war and restoration of peace in Vietnam and Laos as a historic victory of the peoples of those countries and of the peace-loving forces. They expressed their readiness to help in the speedy reconstruction of the devastated countries. Reviewing the latest developments in Europe and Asia both sides expressed the hope that following the process of detente in Europe and the Peace Agreements in Vietnam and Laos, other unsettled problems in the world will also be successfully solved.

During their stay in Delhi, the GDR delegation laid a wreath at the Samadhi of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR expressed his gratitude for the hospitality accorded to him and his delegation by the Government and the people of India. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to visit the GDR. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

INDIA USA VIETNAM GERMANY MALI LAOS

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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INDIA-ARE-YUGOSLAVIA

The following press release on the formal exchange of letters extending the tripartite agreement was issued in New Delhi on March 22, 1973:

Letters were formally exchanged between India, Arab Republic of Egypt and Yugoslavia extending the Tripartite Agreement for a period of five years, here today. The agreement was due to expire on March 31, 1973.

Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, formally handed over letters to this effect to H.E. Mr. Salko Fejik, Ambassador for Yugoslavia, and H.E. Mr. Hisham Amer, Charge d'Affaires of Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Minister said that this was a happy occasion and expressed the hope that the Tripartite Agreement will work well.

The Tripartite Agreement was signed in New Delhi on December 23, 1967 and took effect from April 1, 1968. The main object of the Trade Expansion and Economic Co-operation Agreement was to provide tariff preferences on the exchange of specified goods between the three countries. The preference was to the extent of 50 per cent of the existing tariff rates.

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INDIA YUGOSLAVIA EGYPT

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Following is the text of the statement made by the Permanent Representative of India. Shri S. Sen, in the Security Council on March 10, 1973, during the debate on a complaint of Zambia, which concluded on same day with adoption of resolutions originally cosponsored by India, together with Guinea, Kenya, Sudan and Yugoslavia and later by Indonesia, Panama and Peru:

Mr. President, we offer to you our warmest compliments and congratulations on your becoming the President of the Council for this month of March. I shall reserve for a future date a full tribute to your qualities as a man and a diplomat, for it is right that your countrymen should hear directly from your colleagues what they think of the Panamanian representative to the United Nations, and more particularly to the Security Council. Meanwhile we assure you of our fullest co-operation in your work as President and of our sincerest friendship to you and your delegation and your country. May I, in this context, say how much we appreciated the work of your predecessor, our friend and colleague, Ambassador Odero-Jowi of Kenya.

The problem that the Council is discussing now is relatively simple and straightforward. A Member State, Zambia, complained to us that it was being subjected to economic Pressure of intolerable severity, from Southern Rhodesia and to frequent military harassment by South Africa and Rhodesia, involving death and injury to Zambian citizens and destruction of Zambian Property. Zambia alleged that, as a result of these activities, the tension in the area, which was already very great indeed and which constituted a threat to international Peace and security, had increased to a point where open and large-scale hostilities appeared imminent unless the Council took effective and immediate action. Zambia further claimed that it was being Penalized for no other reason but that it had attempted to

carry out faithfully the numerous resolutions of the United Nations imposing sanctions against the illegal racist regime of Ian Smith in Zimbabwe.

The Council, in order to deal with the Zambian complaint, followed a simple and classical procedure. It appointed a Special Mission which visited the area and other countries immediately involved, including the administering Power, the United Kingdom, heard opinions of a large number of leaders, saw the border areas and drew its own conclusions and made its own assessment. If it could not visit Southern Rhodesia, it was simply because the administering Power stated that such a request could not be implemented "since the United Kingdom had no power on the ground". South Africa, of course, did not co-operate, because in its opinion the United Nations had not satisfied the South African test of objectivity and impartiality. The Special Mission has produced, after weeks of painstaking work, a commendable report which is both detailed and analytical. It contains much valuable information and has both political and economic assessments. The Chairman of the Special Mission, Mr. Anwar Sani of Indonesia, introduced the Mission's report competently two days ago and asked us to read it with care. We have done so and we congratulate the members of the Mission on a good job well done. We are now to take action on the report and two draft resolutions are before us.

The most valuable feature of the report is that it is unanimous. Secondly, it confirms fully that the Zambian complaint was entirely justified. Thirdly, it makes absolutely clear that the present problem of Zambia is closely connected with the wider question of Ian Smith's continuing to exercise illegal and brutal power over a large number of Africans, and that these two issues cannot be separated. Lastly, as the African leaders have repeatedly pointed out, the sufferings and agonies which Zambia faces are not Zambia's alone; they are shared by the whole

of Africa and should be the concern of men and women all over the world and certainly must be of the utmost concern to the United Nations.

Two concrete points require brief comments. The first relates to the presence of South African troops - or call them by any other name you like - in the border areas, particularly on the frontiers between Zambia and Southern Rhodesia. The flat denial of the South African Government - although it is noteworthy that it does not deny that armed police are there in indeterminate numbers - does not stand up to the evidence the Special Mission has collated and included in its report. I shall cite but one: this is from the briefing by Mr. Zulu, the Minister of Defence of Zambia, at pages 16 to 18 of the report. I quote from the end of paragraph 87:

"The representative of the Ministry of Defence concluded by saying that if a thing walked like a duck, looked like a duck and quacked like a duck, it must be a duck. These so-called policemen wore boots like soldiers, carried rifles like soldiers, rode in military vehicles and did military jobs, so they must be military men." (S/10896, para. 87).

That may not satisfy some obtuse brand of philosopher, but it is enough for men of common sense.

The second point I should like to mention is included in paragraph 51 of the report. It gives the view of the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth in London, Mr. Arnold Smith, who must be credited with much sophistication and erudition. I should like to quote this paragraph in full:

"The Secretary-General of the Commonwealth pointed out that the Zambian Government had not taken the initiative in the new confrontation with the illegal minority regime in Southern Rhodesia. On the contrary, that regime had unilaterally introduced an economic blockade, then had lifted the blockade. The Zambian Government, very under-

standably, was taking the position that it could not be expected to rely, for essential imports and exports, on a route that could be opened and shut irresponsibly and without consultation. It wished, therefore, to develop further all alternative routes, thus allowing it to comply more completely with the sanctions policy reached at the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in 1966, and with the mandatory resolution of the Security Council." (Ibid., para. 51)

Given these facts and this assessment, we can now proceed to action. In the political field, quite clearly, there will be no solution until the principle of majority rule in Southern Rhodesia has been fully accepted and implemented. Most of us are aware what the present evil and oppressive system in southern Africa implies in terms of human misery and turmoil. The Special Mission has emphasized the factors which have recently aggravated an already desperate situation. It says:

"The continued deployment of South African armed forces in proximity to the border with Zambia and their undenied presence in other neighbouring territories is a very important factor in the continuation of the current state of tension." (Ibid., para. 167)

So one of our principal objectives should be to ensure that these troops are withdrawn.

On the long-term solution of the problem, the Council has repeatedly affirmed the primary responsibility of the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, to bring the rebellion in Southern Rhodesia to an end and to secure for the people as a whole their inalienable rights to independence and self-determination. My delegation has on a number of occasions pointed out the air of fiction and unreality which surrounds this responsibility, which the United Kingdom continues to claim, but the power to discharge which it disclaims on all possible occasions. However, as I stated in Addis Ababa:

"...as long as the United Kingdom Government itself maintains that it has responsibility for Zimbabwe, we hold it to its commitment for carrying out all the recommendations and decisions of the United Nations, as also for measures necessary for the welfare of the people of Zimbabwe as a whole". (1635th meeting, pages 37, and 38).

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It is in view of this position, which is generally accepted by the Council, that we have in our draft resolution indicated specific responsibilities for the United Kingdom and indicated briefly how the principles can be best served through the action of that Government, the Government of the United Kingdom.

The resolution of the economic problems facing Zambia is directly related to the proclaimed desire of the United Nations to impose full sanctions on Southern Rhodesia and to make them effective. From time to time we hear complaints from this country or that country that some other country has violated the sanctions or circumvented them in a variety of ways. Here then is a country which comes to us and tells us that it is determined to apply the resolutions of the United Nations and asks for our help in reducing the difficulties it will face because of its special geographical position and because of its past economic history and dependence on southern Africa. It is not asking for profits, nor quibbling about infinitely small economic burdens which other countries can easily bear. How great the burden it will have to face in implementing fully the policy of sanctions is clear from the Special Mission's report itself. The immediate need of nearly \$ 150 million seems to be about a third of the amount the Zambian Government collects as its yearly revenue. If, in these circumstances, the United Nations, its Member Governments and specialized agencies cannot, according to their means, give relief to Zambia in order to overcome its present difficulties and eliminate its dependence on southern territories, our claim that we wish to make the sanctions effective

will be totally false. It is in this spirit that the draft resolution in document S/10899 has been drafted.

My delegation has gladly joined the delegations of Guinea, Kenya, Sudan, Yugoslavia and now Indonesia, in submitting the two draft resolutions. We have always accepted the fact that on the problem of Zambia, as indeed on all other problems before the Council, the strength of our decision lies in its being accepted by the principal parties involved, in this particular case Zambia and the United Kingdom as the administering Power. The cosponsors have on their own tried to make the draft resolutions acceptable to both sides, and we are always willing to revise them - and indeed we have been working to that end even this morning with every prospect of success - to meet particular concerns of any delegation provided, of course, that the major principles which the United Nations has accepted all along are not eroded, deflected or defeated in any way.

INDIA ZAMBIA GUINEA KENYA SUDAN YUGOSLAVIA INDONESIA PANAMA PERU USA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZIMBABWE UNITED KINGDOM ETHIOPIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Prime Minister's Message to President of Security Council

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, sent the following message to the President of the Security Council on March 15, 1973, which was read out in entirety by the Council President before he adjourned the first working session of the Security Council meeting in Panama:

The meeting of the Security Council in

Addis Ababa last year was an historic event. It provided an opportunity to the international community to focus attention on the pressing problems of that continent.

I am glad that the Council is meeting in Panama City this year. The nations of Latin America have been enriched by the mingling of modern scientific and cultural values with ancient civilisations. Man's spirit of adventure has been matched by his indomitable courage to shape great destinies. With its vast potential of human and material resources this continent has an important role to play in the comity of nations.

The subject of discussion at the Security Council meeting is of interest to the entire world community as no economic and social progress is possible unless the world feels assured of permanent peace and international cooperation. Latin American countries have a great deal to contribute to the realisation of international peace, security and progress. I hope the meeting will prove constructive

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and will lead to a real strengthening of peace and cooperation in the world and will give an impetus to our joint efforts in that direction.

Please accept, Excellency, my greetings and best wishes to you and to the members of the Security Council for the success of your deliberations.

INDIA PANAMA ETHIOPIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement in Security Council Meeting at Panama City

The following is the text of the statement made by Shri Samar Sen, Permanent Representative of India, in the Security Council on March 20, 1973, during its meeting in Panama City:

Mr. President, in our meeting at New York on 10 March - the last we had before we left for this pleasant city of Panama - I undertook to pay you a full tribute in your own country. May I, therefore, begin by expressing to you our deep admiration at the way you have been conducting the business of our Council, involved as it is this month first with the intractable problem of Zambia and now with the most important and at times difficult problems of your own continent. But your skill and talents do not surprise us, for you inherit a tradition and emulate an example which could not but qualify you as a most effective representative of Panama to the United Nations and to its Security Council. I am sure that your illustrious forebears would have been proud of your achievement, and it must be a source of satisfaction to you that not only your countrymen from all walks of life can see you at work, but your own Foreign Minister has seen your daily diplomatic negotiations, your social charm, your boundless energy and your spontaneous hospitality in fullest measure and in the closest quarters. We have all benefited from these qualities and our warmest thanks go to you.

But, apart from these personal compliments, my delegation would wish most sincerely to express to your people and to Your Government our great appreciation of the hospitality, welcome and friendship they have extended to us. Nothing seems to be too much for your people to make our stay here comfortable and enjoyable and our work smooth and effective. I realize how much effort, resources and sensitivity must have gone into your desire to please us. We are most grateful, and we must compliment you on setting a standard which any one of us would find difficult to achieve. Further, we were both stimulated and honoured by the

presence of your Head of Government, His Excellency General Omar Torrijos, at the opening of this series of meetings on 15 March. His lucid and terse statement of the Panamanian problem and his patriotism are lessons for all of us. Indeed, he reminded us of the soldiers who fell at Thermopylae many centuries ago. We see the same spirit in your Foreign Minister, who has showered us with affection and kindness and whose guidance in our work and understanding of our position have brought us closer and closer with each passing day.

India's relations with Panama are also showing many signs of steady progress. The first Resident Ambassador of India to Panama is a member of our delegation and we are glad that it was possible for his high mission in this country to begin at this historic time. Not only with Panama but with all the other countries of South and Central America, as also with the Caribbean countries, our relations grow stronger. We have been deeply moved by the great interest the countries of Latin America have taken in Indian history, culture and philosophy, and particularly in our struggle for independence. Over the past few years, we have opened several new diplomatic missions in this region, and since 1968 our trade with this area has increased four times.

Our ever-increasing co-operation and friendship finds many echoes in the debates and decisions in the United Nations and elsewhere. When, five Years ago, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi visited a number of Latin American and Caribbean countries on a Voyage of friendship she said:

"I believe that the people of South America, Asia and Africa have a common stake in the defence of our common interests."

We shall neither falter nor fail in identifying those common interests and in serving them to the best of our ability.

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It is in that spirit that we came to Panama, not only to discuss the problems

before us, but to know our friends better, with a deeper humanity and a fuller understanding. The participation of so many Foreign Ministers and other representatives of Latin America has helped us significantly in our task. So have all the contacts we have been able to establish outside the Council chamber.

Much has been said about the advisability or otherwise of the Council meeting outside its Headquarters. Perhaps it is too early, and our experience too limited, to come to any firm conclusion. But we are convinced that last year's meetings at Addis Ababa, as also the present series of meetings in Panama, have been most rewarding and significant. I use the word "significant" deliberately, for we must take into account the fact that nearly 40 States apart from the members of the Council are present during our discussions. Of these 40, 22 States have asked to be heard, as have representative of three international organizations and three Chairmen of various United Nations bodies. This is not the time to go into detailed reasons, but I wonder, for instance, how many of us had a proper appreciation of the impact On today's Young men and women of this region of the teachings and ideals of Bolivar, San Martin, Juarez and several others. It was in anticipation of the success of our meetings here that our Prime Minister sent her message to you on the opening day.

While all these developments bring us hope and confidence, the most unfortunate and untimely death of Mr. Chacko, who served the United Nations with exemplary devotion, Industry and rectitude, has cast a pall of gloom on our delegation, as indeed on many others besides. We am most grateful for the various compliments paid to Mr. Chacko's services and the words of condolence and sympathy to his wife and family which have been forthcoming at these meetings of the Council.

When the Council decided to meet in Latin America for the first time, I believe all members were conscious of a new and vibrant awakening in this region, and of the need not only to adjust the relations among

the countries of the Western hemisphere towards each other, but also to connect these developing aspirations and relations to the wider context of promoting and maintaining international peace and security. That would explain why the agenda was drawn up in the broadest possible terms so that any country that wished to bring its problems before the Council, in connexion with the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, could do so. It was understood then, and it is understood now, that the Council could not, within the time available to it in the series of meetings in Panama, attempt to find solutions to all these problems and issues, if indeed there was an inclination to study them in all their aspects. Some of the questions raised by numerous Foreign Ministers of Latin American countries to whom we had the privilege of listening would show that some of these questions at least could not be pronounced upon by the Council without a comprehensive discussion of all their implications, even if we were to overlook the normal procedure under which the Council discusses specific issues.

What the Foreign Ministers and other representatives of various States in this region have been able to convey to the Council members through their statements is that the entire continent is so restless with the present state of affairs and so conscious of a high spirit of nationalism that it will no longer accept the role which history had, through a series of most unfortunate developments, imposed on it. Gone are the days when the Secretary of State of the United States could inform the British authorities in the following terms.

"To-day the United States is practically sovereign on this continent, and its fiat is law upon the subjects to which it confines its interposition'.

That was contained in a letter written by Secretary of State Richard Olney to the British in 1895.

This fierce spirit of independence and this fervent desire for full restoration of national dignity go far beyond immediate

issues. The ardent wish to use their national resources for the benefit of their people themselves, without any pressure, their insistence on full national sovereignty and territorial integrity and at the same time their

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desire to co-operate with each other for more fruitful and friendly relations are aspects which I might call, for want of better words, "a continental resurgence" which reflects the spirit that has animated this meeting: the spirit of Panama.

We, who believe in non-alignment and who, over the years, after harsh criticism, sometimes bordering on downright vilification, have been struggling for our views and ideals, are now entering an era when our values seem to be more and more widely accepted and have indeed become the basis of important recent developments among several powerful countries in a manner which would have been inconceivable a few years ago. We cannot but be pleased with these new developments in the new world. They bring us closer, and increasingly we draw sympathy and sustenance from each other. We fully appreciate the emerging spirit in this continent and completely support the present insistence of the Latin American countries to pursue the values which not only are consistent with the principles of the non-aligned countries but are in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. In this process we have been greatly assisted by a large number of resolutions, declarations and other documents we have adopted with varying degrees of solemnity through the years. I do not wish to catalogue all these documents, for that has been very ably done by the representative of Kenya, but would confine myself to mentioning only a few. The first and foremost are: the resolution containing the Declaration on the Granting of independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; the resolution, adopted at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly, relating to the economic development of economically less developed countries; the resolution on permanent sovereignty over natural resources; the two

Declarations adopted at the twenty-fifth session; and, finally, the specific resolution regarding the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America. I have mentioned those few important documents chiefly to indicate that our assessment of the Problems afflicting this continent has to be reviewed in the context of significant decisions and declarations we have already adopted. That point was emphasized once again this morning by the Secretary-General,

In the political field, all the representatives of Latin American countries have emphasized the urgent and great need to be fully sovereign in their territories. This exercise of full sovereignty has been frustrated, if not defeated, because of outside pressure. We do not believe that by the mere adoption of resolutions by the Security Council these pressures would be eliminated. We see this elsewhere also, as in the Middle East, where principles are adjusted to convenience with startling cynicism. One can argue that some cross-fertilization of ideas between different countries and different States could be beneficial to the countries concerned and may contribute to a richer and more fruitful civilization. But to move from that point to a position where the countries cannot freely serve what they consider to be the interests of their people is indeed a perversion. Time and again we have heard the Foreign Ministers refer to their inability to pursue their own ideas which they consider necessary, if not essential, for the welfare of their people, because of manipulation, machination and manifold pressures. The second political aspect, which many speakers have referred to, is the interference, sometimes amounting even to military action, from outside to prevent different political systems and ideologies from succeeding and coexisting. The third political problem raised by the Foreign Ministers and the others is the problem of colonialism of different kinds in some areas of the region. In this respect, the United Nations has taken a number of decisions with a view to eliminating colonialism from all areas of the world, including Latin America. But colonialism in its most brutal form exists in large areas of Africa. I believe that the Foreign Ministers

and other representatives are Perfectly aware of this; nevertheless they did well to bring to our notice the problems of colonialism in that region. I am speaking of traditional colonialism and not of its new forms - which still exist in parts of Latin America and which have to be eliminated with all speed.

In the economic field, the speakers emphasized a series of problems of general application. The first and foremost is the difficulty they face in exploiting their natural resources because of a number of so-called private and public agreements arrived at over the years in different circumstances

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when the Governments concerned had hardly any choice and were obliged in many instances to write off their patrimony in a manner which now appears to them intolerable. They wish to recover in full what they were obliged to surrender but are prevented from doing so in a variety of ways. We believe that, because of this experience in any discussion about full use of natural resources many Latin American countries are determined to repair the damage already done, as also to protect themselves from the damage likely to be done in the future. Hence their demand for expanding the limits of their territorial seas. Hence also their desire, on the one hand, to work for total disarmament for ensuring international peace and security and, on the other hand, to divert resources from armament to economic construction and development. Hence too their insistence on liberalizing tariffs and trade, particularly when they depend essentially on one or two products for export, and on participating fully in the international monetary arrangements, which affect them even more vitally than many others who are richer and technologically more advanced.

In the military field, the Latin American countries are accepting more and more readily that foreign bases and military alliances do not bring about greater security but simply greater tension. That has been a cardinal feature for those of us who believe in

non-alignment. We have been opposed to these bases and alliances, not only as a matter of principle but from the deep conviction that they tend to lead to a collision course, especially in an age when the nuclear holocaust has become a permanent threat. The export of arms to areas of conflict and the establishment of bases are totally unjustified if the countries of the world, particularly the developing ones, are to settle down to using their own resources and developing their own countries, in a spirit of cooperation with neighbours and with mutual accommodation between the rich and the poor nations. It follows, therefore, that the Latin American countries that wish to eliminate these bases and the sending of arms to the areas of conflict reject the theory that any country can arbitrarily and unilaterally decide whether its defence interests are best served by establishing foreign bases and then give effect to those decisions, irrespective of the wishes of the countries that are thus brought into an ever-widening parameter of tension and conflict. If military bases are objectionable as such, how much more objectionable are they when they are established not with the consent of the governments concerned but on the offensive theory of "might is right", because one is weak and the other is strong.

Turning to the specific issues, we believe that the most urgent problem before the Security Council at this meeting is the question of the Panama Canal. As we enter this Palace, we read on large hoardings two sentences. One sentence reads:

"You may rest assured that in our negotiations with the USA you will always find us standing on our feet and never on our knees; never."

The second sentence reads:

"Let the Ambassadors of friendly Republics and members of the foreign press here present answer: what nation of the world can withstand the humiliation of a foreign flag piercing its heart?"

We are certain that the Panamanian Government, in any future discussions, will assert its full right of sovereignty, and there is thus no question of its negotiating on its knees. There is, similarly, no doubt in our minds of the popular resentment at the visible manifestations of extra-territorial sovereignty about which the above-mentioned question has been asked. We also believe that the problem is much more fundamental than the question of giving a little more Money for compensating in some manner the derogation of what the Panamanians justly consider their birthright.

The Treaty of 1903, signed almost within two weeks of Panamanian independence, cannot be regarded by any modern standards as normal, particularly when the circumstances under which it was signed are considered. It is an instrument which one party interprets as allowing it to deny Panama effective exercise of sovereignty on its entire territory. We are glad, therefore, that this unequal Treaty has recently been recognized as such by the Government of the United

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States, which has fully accepted that a far-reaching revision of its relationship with Panama is overdue, and that what it was possible to do in 1903 is not at all right in the conditions of today. The Panamanian Government has also told us in informal contacts that the United States has agreed to abrogate that Treaty of 1903 and to replace it by a modern treaty.

We welcome these developments. We have also been informed that the concept of perpetuity would be given up, that American jurisdiction in Panama would disappear, and that all the aspects of the operation of the Canal should be negotiated in a manner which would, on the one hand, ensure full sovereignty of the Panamanian Government and, on the other, keep the Canal free for transit to all ships, without any discrimination. We believe that these are the essential features of a new treaty - features that seem to have been accepted by both parties and they have been referred to in the

draft resolution before us.

In doing so, the cosponsors continue to be particularly careful to search for flexible language so that in the course of the negotiations - which we hope will be renewed immediately and concluded speedily - the parties, while respecting the principles already agreed to, could work out the details, not as a result of any directives from the Security Council on how they should proceed, but as a result of negotiations between equals. We hope, therefore, that this draft, or any subsequent revision of it, win command the approval of all the members of the Council.

From what I have already stated on the other problems brought before us, it seems to the Indian delegation that the only additional draft resolution which the Council may at this stage consider relates to the exploitation of natural resources. We are in general sympathy with the draft resolution which was submitted yesterday by the Foreign Minister of Peru. We hope that, as a result of further, examination and consultation, the Council will be in a position to adopt a unanimous decision on this important subject.

As regards the other subjects which the Foreign Ministers and other representatives have mentioned to us, I have already indicated our general views. We consider that these questions should not - at this stage, at least - be embodied in any formal resolutions of the Council, but should be included in a declaration in which the President might mention the issues and state briefly the consensus of the Council on them in general terms. If such a declaration by the President could be worked out, it would indicate the general reaction of the international community to these problems and the direction in which we must move in order to find solutions to them. Since some of the problems mentioned are strictly of a bilateral nature, we hope that negotiations by the parties concerned will produce solutions in the shortest possible time within the general framework of our Charter and of the various resolutions we have already adopted.

With some such action as I have indicated, the Council will have concluded the present series of meetings at Panama City. But the ramifications of our deliberations during the last few days will be both deep and wide. The members of the Council will return richer in understanding, and more vigilant of their interest and determination in maintaining and strengthening international peace and security in this area. The people of Panama, as indeed the people of many countries of Latin America, may possibly draw some satisfaction from the fact that even if the Council could not or would not solve all their problems, it is at least sensitive to their difficulties and aspirations, and that the Council's sympathy for the many trials and tribulations that lie ahead can be depended upon. Such an assurance may strengthen their resolve and fortify them in their belief that, with genuine attempts On all sides, Peaceful solutions can be found, in time, to all problems. The road may be rough and long, but the journey can come to an end - not without sacrifice, but without armed conflicts. At least, that is the belief we must adhere to, just as we must continue to hope that all Members of the United Nations will abide by its Charter in its entirety.

But we in the Indian delegation shall return with a measure of exhilaration. Geographically, India is far away from the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. But we have a nearness born of similar

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experience in the past and shared hopes for the future. Today our peoples are engaged, each in their own community, in the same task: to realize a fuller life and to move towards a greater unity out of conditions of social and economic disparity and ethnic and many other diversities. Externally, too, they strive for the same objectives: for, peace, for tolerance and for justice. They have a common determination to be independent, to be self-reliant, and to co-operate with each other on a basis of equality.

Some months ago, the Prime Minister of India said:

"Each country has its own heritage and distinct personality which it naturally wishes to develop in its own way. But we must also bear in mind our community of interests and take positive initiatives for working together among ourselves and with other countries in order to make a richer contribution to the evolution of a world more livable for all of us and of a social order more in consonance with the yearnings of modern man."

If our presence and discussion for a week in this country makes our task a little lighter in our march together towards a better future, then all the efforts the friendly people of Panama have made in welcoming us and looking after us will be more than worth while. I am sure that those of us who belong to the world of "have-nots" would consider the pursuit of such an ideal worth living for, and perhaps worth dying for; and I am equally sure that our more fortunate fellow human beings will not fail us.

INDIA PANAMA USA ZAMBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ETHIOPIA KENYA CHINA PERU

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Speech of King of Malaysia at Banquet in Honour of President Giri

Following is the text of the speech of the Malaysian King, His Majesty the Yang di Pertuan Agong, at the Royal Banquet given in honour of the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri and Shrimati Giri, in Kuala Lumpur on March 5, 1973:

The Raja Permaisuri Agong and I are very happy indeed to extend to Your Excellency and Shrimati Giri a very warm and cordial welcome to Malaysia. In doing so, I know I speak for the people of Malaysia who feel privileged to have guests of such distinction and dignity in their midst and who regard India as a valued and trusted friend.

I learn that Your Excellency was last in Malaysia in 1916, when you visited Penang. Though this was some 57 years ago, it can still be said that Malaysia is not entirely new to Your Excellency. I am happy to recall that Your Excellency's presence among us tonight is one of a series of frequent exchanges of visits by the people and leaders of our two countries, visits which go far back into a history of some 1,000 years and more. There are many stories of our earlier contacts, some of which have been handed from generation to generation by word of mouth and have become legendary. This is particularly so in my own home state of Kedah. Archaeological traces of these earlier contacts such as the shrines and the other relics of Buddhist and Hindu settlements in the Merbok Estuary in Kedah and the discovery of Sanskrit inscription in certain parts of Penang are now considered by scholars to reach well back to the fourth century A.D. or at least seventh century A.D. What these archaeological finds have borne witness to is the fact that in Malaysia, India can find a hidden treasure of some of India's earlier

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civilisation and India's earliest contacts with countries in Southeast Asia.

Our bonds and ties of friendship have surpassed the life span of many dynasties in our respective countries. They have been forged not by force, but rather by friendly contacts. In this modern contemporary world of ours, the forms of our friendship no doubt cannot be expected to conform to those of olden times. The ease of speedy communications for one thing, has now made it possible for the Heads of State of our two

countries to visit each other.

I well recall the visit of His Excellency Dr. Rajendra Prasad. India's first President, to our country in 1958 and the visit to India of my predecessor the third Yang di Pertuan Agung, Tuanku Syed Putra in 1961. In 1966, we were again honoured by the visit of your highly esteemed Vice-President Dr. Zakir Hussein, and then in 1968, our country had the honour of welcoming India's gracious and distinguished Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Your Excellency's visit to Malaysia adds another chapter to a story of our two countries which, as I have said earlier, reaches far back into the pages of history. As the late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, India's beloved Prime Minister once said, India is a close friend who is almost a relation to Malaysia.

It is a matter of great personal satisfaction to me to note that our ties of friendship have found expression in a large number of ventures. I note with pleasure that Indo-Malaysia cooperation in the technical, cultural and educational fields is widening and that our trading interests are improving. Of significance are the joint-ventures in industries within Malaysia between our two people. No doubt such ventures will increase in the passage of time and thus act to further strengthen our relations.

Your Excellency cannot fail to notice the similarities in the aims and ideals of our two countries. Both India and Malaysia cherish our democratic way of life. We are both committed to the building of a united society out of diverse ethnic religious and linguistic groups by peaceful means. Both our governments are devoting a greater part of their time and energy to bring about an improvement in the economic and social well-being of our respective people through a well coordinated and integrated machinery of planning and implementation. Great strides have been achieved by our two governments in the areas of industrialisation and agricultural improvement.

In the field of international relation, Malaysia like India wishes nothing better

than to live in peace, harmony and friendly co-operation with all other nations. Both our two countries have been collaborating with each other on many issues of international importance. This is particularly so in such forums as the Non-aligned Group. Malaysia believes that it is through such cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity and strict non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries that we have a better chance of building up a durable peace in the world.

In closing, I would like on behalf of my Consort, my own behalf and that of my people, to express to Your Excellency and Shrimati Girel our best wishes for your continued good health and well-being so that you may long continue to serve your people and your country with such distinction. I would also like to express the hope that Your Excellency will have a pleasant and memorable stay in Malaysia.

I now invite the Raja Permaisuri Agong, Hon'ble Ministers, Your Excellencies and all distinguished guests to join me in a toast to His Excellency Shri Girel, the President of the Republic of India, for his continued good health and happiness.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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MALAYSIA

President of India, Shri V. V. Giri's Reply

In reply, President, Shri V. V. Giri said:

I am indeed grateful to you for your warm welcome to Shrimati Girdhar and myself and for the very kind thoughts and generous sentiments which you have expressed towards me and the people of India. I have fond memories of your country although, as Your Majesty said, my last visit was over

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half a century ago. India and Malaysia are not strangers to each other; on the contrary, they are close neighbours and old friends. As Your Majesty has pointed out, our peoples were in the vanguard of civilization several centuries ago and we continue to nurture our age-old bonds of friendship in the context of the present and the future. Both Malaysia and India are plural societies - multiracial, multireligious and multilingual - and both countries enjoy abiding national unity. Both of us are travellers on the same road of economic and social development. We cherish the same values of democracy, peace, freedom, equality and social justice. With so much in common between us, we can confidently work side by side for the progress and prosperity of our peoples and contribute to the peace and stability of our region.

The Government and the people of India are now occupied with the task of giving economic and social content to their political freedom. We realise that substantial economic and social progress is essential to make political freedom and democracy more meaningful for our people. Much has been accomplished in India but much more remains to be done to secure to all our people, social and economic justice and equality of status and opportunity. We are watching with great interest your dedicated efforts for social justice and economic development. During my visit, brief as it is, I look forward to acquainting myself with your achievements and endeavours.

Your Majesty is aware that in the international field a new situation has emerged, particularly in Asia, when old conflicts are diminishing and new opportunities are emerging. India and Malaysia have the same policy of peaceful co-operation with all coun-

tries, especially with their neighbours. We notice that whether it is America, Europe or Africa, neighbouring countries are coming closer and forging new links. It is our earnest hope that countries in Asia will not lag behind but proceed quickly towards close and effective co-operation on the basis of their ancient heritage and common aspirations for the future.

We cherish with you equally the objective of ensuring the peace and stability of our region and its freedom from the tensions and conflicts generated by Powers external to our region. In this context, we welcome the concept of South East Asia as a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality stated in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration. Our co-operation can be based on the firm foundations of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Your Majesty has referred to the many-sided co-operation between our two countries. We are happy that this co-operation is growing rapidly to mutual advantage in diverse fields. We are always ready to strengthen the Present co-operation and explore jointly further channels of collaboration in trade and industry, in science and technology and in culture and education, because we trust that in such co-operation lies the best guarantee for the welfare of the people of both India and Malaysia. We hope that in these endeavours our ancient ties of friendship will be further strengthened and both countries will benefit by each other's experience. In this spirit I bring the warmest felicitations and good wishes of India to the people of Malaysia and wish all success to Your Majesty and the Government of Malaysia in the efforts to promote the prosperity and happiness of your people.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

President Shri V. V. Giri's Speech at Return Banquet in Honour of King of Malaysia

Text of the speech of the President, Shri V. V. Giri at the return banquet in honour of Their Majesties the Yang di Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong, in Kuala Lumpur on March 7, 1973:

I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to express our sincerest esteem and appreciation for Your Majesty and to reciprocate in some measure the affectionate welcome and warm hospitality that you and your people have extended to us since our arrival in your beautiful country. We are particularly grateful to Her Majesty the Raja Permaisuri Agong for her gracious presence in our midst this evening.

We have been following in India with great interest the praiseworthy developments

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in Malaysia. We have witnessed with admiration the progress of the friendly people of Malaysia, under wise and inspiring leadership, in the task of national reconstruction and development. What we have seen during our visit of your achievements and efforts has deeply impressed us. We have particularly noted how Malaysia has held fast to her traditional humanistic approach and the method of a continuous open dialogue in dealing with all problems. Indeed the far-sighted and dynamic leadership of your Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak, is a guarantee for the bright and prosperous future of your lovely country.

We are grateful to Malaysia for the friendship which she has shown for India ever since the independence of our two countries. Malaysia will not find India wanting to the extent that it is within our capa-

city, to be of assistance to your people in developing and consolidating their national strength and prosperity. The fact that we each have problems of our own is primarily an indication of our growth and of the process of modernisation in our countries. I am confident that in this process, our peoples will always retain their cherished values of tolerance for diversity, respect for human dignity and the brotherhood of man. The exchange of visits of the leaders of our countries will not only revive and revitalise our old friendship but also help us to benefit by each other's experience and ideas in the process of development. Whether as members of the Commonwealth or of the Colombo Plan or the family of non-aligned countries or as partners in the United Nations Organisation and its organs like the ECAFE, India and Malaysia have a record of co-operation endeavour and friendship. I am sure that with goodwill and understanding on both sides this co-operation will grow from strength to strength and bring to our people greater opportunities for progress and prosperity, as well as contribute towards peace and stability in Asia and the world.

Your Majesty, I shall take back with me happy memories of your magnificent hospitality, of the warm friendship of your people and of the outstanding achievements of your Government during the short span of time since Malaysia attained her independence. I and my people are looking forward to an early opportunity to demonstrate the feelings of esteem and abiding friendship that India has towards Your Majesties and His Excellency the Prime Minister and the people of Malaysia. My great and good friend, we greatly value your friendship and are confident that under your wise guidance your country will continue to maintain steady progress towards a glorious future. In this endeavour we shall always be glad to offer our hand of sincere friendship and co-operation.

May I again thank Your Majesty and through you, the Government and the people of Malaysia, for the very warm welcome and generous hospitality that has been extended to us during our most agreeable visit to your country.

Honoured Guests, I request you to join me in a toast to His Majesty the Yang di Pertuan Agong and Her Majesty the Raja Permaisuri Agong for their continued good health and happiness and for every success and prosperity to the people of Malaysia.

MALAYSIA USA INDIA SRI LANKA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

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MALAYSIA

Malaysian King's Reply

His Majesty the Yang di Pertuan Agong's speech in reply to President Giri's speech:

I wish to thank Your Excellency for the kind words which you have just expressed. Your warm sentiments are something that we in Malaysia cherish and we reciprocate them most heartily. There is no doubt that Your Excellency's visit to Malaysia will greatly contribute towards further strengthening the bonds of friendship and amity between our two countries. This visit not only symbolises the closeness of our relations; it also gives my people and my Government an opportunity to express their respect and admiration for Your Excellency, your country and your Government as well as to show their appreciation for the goodwill and the brotherly co-operation that we have been receiving from India.

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Your Excellency would have observed during these few days of your stay in our capital city of Kuala Lumpur, something of the activities and features of the life in our

country, the multi-racial composition of our people, and I hope, something of our progress, aims and aspirations. You would have also noticed the contribution which our people of Indian origin have made and are making to the progress of this country. Nature has bestowed upon Malaysia enough of its bounties so that there is sufficient opportunity for everyone to seek his own place under the sun, and at the same time to make his contribution to the country's development. Diversity in race and culture has never retarded our progress. Indeed Malaysia's diversity is a source, not of weakness, but of strength and richness, of which we are proud. The correct and positive stand which the Indian Government has taken with regard to people who are of Indian origin in Malaysia, scrupulously adhering to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, is one which we very much appreciate.

I want to thank you for personally having conveyed the kind and best wishes of your Government and your people and I wish in turn to take this opportunity to convey ours to Your Excellency and, through you, to the Government and the people of the Republic of India. Before I conclude I also wish to express once again our appreciation to Your Excellency and Shrimati Giri for the privilege which both of you have given us and our country by being able to accept our invitation to visit us.

May I invite all of you to join me in a toast to His Excellency the President, the Government and the people of the Republic of India.

MALAYSIA USA INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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Press Communique on Visit of Prime Minister of Mongolian People's Republic

The following Press Communique was issued in New Delhi on March 1, 1973, on the visit to India of H.E. Mr. Y. Tsedenbal, Prime Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian people's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Yumjagiin Tsedenbal, paid an official and friendly visit to India from February 23 to March 1, 1973. He was accompanied by His Excellency Mr. Tumenbayaryn Ragchaa, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Londongyn Rinchin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian people's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Buyantyn Deshtseren, Ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic to India and Mr. Puntsagyn Tserentsoodol, Head of the Third Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic.

The Mongolian Prime Minister and Party visited various industrial and agricultural projects and establishments as well as Places of historical and cultural interest in New Delhi, Chandigarh and Simla.

H.E. Mr. Tsedenbal and party were accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the Government and the people of India, wherever they went, testifying to the deep friendly feelings and close bonds which unite the two countries.

The Mongolian Prime Minister and his party expressed their admiration at the

During the visit H.E. Mr. Yumjagiin Tsedenbal called on Vice-President Shri G. S. Pathak and held extensive discussions with Prime Minister Shrimati Gandhi.

Participating in the talks from the Mongolian side were:

His Excellency Mr. Yumjagiin Tsedenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Tumenbayaryn Ragchaa, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Londongyn Rinchin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Buyantyn Dashtseren, Ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic to India and Mr. Puntsagyn Tserentsoodol, Head of the Third Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic.

Participating in the talks from the Indian side were:

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri S. Narboo, Ambassador of India to the Mongolian People's Republic and Shri V. V. Paranjpe, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

The two Prime Ministers discussed International problems of interest to both countries as well as the present state of Indo-Mongolian relations and their further development. The talks were held in an atmosphere of great cordiality and complete understanding and revealed that the position of the two Prime Ministers on all issues discussed was either identical or very close.

A Joint Indo-Mongolian Declaration was agreed upon by the two Prime Ministers.

The two sides expressed their confidence that the visit to India by H.E. Mr. Yumjagiin

Tsedenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic would make an important contribution to further consolidation of friendly relations between Mongolia and India and their peoples in the interests of peace and security in Asia and the world.

H.E. Mr. Yumjagiin Tsedenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, expressed his sincere thanks to the Government of India and personally to Shrimati Indira Gandhi for the warm and hearty welcome accorded to him and his party.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic renewed his invitation to Shrimati Indira Gandhi to visit Mongolia at a time convenient to her. The Prime Minister of India accepted the invitation with thanks.

MONGOLIA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

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MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

India-Mongolia joint Communique

The following Joint Communique was issued in New Delhi on March 2, 1973, at the end of the visit of H.E. Mr. Y. Tsedenbal, Prime Minister of the Mongolian Peoples Republic:

H.E. Mr. Yumjagiin Tsedenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic and Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, exchanged views on questions concerning India-Mongolia relations as well as international problems

of interest to both countries and agreed on the following Joint Declaration.

The two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction that the friendly relations between the two countries were developing steadily and satisfactorily to mutual advantage.

The two Prime Ministers noted that both sides were guided by a sincere desire to

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develop and strengthen the close ties between the Indian and the Mongolian peoples which have at present evolved into relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Both sides also believed that further development of friendly relations between them met the national interests of the two peoples and contributed to international peace and security in Asia and the world.

India and Mongolia will be guided in their bilateral and international relations by the following principles:

- i) All-round development and consolidation of friendship and cooperation in political, economic, cultural scientific and technological fields;
- ii) Adherence to the principles of peaceful co-existence between States with different social systems;
- iii) Respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of state borders;
- iv) Equality and non-interference in internal affairs;
- v) Settlement of disputes by peaceful means and renunciation of the use or threat of force;
- vi) All-round cooperation in the United Nations and other international organisations;
- vii) Pursuit of a policy of cooperation

between India and Mongolia and peaceful and friendly cooperation between Asian States; and

viii) Regular holding of mutual consultations and exchange of views at various levels on questions of interest to both countries.

In the course of the talks on the international situation, special attention was paid to the situation in Asia. The two Prime Ministers agreed that in order to establish a lasting peace in Asia, it was essential to seek settlement of inter-state disputes through peaceful negotiations and to lay down a firm foundation for expanding cooperation between Asian States. India and Mongolia reaffirmed their determination to make every effort towards achieving peace and security in Asia.

Both sides recognised the importance of normalising the situation in the Indian sub-continent with a view to establishment of durable peace. Prime Minister Tsedenbal welcomed the conclusion of the Simla Agreement and subsequent efforts made by India to implement the Agreement like withdrawal of troops with a view to setting in motion constructive steps for normalising the situation. He congratulated the Indian Prime Minister on her initiative to solve the problems of the Indian sub-continent through direct and peaceful negotiations. Both Prime Ministers expressed the hope that on the basis of recognition of the existing political realities by all the States concerned, these efforts will result in the speedy establishment of durable peace in the region.

Both Prime Ministers believed that admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations would consolidate peace and cooperation in the Indian sub-continent. They agreed that any attempt to ignore realities only led to tension and instability in the area.

The two Prime Ministers warmly welcomed the signing of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam at Paris on January 27, 1973, and expressed their admiration for the heroic people of

Vietnam. They also welcomed warmly the signing of the Agreement on the Re-establishment of Peace and National Concord in Laos at Vientiane on February 21, 1973. They hoped that the signing of these Agreements would open the way leading to peace in Indo-China as a whole and easing of tensions in Asia and the world. The two Prime Ministers considered that the Agreements should be strictly observed by all parties and that the people of Indo-China should be enabled to shape, their future without any outside interference and in accordance with their own national interests.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their concern at the grave situation that continued to exist in the Middle East. They reiterated their support for the establishment of a permanent and just peace in the Middle East.

Both sides welcomed the growing trend towards general detente now noticeable in Europe. The two Prime Ministers considered that the convocation of an All-European

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conference on security and co-operation would be an important step towards strengthening peace and fostering better understanding in Europe and the world.

The two Prime Ministers re-affirmed their allegiance to the principles of the U.N. Charter and agreed to work for strengthening the Organisation and its effectiveness in every possible way.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their determined support to efforts to bring an end to the arms race, to the attainment of general and complete disarmament, including nuclear and conventional weapons, under strict international control. They were of the opinion that holding of a World Conference on Disarmament in the near future with the participation of all countries would be most desirable.

The two Prime Ministers resolutely condemned colonialism and racialism and re-

iterated their determination to seek final eradication of these two evils.

The Mongolian Prime Minister expressed appreciation and support for the policy of peace, non-alignment and friendship among nations pursued by the Government of the Republic of India headed by Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

The Indian Prime Minister expressed her appreciation of the role played by the Prime Minister and the Government of Mongolia in pursuing a sustained Policy of peace, friendship and cooperation with all countries.

MONGOLIA INDIA USA MALI VIETNAM FRANCE LAOS CHINA
Date : Mar 01, 1973

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NEPAL
Agreement between Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal regarding Projects taken up under Additional Assistance Programme

The following is the text of the agreement between India and Nepal regarding projects taken up under the additional assistance programme signed in Kathmandu on March 5, 1973:

The Government of India, hereinafter called 'the G.O.I.' and His Majesty's Government of Nepal, hereinafter called 'H.M.G.',

Being desirous of cooperating with each other in promoting the economic development of Nepal:

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The G.O.I. agree to make available funds to the extent of Rs. 4.00 crores (Rupees four crores only), in Indian currency, for the implementation of various development projects as appended herewith, hereinafter called the 'Programme'. This aid will be utilised before March 31, 1973, except for the iodised salt Project under the Special Rural Areas Development and the Improving and the black-topping of the Kathmandu-Godavari Road Project for which the aid will be utilised before March 31, 1974, and March 31, 1975, respectively. Unspent balance could be utilised by mutual agreement.

ARTICLE II

The Chief Engineer, I.C.M. Highway Projects, will execute the work of improving and black-topping of the Kathmandu-Godavari Road and will submit quarterly expenditure statements to the H.M.G. He will also render accounts to the concerned Accountant General in India for the money

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spent from the India aid funds. The building/construction works under the Programme will be executed, as far as possible, by the Central Engineering Division. The remaining portion of works including the buildings not taken up by the Central Engineering Division will be implemented by the concerned Ministries/Departments/Agencies of H.M.G.

ARTICLE III

Whereas, generally, the Programme would be in accordance with the projects appended herewith and implemented as indicated in Article II above, any modification and/or addition within the spirit of the Agreement may be made in consultation between H.M.G. and the Indian Co-operation Mission, hereinafter called 'I.C.M.'.

ARTICLE IV

The Director, I.C.M. and/or his nominees would act as Advisers to the concerned

Ministries/Departments of H.M.G. for the execution of the Programme. They will also be Members of the Committees which have already been formed and/or which would be formed by H.M.G. for the implementation of the Programme in future, except in regard to the Remote Areas Development Committee where they will be invited to attend all the meetings in which projects under this Agreement are considered. The Director and/or his nominees will be consulted in the formulation of detailed plans and periodical progress reports would be made available to them in respect of the Programme executed under this Agreement.

ARTICLE V

H.M.G. will provide the necessary land for the execution of the Programme, free from an encumbrances. The payment of compensation, if any, and the settlement of claims from disputes arising therefrom. will be the responsibility of H.M.G. H.M.G. shall also arrange the supply of timber, sand, stone, limestone and other raw materials, required for the projects free of royalty, excise duty, licensing fee and other Levies.

ARTICLE VI

H.M.G. will provide foreign exchange, if necessary, against the allotments made in Indian currency by the G.O.I.

ARTICLE VII

H.M.G. will ensure that the goods, materials, equipment, machinery and transport, etc., which are brought into Nepal or are moved from one place to another within Nepal for the execution of the projects either by the project authorities or by the contractors employed on the projects, are afforded expeditious movement within the territory of Nepal and are exempt from licensing requirements and from payment of all customs duties, taxes, cesses and levies of any kind. H.M.G. will also ensure that the goods, materials, equipment, machinery and transport, etc., brought into Nepal from India as above will be allowed to be taken back to India when no longer required for

the execution of the projects. Exemptions from licensing requirements and from payment of all customs duties, taxes, cesses and levies of any kind shall also extend to the transport and goods for personal use of India - based personnel working for the projects. The principles and procedures regarding the facilities to be extended to the Indian contractors and exemption from import and export duties and other local levies of all supplies, materials, equipment and vehicles, etc., imported for contract work, as worked out between the Director, Indian Cooperation Mission, and H.M.G. for the Trisuli Hydel Project will apply mutatis mutandis to the Projects. This will include exemption from income and other taxes except contract tax.

The Contract tax payable by Indian contractor's will be collected by the project authorities and credited to project funds under advice to H.M.G.

ARTICLE VIII

The Government of India shall depute adequate number of personnel e.g. Technical Advisers, Engineers, Overseers, Horticulturists and other technicians, for advising and assisting the respective departments of H.M.G. in the execution of the Programme.

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ARTICLE IX

The project authorities, or their contractors, shall be allowed to import from India skilled and semi-skilled labour to the extent not available in Nepal. H.M.G. will make arrangements to ensure that the requirements of unskilled labour for the Programme are fully met.

H.M.G. will extend all possible help and co-operation to the project authorities in the maintenance of peaceful labour relations and the safeguarding of the personnel and property of the projects.

ARTICLE X

Contractors of the projects from outside

Nepal will be free to import any amount of Indian currency that may be deemed necessary but will convert it into Nepalese currency at legally recognised exchange counters for the transactions inside Nepal for the execution of their work. They will be allowed to repatriate their currency holdings which will be converted into Indian currency by the Nepal Rastra Bank.

ARTICLE XI

H.M.G. will ensure expeditious grant of licences, permits and other such authorisations to enable the project authorities or their contractors to execute work relating to the Programme.

ARTICLE XII

H.M.G. will make necessary security arrangements for the protection of the personnel as well as the materials, equipment, etc., at the various sites of construction and operations, including in transit where necessary.

ARTICLE XIII

In the event of legal action arising from activities undertaken in pursuance of the Programme, H.M.G. will assume full responsibility for the defence of such action in Nepal and will take responsibility for the continued execution of the projects and Will assure immunity from garnishment or any other legal process of title to all contributions made for or property and benefits derived from the execution of the Programme.

ARTICLE XIX

The funds provided by the G.O.I. under this Agreement will be utilised for:

- (i) the purchase of equipment essential for the projects required in connection with the execution of the Programme;
- (ii) meeting the expenditure on salaries, allowances and travelling allowances, etc., of the staff employed for the execution of the Programme;

(iii) meeting the cost of personnel obtained from India to advise and assist in the execution of the Programme; and

(iv) meeting the expenditure on construction of buildings, roads and bridges.

ARTICLE XV

The expenditure for any purchases made through G.O.I., the expenditure under item (iii) of Article XIX and the expenditure under item (iv) of Article XIX relating to the improving and black-topping of the Kathmandu - Godavari Road will be incurred directly by the I.C.M. and the amounts debited to the aid under this Agreement.

ARTICLE XVI

Any expenditure incurred by the G.O.I. before the signing of this Agreement in pursuance of the implementation of the Programme shall be debited to the over-all aid under the Agreement.

ARTICLE XVII

Subject to the stipulation in Article XIX and XV above, a detailed procedure for the release of funds in respect of the projects taken under the Programme and submission of utilisation certificates shall be determined by the Director, I.C.M. and H.M.G. Secretary in the Ministry of Finance Separately.

ARTICLE XVIII

Arrangements will be made to reflect Indian Assistance under this Agreement in H.M.G's budget.

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ARTICLE XIX

All the equipment, stores, machinery, etc., left over on completion of the works, will be used only for mutually agreed construction works. All unspent balances and

cash advanced by G.O.I. after meeting the liabilities shall either be refunded to the G.O.I. on completion or termination of this Agreement or otherwise disposed of in accordance with a separate Agreement to be entered into for this purpose.

ARTICLE XX

This Agreement shall come into force with effect from the date on which it is signed and will remain in force up to the 31st March 1975, unless terminated earlier by either party by giving three months' notice in writing to the other party.

In WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the undersigned, being duly authorised by our respective Governments, have signed the Agreement.

Done at Kathmandu in the English language in four original copies, all of which are equally authentic, on this day of Fifth March, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Three.

NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

APPENDIX

PROJECTS APPROVED FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO NEPAL DURING THE YEARS 1967-68 TO 1974-75

Provision in
Rs. lacks IC

I. AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SCHEMES

1. Purchase and distribution

of agricultural seeds.	4.45
2. Purchase and distribution of fruit seeds and plants.	6.67
3. Purchase and distribution of livestock.	4.81
4. Veterinary Schemes.	10.00

	25.93

II. MINOR IRRIGATION SCHEMES

1. Minor Irrigation	
2. Tubewells	103.70

III. RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

1. Panchayats - construction of small roads, bridges, culverts, drinking water wells, etc.	29.63
2. Bagmati Anchal	22.22

	51.85

Provision in
Rs. lakhs IC

IV. EDUCATLON

1. Sports Field	2.96
2. Students' Club	2.96
3. Staff quarters	5.00
4. Science Block	7.41
5. Arts Block	4.44
6. Fencing and Water Supply	0.93
7. Research Block (Gandhi Bhawan)	10.37
8. Girls' Hostel	3.34
9. Married Students' Hostel	4.45
10. Science Equipment.	1.48

43.34

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Provision in
Rs. lakhs IC

V. SPECIAL RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT

1. Iodised Salt. 50.00

2. Construction of roads, mule
tracks and school buildings,
water supply schemes,
health schemes, horticulture, etc. 50.74

100.74

VI. HEALTH SCHEMES

1. 25-bedded hospital at Dhan-
gadi 4.63

2. 25-bedded hospital at Raj-
biraj 4.63

Provision in
Rs. lakhs IC

3. 15-bedded hospital at Tau-
lihawa 3.70

4. 15-bedded hospital at Gulmi 4.07

5. 15-bedded hospital at Illam 2.22

6. Health Centre at Terathum 1.85

7. 6 Health Posts at Terai. 3.34

24.44

VII. IMPROVING AND BLACK-TOPPING
OF KATHMANDU - GODAVARI
ROAD 50.00

Total: 400.00

NEPAL LATVIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Indo-Norwegian Agreement on Development of Fisheries

Following is the text of a News Release issued in New Delhi on March 15, 1973, regarding the two agreements signed between India and Norway, under which the latter will assist in the development of fisheries in India:

Under an agreement signed here the Government of Norway will provide one fishing vessel as gift to the Government of India. The well-equipped 90-ft. long stern trawler/Purse Seiner costs about Rs. 38 lakh and will be used for exploratory fishing. By an other agreement various items of fisheries equipment such as electronic devices, plate freezers, trawl and purse-sein webbing, etc., valued at Rs. 24 lakhs were also gifted.

The Integrated Fisheries Project at Cochin, developed with the assistance from Norwegian Agency for International Development has four seagoing vessels which were also earlier gifted by Norway. One vessel is equipped for oceanographic research and the other three are for deep-sea fishing and exploration of marine resources. The project has several other smaller vessels, repair facilities, unit for processing and export of shrimp, refrigeration of fish and refrigerated storage and facilities for training of personnel in operation and maintenance of electronic fish detection equipment.

The two Agreements were signed today by Shri T. P. Singh, Secretary, Agriculture, on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Torbjorn Christiansen, Ambassa-

dor of Norway in India on behalf of the Government of Norway.

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NORWAY INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Foreign Minister Swaran Singh's Statement in Rajya Sabha on Reported US Decision to Resume Arms Supplies to Pakistan

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement in the Rajya Sabha on March 14, 1973, in reply to a Calling Attention Notice regarding the reported plans of the U.S.A. to resume arm supplies to Pakistan:

On March 12, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, Mr. Joseph Sisco, told the House Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee that the United States would like to find a way to fulfil what he called 'long standing arms commitment' to Pakistan which had been suspended since the outbreak of the hostilities in 1971. The Government of India views this development with the utmost concern and is taking up the matter with the United States Government.

It has been our policy to promote peace and good neighbourly relations among the countries of the sub-continent. Despite the 1971 conflict imposed on us, we are making earnest endeavours to normalise relations with Pakistan and to establish durable peace. The Simla Agreement embodies the aspirations of the two nations to live in peace

and friendship. The withdrawal of troops, under the Simla Agreement, has already been completed and this has resulted in the lowering of tensions.

The United States intention to resume arms supplies to Pakistan will jeopardize the process of normalisation and adversely affect the chances of establishment of durable peace on the sub-continent. In the light of past record of Pakistan's aggression against India, arms shipments to that country will once again pose a grave threat to India's security.

We have, in recent months, expressed our desire to have friendly and normal relations with the United States of America which has been reciprocated by the United States Government. In my statement in the Rajya Sabha on November 30, 1972, I referred to this desire. However, as I said on that occasion, in the past, U.S. military assistance to Pakistan had been a principal cause of strained relations between India and the United States of America as it encouraged the anti-Indian and militaristic policy of Pakistan. We hope that the United States would carefully consider the implications of such an action and refrain from supplying arms to Pakistan.

PAKISTAN USA INDIA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement in Lok Sabha

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on March 15, 1973, in

reply to a Calling Attention Motion regarding the decision of the U.S.A. to resume arms supplies to Pakistan:

It was officially announced in Washington yesterday by the State Department that with immediate effect the United States is lifting the embargo on the supply of arms to Pakistan. As a result, Pakistan will immediately receive 300 armoured personnel carriers reportedly valued at 13 million, and aircraft engines, military spare parts and parachutes valued at 1.1 million according to U.S. statement. It is clear from the announcement that the United States Government will permit Pakistan to acquire non-lethal military equipment as well as spare parts for lethal weapons given to Pakistan earlier by the United States.

I had reiterated our grave concern yesterday over the American supply of arms to Pakistan and had expressed the hope that the United States Government would care-

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fully consider the implications of such arms supplies and refrain from this action. The Foreign Secretary also conveyed our strong feelings on the subject to the American Ambassador in New Delhi yesterday, as this would have a negative effect on Indo-American relations and on the process of normalisation on the sub-continent. Our Ambassador in Washington is also taking up the matter immediately with the United States Government to convey our grave concern on their decision.

PAKISTAN USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA MALI

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

India-Tanzania Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on March 1, 1973, following the visit to India of the First Vice-President of Tanzania, H.E. Mr. Aboud Jumbe:

At the invitation of the Vice-President of India, the Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania led by H.E. Mr. Aboud Jumbe, the First Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania paid a friendly visit to the Republic of India from February 19 to March 1, 1973.

During their stay, His Excellency Mr. Aboud Jumbe and his delegation visited Agra, Bangalore, Poona and Bombay in addition to New Delhi. During their tour of India they visited industrial centres, scientific institutions and also places of historical and cultural interest. They expressed their deep appreciation of the progress made in industrial, economic and technological fields.

The warm welcome and hospitality extended to the delegation was an expression of the close friendship and the historical ties that exist between the people of Tanzania and India.

During the stay in India, H.E. the First Vice-President of Tanzania and the members of the delegation called on Shri V.V. Giri, the President of India and held talks with Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India. In these talks, the First Vice-President of Tanzania was assisted by the following:

Hon. Hassan Nassor Moyo, Chairman of State Affairs and Workers' Rights; Minister of State in the First Vice-President's Office; Hon. M. Mageni, Minister of lands, Housing and Urban Development; Hon. A. C. Tandau, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare; Hon. Brigadier Yusuf Himid, Member of the Revolutionary Council; Hon. Lt. Colonel Hafidh Suleiman Almas, Member

of the Revolutionary Council; Hon. Ibrahim Makungu, Member of the Revolutionary Council; Hon. Lt. Col. Ramadhan Haji, Member of the Revolutionary Council; Mr. W. Dourado, Attorney General, Zanzibar; Dr. Suleiman Ali Mnoga, Secretary to the Revolutionary Council; and H.E. Mr. A. D. Hassan, High Commissioner for the United Republic of Tanzania in India.

The Prime Minister of India was assisted by the following:

Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister of Agriculture; Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister of Industrial Development; Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce; Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to Prime Minister; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri M. A. Rahman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri J. S. Mehta, High Commissioner of India in Tanzania.

These talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship reflecting the close ties existing between the two countries. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of non-alignment which had proved their efficacy over the period of time. The two sides also reaffirmed their Governments' commitment to the cause of total

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liberation of all oppressed peoples and in Particular the oppressed peoples of Africa in Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau and Southern Africa.

The two sides reaffirmed their stand against colonialism, neocolonialism and imperialism in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The two sides paid tributes to the memory of late Dr. Amilcar Cabral, the heroic and patriotic leader of the PAIGC who was recently assassinated, and conveyed

their support to the freedom struggle of the people of Guinea-Bissau. Further, they pledged their strong support to the Republic of Zambia for the stand taken against the actions of the illegal Smith regime in Rhodesia, as well as to liberation movements in Africa and agreed to give increased moral and material support to these movements. In regard to Zimbabwe, they reaffirmed their stand that the Smith regime must be compelled to implement the principle of one-man-one-vote, and that if necessary, the UK should use force in her capacity as Administering Power to achieve this objective. Both sides reiterated their belief in the principles enshrined in the Charter of the UN and their determination to continue their opposition to racialism and all forms and manifestations of exploitation.

The two sides reiterated their support to the principle of declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, free of rivalries and tensions, as embodied in the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions on this subject.

On West Asia the two sides expressed their anxiety at the prevailing situation and stressed the need for implementation of the Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967 and the withdrawal of troops from Israeli occupied territories, as a necessary pre-requisite for achieving a political settlement. They upheld the right of the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle for the recovery of their inalienable rights.

The Indian side explained the recent developments in the sub-continent leading to the emergence of Bangla Desh as an independent country and the events leading to the signing of the Simla Agreement. The Tanzanian side welcomed the Simla Agreement and hoped to see its full and early implementation which could usher in a new era of peaceful cooperation and permit the dedication of energies towards the problems of social and economic development throughout the subcontinent.

Reviewing the situation in South East Asia, both sides welcomed the cease-fire in

Vietnam and Laos and hoped that it would lead to peace and stability in Cambodia also and to the reconstruction of these war-ravaged countries.

In the field of bilateral economic co-operation and trade, the two friendly delegations noted with satisfaction the growing trade and economic relations between the two countries, and reached agreements for further intensification of their cooperation in economic, commercial and technical fields. These agreements cover:

- (1) Assistance in training technical and professional cadres for small-scale and other industries.
- (2) Assistance in strengthening and developing small-scale and other industries, agriculture and fisheries.

The two sides expressed the need to increase cultural and scientific exchanges and emphasised the importance of regular consultations between the two Governments and exchange of visits of the leaders of the two countries as a means of strengthening the friendly relations that already exist between the peoples of India and Tanzania.

Both sides pointed out with satisfaction that the friendly visit of the Government Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania led by the first Vice-President, H.E. Mr. Aboud Jumbe, to the Republic of India was a valuable contribution to strengthening the close ties between the peoples of the two countries and to the consolidation of the Afro-Asian solidarity.

The Government Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania led by the First Vice-President, H.E. Mr. Aboud Jumbe, expressed profound thanks to the Vice-President of India, Shri G. S. Pathak and the Government and the people of the Republic

to the Vice-President of India to visit Tanzania. The Vice-President thanked H.E. the First Vice-President of Tanzania for his kind invitation which he accepted with pleasure.

TANZANIA INDIA USA LATVIA ANGOLA GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE UNITED KINGDOM ISRAEL LAOS VIETNAM
CAMBODIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

New British Loan to India for Non-Project Goods

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on March 7, 1973, regarding an agreement between the two countries, extending a British loan to India.

An agreement for a loan allocating Rs. 9.484 crores (æ 5 million) of British aid to India was signed here today.

The loan supplements the Rs. 47.420 crores (æ 25 million) UK/India Maintenance Loan 1972 which was signed on November 9, 1972, and will cover the import from Britain of non-project goods. Among these are raw materials, spare parts and components required to service India's agricultural and industrial production. The loan is in addition to the Rs. 119.498 crores (æ 63 million) of fresh aid to India during the financial year 1972-73 pledged at last year's meeting of the Aid India Consortium and brings the total amount of UK maintenance aid to India in 1972-73 to Rs. 56.904 crores (æ 30 million).

The agreement was signed for India

by Shri R. Tirumalai, Joint Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and for Britain, by Mr. O. G. Forster, Counsellor (Development) of the British High Commission.

The loan is on the usual soft terms of British lending to India. It is interest free and will be repaid over 25 years with an initial grace period of seven years.

INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

British Aid to India for Power Generation

The following News Release was issued in New Delhi on March 26, 1973, on the agreement of British aid to India for power generation :

An agreement was signed here today under which the United Kingdom will make available to India £ 3.3 million (Rs. 6.26 crores) for the import of components and raw materials for the manufacture in India of three steam generating boilers. The funds will be made available under the UK/India Mixed Projects Loan.

The boilers will be installed in power stations at Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh and Chandrapura in Bihar, to provide steam for three 120-megawatt thermal electric power generating sets.

INDIA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Another British Loan to India

The following News Release on a further British loan to India was issued in New Delhi on March 28, 1973.

An agreement for a loan allocating £ 3.5 million (Rs. 6.638 crores) of British aid to India was signed here today.

The loan supplements the £ 30 million (Rs. 56.904 crores) UK/India Maintenance Loan 1972 signed so far, and will cover the import from Britain of non-project goods. Among these are raw materials, spare parts and components required to service India's agricultural and industrial production. The

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loan is in addition to the £ 63 million (Rs. 119.498 crores) of fresh aid to India during the financial year 1972-73 pledged at last year's meeting of the Aid India Consortium. Together with the additional £ 5 million (Rs. 9.48 crores) lent on March 7, 1973, it brings the total amount of UK Maintenance Aid to India in 1972-73 to £ 33.5 million (Rs. 63.542 crores).

The agreement for the new loan was signed for India by Shri R. Tirumalai, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and for Britain by Mr. P. J. E. Male, Minister in the British High Commission.

The loan is on the usual soft terms of British lending to India. It is interest free and will be repaid over 25 years with an

initial grace period of seven years.

INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA MALDIVES

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Prime Minister of Yugoslavia

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, gave a banquet in honour of His Excellency Mr. Dzemal Bijedic, President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in New Delhi on March 5, 1973. Speaking on the occasion, Shrimati Indira Gandhi said:

You come from a country with which we have had exceptionally close ties of goodwill and friendship. It is a privilege to welcome you, your charming wife and your colleagues on behalf of the Government and people of India.

I remember the warmth with which I have been received by the Government and people of Yugoslavia on my visits to your lovely country. My predecessors in this office had, as I myself have, high regard for President Tito, as a fighter for freedom, as a nation-builder, and as a statesman with international vision. We have benefited from his wisdom over the years.

India became free a little after your own nation arose Phoenix-like out of World War II and proclaimed itself a Republic. We have watched with admiration Yugoslavia's successful endeavour to build a new society based upon equality and justice. We in India have also been engaged in overcoming age-old poverty and inequality and giv-

ing our political freedom economic meaning and social content. But few nations have the good fortune of being able to concentrate undisturbed on their domestic tasks. External forces cast their shadow and impede their efforts. In India we have had more than once to take up arms to defend our territorial integrity. In Yugoslavia you have had to exert yourselves heroically to preserve your national personality. We have both adhered to our respective paths and are striving to find a distinctive solution to our social problems. Our countries have resolutely kept out of the power configurations of the post-war world because of our firm conviction that the cause of world peace and international wellbeing would be served best by nonalignment and Peaceful coexistence.

It is this similarity of approach to international problems which originally brought us close. Our political relations were consolidated through joint action in international forums in defence of the independence and equality of nations, and in favour of the peaceful resolution of issues. Simultaneously, we have sought to develop our mutual economic and cultural relations. Yugoslav-Indian friendship can indeed be held as a fine example of how two countries which

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belong to different continents and have dissimilar historical experiences can still develop close sympathy, understanding and co-operation.

The world seems to have entered an era of important changes. The international scene is vastly different from what it was in the late forties or even in the late sixties. The growing detente in Europe and the conclusion of the Vietnam and Laos peace agreements have opened new prospects of co-operation among countries which had been arrayed in opposite camps. We hope that war will end in Cambodia also and that the spirit of reconciliation will extend to the remaining areas of tension.

The spectre of violence is darkening the

horizon. There must be greater co-operation amongst all countries, regardless of policy or outlook, to counteract the increasing number of violent acts perpetrated by small organised groups. We firmly believe that violence can never lead to good, no matter what the motive which prompts it.

Recent events have largely borne out the validity of peaceful coexistence and non-alignment. Even though bipolarity has yielded place to multipolarity, many old dangers persist. Threats to the independence and integrity of nations have not decreased. Efforts to carve out spheres of influence continue. Stockpiles of armaments have not diminished. That is why nations like ours should continue to exercise independence of judgment and action, resist domination and press for peaceful resolution of international conflicts.

These are the essential constituents of nonalignment. Countries of Asia and Africa and smaller countries of other continents must reaffirm their belief in non-alignment. I hope the Algiers meeting of non-aligned countries later this year will help us to pool our insights and strengthen our individual and collective efforts to withstand pressures.

Far from being isolationist, non-alignment enjoins a positive effort to forge economic and political friendship with all nations, Irrespective of political systems. It is ironic though perhaps understandable that the principal economic ties of most newly free countries should be with the former colonial powers. There is nothing wrong in seeking to enlarge economic exchange with the industrially advanced and militarily strong countries, provided we use such exchanges to strengthen our own base of self-reliance. But greater economic cooperation between non-aligned countries themselves will help each of them to be economically stronger. Owing to steady and consistent efforts in India we have been able to diversify our economic and trade relations. May I say how greatly we appreciate the cooperation we have received from Yugoslavia in our economic plans, especially in the development of our shipping?

Apart from larger international issues, nations are often called upon to react and respond to situations in their immediate vicinity. The circumstances in which Bangladesh became an independent sovereign nation are too recent and well-known to need recapitulation. We are grateful for the sympathy and understanding shown to us during that difficult period by the Yugoslav Government and in particular for President Tito's appreciation of our position. India wants a relationship of sovereign equality, friendship and cooperation between the countries of our sub-continent. We feel that this can be achieved only bilaterally and without outside interference. This was the essence of the Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan. If the spirit of the agreement is maintained, any problem, howsoever difficult it might appear, can certainly be resolved.

Your Excellency, this is your first visit to our country. But no visitor from Yugoslavia can be regarded as a stranger to our people. In fact we have discovered in the short time here how many common things there are between us. Your Excellency's name Dzimal and your charming wife's name Razija are both quite common in our country. In fact, I was telling Her Excellency that she shares this name with a very famous queen of Delhi. During your visit to other parts of the country you will notice the great esteem in which our people hold Yugoslavia and you will have occasion to glimpse something of our efforts to modernise our society and the enormous challenges which confront us.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast to the health of the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Madame Broz;

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to the health of the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia and Madame Bijedic; to the happiness and prosperity of the Yugoslav people; and to the further strengthening of Yugoslav-Indian friendship and cooperation.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA LAOS VIETNAM CAMBODIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ALGERIA
PAKISTAN

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslav Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, His Excellency Mr. Dzermal
Bijedic said:

On behalf of the members of our delegation, of my wife and myself, may I express my heartfelt thanks for the cordial welcome and the kind and friendly words addressed to our country and its peoples, and to President Tito in particular.

I also wish to say how happy I am to be in your great and beautiful country that is dear to us, a country where we are surrounded by friendship. We have always valued each visit to India, each discussion with her representatives and each direct contact with the warmth and wisdom of her people, as they reassure us that the ideals we are pursuing jointly, are both attainable and worthy of the efforts which we are investing into them.

A deep, sincere and already traditional friendship exists between our two countries. The ideas and visions of the two greatest sons of our countries, the late Jawaharlal Nehru and President Tito have been woven into it. It is to their historic credit and to our great good fortune and advantage that they laid lasting foundations for profound, friendly and comprehensive cooperation between our two countries at both the bilateral and international levels. I am certain you

will agree that all the conditions exist and that there is an equal desire and readiness on both sides, for promoting and strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation and relations in all fields. This is also the best way to assure continued rapprochement between our peoples in their striving for a brighter future.

We, in Yugoslavia, follow with great attention and interest, and rejoice at the successes and achievements of the friendly and industrious Indian people in the socio-economic development of the country, and the construction of a modern society. The significant successes that you are achieving in many spheres of economy, science and technology bear witness to the great capabilities with which your people have been endowed. We fully understand the complexity of the problems which the Government and the peoples of India encounter on the road of their development. However, the successes you have achieved in the construction of your country are the best guarantee that further results will be forthcoming.

Yugoslavia faces similar problems; further, it is making a substantial effort to develop its self-managing society. On this plane we have achieved significant results in all spheres of the development of our multinational community. We are aware of our achievements, but equally so of the problems which yet remain to be solved along the road of socialist 'construction; we discuss them publicly in the endeavour to find the most adequate solutions under the existing circumstances.

Madam Prime Minister, we have followed attentively the events and changes that have recently taken place in the world. In Europe, the process of positive, though contradictory trends continues to characterize the scene. The Simla Agreement launched the process of settlement and normalisation of the situation in the Indian subcontinent and we are convinced that after the present standstill a solution to unsettled problems will be found through negotiations among the interested parties of this region. In Vietnam, a settlement has been reached after

many years of war.

Relations between some of the big powers have been normalized and confrontation has given way to detente and negotiations. We hopefully welcome these positive changes, but it has not escaped our attention that they do not automatically "guarantee" that the security and legitimate interests of small countries, developing countries and, particularly of peoples still fighting for their freedom, will truly be respected and recognized. We must admit that the

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present international situation still does not inspire us with confidence, as it continues to be burdened by the Middle East crisis, the war in Cambodia and the increased pressure being brought to bear by colonialist and racist regimes, particular in the south of Africa, who seek to suppress liberation movements by force and who pose a direct threat to certain independent African countries. In South Vietnam, although the agreement has only just begun to be implemented, problems which arouse concern and stand in the way of its implementation are already discernible.

We must regrettably repeat that the economic position of the developing countries continues to deteriorate, while the developed part of the world, focuses on solving the problems of a highly advanced society and turns its attention less and less to the problems of the developing countries.

Madame Prime Minister, we consider it indispensable, at this moment, for the non-aligned countries to be even more active in demanding consistent implementation of the Vietnam Agreement and, in this context, to render full support to the international affirmation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam. Through its long struggle against foreign intervention, that government together with the people it represents has won a place of equality among the countries of South-East Asia. The non-aligned countries, by acting along these lines, would contribute to further consolidation of

the non-aligned orientation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and to the strengthening of the Policy of non-alignment in this region. Also, the non-aligned countries should engage more fully in the settlement of the Middle East crisis, by extending full support to the justified demands of Arab countries and putting greater pressures on Israel to accept such a Political settlement of the crisis in the Middle East as will take account of these demands. At the same time, the non-aligned countries should continue to strengthen their support and assistance to the liberation movements and countries of Africa for the purpose of promoting the process of decolonization and facilitating successful opposition to the colonialist and racist regimes, particularly in the South of Africa.

Objective requirements, as well as the decisions of the Georgetown Conference, make it Incumbent on the non-aligned countries to invest the maximum effort in intensifying their mutual relations, particularly economic and other kinds of cooperation among all developing countries, and in this context, to help bolster positive trends in international relations during the preparations for the forthcoming non-aligned summit conference. I can assure you that, for Yugoslavia, the priority task at the moment is expansion of political, economic, cultural and other relations with the non-aligned and developing countries. We shall be satisfied indeed if this mission of ours helps strengthen all our relations and cooperation with India and the other countries that we are visiting.

Against the background of the present international situation, in which these changes are taking place, Yugoslavia attaches the greatest importance to the fourth conference of the heads of state and government of non-aligned countries in Algiers. After assessing the present stage in the development of international relations, we hope that the non-aligned countries at the conference in Algiers will facilitate the process of finding ways to solve the major world problems. We consequently believe that You share our conviction that the poli-

tical preparations for the IV summit are of first-rate importance. Yugoslavia is prepared to commit itself to the maximum in these preparations in conjunction with all non-aligned countries. We are deeply convinced that India will also, on this occasion, provide a substantial contribution to the success of the conference.

Madame Prime Minister, in our political relations, we have continued our mutually beneficial practice of maintaining contacts at the highest level and exchanging views on matters of common interest. Representatives of our two countries cooperate successfully and constructively in the United Nations and other international organizations. I should particularly like to emphasize our fruitful and useful cooperation in the preparations and in the course of the conferences of non-aligned countries.

In the sphere of bilateral economic relations, noteworthy results have been achieved. Realistic possibilities exist for promoting these relations further to bring them up to the high level of our political relations.

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Development so far shows that there are opportunities for expanding economic cooperation in various spheres such as, shipbuilding, construction of harbours and shipyards, production of tractors, establishment of joint ventures, etc.

I am certain that, in the future, both sides will give greater encouragement to their businessmen to act with a view to linking the economies of the two countries more closely together. For, in this way, we shall demonstrate in practice that the developing countries can establish the kind of cooperation that reduces their dependence on developed markets and countries.

I firmly believe that Yugoslavia and India will continue their fruitful cooperation in all spheres of their bilateral relations, as well as on the wider international plane.

Allow me to propose a toast to the

health and long life of His Excellency, Mr. Varahagiri Venkata Giri, President of India, to your health and Personal happiness, Madame Prime Minister, and to further success in your work for the benefit and prosperity of the friendly people of India, to the deepening and strengthening of comprehensive cooperation between the peoples of Yugoslavia and India. Thank you.

YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA MALI CAMBODIA VIETNAM ISRAEL GUYANA ALGERIA

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Yugoslav Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint Communique issued in New Delhi on March 9, 1973, at the end of the visit of Mr. Dzemal Bijedic, Prime Minister of Yugoslavia:

On the invitation of the Government of India, His Excellency Mr. Dzemal Bijedic, President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, and Madame Bijedic paid a State visit to India from March 5 to 9, 1973.

In the course of his stay in Delhi, the President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was received by the Vice-President of India, Shri G. S. Pathak. The Head of the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and his party also visited Agra and Bombay and were accorded a warm and cordial welcome everywhere reflecting the traditional close and friendly relations existing between the two Governments and peoples.

The talks and discussions were held in

an atmosphere of cordiality and complete mutual understanding and covered both bilateral relations as well as important international questions of mutual interest. The exchange of views on the international situation revealed the identity or closeness of the position of the two sides on the issues discussed.

Taking part in the talks were:

ON THE YUGOSLAV SIDE: H.E. Dr. Emil Ludviger, Member of the Federal Executive Council; H.E. Jaksa Petric, Deputy Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs; H.E. Mr. Salko Fejic, Ambassador of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to India; Mr. Nisim Konfino, Chief de Cabinet of the President of the Federal Executive Council; Mr. Paun Serbanovic, Head of the Department for Asia and Australia in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Branko Mikasinovic, Adviser for Foreign Affairs to the President of the Federal Executive Council; Mr. Slavko Baum, Director of the Fund for Crediting & Insuring Export; Mr. Dragoslav Pejic, Minister in the Yugoslav Embassy in New Delhi; Mr. Dragi Trajanovski, Minister (Economic) in the Yugoslav Embassy in New Delhi; and Mr. Nikola Cicanovic, Chief of Section in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

ON THE INDIAN SIDE: Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of Shipping and Transport; Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to Prime Minister; Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary (Economic Affairs); Shri P. N. Menon, Ambassador of India to Yugoslavia; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary (ED); Shri N. Krishnan, Joint Secretary (UN); and Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary (EE).

President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, paying particular attention to the expansion of economic relations between the two countries, expressed their satisfaction at the all-round development of Indo-Yugoslav relations and reaffirmed their determination to expand further their co-operation in all fields. Both sides were convinced that this cooperation serves not only the interests of the two countries, but also the interests of international peace and security.

In considering the international situation, the Prime Minister of India and the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia made a positive assessment of the trend towards relaxation of tension and negotiations between various powers, in certain areas of the world. However, they noted with concern that the tendency to, resort to force, pressure and interference in the internal affairs of other countries was still present in international relations and that focuses of conflict continued to exist.

Both sides noted that recent international developments have once again confirmed the validity and value of the policy of non-alignment which constitutes an important bond between India and Yugoslavia. They also expressed their firm belief that at the forthcoming Conference of Non-aligned Countries in Algiers, in September 1973, efforts will be made for further intensification of cooperation among the non-aligned countries with a view to contributing to the solution of acute international problems, to the strengthening of peace and security and to the promotion of constructive programmes of action for accelerating the economic growth of developing countries.

India and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, together with other non-aligned countries, will make every effort to ensure the efficiency of preparations for and the success of the forthcoming Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.

Both sides underlined the gravity of the fact that the relative economic position of the developing countries continues to deter-

iorate. They regretted that decisions on vital economic questions are often taken by the richer nations without sufficient regard to the interests of developing countries which are most affected by these decisions.

The participation of developing countries on a footing of equality in solving trade, monetary and other world economic issues is an indispensable premise if adequate solutions are to be found. Both sides called for energetic and coordinated action by the non-aligned countries to improve this situation. In this context, they stressed the importance of the successful implementation of the programme of mutual economic cooperation among non-aligned countries, adopted last year in Georgetown.

Both sides favoured the expansion of international cooperation aimed at the protection of the natural human environment as beneficial to all States and peoples.

They declared their full support to the United Nations and reaffirmed their readiness to contribute to its effectiveness in preserving peace, guaranteeing security and developing international cooperation, in accordance with the principles and purposes of the Charter. They underlined the need for speedy realisation of the Principle of Universality of the Organisation's membership.

The Prime Minister of India outlined the recent developments in the Indian Sub-Continent after the conclusion of the Simla Agreement. The President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia supported the efforts made by India to achieve a durable peace and good neighbourly relations amongst the States in the region. Both sides stressed the urgency for the recognition of the existing political realities by all the States concerned and for the speedy establishment, by direct negotiations amongst themselves, of peaceful and good neighbourly cooperation in the region.

Both sides expressed the hope that the People's Republic of Bangla Desh will be soon enabled to take her legitimate place in the UN and other international organi-

sations.

The President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia gave a survey of the recent developments towards detente and negotiations in Europe. The Prime Minister of India agreed that these developments constituted a significant step towards further relaxation of tension and strengthening of cooperation in Europe. The President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia and

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the Prime Minister of India, convinced that peace and security are indivisible, expressed the hope that these developments will lead to positive results and favourably influence solution of conflicts and eliminate tension in other parts of the world.

Both sides welcome the Peace Agreements reached in Vietnam and in Laos and stressed the need for their consistent implementation. They hoped that the signing of these agreements would open the way to peace in Indo-China as a whole and that the peoples of Indo-China would now be-enabled to shape their future without outside interference and in accordance with their own national interests.

Both sides expressed grave concern over the persistence of the Middle East crisis due to the continued occupation of Arab territories. They reaffirmed their support to the just Arab cause and called for the full implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967 to ensure lasting peace in the area.

Both sides called for the cessation of the arms race and stressed the need for General and Complete disarmament, covering both conventional and non-conventional arms, under strict international control. They expressed themselves in favour of an early convening of a World Conference on Disarmament, with the participation of all countries.

Both sides condemned the attempts of colonial and racist regimes, particularly in Southern Africa, to reverse the process of eliminating the remnants of colonialism and

racism on that continent. The policies pursued by the racist and colonial regimes represent a flagrant infringement of basic human rights and jeopardise the security of independent African countries. Both sides reaffirmed their support for national liberation movements in colonial territories and called for the speedy and complete elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism in Africa, in accordance with the UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The Prime Minister of India and the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia and the two delegations had a full and detailed exchange of views on the present level of economic and commercial relations between India and Yugoslavia. They agreed that the new Trade Agreement provides adequate scope for the creation of opportunities for the further intensification of mutually beneficial economic and commercial cooperation, both on a short-term and long-term basis. Both sides shall take appropriate measures to that effect. They also expressed their conviction that there are wide possibilities for more intensive cooperation in certain branches of economy such as shipbuilding, construction of power plants, railway wagons, etc., and that there are good prospects for the evolution of new and long-lasting forms of collaboration in the interest of both countries.

Both sides agreed that greater attention should be paid to the tripartite cooperation between India, Yugoslavia and the Arab Republic of Egypt in order that the full potential of the Tripartite Agreement on Economic Cooperation can be realised.

Both sides expressed complete satisfaction over the results of their discussions. They were convinced that the visit of the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia and his Delegation had made a significant contribution to the further strengthening and deepening of the ties of friendly cooperation between India and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The President of the Federal Executive

Council of Yugoslavia expressed his appreciation of the hospitality shown to him and to the members of his Delegation during their stay in India. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi to visit Yugoslavia at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

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YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA AUSTRALIA ALGERIA GUYANA LAOS VIETNAM CHINA EGYPT

Date : Mar 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

WORLD MONETARY SITUATION

Finance Minister Chavan's Address to Group of 24

The following is the text of the Finance Minister, Shri Y.B. Chavan's address to the Group of 24 delivered in Washington on March 24, 1973:

My delegation attaches great importance to the work of the inter-Governmental Group of 24. I am convinced that it is only through united efforts that developing countries can hope to achieve meaningful results in their struggle to reverse the historic inequities of the world's trading and monetary system. The creation of the Group of 24 has sharpened our awareness of these inequities at the same time as it has enabled us to work out common positions on these matters.

The expectations that the Smithsonian accord of December 1971 would restore confidence and stability to the foreign exchange markets have been upset by the events of the last few weeks. In the wake of repeated speculative movements this system has

been rendered all the more ineffective.

In December 1971, the industrial countries decided among themselves on a realignment of major exchange rates and on the adoption of wider margins. In the forum of the Fund's annual meetings and in the Executive Board as elsewhere we had consistently pressed for a full participation of the developing countries in deciding on all questions affecting the international monetary system. Following upon this persistent demand, the developed countries agreed that the reform of the system and related issues should be considered by a Committee of Twenty in which the less developed countries had the same representation as on the Executive Board of the Fund. The Deputies of the Committee of Twenty held two business meetings and had already made significant progress in the examination of such major issues as the adjustment process and reserve assets and convertibility.

When another crisis arose following upon massive speculative capital movements, this group of nations met again among themselves and arrived at decisions of even more far-reaching consequence than those adopted by them in December 1971. In Paris they decided to adopt floating rates for the world's major currencies, either singly or as a block, even though there was a general consensus until then that a reformed monetary system must continue to be based on fixed but adjustable par values. The Paris arrangements, therefore, create a lot of uncertainty about the direction of monetary reform. It is even being said that these arrangements themselves represent a reform and must not therefore be looked upon as an ad hoc temporary device to deal with a particular crisis.

It goes without saying that the stake of developing countries in the smooth functioning of the monetary system is no less than that of the developed countries. It is therefore regrettable that a few nations should continue to adopt decisions affecting the entire community. In this exercise, the developed countries have bypassed both the forums of the Executive Board of the Fund

as well as the Committee of Twenty presenting us with a fait accompli, as I said earlier.

These latest developments have some major lessons for us. As developing nations we must not take for granted that they will necessarily keep our interest in mind in reaching their decisions. We need to continue to Press our rights for a full participation in the decision-making process. In this the Group of 24 has a vital role to play. It is only through our collective voice that we can ensure that we would be heard and our views would be brought to bear adequately on the reform of the international system. The less collectively we speak, the more likely it would be that our interests would be neglected.

The currency floats that have been agreed upon among the 14 developed countries have some highly unfavourable effects on developing countries. The resulting uncertainty of exchange rates can seriously affect the export prospects both in the traditional as well as the non-traditional

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lines. Unlike developed countries, developing countries do not have the institutional arrangements to counteract the adverse effects of prolonged uncertainties in the exchange markets on their economics. Besides, the recent events have affected the purchasing power of our reserves and are also liable to increase the real burden of servicing our external debt.

Developing countries therefore have a strong interest in ensuring that the currency floats do not continue for long and that there is an early return to a system of stable par values. An exchange rate system in which the rate is determined by the activities of the speculators does not provide a framework conducive to the orderly growth of world trade and payments. Besides a long period of floating currencies might lead to a cessation of fresh allocation as SDRs and as a result progress towards an international monetary system in which world liquidity is collectively managed and controlled is likely to be seriously affected.

There is also a danger that the events of the last few weeks may be used as a justification to put off consideration of the special interests of the developing countries in a reformed monetary system. We must not allow this to happen. From our standpoint, a reformed monetary system should provide an adequate framework for the promotion of trade and development. To that end, there should be a built-in mechanism for the transfer of adequate real resources from the developed to the developing nations.

The Group of 24 has been giving strong support to the principle of incorporating a link between SDRs and additional development finance. This subject is scheduled to come up for discussion at the May meeting of the Deputies of the Committee of Twenty. It is of the utmost importance that when this happens we all must speak with one voice. In this connection, I am gratified that the Deputies of the Group of 24 have already set up a working party to map out arrangements for implementing the principle of the link which will be acceptable to all developing countries. Our own position in this matter is that we are willing to consider all reasonable approaches in a spirit of accommodation leading to a unified stand on the matter. Our foremost concern is that at a time when the idea of the link has gained fairly widespread intellectual acceptance, we should aim to facilitate its implementation by ourselves adopting a unified approach on this question. I hope we shall be able to do this.

USA FRANCE

Date : Mar 01, 1973

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WORLD MONETARY SITUATION

The following is the text of the Finance Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan's address to the Committee of 20 delivered in Washington on March 26, 1973:

Mr. Chairman: I have read with great interest the report submitted by Mr. Morse on the work to date of the Deputies of this Committee. It is a lucid and balanced document. I would like to record our appreciation of the work that Mr. Morse, his colleagues in the Bureau and our Deputies have put in since the establishment of this Committee.

The report indicates that at least until the exchange crisis of February 1973 the Deputies had reached a consensus on some of the most important aspects of international monetary reform. For example, there was a general agreement that the exchange rate mechanism would continue to be based on par values, but would be more flexible than the Bretton Woods system was in its operation. Similarly, it was recognised that there was need for a better International management of global liquidity in accordance with the needs of an expanding world economy. To that end, it was agreed that the SDR would in time become the principal reserve asset as well as the numeraire of the reformed monetary system. The Deputies had also agreed that it would be an important objective of the reformed monetary system to give positive encouragement to economic development and to promote the flow of resources from developed to developing countries.

I recognise that many basic issues still remain unresolved and considerable further

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technical work needs to be undertaken by the Deputies before we can agree upon an outline of reform. Our views on various outstanding issues are well known, and I would not like to take up the Committee's

time to restate them. However, I would like to point out that while we share in the general desire to improve the working of the adjustment process on the basis of increased international consultations to reconcile countries' balance of payments aims, we cannot agree to any approach which envisages exercise of coercion or pressure. We also believe that any rules for adjustment must take fully into account the special needs and problems of developing countries.

The Deputies have, in our view, made substantial progress in their work. It is necessary now for this Committee not only to take note of this progress, but also to lay down positive guidelines which would enable the Deputies to accelerate the speed of their work and to submit to us an outline of reform before the annual meeting of the Board of Governors. Further technical work by the Deputies, essential though it is, will lack a proper focus if the Committee does not lay down agreed principles regarding the broad direction of reform.

I recognise that the exchange crisis of February has given rise to new uncertainties. However, our inclination is to see this crisis in the perspective of the excessive generation of liquidity by reserve currency countries which were in deficit. We feel that given suitable arrangement for dealing with these consequences of reserve countries' past deficits and with continued discouragement of the autonomy of reserve countries to generate international liquidity, the problem will assume considerably smaller and manageable dimensions. The present surfeit of liquidity in the world has not been on account of the additions to liquidity through the allocation of SDRs. We believe that it is necessary to do everything possible to maintain confidence in the SDRs, but in the interpretation of these confidence factors we should make a distinction between problems originating in the realm of SDR creation and problems arising from liquidity generated from other sources. It is necessary that the latter should be gradually controlled and eliminated over a period of time in order to restore strength and confidence in the SDR mechanism. In our view the role of indepen-

dent reserve currencies and that of gold in the monetary system should be terminated within a reasonable period of time.

It is also our view that the present formula for the distribution of SDRs needs to be improved and considerable thought has to be given to this as well as to the concept of using the SDR as an instrument of international credit.

In our view this crisis should not in any way be allowed to come in the way of the speedy conclusion of the work of the Committee of 20. Prolonged uncertainty about the direction of reform is liable to encourage ad hoc responses to the emerging situations without proper regard to the international repercussions of such actions. There is a real danger that in the absence of an internationally agreed code of behaviour, the race toward competitive depreciation and trade restrictions may gain added momentum. All this can be avoided if this Committee were able to declare, unambiguously and in terms of its responsibilities, that the measures adopted by certain industrial countries to deal with the recent crisis in the exchange markets were only ad hoc responses to deal with a specific situation and as such do not in any way affect our firm resolve to evolve a new monetary system which will be responsive to the needs of both developed and developing countries.

The legitimate concern with the current problems must not blur our vision of the long-term goals. In this connection, I would like to point out that when the Bretton Woods Agreements were finalised, it was clearly recognised that it would be only after the phase of post-war recovery had been completed that it would be possible to implement many provisions of the IMF Articles of Agreement. To that end, there was provision for transitional arrangements. But it is a tribute to the wisdom and far-sightedness of the founding fathers of the IMF that they did not allow themselves to be overwhelmed by the immediate post-war transitional period and lose sight of longer-term objectives. The same spirit must guide our deliberations.

In our view, this Committee must affirm its support for the following basic principles and invite the Deputies to work out technical details of implementing those principles for

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consideration by the Committee of 20 at its next meeting:

(a) Recognition of the need for an improved functioning of the adjustment mechanism in a framework of stable but adjustable exchange rates in a manner as would satisfy the aspirations of both developed and developing countries and which would also be equitable as between surplus and deficit countries alike.

(b) The need for a mechanism for dealing with speculative capital flows-consisting of an appropriate mixture of controls and financing-as would ensure that exchange rates were not at the mercy of speculators and were changed only if there was a basic disequilibrium in the balance of payments.

(c) Better international management and controls of global liquidity with the objective of moving towards a system in which SDRs would become the principle reserve asset as well as the numeraire.

(d) The recognition of the need to give positive encouragement to economic development and in particular the provision of a built in mechanism for an adequate transfer of real resources from developed to developing countries as an integral part of the reformed system.

Mr. Chairman, the stake of the developing countries in a smooth functioning of the world monetary system is not less than that of developed countries. Accordingly, we intend fully cooperating with other countries to find constructive solutions to the problems that have arisen in the working of the system. We also recognise that a viable international monetary system must have the active support of major trading nations of

the world. And yet I would like to point out that from the standpoint of two-thirds of humanity living in developing countries, any reform will not be meaningful if it does not help in creating conditions for the steady expansion and diversification of the economies of developing countries and a transfer of real resources to them in line with the objectives of the international development strategy for the second United Nations Development Decade. After all, promotion of world trade and a full utilisation of the world's productive resources is the basic objective of a sound international monetary system. I am encouraged by the report of the Chairman of Deputies that this objective is shared by all concerned. We are, however, disappointed that the Deputies have had to postpone discussion of means of implementing this objective to their next meeting. In our view, the problem is essentially one of mustering sufficient political will for there is no dearth of technically sound schemes to give effect to this objective. In this connection I would urge this Committee to endorse the proposal for establishing a link between international liquidity and provision of additional developmental finance as an integral part of international monetary reform.

To sum up, Mr. Chairman, it is our view that this Committee should agree upon the set of basic principles, some of which have been outlined by me earlier, and ask the Deputies to work out arrangements to give effect to those principles.

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SRI LANKA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

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AFGHANISTAN

India-Afghanistan Cultural Cooperation Programme

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on April 3, 1973, on the Cultural Cooperation Programme between India and Afghanistan signed on the previous day:

India and Afghanistan have signed an Executive Programme of Cultural Cooperation for the two years 1973 and 1974. This is in pursuance of the Agreement of Cultural Cooperation between the two countries concluded in October 1963.

The Programme was signed here on Monday evening by Shri D.P. Yadav, Deputy Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Mohammed Khalid Roashan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Information and Culture, Royal Afghan Government.

The Programme envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, science and technology, art and culture, radio, television, press and sports.

Under this Programme, the two countries will exchange professors, experts, artists, archaeologists, dance and music troupes, award fellowships for higher studies and research and exchange educational aids, publications, specimens of antiquities and art objects.

India will assist the University of Kabul to establish a department of English language teaching and for this purpose will provide necessary equipment, personnel and facilities for trainees' training.

India will also continue its preservation work of the two Budha images at Bamiyan and carry out exploratory work in Fauladi Valley Caves with a view to preserving them and understanding their artistic and archaeological potentiality.

India will offer 30 scholarships in the different fields of cinematography, music, archives, archaeology, medicine, engineering, general humanities and sciences.

Sports coaches will also be provided to the University of Kabul and both sides will encourage cooperation between their sports organisations and exchange sports teams.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1973

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BANGLA DESH

Transfer of Indian Navy Ship to Bangla Desh Navy

Following is the text of a press release issued in Vishakhapatnam on April 12, 1973, on the transfer of an Indian Navy ship to Bangla Desh Navy:

The Indian Navy's seaward defence craft, I.N.S. AKSHAY, was transferred to the Bangla Desh Navy at a colourful ceremony here today.

The Chief of staff, Bangla Desh Navy, Cdr. Nurul Huq, formally accepted the ship from Rear Admiral K.L. Kulkarni, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval

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Command, and recommissioned it as BNS PADUA. Addressing the gathering, Cdr. Huq said that the ship and other equipment which he had received were part of the defence aid programme from India for Bangla Desh.

Cdr. Nurul Huq said that Bangla Desh remembered with gratitude the way in

which the Government and people of India had rushed to the aid of Bangla Desh when it was in turmoil. Soon after the war, ships of the Indian Navy had helped in mine-sweeping operations in the ports of Bangla Desh.

He said that the task of building up a Navy for Bangla Desh was made easy because of the excellent cooperation of the Indian Government who offered liberal help in that direction as well as in training men and officers in the Navy.

Cdr. Nurul Huq said he hoped that the Bangla Desh Navy, in times to come, would be able to join hands with the Indian Navy in the task of maintaining peace in the Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean.

Earlier, handing over the ship, FOC-in-C Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral K.L. Kulkarni, expressed the hope that the Bangla Desh Navy would grow from strength to strength and take its rightful position among the maritime nations of the world.

The PADMA will sail from Vishakhapatnam for Chittagong on April 15.

INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

BANGLA DESH

India-Bangla Desh Joint Declaration

Following is the text of the India-Bangla Desh Joint Declaration issued in New Delhi on April 17, 1973:

The Government of India and the Gov-

ernment of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh have been giving consistently their most anxious thought and consideration to the problem of restoring friendly, harmonious and good neighbourly relations between India, Bangla Desh and Pakistan on the basis of sovereign equality of each State with the object of promoting, in every possible way, durable peace in the sub-continent, so that each country may devote its resources and energies to the pressing task of advancing the welfare of its own people. With this object in view, the Government of India and the Government of People's Republic of Bangla Desh have been carrying on mutual consultations. More recently the Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh, His Excellency Dr. Kamal Hossain, paid a visit to Delhi on April 13, 1973 at the Invitation of the Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, Sardar Swaran Singh. The discussion between the two Ministers concluded on April 16, 1973.

During these discussions and mutual consultations the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh considered measures to promote jointly the processes of normalisation in the sub-continent and to solve the humanitarian and other problems arising out of the armed conflict of 1971.

Reviewing the entire situation in the sub-continent the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh noted with regret and concern that progress in the establishment of friendly and harmonious relations has not yet been achieved owing to the failure of Pakistan to recognise the realities in the sub-continent. They felt that the policy hitherto pursued by the Government of Pakistan has stood in the way of negotiations among all the three countries on the basis of sovereign equality of each. They further noted with concern that Pakistan continued to persist in hostility towards Bangla Desh and despite the clear provisions of the Simla Agreement, continued to maintain a hostile attitude against India. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh reiterated their stand that they cannot participate in

any discussions with Pakistan at any level except on the basis of sovereign equality.

Despite the difficulties created and hostility manifested by the Government of Pakistan, the Government of India and the Gov-

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ernment of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh are resolved to continue their efforts to reduce tension, promote friendly and harmonious relations in the sub-continent and work together towards the establishment of a durable peace.

Inspired by this vision and sustained by the hope that in the larger interests of reconciliation, peace and stability in the sub-continent, Pakistan will refrain from persisting in hostility, and bearing in mind the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement concluded between India and Pakistan which Bangla Desh had welcomed, the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh jointly declare as follows:

Without prejudice to the respective positions of the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh, the two Governments are ready to seek a solution to all humanitarian problems through simultaneous repatriation of the Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees, except those required by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh for trial on criminal charges, the repatriation of Bangalees forcibly detained in Pakistan and the repatriation of Pakistanis in Bangla Desh, i.e., all non-Bangalees who owe allegiance and have opted for repatriation to Pakistan.

The Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh earnestly hope that Pakistan will respond to the constructive initiative taken by the two Governments to resolve the humanitarian problems in the manner set out in Paragraph 5.

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

BANGLA DESH

India-Bangla Desh Agreement on Assistance to Bangla Desh Railway System

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on April 28, 1973, on assistance to Bangla Desh Railways by Indian Railways:

Agreement on the utilisation of an Indian credit of Rs. 8 crores for the Bangla Desh Railways was worked out today by Shri B.S.D. Baliga, Chairman, Railway Board and Mr. A. Samad, Secretary, Bangla Desh Ministry of Communications, and leader of the Bangla Desh Railway delegation.

This marked the end of discussions between the two delegations which began on April 26, 1973.

The credit of Rs. 8 crores will be utilised for supply of railway stores like bridge girders, permanent way materials, flotilla, including pontoons, passenger jetties, barges, engineering stores, signalling and telecommunications equipment and locos and wagons fittings and also for execution of civil works including restoration of bridges and track and restoration of signalling and telecommunication system.

The stores will be delivered by the Indian Railways to Bangla Desh Railways by March next year and the works will be executed by July, 1974.

The credit also covers the stores already supplied to the Bangla Desh Railways and works carried out in Bangla Desh by the

Indian Railways so far.

Among the important items covered by the agreement are the restoration of the Bhairab bridge over the, Meghna river which will: provide a direct rail connection between Dacca and the Port of Chittagong and doubling of the track on the Hardinge Bridge by July, 1974. The temporary restoration of one line on the Hardinge Bridge has already been carried out by the Indian Railways on October 12, 1972.

An agreement on the inter-change of railway wagons between the two countries was also signed today. It provides for inter-change of wagons carrying goods both on Government as well as private account at six points including one near Malda in north Bengal.

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Date : Apr 01, 1973

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DISARMAMENT

Shri P.K. Banerjee's Statement at Conference of Committee on Disarmament

Following is the text of the statement made by Indian ambassador, Shri P.K. Banerjee, at the six hundredth, meeting of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, held in Geneva on April 12, 1973:

On behalf of the delegation of India, I should like to welcome our new colleagues, Ambassador Barton of Canada, Ambassador Di Bernardo of Italy, and the Alternate Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr.

Bjernerstedt. We are happy to have again in our midst the distinguished leader of the delegation of Sweden, Mrs. Alva Myrdal, the leader of the Argentine delegation. Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Pastinen. I would also like to express our delegation's appreciation to the Secretariat for the efficient assistance and services which they are rendering us.

The past year was marked by significant detente on the international scene. As I said in the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly last year, the process of dialogue, particularly among the major Powers, undoubtedly offers hope for the future. In Asia, the cease-fire agreements in Viet-Nam and Laos have brought hope that peace may at last come to this area ravaged by war. We note that negotiations designed to bring out further agreements on strategic arms limitations are continuing in Geneva between the two super-Powers. In Vienna, efforts are under way to bring about a reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe. Multilateral consultations in Helsinki on preparations for a conference on European security and co-operation are an encouraging factor in international relations; All these developments impelled the Secretary-General of the United Nations to express, in his message to this session of the Committee, the hope that "the more favourable political climate that now exists should help the Committee in its efforts to achieve further progress" (CCD/PV.585, p. 7). I trust that this will be taken as a guidepost for more active and intensified negotiations in the multilateral forum provided by the Committee.

Mr. Chairman, today is a rather special occasion. This is the Committee's 600th plenary meeting. The central role of the Committee in disarmament negotiations needs no reiteration. However, the present atmosphere prevailing in the Committee - during this, the 12th year of its functioning - is characterized by growing disappointment among its many members over the lack of genuine progress in disarmament. This disappointment extends much beyond

the narrow confines of the Committee and is shared by most governments and peoples. The, armament race is constantly spiralling upwards, taking an ever-increasing share of the world's muchneeded resources and spreading a sense of helplessness and gloom everywhere. The continuing and unabated production of sophisticated weapons and stockpiling of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction have been consuming the limited resources of the world. This is exposing us ever more to the inherent danger of nuclear war. The time has obviously come for all of us not only to take stock of the situation now prevailing but also to engage in earnest self-appraisal. The responsibility of the major military Powers of the world, who account for more than four fifths of the world's expenditure on armaments, for arresting and reversing this dangerous trend in the armament race is indeed paramount.

Against this background, the desire of the international community for the participation of France and the People's Republic of China in disarmament negotiations has been made repeatedly abundantly clear. It is only to be hoped that such participation will become possible in the not-too-distant future.

The delegation of India believes that the crux of the problem of curbing the arms race and making progress in disarmament lies in the field of nuclear weapons. The

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international community, through the United Nations, has also repeatedly called for the highest priority to be given to measures in the field of nuclear disarmament. The nuclear-weapon States of the world, naturally, have a special responsibility in this connection.

In the field of nuclear disarmament, a comprehensive test ban has been engaging our particular attention in the Committee for several years. In this connection, I should like to reiterate what I have referred to on an earlier occasion as the four main considerations to be kept in mind for pro-

gressing towards the comprehensive test ban. In the first instance, the provisions of the partial test ban Treaty should be fully observed, and those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet adhered to that Treaty do so without any further excuse or delay. Secondly, whatever the differences on the issue of verification of ban on underground nuclear-weapon tests and notwithstanding any other considerations, all testing of nuclear weapons in all environments must be immediately suspended. Thirdly, a comprehensive test ban has two requirements: (a) all nuclear-weapon tests in all environments should be prohibited; and (b) all nuclear-weapon States should be parties to it. Fourthly, negotiations should be undertaken for a separate treaty to prohibit all nuclear-weapons tests in the underground environment, and attention should simultaneously be focused on the need to conclude an agreement on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

Another important question which has been engaging the attention of the Committee is that of prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons. In its resolution 2933 (XXVII), the United Nations General Assembly has again asked the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations on this issue as a matter of high priority. During our session last year, we were able to discuss many of the complex problems of a CW convention, as a result of which our understanding has greatly improved. We hope that during the autumn session at the latest, the Committee will be able to undertake the formulation of concrete proposals and possibly draft the articles of a treaty.

Next is the question of the world disarmament conference. For over a decade, together with all the other non-aligned nations. India has consistently supported the idea of convening a world disarmament conference. The leaders of the non-aligned countries have urged this at successive summit meetings, at Belgrade in 1961, at Cairo in 1964 and at Lusaka in 1970. The Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Ali-

igned countries held at Georgetown last year reaffirmed the Conviction of the non-aligned countries as to the desirability of holding such a conference. It may be recalled also that in its resolution 2030 (XX), of 1965, the General Assembly of the United Nations endorsed the proposals of the non-aligned States. It was against this background, and in keeping with our basic conviction, that we supported resolution 2930 (XXVII), providing for the setting-up of a Special Committee. This resolution was passed with 105 votes in favour, none against and one abstention. We are therefore happy to note that in his communication of 6 April 1973 the Secretary-General has invited the member countries of the Special Committee to meet in New York on 26 April 1973. India stands ready to participate in the work of the Special Committee and to make its full contribution. To be successful, the world disarmament conference should be convened after adequate preparation and should have the participation of all States, in particular, all militarily significant States.

Let me conclude, Mr. Chairman, by expressing the hope that the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament will succeed in taking us further towards our cherished goal of disarmament and help us in creating a world without war and with a structure of international relations based on universal security and peace. We have been talking for a long time about disarmament. Let us now translate our wishes into concrete actions.

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INDIA SWITZERLAND CANADA ITALY SWEDEN USA LAOS AUSTRIA PERU FRANCE CHINA
YUGOSLAVIA EGYPT ZAMBIA GUYANA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

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Protocol On Indo-France Trade Agreement

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 17, 1973, With regard to the signing of the Protocol extending the trade arrangement between India and France:

A protocol extending the Indo-French Trade Arrangement, 1959 up to the end of 1973 has been signed here today.

The Protocol was signed by Shri V.S. Mishra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Mr. S. Normand, Joint Secretary in French Ministry of Economics and Finance on behalf of their respective Governments at the conclusion of the annual official discussions of the Indo-French Economic Commission.

The Commission noted with satisfaction the rapid increase in Indo-French trade and considered ways and means of further enlarging and diversifying the Indo-French trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

In order to diversify and expand Indo-French trade, the Commission agreed that the Indo-French Commercial Development Programme offers considerable scope, which should be implemented effectively and expeditiously.

The Commission also considered matters relating to possibilities and potential for intensifying and enlarging Indo-French industrial and technical cooperation in India and in third countries.

This Commission was established under the Trade Arrangement of 1959 between India and France to take steps to promote and intensify economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Volume No

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the recommendations for economic cooperation between India and Hungary signed on April 7, 1973:

Areas for cooperation and collaboration on an enduring basis between India and Hungary were identified in the conclusions and recommendations signed here today by H.E. Mr. Jozsef Drecin, Deputy Chairman of the Hungarian National Planning Bureau, and Shri M.S. Pathak, Member, Planning Commission.

According to these, joint exercises will be initiated with a view to locating areas having potential for growth of trade between the two countries, including scope for improving Indian exports to Hungary, particularly in non-traditional commodities. With a view to projecting Indian capabilities in this regard, it was agreed that India would participate in the Budapest international trade fair from next year onwards. Indian trade teams would also visit Hungary in the course of current year. The trade

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exchanges between the two countries were reviewed and the need for developing a long-term perspective was recognised. It was agreed that trade plans covering three-year time frames might be prepared subject to annual reviews.

Other areas in which cooperation between the two countries is envisaged in the document signed are metallurgy and coal mining; power industry and energetics; heavy engineering; agriculture and food industry.

In the field of metallurgy and coal mining, the document envisages supply of technical information by Hungary on the application of aluminium and on special processes for recovery of coal from the carbonaceous refuse dumps, and for the dehydration of low-grade lignite to improve its calorific value. It also envisages technical cooperation for the manufacture of specific drugs in India and trade in specific items of pesticides and drugs.

In the area of power industry and energetics, the document provides for cooperation in design and supply of components for hydraulic turbines, expansion of existing collaboration regarding micro-wave equipment and antennae, and expansion of cooperation in the manufacture of incandescent lamps. The document also noted the possibility of mutual exchange of materials; components and equipments in electronics between the two countries.

In heavy engineering industry, specific areas of mutual interest were identified. The document envisages among others, the possibilities of export by India of selected machine tools, textile machinery, auto ancillaries, garage equipment and hand tools to Hungary.

Cooperation between the two countries in agriculture and food industry visualises possibilities of establishing units in India for animal feed from green material, manufacture of fodder yeast and production and export of fruit concentrates and juices.

The Hungarian delegation led by His Excellency Mr. Jozsef Drecin arrived in India on April 1, 1973.

HUNGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement at Security Council on Lebanese Complaint against Israel

Following is the text of the statement by Shri Samar Sen, Permanent Representative of India, in the Security Council on April 18, 1973, during the debate on the Lebanese complaint:

Mr. President, we are glad that we have reverted to the customary calm and decorum of the Council debates, and it gives me great pleasure to begin this statement with our congratulations to you on your presidency this month. We extend to you our friendliest co-operation in your vital task, as I hope we did to your predecessor, Ambassador Boyd, who did so much for the work of the Council, both here and in Panama, during the whole of March. We also offer to Mr. Shevchenko our felicitations on his new post and we are sure that he will be a great success.

The problem we are discussing is not new, but its manifestations have become more complicated and more dangerous. Israel exists. In 1947, when Palestine was partitioned and Israel was established, many did not agree to this solution, as it appeared to them wrong in various ways and was par-

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ticularly unfair to the Arabs inasmuch as they were made to pay the penalty for other people's crimes. However, the United Nations decided to create the State of Israel and it became a Member of this Organization.

We do not believe that anyone can

seriously have the desire to disturb that decision after so many years and we recognize that Israel has the rights and obligations of a sovereign State exercising its jurisdiction within its territorial limits as determined by the United Nations. Therefore, it seems to us largely irrelevant and indeed undesirable to quote from different Arab and Israeli and other leaders on what they thought of Israel or its establishment during the last 25 years. Indeed, some speakers went further back into history and gave their own views on it. We doubt if these theories and dissertations, fascinating in themselves, are of much use for our present purpose.

With your permission, Mr. President, I should like to mention and dispose of two points which several speakers took pains to elaborate. First, many speakers became eloquent on the duties and responsibilities of the United Nations, and particularly of its Security Council. Many of the critics of the United Nations, ignoring the basic nature of this Organization and the various evolutions international politics have undergone during the last 27 years, emphasize none the less that this Organization is becoming ineffective, if not irresponsible, and is failing to do its duty - duty being defined, of course, according to the speaker's view of what solution a particular problem requires.

May I simply say that many of these critics belong to those groups who were elated by the creation of Israel, and one might ask them if this fact alone, the fact of Israel's birth, should not be a sufficient indication, at least in their eyes, of the great achievement of the United Nations and so command, at least from them, unflinching loyalty and unlimited support. Unfortunately, one does not see much evidence of these sentiments. Secondly, much has been said about cause and effect, but surely when we come to discuss concrete problems, it is nearly impossible to consider this chain of causation from any particular link, conveniently chosen by one protagonist or another.

We are therefore compelled to look at

the picture as a whole. In June of last year, I said before the Council:

"The problem of the Middle East, like many other problems of International concern, has to be viewed in its totality. It is not enough to cite the principle of self-defence, without at the same time taking into account the principle of non-admissibility of acquisition of territory by force of arms and the principle of the right of dispossessed people to be restored to their...lands."
(1649th meeting, page 67)

I have carefully listened to and read the statements made by the various delegations, including those made by the representative of Israel, but I did not see any mention of these latter principles in his analysis. I wonder why.

Israel naturally has the right, like all other sovereign States, to defend its own territory and its own citizens in its own State. But who is a citizen of Israel? How can anyone accept that a Jew, wherever he may be and to whatever country he may belong, is somehow or other a citizen of Israel or that Israel has any rights over him or legal duty towards him? If, however, a citizen of Israel, whether he is a Jew or a non-Jew, is put in jeopardy in a foreign country or by a foreign country, Israel has of course every right to seek redress for such a citizen through the usual process of bilateral arrangements or such international law as may apply in any particular instance. But does it have the right to protect its citizens in another country by force of arms or by similar violent methods?

It seems to us that any claim to such right or rights flatly contradicts both the United Nations Charter and the usual rule of international law. As we understand it, the Israeli case or policy is simply this: that terrorists - Palestine or Arab or whatever other description one may give them - are creating much trouble for Israel and, through their activities, taking innocent lives and damaging property and creating many other hazards. Israel charges that in these acti-

vities the Arab Governments are giving them Support, sustenance and sympathy in different degrees and in different ways. There-

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fore, to eradicate this terrorism, Israel thinks it is necessary to teach the guilty Arab States so bitter a lesson that they will not dare extend any cooperation to the terrorists and, as a consequence, their activities will cease and their movement collapse. All that Israel has done or wishes to do is to bring about this happy end.

On the other hand, the Arab representatives have repeatedly pointed out that what Israel describes as terrorism by the Palestinian people is directly due to their sense of injustice and frustration, and unless the basic cause-the illegal occupation of Arab lands by Israel-is removed and the refugees are allowed to enjoy their inalienable rights and return home in accordance with the United Nations resolutions this mass movement cannot be suppressed and any attempt to suppress it by anyone will not only fail but will bring about greater tension and most unforeseen and unforeseeable difficulties and complications. And if such attempts to suppress the Palestinians were to be made by any Arab Governments, they would be simply unable to do so as the sympathy of their people is with the Palestinians and they themselves - the Governments and the people alike - cannot indefinitely tolerate the occupation of their lands by Israel and suffer silently all the consequences which have followed from such occupation.

The Israeli policy, if logically followed, will lead to intolerable lawlessness and absurdities. The Arabs may consider, for instance, that there are States which support Israel to such an extent that it feels encouraged and strengthened enough to continue its illegal activities in occupying Arab lands and in increasing its control and domination over such lands. If the Arabs took such a view, as indeed they do, and followed Israeli logic - which fortunately they do not - they might feel justified in carrying out raids, killing people, innocent and guilty alike, des-

destroying property and razing to the ground towns, cities and villages and undertaking any revengeful and malicious activities until the States friendly to Israel have publicly and privately, directly or indirectly, given up their support and sympathy for Israel. Surely, this is a totally indefensible doctrine of international lawlessness, and no one - least of all the Security Council - can brook it and far less accept it. It is irrelevant, and if not irrelevant dangerous for our purpose, to take into account the fact that Arab countries do not have the resources and arms to carry out such a policy. Israel has these arms, or, more accurately, has been provided with them, and now uses them for executing its ill-conceived mission. This could not possibly be the intention of the donors, but it is how much of the help Israel has received is being utilized. In any event, if these arms and resources are basic to Israeli policy, then we must deny Israel their use. This is for immediate determination and consequent action by the Council.

We condemn and whole-heartedly deplore terrorism wherever it takes place and by whomsoever it is perpetrated. We do so not merely on humanitarian and moral grounds, but also because terrorist movements often forfeit much sympathy even in their worthy causes and make peaceful and just solutions to problems more difficult. At the same time, we realize that if these solutions are greatly delayed, and if there is no progress, people suffering from injustice and frustration will fall back on desperate measures, which often mean death and injury to innocent victims. We do not condone even these desperate measures and we extend our fullest sympathy to their victims and to their friends and relatives.

But, if this vicious circle is to be avoided, the solution must surely lie in finding an equitable and just end to the problem. This is what was attempted in the Council's resolution 242 (1967), but unfortunately it has not been implemented for reasons earlier given in Ambassador Jarring's report. We agree with the Foreign Minister of Egypt that the time has come to ask for a full report from the Secretary-General and his

special representative. With oral and written presentation by them, the Council will be in a much better position to decide how progress can be made in carrying out resolution 242 (1967), what other efforts were undertaken to solve the problem and the reasons for their failure and, lastly, but not less important, what future mechanism, if any, the Council should establish and what new decisions it should take to bring about a just solution in this turbulent area. Meanwhile, it would certainly be a welcome development if the permanent members could renew their discussion.

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On the specific complaint of Lebanon before the Council, the representative of Israel said that Lebanon was the centre of many terrorist organizations and that the Lebanese authorities are in many ways involved in them. He said that on 12 April. The next day, 13 April, he accused Syria of being the hotbed of terrorism with 9,000 terrorists out of 14,000 - those are his calculations - being concentrated in Syria. On 16 April, he described Egypt as the political centre of terrorism and implied that Libya was a principal financial backer of much of these terrorist activities. Are we to assume from those statements that Israel will raid and ravage all these countries until they behave in a manner satisfactory to Israel and that, if Lebanon has been chosen as the first place to strike in, it is simply because it is the weakest? Or, is it possible that if Lebanon can be taught a lesson at a comparatively cheap price, the calculation is that the other neighbouring countries will have drawn their own conclusions and therefore the problem of "pacification" in other countries would to that extent be simplified? Whatever might be the calculations, these raids, deaths and destruction certainly do not betray any great desire on the part of Israel to live in peace and justice with the Arab countries. The raids on Lebanon or, rather, a succession of raids into that country, hardly open the way for such peaceful coexistence.

The representative of Israel, in explain-

ing the death of many innocent civilians in the latest raids in Beriut and Sidon, said that this was incidental to punishing the criminals. There are, however, other statements which indicate that in future it may not be possible to confine action or punishment to those dubbed as criminals only. The time may come when the distinction between the criminal and the innocent will be overlooked and a kind of collective punitive action may be undertaken.

We have heard much about the evil of terrorism and the need for international action to prevent it. This is being studied separately, and we hope some solution to this problem, which unfortunately but at times inevitably has been a feature of many worthy struggles in the past, will be found. Meanwhile, I am not aware of any country which has called for outside help in order to eradicate this menace. Israel, like all other countries, has every right to suppress terrorism or any other kind of lawlessness inside its own State, but cannot exercise such a right outside it, and particularly to the detriment of the rights of other States.

The representative of Israel gave a long list of terrorist activities by the Palestinians. Similar lists of terror activities by the Government of Israel were forthcoming from the Arab delegations. I do not intend to examine all these instances cited by both sides, for the simple reason that facts in many cases are far from clear. Claims, counter-claims, the presence of agents provocateurs and many other factors confuse the picture. If Israel had come to the Council with specific complaints and on time, it would at least have received a good hearing before it decided to strike aggressively and brutally into Lebanon again and again.

I shall not take much notice of the various old quotations, sometimes from newspapers, with which the speakers have adorned and supported their case. In the tense and warlike atmosphere of the Middle East it is but natural that many statements have been made in response to events at a particular moment and in special circum-

stances. Nor can we assess if newspapers and editors always speak with official authority. In any event, digging into past reports and quotations will not help us move forward.

I hope, Mr. President, that I have kept in mind your appeal to speak on the agenda. I have indicated briefly our attitude towards any action the Council may contemplate taking. I may speak again. I have avoided noisy rhetoric, ancient history and false analogies. Many questions have been asked in the course of our debate and not all of them have been answered. This is perhaps just as well, for we have enough exchanges on matters on which differing views continue to be held always - passionately but not infrequently without much respect for facts. I cannot conclude this statement without expressing some doubt if New York is the right place for an objective debate on the problem of the Middle East. I need not elaborate, but one has simply to keep one's eyes and ears open both inside and outside the Council Chamber to realize to what extent the atmosphere is tilted and stilted in favour of Israel. We are therefore all the more grate-

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ful that the Foreign Minister of Egypt travelled a long distance in his search for a just solution to this problem, which has brought infinite sorrow and distress to the Arab lands and which has made 1.5 million Palestinians homeless, hopeless and perpetual victims to all possible horrors which human beings are heir to.

INDIA ISRAEL USA PANAMA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI EGYPT LEBANON SYRIA LIBYA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

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Shri Samar Sen's Reply to the Representative of Israel

Shri Samar Sen's reply (April 18, 1973)
to the comments made by the representative
of Israel with regard to Shri Sen's statement
on the Lebanese complaint against Israel:

The representative of Israel paid some
special attention to me and made three com-
ments on my statements, and I want to dis-
pose of those three comments.

First, he found the atmosphere of New
York enlightening and enlightened. I am
not surprised. I find it dark and gloomy,
as far as Middle East problems are concern-
ed, and I would say that most people who
are as much in need of enlightenment as I
am, would find that my views are correct.

Second, he mentioned some statement
which our Prime Ministers, Mrs. Gandhi, is
supposed to have made on 11 November
1971. I have here a book containing Prime
Minister Indira Gandhi's speech delivered at
the German Society for Foreign Policy in
Bonn on 11 November 1971. She had been
asked a question the purport of which was
that some people had been irritated by cer-
tain speeches our Defence Minister had
made; and to that she gave a reply covering
close to 50 printed lines, including that sen-
tence in which she said, "Indian security is
more important than other people's irrita-
tion".

I accept the Israeli view that Israel's
security is more important than other peo-
ple's irritation. But there is a great differ-
ence between irritation and invading other
people's lands.

Third, he said, "Come, come: you are
more knowledgeable than that; you should
realize that Israel was born in the hearts of
men 6,000 years ago." I do not know what
was in the hearts of men. All I can say is
this. Just as he said, "Come, come, you

are more knowledgeable, I will say: "Go, go: look up your records and see what your friends said when the resolution on Israel was adopted". And I would also say, in conclusion, that in spite of that dream in the hearts of many millions for 6,000 years, Many people do not seem to have gone back home. It seems they are more interested in enlightenment.

INDIA ISRAEL GERMANY USA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statements at Security Council on UK-France Draft Resolution on Lebanese Complaint

Following is the text of Shri S. Sen's statement at the Security Council, on April 22, 1973, in explanation of the Indian vote on the UK-France draft resolution on the Lebanese complaint against Israel:

Without touching on the innumerable instances of rumour, speculation, gossip and kite-flying, as also several diplomatic moves of the last 38 hours or so - all of which portend different lessons to different delegations - I should like briefly to indicate how India would vote on the present joint France-British draft before us.

We find that the changes the French and the British delegations have made in their original draft have significantly modified the great principles we and other Members of the Council have repeatedly stated and emphasised - such as the principle that there can be no equation or

balance between violence, however politically motivated and encouraged, with State-controlled marauding and punitive raids into other States or the principle that this Council has to draw a sharp distinction between those who take the law into their own hands and those who come to the Council for redress whenever possible and feasible. There are many other principles involved. The present draft also blurs, to some extent at least, the perspective of the total picture of the situation in the Middle East. However, we acknowledge that the two delegations, who have worked so strenuously and seriously for bringing about a useful conclusion to our present debate, must have had weighty reasons for the changes they have introduced in their original draft.

We ourselves would have much preferred the first text together with the amendment moved by Guinea, India, Indonesia and Yugoslavia. Such a formulation would have reflected more fully and less faultily the principles which we have accepted. It would also have prescribed more correctly and with greater urgency what, in our opinion, was required of the Council to meet the present Lebanese complaint. We were, therefore, encouraged when we heard that both the United Kingdom and France would accept our amendment. We thank the distinguished Representative of France for his acceptance of the proposed amendment even to the revised France-British draft. Presumably, similar understanding would also have been forthcoming from the British Delegation if the distinguished Representative of Guinea had not withdrawn, with our full support and concurrence, of course, the proposed amendment which, in our view, had lost its linkage with the disappearance of the last paragraph in the original text. The womb having been destroyed the fetus could not stay.

In these circumstances, the logical attitude of the Indian Delegation would have been to abstain on the present draft, but we cannot ignore that Lebanon is the complainant and, if for whatever reasons and however reluctantly, she finds the present

text in S/10916/Rev.1 is something she can accept, or more correctly but colloquially can live with, it would not be right, in our view, not to support the draft and so bring whatever little comfort we can to Lebanon in her hour of trial and distress. We shall, therefore, and with this explanation, vote for the draft resolution tabled by France and the United Kingdom and moved by Ambassador Guiringaud on April 21 in so business-like a fashion.

INDIA FRANCE UNITED KINGDOM ISRAEL USA GUINEA INDONESIA YUGOSLAVIA LEBANON

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

India-Indonesia Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on April 3, 1973, on the visit of Indonesian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Adam Malik:

At the invitation of Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs of the Republic of India, His Excellency Dr. Adam Malik, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, visited India from April 1 to 5, 1973. He was accompanied by Madame Malik and senior officials of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

The visit was in the framework of the annual meetings held between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries. During the visit the Foreign Minister was received by the President and the Prime Minister of

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India. He also met the Minister of Plann-

ing, Shri D.P. Dhar.

The two Foreign Ministers held talks on April 2 and 3 in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. They discussed bilateral relations and recent international developments of mutual interest. The discussions revealed similarity in the position of both Governments on various issues. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia was assisted by Mr. R.B.I.N. Djajadiningrat, Director General of Foreign Office; Lieut. General S. Tjakradipura, Ambassador of Indonesia to India; Mr. Alex Alatas, Special Assistant to Foreign Minister; Mr. M.S. Sahab, Minister, Embassy of Indonesia; Mr. Sos Wisudha, Head of Department of South Asia, Foreign Office; Mr. K. Setiawan, Director, Research Division for South Asia, Ministry of Defence; Mr. Jusuf Natanegara, Senior Official of the Directorate-General for Foreign Economic Relations of the Foreign Office; Mr. Achmad Djamirin, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Indonesia; Colonel Soedarsono, Defence and Naval Attache, Embassy of Indonesia; and Mr. Trenggono, Counsellor, Embassy of Indonesia. The Minister for External Affairs of India was assisted by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Shri V.C. Trivedi, Secretary (East); Shri N.B. Menon, Ambassador of India to Indonesia; Shri Mahboob Ahmad, Joint Secretary; and Shri D.S. Kamtekar, Joint Secretary.

The Foreign Ministers reviewed the important developments that had taken place in the international situation, particularly in Asia, since their last meeting in Djakarta in August, 1971. They welcomed the general trend towards relaxation of tensions in various parts of the world and expressed the hope that this trend would develop further and favourably influence other areas in the world.

The Foreign Ministers welcomed the Paris Agreements of January 27, 1973, on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam and the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos signed in Vientiane on February 21, 1973.

They were gratified that as a result of goodwill and co-operation of all parties a most tragic episode in recent history involving so much misery and suffering for the Vietnamese people may at last come to an end. The Ministers were, however, conscious that many problems have still to be solved before Vietnam and Laos could be securely put on the path of enduring peace and stability, free from foreign interference. The two Foreign Ministers believed that if the ceasefire were to be converted into lasting peace, it was imperative that the Agreements should be solemnly honoured and faithfully implement. They welcomed the prospects of peace and expressed the willingness of their Governments to contribute to the post-war reconstruction of the area.

The Indonesian Foreign Minister apprised the Foreign Minister of India of the participation of Indonesia in the Paris Conference on Vietnam and in the International Commission for Control and Supervision in Vietnam. The Foreign Minister of India noted with satisfaction the role of Indonesia in the framework of the Commission, and expressed the hope that the membership of Indonesia in the Commission would be a meaningful contribution towards peace and stability in South-East Asia.

The Foreign Ministers exchanged views about regional cooperation in Asia and agreed that the principle of national strength and resilience of each of the participating countries is an important ingredient of effective regional cooperation. The Indonesian Foreign Minister informed the Foreign Minister of India of the activities and growth of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) especially of its endeavour to safeguard the security, peace and stability of the South East Asian region. The Foreign Minister of India welcomed the progress achieved by the countries of ASEAN and the positive developments mentioned by the Foreign Minister of Indonesia. The Indian Foreign Minister also reiterated the support of the Government of India for the Kuala Lumpur Declaration calling for a zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in South-East Asia. The Foreign Ministers discussed

various ideas regarding wider regional co-operation in Asia. They noted the progress made in this respect in other continents and agreed that Asian countries should co-operate to promote peace, stability and economic development in Asia.

The Foreign Ministers exchanged views on the forthcoming Summit Conference of

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Non-aligned Countries to be held in Algiers in September this year. They attached great significance to this Conference. It was agreed that India and Indonesia, who were also members of the Preparatory Committee for the Summit Conference, should continue to be in close touch on various issues concerning the Summit Conference, with a view to ensuring its successful outcome.

The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed that the elimination of Great Power tension and rivalry from the Indian Ocean would contribute greatly to peace and stability in the region. They recalled that non-aligned countries had declared themselves unequivocally in favour of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The Foreign Ministers felt that India and Indonesia should have more frequent exchanges of views on this subject and co-operate closely in the U.N. Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean for ensuring the achievement of this objective.

At the request of the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, the Foreign Minister of India explained in detail the situation on the sub-continent with particular reference to the initiatives taken by India both before and after the Simla Conference for peace and harmony among the countries of the sub-continent. The Two Foreign Ministers agreed that recognition and acceptance of existing realities in the sub-continent was necessary for furthering the process of normalisation and the establishment of a durable peace among the countries concerned. These objectives can best be achieved by direct negotiations between the countries concerned.

In reviewing the bilateral relations bet-

ween the two countries the Foreign Ministers noted that there is great scope for co-operation. The Foreign Ministers, therefore, agreed that possibilities of increasing economic and cultural relations should be explored. To reach this end it was felt that arrangements should be made to identify areas of mutual interest in all spheres including those of commerce, industry, education, science, technology and culture. The two Foreign Ministers also agreed that Indonesian and Indian delegations should cooperate in regional and international forums dealing with economic and social matters.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their full satisfaction over the results of their discussions. They were convinced that the visit of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and his delegation had made a significant contribution to the further strengthening and deepening of the ties of friendly cooperation between India and Indonesia.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia expressed his appreciation for the hospitality shown to him and to members of his delegation during his stay in India.

INDONESIA INDIA MALI USA FRANCE LAOS VIETNAM MALAYSIA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

India-Iraq Economic and Technical Agreement

The following press release on India-Iraq economic and technical agreement was issued in New Delhi on April 6, 1973:

India and Iraq have signed an Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement here today. The Agreement was signed by Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce on behalf of Government of India and by His Excellency Dr. Sadoun Hammadi, Minister of Oil and Mineral on behalf of Iraq.

The present Agreement is the culmination of the negotiations which had been started in 1966 between the two countries.

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The Agreement will further strengthen the economic relations between the two countries. Under the Agreement, India shall assist Iraq with the supply of goods and services for a number of Iraqi development projects such as Baghdad-Ramadi-Al Qain Railway Project, Steel rolling mills, electric power transmission facilities, ship building and repair facilities, supply of Iron Ore for Iraqi steel project, Cotton, woollen and sugar manufacture mills, power transmission and distribution equipment, mills for manufacture of light engineering goods, wire and cable factory, Aluminium project, fertilizer project, storage tanks pipe lines and equipment for petroleum and chemical industries and equipment and machinery for fertilizer and natural gas plants.

Iraq has agreed to supply India crude oil under bilateral trading arrangements which will be on balanced basis to the greatest extent possible. This will mean that India will get substantial quantity of crude oil from Iraq against export of Indian goods.

The settlement of accounts between the two countries, under the Agreement, will take place every six months. The Agreement provides that both sides will start their respective export immediately without waiting for funds to be generated on either side.

The Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement with Iraq gives a new dimension to the economic relationship prevailing between the two countries. Under the Agree-

ment India will not only get a scarce commodity like crude oil from Iraq but will also be able to push the exports of its traditional and non-traditional goods in Iraq in return.

IRAQ INDIA RUSSIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Date : Apr 01, 1973

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IRAQ
Cultural Agreement between India and Iraq

The following is the text of a cultural agreement signed between India and Iraq in Baghdad on April 19, 1973:

The Government of the Republic of India and
The Government of the Republic of Iraq,

Inspired by the mutual desire to further strengthen the ancient cultural relations between the two countries, and keenly desirous of promoting and developing cultural, scientific and technical relations between India and Iraq in every possible way,

Have decided to conclude an agreement on Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations and Cooperation and, to this end, have appointed as their plenipotentiaries the following persons:

For the Government of the Republic of India:

H.E. Mr. K.R.P. Singh, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary;
For The Government of the Republic of Iraq:

H.E. Mr. Hisham. I Al-Shawi, Minister of Higher Education & Scientific

Research;

Who, after having exchanged their credentials and found them in good and due form have agreed as follows:-

ARTICLE 1

Each Contracting Party shall, in so far as may be possible, encourage the exchange and recruitment of professors, research workers, scientists, teachers, and other experts in educational, scientific, cultural, artistic and technological fields in and for the universities, colleges, schools and institutions of the two countries.

ARTICLE 2

Each Contracting Party shall grant scholarships and other facilities and allocate seats to the nationals of the other Contracting Party, as well as facilitate their studies at its universities for higher education and

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training, schools of arts, technical schools and other institutions.

ARTICLE 3

Each Contracting Party shall receive as far as its resources and requirements permit, employees or other persons deputed by the other Party for study, training and research in scientific, cultural, technical and industrial institutions.

ARTICLE 4

Each Contracting Party shall encourage the closest cooperation between the learned societies and educational and professional organizations which are officially recognized or permitted in its respective territory for the purpose of giving effect to this agreement.

ARTICLE 5

Each Contracting Party shall facilitate to scholars and students from the territory

of the other, access, on the same terms as to its own scholars and students, to the monuments, collections, archives, libraries, laboratories and other institutions of learning.

ARTICLE 6

The two Contracting Parties shall facilitate, within the limits of their legislation, research in the fields of science and medicine by suitable persons from the territory of the other.

ARTICLE 7

The two Contracting Parties shall extend technical advice and exchange information and studies and shall give necessary facilities for translation and publication of Outstanding writings issued in the other Party's country.

ARTICLE 8

The two Contracting Parties, shall encourage the cooperation between press, broadcasting, television and cinema institutions of their two countries.

ARTICLE 9

The two Contracting Parties welcome the establishment of cultural institutes in each other's territory subject to the laws governing the establishment of such institutes in that country and the general policy of that Government. It is understood however, that prior clearance of the Government concerned would be obtained before a cultural institute is established.

By the term "cultural institute" is meant centres of learning, libraries, scientific institutes imparting instructions, and institutions for the promotion of art, such as art galleries, art centres and societies, and film libraries.

ARTICLE 10

The two Contracting Parties shall strive to promote cultural and intellectual exchange

between the two countries by arranging concerts, lectures, art and scientific exhibitions by organising visits of scholars and students, by encouraging collaboration amongst scientific, artistic, literary and other learned societies And organisations devoted to the promotion of learning, by establishing chairs in Universities or other institutions of higher learning for, the teaching of subjects pertaining to each other's country, by exchange of books and periodicals, by exhibition of films, and by exchange of archaeological missions.

ARTICLE 11

The two Contracting Parties shall encourage, as far as possible, sports competitions between their respective nationals and collaboration between their scout organisations.

ARTICLE 12

The two Contracting Parties shall encourage exchange of tourists between the two countries in order to promote better understanding and strengthen friendship between their people.

ARTICLE 13

The two Contracting Parties shall, so far as it lies within their powers, ensure that text-books prescribed for teaching institutions do not contain any errors or misrepresentations about each other's country.

ARTICLE 14

The question of "equivalence" of diplomas and degrees will be subject of thorough and periodical studies by the two Parties.

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ARTICLE 15

The two Contracting Parties pledge themselves to take all appropriate measures and to provide all possible facilities for giving effect to the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 16

For the purpose of carrying out the terms of this Agreement, either Party may, If necessary, agree to set up a Committee consisting of representatives of the two Parties with the object of:

- (a) watching the working of the Agreement in the country;
- (b) advising the Party concerned, on the detailed manner of carrying out of the Agreement;
- (c) making recommendations for the selection of personnel regarding exchange of professors, students, etc.; and
- (d) generally advising the Parties concerned as to the manner in which the working of the Agreement may be improved upon.

At intervals of not less than once in three years and by rotation at New Delhi and Baghdad, the two Governments will hold joint consultations to coordinate the working of the Agreement in the two countries and invite suggestions and advice from co-operating agencies as to the steps that may be deemed necessary for a more effective implementation of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 17

Nothing in the present agreement shall be deemed to affect the obligation of any person to comply with the laws and regulations in force in the territory of either Contracting Government.

ARTICLE 18

The present agreement shall be ratified with the least possible delay.

The Agreement shall come into force immediately after the exchange of instruments of ratification which will take place in New Delhi.

ARTICLE 19

The Agreement shall remain in force unless terminated. It can be terminated by either Party by giving in writing an advance notice of termination of at least six months, at the expiry of which this Agreement shall cease to be operative.

ARTICLE 20

This Agreement supersedes and cancels the Agreement concerning Cultural Relations between India and Iraq dated 5th July, 1954.

In faith whereof, the said plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement, of which there are Hindi, Arabic and English versions, all the three texts being equally authentic, except in the case of doubt when the English text shall prevail.

Done in duplicate in Baghdad on this the 29th day of Chaitra 1895 (S.E.) corresponding to the 19th day of April, 1973.

IRAQ INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

PARLIAMENT

Statement by Minister of State in Ministry of External Affairs Shri Surendra Pal Singh in Reply to Debate in Lok Sabha

Following is the text of the statement made in the Lok Sabha on April 23, 1973 by the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, while intervening in the debate on the Demands for Grants of the ministry of External Affairs:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, already a very wide spectrum of topics has been covered by the

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Hon. Members and many points have been raised by them both in appreciation of our foreign policy and the working of the Ministry as well as in criticism of our policy and the working of the Ministry. On behalf of the Ministry I wish to thank all those Members who have said kind things about us, kind things about our policy, and also those Hon. Members who have made very valuable and constructive suggestions for the better working of the same. We are passing through a period when very significant changes are taking place on the international scene. Hon. Members have already referred to those changes. The configuration of world forces is changing; the bipolar world has already changed into a multipolar world; the days of balance of power and political domination, in spite of what Mr. Anthony has said, are also coming to an end, and the very basis of relationship between countries is changing from basis of domination and leadership to a basis of friendship and equality. These trends and developments are not only very welcome, but I would say they are a clear vindication of the policy which India has been pursuing since our Independence. Our policy is based on the fundamental principles of Panch Sheel and it has been clearly vindicated by the present developments. India has never sought leadership or domination of any country. In fact, the very word domination is repugnant to us and we expect and hope that no other country in the world behaves in that approach. We want to have friendly relations with all countries in the world based on equality and friendship. Our policy of nonalignment enables us to do this. It enables us to follow a path which enables us to achieve stability and peace in the world. Stability and peace in the world are something for which non-aligned countries and developing countries of the world are hungry and they want it badly so that they can be left alone in order to develop their own economic strength and to develop industrially. A great deal of criticism of our

policy of non-alignment has of late died down.

Many erstwhile critics of this policy have now veered round to the view that despite the changes in the world, despite changes in circumstances, this policy has still some relevance and validity. But there are still some critics in our country. In one group of such critics, we have people like Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri G. Viswanathan who maintain that whereas the policy of non-alignment is really valid and is a good policy, however, India is not adhering to it properly. They accept this policy, but their main criticism is that we are deviating from it and we are not adhering to it sincerely. To them, all that I can say is that their entire contention is wrong, and I would like to ask them if they can give one example anywhere or on any occasion on which India has taken a policy decision which is against our national interest or we have taken a decision under the influence of a foreign power. We are absolutely independent in taking decision and in our judgment we are adhering to the principles of non-alignment very strictly.

There is still another group of critics who maintain and ask question as to why India is still sticking to the policy of non-alignment when the very circumstances under which this policy was enunciated have changed, when the big powers are giving up the policy of confrontation and tension and are trying to come closer to each other and are striving to reach detente and understanding amongst themselves. In these circumstances they maintain that this policy of non-alignment has no relevance. To these critics, all that I can say is that they base their arguments on this presumption that non-alignment is something which owes its origin or *raison d'etre* to the division of the world into two power blocs of the forties and fifties. They are basing their contention entirely on wrong premises. It is true that the division of the world into two power blocs was responsible to a certain extent in bringing about this policy of non-alignment, because at that time, developing countries and the economically backward countries

were most reluctant to be drawn into the vortex of big power rivalry and they wanted to be left alone and follow a policy of their own. But the real essence of non-alignment lies in the urge and aspirations of the developing countries to follow their own policies, their own political and economic and social policies according to their own genius and according to their own requirements. That is the real essence. It is not a question of the world being divided into so many blocs and that is why we have got to do it. In the present context or nowadays, even the smallest country in the world will not tolerate any kind of domination from a big power.

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We have the glaring example before us of Viet Nam. Nobody could keep Viet Nam down. Even the biggest power in the world tried its very best to subdue Viet Nam but their will and their aspirations and their strong desire to be independent overcame all these difficulties, and they refused to cower down before this big power.

This feeling of nationalism in its broader sense and not in its connotation of chauvinism is something which is gaining strength. It will be very difficult for any big power to suppress this urge and these aspirations of the smaller powers and the backward powers. No power on earth can suppress this national urge or will of the Third World.

The House is aware and hon. Members know that the classical colonialism and imperialism of the old days is now giving place to a neocolonialism and imperialism of economic domination. It is not very obvious but it is a fact that it is more dangerous than the classical type of colonialism and imperialism. It is also a fact that this understanding and detente between the big powers can also lead to the carving out of the world into spheres of influence which would not be in the interests of smaller powers or non-aligned countries. The non-aligned group of countries is aware of these trends and these developments, and they will see to it, I am sure, that they do not succumb

to this kind of pressure or this kind of strategy which is now being evolved by the so-called big powers.

We also fully realise that so long as there are conflicting pulls and pressures of bigger countries on smaller countries, the need for non-alignment will remain and it is in our interest to strengthen this movement so that the bigger powers are not able to weaken it or to erode it by their subtle machinations.

The Third Summit Conference of non-aligned countries which took place at Lusaka in 1970 was an event of far-reaching significance. For the first time in a conference of non-aligned countries, the idea of economic and technical collaboration amongst the

developing countries and the non-aligned countries was mooted there.

It was done in order to safeguard and to see that the smaller countries did not come under the domination of big powers. It is true that political domination is doming to an end, but economic domination can be equally bad. The whole idea was mooted so that the smaller countries may not come under the influence and domination of bigger powers. and they may be encouraged to bring about economic cooperation among themselves and to try and become self-reliant through mutual cooperation.

We are looking forward to the next meeting of non-aligned countries which will take place in Algiers. I am sure that attention will again be focussed on the theme of economic cooperation among the non-aligned countries and the deliberations of this conference will throw some light on some concrete and important steps which might be taken by the developing countries in order to achieve this very laudable objective.

If you are to prevent any kind of conflict between the haves and have-nots, if you want to avoid any tension and confrontation between these countries which can be called 'haves' and those countries which may be termed 'have-nuts', we have to have this cooperation, and help each other to achieve

development. That alone will achieve the objective and nothing else.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Since the emphasis these days is on economic cooperation, I should like to say that we have attached great importance to it and have taken certain steps in order to give more economic content to our policy, and we are giving more importance to the economic aspect of our foreign policy. It is our firm belief that international stability and well-being of humanity can best be achieved through an affective system of international economic cooperation and by establishing economic and commercial contacts and by promoting collaboration in industrial and technical ventures with our immediate neighbours as well as with all the developing countries in the world. I am happy to say that as a result of the various steps the Ministry has taken in that direction, a number of initiatives we have taken in that direction, there is now visible a growing aware-

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ness among the countries of Asia and Africa about the competence and ability of this country to be a provider of technical know-how and expertise, training opportunities to people from these countries and consultancy service, preparation of survey and feasibility reports, etc. We have also taken keen interest in the activities of such multilateral organisations as the Colombo Plan, ECAFE and SCAAP (Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan). Through our participation in the activities of these organisations and through our bilateral contacts with a large number of countries, we have given a real meaning to our friendship with these countries, specially through economic collaboration with our neighbouring countries like Sri-Lanka, Mauritius, Afghanistan and Bhutan, to name just a few of them. Some idea of the magnitude of our assistance to the developing countries, friendly countries, can be had from the fact that under our ITEC programme alone, Rs. 80 lakhs* to Rs. 1 crore** are being spent by us every year in order to promote various schemes

under this programme. This, however, does not include direct economic assistance to a large number of friendly countries which is quite substantial. For instance, under the Colombo Plan alone, upto the end of 1971-72, we have given assistance to the tune of Rs. 85.83 crores; under the SCAAP, this assistance is of the order of Rs. 82 lakhs upto 1971-72. India has also advanced loans to a large number of countries to enable them to purchase Indian goods as well as Indian services. The amount outstanding as loans to various countries at the end of 1971-72 is of the order of Rs. 65.63 crores.

We have also sent a large number of experts to developing countries in order, to assist them in their developmental programmes. About 150 people are working abroad and they have done' an extremely good job., Wherever they have gone, they have earned a good reputation for themselves and laurels for our country also.

From this, it will be seen that in spite of our difficulties at home, despite our own limitations, we have done everything possible to share our experience, our resources, with a large number of countries, and we have done everything possible to help them

*1 lakh=one hundred thousand.

**1 crore=10 million.

in their very difficult task of economic and industrial development. I must say that this approach to our foreign policy has already paid some very handsome dividends inasmuch as it has greatly increased the goodwill, friendship and trade between ourselves and a large number of countries in Africa and Asia.

Our greatest activity in the field of economic cooperation is in the continent of Africa. We are more than willing to share our experience with them, and to render all possible assistance to them in their own efforts to develop their countries as fast as possible. The House knows fully well that we have many common things between ourselves and the countries in Africa. They have passed through an era of colonial domi-

nation and exploitation and so have we. So, we know what their difficulties are; and I think they can gain a great deal from our experience which we are very willing to share with them. We have very patiently and assiduously established contacts with a large number of countries in Africa at the industrial and commercial level and we are ever anxious to proceed further to generate greater mutual economic activity with the countries of Africa.

In this connection, I would like to mention that a large number of joint ventures have been settled by Indian entrepreneurs in several countries of Africa in such wide-ranging industrial fields as textiles, sugar, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and forest-based industries. We have also provided assistance through grant of scholarships to African students by providing training facilities in India to their technical hands and by making available to them our technicians, experts, teachers and doctors.

AFRICA

Now, a few words about the struggle of our African brethren against imperialism, racialism and colonialism to which a reference was made by Mr, Stephen. So far, we have on every conceivable occasion, always spoken in support of their struggle in Africa. We have supported them morally as well as materially and I will go so far as to say that it is really a shame that, in the stage of human understanding and human advancement, when man has achieved the feat of reaching the moon, there should be some

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countries, which still are living in the 16th and 17th centuries and following the obnoxious and outdated policies of that age also, policies of brutal suppression and racial discrimination and to keep people in perpetual bondage against their wishes. We have always condemned such policies and we will continue to condemn them; we condemn the regimes which follow such policies.

It is our resolve that we should stand

fast by our African brethren and give them all possible help, material support, in their own fight against injustice, tyranny and brutal suppression of human rights.

A word about the African Organisation of Unity, the OAU. We are very happy to note that the OAU, despite the challenges it is faced with, has been able to maintain its integrity and unity and it is playing a very useful and effective role of harmonising and reconciling the different viewpoints and aspirations of a large number of people in the continent of Africa.

In the political field, our relations with the countries of Africa are also very close. There have been a number of exchanges of visits of dignitaries both from India to Africa and from Africa to India. our President last year paid a visit to Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zambia, and our Foreign Minister went to the west African countries. From the African side, President Mobutu paid a visit to our country as well as the first Vice-President of Tanzania who came here a short while ago. As a result of these exchanges, a number of mutually advantageous agreements and understanding have been reached to give a new dimension to our traditional ties with the countries of Africa.

Now, something happened last year about which we are all very sorry and that is the development in Uganda. The House is fully aware of the unhappy and unfortunate development which took place last year in Uganda. We are also sorry about the shocking events. As Hon. Members know, thousands of people were made to leave that country under conditions of humiliation, under tension, and for no fault of their own. We took up their cause with the local government, but unfortunately we were unsuccessful in our efforts to make things easy for them, but we made all possible arrangements to evacuate our own nationals from Uganda, to provide them with all the facilities and concessions and to give them all possible assistance in settling down in this country.

The question of the assets left behind in

that country is still not being resolved. We have informed the House on earlier occasions that we have taken up this matter on a number of occasions. So far we have not succeeded, and we have always been told that it was not their intention to confiscate property without compensation. They have not yet been able to evolve any formula or to carry out the evaluation of this property. They did not refuse to pay compensation but at the same time they have not been able to spell out any concrete policy in this regard. As late as a few days back, our High Commissioner met their Head of State, President Amin, and raised this question with him. President Amin gave a sympathetic hearing and he promised that he would look into this matter and expedite the question of evaluation and payment of compensation.

The general question of the people of Indian origin in Africa had been agitating the minds of the hon. Members in this House for quite some time in the past. In this connection I should like to say that practically all the independent African countries have now resorted to a policy of Africanisation or nationalisation of their commerce, industry and means of production. This is a policy with which we cannot have any quarrel because we ourselves have gone through that phase and we have tried to take over control of our economy and means of production. When African countries adopt this policy, it is true that non-nationals in those countries do suffer. But it is inevitable. Our only effort is to see that when they carry out this policy it should be done in a manner which would not hurt the interests of these people unduly and they should be given time to wind up their business properly and leave the country in an orderly phased manner. We have been trying our best to bring about this kind of understanding between the countries concerned and the people of Indian origin there. We are happy to note that a large number of African leaders have made public statements that the policy of Africanisation would be implemented gradually and in an orderly manner. The hon. Members know that recent-

ly there were some developments in Zambia which caused a great deal of hardship to that friendly country. Their life Brie, their main outlet to the outside' world passed through Rhodesia, and it was closed by the Ian Smith regime, as a result of which the people of that country suffered a great deal economically and otherwise This matter was taken up by the Security Council and a resolution was passed to give all possible help to Zambia to develop one or two alternative routes. We fully supported that resolution. Zambia is now in the front line of the battle, fighting for the cause of human dignity and equality. Not only India but all countries of the world should give their moral and material support to Zambia in this fight.

INDIAN OCEAN

It will not be out of place here if I say something about the vast expanse of water which lies between the continent of Africa and the continent of Asia, that is, the Indian ocean, to which some reference was made by hon. Members. A great deal of anxiety had been shown by a large number of countries particularly littoral countries in this area. Our policy has been enunciated on a number of occasions. We are for keeping this area as an area of peace and free from big power rivalries. There is no justification for the presence of big powers in this area. We feel that left to themselves the countries of the region will be able to find a modus vivendi for the problem. This matter was taken up in the Lusaka conference of non-aligned countries and a resolution was passed in 1970 which was followed up by the General Assembly resolutions of 1971 which declare the Indian ocean as an area of peace.

Now, Sir, we agree that each nation has got a right to move in International water. But there is a distinction between moving in and in. their declaring it as a swimming pool. These waters should be free for mercantile navigation. But their permanent presence in it is not called for. We can only appeal to the big powers that they can certainly use these waters for their bonafide needs or their legitimate needs.

SHRI PILOO MODY: But what about Soviet Russia?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: We have not given them any facility. Whatever facility is available to others, we have given the same to the Soviet Union. There is no other facility given to anyone. I agree that these are considered to be difficult questions. And they cannot be satisfactorily solved unless there is a series of dialogue and discussion among the big powers. Whatever you may like to have in this connection unless the big powers are seized of the matter and they discuss it, it is not possible to achieve anything. We are in touch with the likeminded countries and we are taking all possible steps to bring about a favourable situation and to mobilize world opinion in this field. The bigger powers would also have to listen to the viewpoints of smaller countries also.

COMMONWEALTH

Now, the hon. Member, Shri Mishraji mentioned about the Commonwealth question. This, has been raised on a number of occasions before. It is true that ever since U.K. chose to join the E.C.M. our commercial interests have suffered a great deal. Despite all that I may say and this is our considered view that great advantages can even now be achieved by our association with the Commonwealth of Nations. I can assure the hon. Members that if we find that this organisation is useless, then we will have to think of leaving this organisation. Till such time, there is no reason for us to leave this organisation. We feel that at present there is need for a great deal of cooperation between us and the other countries. You know, we exchange our ideas in the matter of education, in technical and so many other fields. And we feel that it is a useful organisation and it is not the time for us to leave this organisation. But, as soon as we feel that it is time for us to leave, we shall leave that. So long as it serves our national purpose we should not leave it.

FIJI

In the end, I would like to say a few words about the people of Indian origin in Fiji. I wish to say something about this because this question was raised in the House on a day on which it could not be taken up and no reply could be given on behalf of Government. So, with your permission, I would say a few words about Fiji also. Some apprehension was shown by a large number

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of Members of this House and also by the people outside the country that things are not well in Fiji and that something has to be done. They said that something has happened against the interests of those Indians who are living in Fiji. And these apprehensions were based on a remark which was made by the organising secretary of the National Federation Party of Fiji. It is reported that the Indians in Fiji have been receiving veiled threats from the indigenous Fijians that they would get the same treatment at their hands as the Indians got at the hands of Ugandans. We took up this matter with our High Commissioner. We asked him to find out if there was any change in the policy of the Fiji Government towards the Indian community. But, we have been informed by our High Commission that there is no basis at all for any such apprehension in this regard. There is no change in the policy of the Government towards the Indians. All Fijian leaders, particularly, the Prime Minister, are dedicated to the task of achieving complete racial harmony and integration. All Fijians, irrespective of race, colour and religion have equal rights under their Constitution. So, it would be quite irrational and illogical to compare the Uganda developments with the situation in Fiji. There is an obvious difference. In Uganda, the people of Indian origin or a majority of them were foreign nations, who had not acquired the Ugandan nationality whereas the Indians in Fiji have acquired the Fijian nationality and so they have got equal rights. There is no tension there and everything is going on very well.

In this connection, I may say that the

Fijian Prime Minister and other leaders openly deplored these happenings in Uganda and offered to take some of the expellees from Uganda into Fiji. They would never have made such an offer if they harboured any anti-India feelings. Whatever apprehension has been there in this regard is not based on facts. We have never received any complaints.

With these few words, I would like to end my intervention. Thank you very much.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA ZAMBIA ALGERIA SRI LANKA AFGHANISTAN MAURITIUS BHUTAN ETHIOPIA TANZANIA UGANDA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM FIJI

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PARLIAMENT

Reply by Minister of External Affairs Sardar Swaran Singh to Debate in Lok Sabha

Following is the text of the speech made by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs in reply to the debate on the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of External Affairs in the Lok Sabha on April 24, 1973:

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this has been a comprehensive debate in which senior and important Leaders of Opposition parties have participated, and there have been speeches from the Congress benches also, and if I may say so, on the whole, the debate has been very useful, and I have greatly benefited by the views that have been expressed by Hon. Members. My task has been greatly lightened by the intervention of my colleague, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State, who has touched upon certain aspects about which questions had been raised by Hon. Members from this side

as well as from the Opposition benches and has replied to them.

There have been several outstanding speeches from the Congress benches. Many of the points raised by Opposition leaders and Opposition members have been replied to by the members of the Congress party this side.

The speeches could be broadly divided into two or three categories. The principal party or group in Opposition, the CPI (Marxist) put across their viewpoint through Shri Saroj Mukherjee. This was effectively replied to by my young colleague, Shri Goswami. Then Prof. Hiren Mukerjee spoke. I will touch upon certain points that he raised. But after that our senior member, Dr. Henry Austin, gave a very befitting reply. Then Shri Viswanathan, the young, knowledgeable and fluent speaker from the DMK, who was very liberal in the use of his adjectives, spoke. I must say that he had made a good use of the dictionary because every bad adjective that he could think of

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was used against the policy. But with all the effort I could muster to understand him, I was unable to follow the content of the adjectives he used because in most of the operative parts his opinion was in favour of the decision taken by Government. For instance, he was in full support of the joint India-Bangla Desh declaration on the question of the prisoners of war and the repatriation of Bengalees and Pakistanis. I will touch upon certain points that he raised, but our friend, Shri Sant Bux Singh, replied to almost all the points that were raised by Shri Viswanathan.

Then the Jan Sangh leader, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, raised some points. I will mention them, though some of them have already been replied to. There have been very effective speeches on our side by Shri Stephen, Shrimati Maya Ray, Shri Vasant Sathe; today Shri Hari Kishore Singh also made a very fine speech. Shri B. R. Bhagat

has replied to many of the points raised by Shri Vajpayee and also by Shri Piloo Mody, particularly when Shri Piloo Mody tried to criticise the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation and also the general relationship we have with the USSR, very friendly relations, very purposeful relations.

BANGLA DESH

First of all, I would like to say a few words about our relations with our neighbours. The most important country that naturally comes to one's mind in this matter is Bangla Desh. Our relations of closest friendship and understanding with the people and the Government of Bangla Desh continue to be consolidated and strengthened—our friendship is based not only on sentiments of common history and culture but also on a common dedication to share ideals of democracy, socialism and secularism. It is a remarkable feat that Bangla Desh should have adopted a Constitution and held its first General Elections in peace and freedom within 15 months of its liberation. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Awami League have been returned to power in Bangla Desh with a massive majority. This represents an unmistakeable tribute to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the place he occupies in the hearts of his people. It is also an indication of the faith of the people and the leaders of Bangla Desh in the ideals which are enshrined in the Bangla Desh Constitution. I am sure the House will join me in wishing the Government and the people of Bangla Desh every success in the tasks that they have set for themselves.

The political achievements of Bangla Desh have been matched by the economic rehabilitation of the country. There has been a marked recovery in the production of tea, jute, steel, fertilizers and cement. All this is especially praiseworthy for a country which so recently went through so harrowing a struggle and devastation. The overall picture of Bangla Desh today is of a stable and confident country well set on the path to further progress. We share Bangla Desh's pride in its achievements.

The House is aware of the economic cooperation we have undertaken with Bangla Desh which is the biggest endeavour of its kind that we have taken up with any country. Our cooperation with Bangla Desh spreads into many spheres of activity and we shall continue to develop this cooperation in the years to come.

The ground has been well laid, and institutions firmly established, for further co-operation in such fundamental fields as flood control, river waters and power development. We anticipate that the year ahead will see further economic collaboration on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Direct cooperation between India and Bangla Desh is paralleled in the field of international relations by closest consultation and coordinated efforts. One effect of that was the joint Indo-Bangla Desh declaration on the prisoners of war and the repatriation of Bengalees and Pakistanis.

We welcome the fact that Afghanistan, and most recently, Lebanon, have accorded recognition to Bangla Desh. We shall actively support Bangla Desh's admission to the non-aligned conference and to the United Nations Organisation, the large majority of whose members have already recognised the State of Bangla Desh. We are also happy to note that Bangla Desh has been admitted as a member of the ECAFE and attended the annual conference in Tokyo which concluded only the other day.

BURMA

Our relations with our other close neighbours also are excellent. As the House

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is no doubt aware, I paid a short visit to Burma earlier this month, and I had long discussion with their Foreign and other Ministers. I had also the honour of meeting U Ne win, the Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, and the Prime Minister of the

Union of Burma.

Our exchange of views took place in an extremely friendly atmosphere of complete understanding. We have no problems between our two countries; in our discussions we found several fields in which there are good prospects of economic, cultural and technical collaboration. We intend at high level to explore these further in the course of the year and we hope to arrive at concrete projects for cooperation. We share very similar views on the major problems affecting peace in our area; on non-alignment, the tranquility of the Indian Ocean void of rivalry and tension, and both our countries are anxious for good and healthy relations with all our neighbours. I found full understanding in Burma of the steps we are taking for normalizing the situation in the Indian sub-continent.

SRI LANKA

Several hon. Members from the opposition benches and also from this side made reference to our relations with our close neighbour, Sri Lanka.

Our Prime Minister will be going to Sri Lanka in a few days' time at the invitation of Sri Lanka Prime Minister. Such high-level exchanges reflect our common thinking on many issues of world importance and our close bilateral cooperation.

I should like here to pay homage to the memory of one of the great sons of Sri Lanka, Dudley Senanayake, who died last week and whose contribution to Sri Lanka and to Indo-Sri Lanka friendship is well known.

We have a sizeable economic exchange with Sri Lanka. During the past year there was a meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission which has revealed further scope for industrial and technical collaboration which we hope to develop. On the international field, we have an identity of views on many problems of peace and security in our part of the world in which Sri Lanka's distinguished Prime Minister has played a leading role.

The House is no doubt aware that it was at the initiative of Sri Lanka that the question of keeping Indian Ocean as an area free from big power rivalry and as a zone of peace was taken up in the United Nations and also in the non-aligned Conference. We continue to lend our strong support to this initiative taken by Sri Lanka.

AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan is also our near neighbour. I am happy to say that our traditional friendship with Afghanistan based on mutual interests, identity of political views and strong economic ties, continues to be further strengthened. We have developed a sizeable economic exchange; our trade has risen in the past year by several crores* of rupees and I am confident that in the future our cooperation will grow even more rapidly in all spheres.

BHUTAN

Another important neighbour of ours is Bhutan and we are very happy that we were able to sponsor membership of Bhutan in the United Nations. Bhutan is making very rapid progress, both internally as well as externally.

India's relations with Bhutan have been very cordial and friendly. The late King Jigme Dorji Wangchuk was instrumental in forging very close ties with India. His open and forthright support to the cause of Bangla Desh and his recognition of Bangla Desh Within hours of India having done so was greatly appreciated in India.

I should like to say that this was entirely at the initiative of his late Majesty; we did not approach him at all in this connection. His untimely demise on July 21, 1972 was very widely and deeply mourned in India.

The new King, Jigme Singye Wangchuk, who succeeded on July 24, 1972, is following the policy of his father in forging close ties

* 1 crore=10 million.

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between India and Bhutan. He has also stated very categorically that no change was contemplated in the Indo-Bhutan Treaty of 1949 to which both India and Bhutan attach great importance.

Ever since Bhutan's entry into the U.N. in September 1971 we both have been working in very close concert at the U.N. and other international agencies to which Bhutan has been admitted.

It is our aim to strengthen our friendship and cooperation with Bhutan in all fields. Bhutan has made noteworthy progress under the first two Five Year Plans of Bhutan. With the help of India's Planning Commission, Bhutan initiated her Third Plan in April last year with an outlay of Rs. 35 crores. Out of this amount, India has agreed to provide Rs. 33 crores. Indian aid has resulted in the economic development of Bhutan in several vital sectors such as agriculture, industry, power generation, education, road construction, transport and communication. The Bhutan Government have welcomed the valuable assistance rendered by the Planning Commission in framing their five year plans and have accepted Planning Commission's suggestion for annual reviews by the Commission of the progress of their plans. I would, at this stage, while mentioning about our neighbours, like to say a few words about the present situation in Sikkim about which several hon. Members from the Opposition Benches including the hon. Member of the CPI (M) made a reference. There were several other references also made in that connection.

SIKKIM

I would like to take this opportunity of stating the present situation in Sikkim. After the general elections in Sikkim recently, the tension had aggravated as there were charges of malpractices, corruption and rigging up of elections on the part of Sikkim

authority.

While popular demonstrations were taking place, the arrest of the President of the Sikkim Janata Congress, Shri K. C. Pradhan, by the Sikkim Durbar led to strong resentment and there was a mass upsurge against the Sikkim rule. Police excesses resulting in large scale casualties further aggravated the situation.

As the law and order broke down, the Chogyal requested for our help which we immediately extended. This is one of our responsibilities in our relations with Sikkim.

I might mention that in normal circumstances also we are helping Sikkim in its administration by lending the services of highly experienced Administrator and other officials on the request of the Chogyal and of the Government of Sikkim.

The hon. Members probably know that we are giving considerable economic assistance to Sikkim. This is approximately Rs. 5 crores per year which is very significant considering that Sikkim has a population of only 2 1/4 lacs*. The present position is that the law and order situation has returned to normal and the Sikkimese officials and police have resumed their responsibilities. Of course we have also lent them support and in the initial stages, army had to be called out to stabilise the situation. The popular leaders are also actively cooperating with the Indian administrators in the restoration of law and order and for restoring the normalcy. We hope that, as a result of the discussions between all the parties concerned and in a spirit of reconciliation, necessary constitutional and administrative reforms will be brought about which will ensure peace, communal harmony, good administration and democratic set up in Sikkim. We hope that this process, about which the Chogyal himself made an announcement, will be initiated before long and an effort will be made by our good offices to bring about a real reconciliation amongst the people of Sikkim and every effort will be made so that the legitimate aspirations of the people are realised.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Who will judge that the legitimate aspiration is realised?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: The people themselves will judge. Our role will be to bring about that reconciliation and we would be, by lending our good offices, able to restore law and order and also normalcy. We hope that by this process among the various elements in Sikkim and the Chogyal also - he is also an important part of the institution

* 1 lakh=one hundred thousand.

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of Sikkim - there will be genuine reconciliation and the aspirations of the people would be realised. I will not advise our going into greater details because this is a matter in which we should respect the wishes of the people of Sikkim primarily.

PAKISTAN

While talking of neighbours, naturally the House expects me to give our reactions to the present situation in relation to Pakistan which is our other neighbour. I would like to say that after the conclusion of Simla Agreement, we have to recognise the fact that one important provision of the Simla Agreement has been completely implemented. This was not an easy provision. This related to an agreement about the delineation of the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir. The House is aware of the difficult terrain in the Jammu and Kashmir area. Soon after the cessation of hostilities and the establishment of cease-fire, for the two sides to get together and agree upon the line of control meant protracted negotiations and discussions. But it is a happy thought for me to recall that this agreement was arrived at and this is actually now signed on mosaic maps and initialled by the military commanders and the maps have been approved by the two Governments. That cleared the way for troop withdrawals, and the troops were withdrawn. The areas vacated thereby have now been occupied by the civilians who were displaced at the time of the conflict. This

was an important aspect of the Simla Agreement and we are happy that this part was completely implemented.

As the House is no doubt aware, thereafter unfortunately President Bhutto and the Government of Pakistan adopted a somewhat negative attitude. On our soundings that we should start now discussing the other agreements arrived at and incorporated in the Simla Agreement, we got the reply and it was also publicly stated that Pakistan attaches the first priority to the question of prisoners-of-war and that other normalisation measures such as restoration of overflights and communications and several other matters mentioned in the Simla Agreement could not be discussed. Therefore, no progress could be made. President Bhutto said on the important question of recognition and on taking steps for normalisation of relations with Bangla Desh that he would like to await the outcome of the elections in Bangla Desh. This was an attitude for which there was no justification whatsoever. So far as international affairs go, I have not heard any example, or any incident or precedent, where a third party may say that they are not prepared to deal with another country because elections are going to take place in that country. That was an attitude which was absolutely unwarranted. Still we persevered; we did not give up hope. The elections in Bangla Desh were held. I have already made a mention of that. But in this connection, I have to mention that again. The Bangla Desh leaders naturally got preoccupied with their first General Elections according to their new Constitution.

At the earliest possible moment after the Elections India and Bangla Desh got together and evolved the joint declaration. I need not say much on this document because this declaration, I think, is a proposal which has received universal support in the country and without any dissent in any part of the world. There is no doubt there was one voice of dissension raised on the floor of the House by the leader of the Jan Sangh Party, and he used expressions without realising the import of those expressions. Here is a joint declaration evolved by consultation

between two independent governments, India and Bangla Desh, and we made an offer to try and solve an essentially humanitarian problem. We deliberately took a decision to keep the political issues apart. That does not mean that our stand on the political issues is given up. In fact we do strongly continue to hold the view that continued non-recognition of Bangla Desh by Pakistan is a negative factor in the situation of the Indian sub-continent. This will continue to be the major obstacle in the way of normalisation of conditions in the Indian sub-continent and this will be an obstacle in the way of establishment of durable peace. This position continue to be good because this is the only sound position that is possible and feasible under these circumstances. Knowing that fully well, both India and Bangla Desh made the proposal in order to solve the humanitarian problem. What is the response of Pakistan to this?

I would like to take the House into confidence about our present thinking in this

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matter. As the hon. Members are aware, during the past year Pakistan has been carrying on world-wide propaganda on the prisoners-of-war with the set objective of obtaining a unilateral settlement without fulfilling its obligations towards Bangla Desh. This has been their main preoccupation. India's approach has consistently been that Pakistan should remove the obstacle in the way of holding tripartite talks so that Bangla Desh can participate as a sovereign country in the discussion for resolving the various issues emanating from the December 1971 conflict. Pakistan has not only refused to take the necessary steps to recognise the realities in the sub-continent but has also been using wholly negative tactics, which has been the principal factor for the delay in the resolution of the humanitarian problems. Despite Pakistan's continued hostility and negative attitude the Governments of Bangla Desh and India, guided by their desire to find an immediate solution to the humanitarian problems resulting

from the December 1971 conflict, issued the joint Declaration of April 17, 1973. This Declaration suggested a fair and practical solution of the humanitarian problems, by separating them from the political issues. The Declaration visualises simultaneous repatriation of the Pakistani prisoners-of-war and civilian internees, the Bengalees forcibly detained in Pakistan and the Pakistan nationals in Bangla Desh who have declared their allegiance to Pakistan and have asked for repatriation to Pakistan.

The joint Declaration provides clear and concrete proof that the Governments of India and Bangla Desh have no intention of using the prisoners-of-war for extracting any kind of political concessions from Pakistan. The world at large has welcomed the constructive nature of the Joint Declaration and has acknowledged the fact that, by this gesture, Bangla Desh and India have demonstrated their desire to find an immediate solution for the humanitarian issues. They have further commented that the ball is clearly in Pakistan's court and it would be unwise on the part of Pakistan to try to introduce political elements or quibble on its terms.

However, it is a matter of regret and disappointment that the statement issued by Pakistan on April 20 should not only attempt to reintroduce political considerations but also set forth an extreme Position calling for the one-sided resolution of the Issues affecting Pakistan. It is strange logic to argue that while Pakistan prisoners-of-war and civilian internees in India should be returned forthwith, Pakistan is not prepared to fulfil its obligations towards those of its nationals in Bangla Desh who have openly declared their allegiance to Pakistan and have asked for repatriation. It needs to be reiterated here that the attitude of Government of Bangla Desh towards these people has been most humane and constructive. It was primarily due to the vision and magnanimity shown by the Prime Minister of Bangla Desh and his Government that out of a total of about 6,00,000 non-Bengalees a majority has decided to stay on in Bangla Desh. That is a matter which is conveniently forgotten in this context. Only an estimated 2,50,000

have declared their allegiance to Pakistan and are desirous of repatriation. I would like to add that Bangla Desh Government undertook elaborate arrangements to ascertain their allegiance and their desires in the matter of repatriation and these people have made their statements solemnly before magistrates declaring that they are Pakistani nationals and that they are desirous of going to Pakistan. It is not a case in which all the non-Bengalees are to be sent across but only those who have expressed their desire in more or less a formal manner before the magistrates. All that Bangla Desh has done is to make it possible for the return to Pakistan of persons in Bangla Desh who avowedly owe allegiance to Pakistan and not to Bangla Desh. Their number is only about one-third of the non-Bengalees in Bangla Desh. Thus, there is no question of Pakistan being asked to take a so-called 'ethnic, linguistic or political minority' as such, as alleged by Pakistan, it is only a question of Pakistan taking back those who regard Pakistan as their country. As for the rest of non-Bengalees, Bangla Desh has made it perfectly clear that those owing allegiance to Bangla, Desh will be enabled to remain in that country as equal citizens. There is no arbitrary expulsion, no option taken under duress, as alleged by Pakistan. In the face of these facts the expression of distress and concern, in the Pakistan Government's statement about the fate of these people, is to say the least, totally misplaced.

The Pakistan Government's own record of dealing with nearly 4,00,000 Bengalees

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who have been forcibly detained in Pakistan, stands out in marked contrast. The civil servants amongst them numbering 16000 were summarily dismissed in July last year. The military personnel of Bangla Desh origin numbering nearly 28,000 have been detained in camps. Those Bengalees who have been caught while trying to escape from Pakistan after selling all their belongings are being jailed. Are these persons to be treated on the same footing as the 195 Pakistani prisoners-of-war charged with criminal offences

by the Bangla Desh Government? It is to be noted that in the latter case there has been an extremely careful sifting of evidence by Bangla Desh Government which has revealed their involvement in heinous crimes against innocent civilians, including women and children.

The Bangla Desh Government has itself declared that the trials will be held in accordance with universally recognised juridical norms. Eminent international jurists, according to the Bangla Desh Government's statement, will be invited to observe the trials and the accused will be afforded all facilities to arrange for their defence and to engage counsel of their choice, including foreign counsel. There cannot be a more fair treatment of these persons. Even on this subject, the international community will not fail to notice that whereas, at one time Pakistan's spokesman has been suggesting that they would be quite reconciled to the trial of about a thousand or more prisoners-of-war by Bangla. Desh provided the rest of the prisoners-of-war were released, now Pakistan is making it a condition that even 195 persons against whom there is a clear-cut evidence of involvement in crimes should not be tried by Bangla. Desh Government. Further, it is threatened that if Bangla. Desh Government goes ahead with these trials, the Pakistan Government will have to bring to trial some Bengalees in Pakistan. It is a very strange case of, what should I say, judicial reprisals that, if Pakistani prisoners-of-war are to be tried, then, as a retaliatory measure, the Bengalees who are held in Pakistan will be tried. One has heard of many retaliations. But this is perhaps a new form of reprisal.

The spokesman of the Government of Bangla Desh has rightly commented on this and has stated that if such trials of innocent Bengalees are held in Pakistan, it would constitute a crude attempt at black-mail and Judicial reprisals in violation of all canons of international civilised conduct, These are also our reactions with regard to the statement made by Pakistan.

Having said all that, how should we

deal with the situation? The most important thing that has to be done is that before finalising our joint and common attitude, we have to consult the Bangla Desh Government. We have already initiated that process and, we hope to evolve a joint and common attitude that has to be adopted while dealing with this problem and, I am sure, as a result of these consultations, a joint approach will be possible. It is our intention to evolve that joint approach.

I would also like to say that we do not take a completely negative attitude in this situation notwithstanding the various unsatisfactory features in the statement of the Pakistan Government. I cannot help expressing the hope that Pakistan Government will still review their position and accept the basic principle of the joint Indo-Bangla Desh Declaration, namely, that all humanitarian issues emanating from the 1971 conflict should be settled together and these issues have to be separated from political considerations. If this principle is accepted, we are quite certain that the way will be cleared for the immediate repatriation of the Pakistani prisoners-of-war and civilian internees as well as the stranded Bengalees in Pakistan and Pakistanis in Bangla Desh.

This is our approach. I would also like to add that we have received a formal communication from the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan.

We will, after consultations with the Government of Bangla Desh, as already indicated by me, be able to send a reply to that communication in the light of our joint consultation.

I would like to say in the end that if the basic concepts of the Simla Agreement about which Pakistan has again reiterated their desire to adhere to in letter and spirit, are actually translated into action and the problem is tackled in the humanitarian spirit, the spirit in which we had made this

and Bangla Desh -- I am sure that this problem which involves several lakhs of people, of Bengalees, Pakistanis and prisoners-of-war and civilian internees, can be tackled; the only way to resolve this problem is to have a humanitarian view of the type that We had indicated in our joint declaration.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: In view of what you have stated, we fail to understand how Pakistan have declared that deadlock with India has been broken.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: I wish I could answer for Pakistan. But what I mean to say is that one does get an impression that they appear to be blowing hot and could at the same breath, but it is not unusual and it will be our effort to sift this matter and try to find out if there is really a meeting point; our endeavour will be to find a meeting point.

NEPAL

Another close neighbour of ours. Nepal, was mentioned. I would not like to take much time of the House on this. I would like to say that our relations with Nepal are very close, very friendly. Our contribution to their economic development is the largest as compared to any other country. Our contribution is of the order of Rs. 10 crores per annum. So far, our aid to Nepal comes to Rs. 100 crores. Our aid covers such vital areas as road construction, airport construction, major hydel and irrigation projects, water supply schemes including one in the city of Kathmandu, aid to the only university in Nepal, namely the Tribhuvan University, horticultural schemes, forest research institutes, geological surveys, establishment of industrial estates, etc. It has been a very purposeful cooperation in the economic field with Nepal. Of the amount of aid India gives to foreign countries, Nepal is the largest recipient.

On trade and transit, I think, the point was missed by the Hon. Member who raised this point that, probably, there were some

Nepalese traders. They are not, in the first instance, Nepalese traders. It is true that there were some Indian traders who were trying to import goods into India, trying to smuggle across to our territory. All these were banned goods and so, they were making unconscionable profits. That was the essential point about which India and Nepal Governments were unhappy, and both the Governments came to an agreement about that, because smuggling is a matter of mutual concern, both to India and Nepal. Nepal itself has been interested in channelising trade through legitimate hands and has viewed with concern any smuggling activity across the Indo-Nepalese border. For instance, they have nationalised their jute exports, just a few weeks ago. This is indicative of their deep concern in this matter so that this smuggling may be stopped and I do not think that the point mentioned by him was ever their concern. May be that some traders might have approached the Hon. Member to raise his voice on their behalf, but, certainly, it does not come in the way of the continuance of close and friendly relations between our two countries, India and Nepal. We have excellent relations with Nepal. It is an open border. No travel document is required to travel across the Indo-Nepalese border. The supply of goods across the border also is completely free. This is one of the relationships which is the envy of many other neighbouring countries in the whole world and we are liberately pursuing a policy so that there should be mutual friendship, mutual help and this should strengthen our relations with Nepal immensely and we intent to continue these relations.

U S A

Other important matters were also referred to and, with your permission, I would like to make a brief mention to some of these matters. Mention was made of our relations with the United States. Now, this is a subject on which one can say a great deal and some Hon. Members have spoken with a great deal of feeling and emotion on this subject. We ourselves in the House discussed this question some time back par-

particularly in relation to the decision of the Government of the United States of America to supply arms to Pakistan. We expressed in no uncertain terms our total Opposition to that policy of the United States. Our relations with the United States which had been at a very low ebb

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during the past two years showed signs of Improvement towards the end of the last year. There Were expressions of desire from both sides to normalise and strengthen these relations. On November 30, 1972, I stated that we were prepared to develop our relations with the United States on the basis of equality, reciprocity, mutual Interest and in the light of the new realities obtaining in the subcontinent. There had been similar expressions of a desire for a better relation on the part of United States Government. It has been the Government's policy to develop friendly relations with all countries including the United States of America.

A principal obstacle in the Indo-US relations has been the American supply of arms to Pakistan. The Government of India had hoped that this policy would come to an end and thus pave the way for the establishment of a durable peace in the subcontinent. The United States Government's recent decision to lift the embargo on the supply of arms to Pakistan has caused us much disappointment and concern. This concern has been widely shared by the Parliament and the public opinion. We have conveyed our strong feelings to the United States Government and it is our own conviction that the supply of arms by the United States to Pakistan will seriously impede the normalisation of Indo-Pak relations and jeopardise the prospects of a durable peace in the Indian sub-continent. It may also pose a serious threat to India's security.

During the recent visit of Mr. Kenneth Rush and Mr. Joseph Sisco I again took the opportunity of pointing out to them the consequences of the supply of US arms to Pak-

istan. I do hope that the US Government will take note of our serious concern and help in the process of a detente and reconciliation and peaceful cooperation in the sub-continent.

CHINA

Several lion. Members spoke about our relations with China. I have nothing very important to report in this connection but still I would like to take the opportunity to state our position and our assessment.

Since I spoke to the House in December last year, there have been a few stray but significant indications of improved Chinese attitude.

While one cannot say that the basic Chinese attitude has undergone any significant change, one has to recognise that at social and official functions the Chinese attitude now is more relaxed and congenial than in the past. I am particularly referring to the normal attitude adopted by the Chinese officials and diplomats all over the world towards our representatives.

We also notice some lessening of the propaganda against India and a slightly more realistic attitude towards the situation on the Indian sub-continent.

We are happy to note that the loud-speaker propaganda on the Sikkim-Tibet border has now ceased.

We have always hoped that things will gradually change and there will be greater normalcy of relations between India and China. Given the goodwill and sincerity on both sides, I think this should not be difficult.

India and China are two big countries with a long common frontier. They are close neighbours and it is in their interest to have friendly relations with each other. It is: our policy to work for improvement of our relations with China.

USSR

Certain references were made about our relations with the USSR and I would like to take this opportunity of reiterating once again that we attach the greatest importance to our relations with USSR. Our relations are friendly and cordial and close and there has been meaningful and purposeful cooperation in the political field and in the economic field and we are highly satisfied with our relationship with the USSR. It is unfortunate that some discordant notes were uttered here without any justification.

I was particularly amazed at the attitude adopted by the leader of the Swatantra Party, Shri Piloo Mody. I went through the record of his speech when the Indo-Soviet Treaty was being discussed. And, I would leave it to the Hon. Members to com-

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pare the speech that he delivered today with the speech that he delivered at the time when the Indo-Soviet Treaty was being discussed on the floor of the House and the difference will be surprising. My colleague rightly points out that he was not the President of the Swatantra Party at that time...

SHRI PILOO MODY: I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister that if it is still possible for him he may read my speech of yesterday and also the speech which I made at the time when the Indo-Soviet Treaty was signed and he will find no contradiction in them at all.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: I would only like to say that the first major statement by any non-Congress leader in the country in support of the Indo-Soviet Treaty was made by late Shri Rajaji. In very clear terms he said that this is a Treaty which is in the mutual interest of both India and USSR. He has also said this is very much in the interest of India and in the interest of USSR.

I would like to say a word about the matter which was referred to by Shri Vajpayee, that is, the fact that Mr. Dange addressed the meeting in Moscow. He takes exception to this. I thought that the insti-

tutions in India where we permit various political parties to have their say and to make any statement, either inside the country or abroad, is something which all of us value. As a country it shows that we value the right of freedom of expression. And those ideas were the ideas of one political party. There was no question of ever equating a non-official, representative with the representatives of the Government. In that gathering both the representatives of the Government were invited and also the leaders of several other political parties were also invited and naturally they participated in the discussions and made their statement. To use that as a handle to criticise USSR is nothing else but a sign of lack of appreciation of the true depth of relationship.

I would say in all earnestness that we should try to make a distinction between who is our friend who is our friend who stands with us on moments of trial, who is our friend who stands with us on moments of need-and should not try to equate that only with the idea of so-called equi-distance,

I would like to say that this doctrine of equi-distance between friends and foes; equi-distance between good and evil is something which is totally unacceptable to us.

WEST ASIA

Now, Sir, there is only one area and I will talk about it briefly. I think the House expects me to make some comment because several Hon. Members have mentioned about Iran and Gulf Area.

The West Asia Crisis, apart from being by far the major preoccupation of the Arab countries in the area, is an issue fraught with serious implications for world peace.

The House is fully aware of our stand on this issue, notably the vacation of aggression by Israel and the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people. This continuing aggression has built up an explosive frustration which manifests itself in acts of violence and in inexcusable and flagrant violations of so-

vereignty by premeditated and planned attacks by Israel. We witnessed very recently another outrageous example of such an aggression by Israeli armed forces on Lebanon where civilians were indiscriminately shot down. The matter came up before the Security Council during the past week, and we kept close touch with our Arab friends. The resultant resolution was no doubt of a compromise nature and Lebanon ultimately agreed to it. We would have preferred a more specific and action-oriented resolution to prevent the recurrence of such unprovoked Israeli aggression.

A further resolution has been adopted and it calls for a full report by the Secretary-General on the situation in West Asia and a further consideration of the situation by the Council. We hope this resolution will provide a fresh opportunity for some purposeful action which is long overdue.

I may be excused if I were to make a reference to the remark made by Professor Hiren Mukerjee who said that our Prime Minister had only sent a message of sympathy to President Nixon and not to the Belgian Prime Minister. This is not correct, I have checked up. Our Prime Minister sent

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a message not only to President Nixon but also to the Belgian Prime Minister on the assassination at Khartoum. So, we do not make any distinction on these humanitarian issues.

GULF STATES

Now, I would like to say a few words about Gulf States—an area which I visited not long ago. In January-February this year I paid visits to the States of Oman, Qatar, the UAR, Bahrain and Kuwait. On all sides there was ample evidence of the historic ties that have linked these countries with India, particularly in commerce and trade and in cultural exchange. These factors have generated spontaneous goodwill towards India among the people and among their leaders. In all these States there is intense activity for utilising their vast na-

tural resources for modernisation and for establishing newly gained independence on firm economic and political foundations. In this process, we believe there is great scope for economic cooperation between India and the Gulf States, and we found a lively interest in such economic and technical co-operation. The exchange of delegations of experts with all these States has already started and will further increase in the near future.

We found all the Gulf States fully sharing our conviction that the Gulf should be an area of peace, open to all for peaceful purposes and free from tension, from domination or outside interference. We also share this policy with these countries in regard to the Indian Ocean of which the Gulf forms a vital extension.

Sir, with Iraq we have recently signed important agreements on oil supplies both in the short and in the long term and there is considerable scope, which experts are now studying for participation in joint projects both in Iraq as well as in India. In other commercial, technical and cultural fields also, we both intend to intensify our collaboration. We have with Iraq an identity of views on a number of fundamental issues, such as on non-alignment, peaceful co-existence and both of us are following a socialistic pattern of society suited to the genius and capacity of our respective peoples. We are glad to observe that Iraq has mastered her initial difficulties in the nationalisation of her oil resources.

Professor Mukherjee, Shri Vajpayee, Shri Sant Bux Singh and other hon. Members have drawn attention to reports of rearmament. On this issue I had also, on an earlier occasion, made a statement. This House has expressed concern that this, in turn, should not lead to rearmament in Pakistan, which, of course, is a partner of Iran in CENTO and in the R.C.D. Naturally, we watch closely and constantly assess the strategic implications of such developments, particularly in our part of the world.

We are aware from sad experience that

the armament of Pakistan has supported the policies of militant confrontation with disastrous consequences to peace in our sub-continent. Our friendship with Iran is longstanding with deep cultural roots, common traditions and historic ties. We have a sizeable commercial exchange. Iran is already participating in our oil refinery in Madras. There are great possibilities in petrochemicals as well as in other economic and technical fields. We have been pursuing these matters and in some cases are now negotiating agreements, and we intend to strengthen this cooperation further and thus give modern content to our relationship.

The Hon. Speaker had directed in the morning that I should inform the House of the unfortunate incident at Oslo. I have made inquiries, and I would like to say briefly that on Sunday, April 22, 1973, an attempt was made to set fire to the Indian Chancery in Oslo. The entrance hall of the office as well as some parts of the reception room were totally gutted. However, there was little damage to the other rooms and the Embassy records are perfectly safe.

The miscreants left a hand-written poster on the signboard of the Chancery demanding that the prisoners of war should be set free. They have written this poster in English, Norwegian and Urdu and had signed it 'Green Shirts' in Norwegian. The Norwegian Police are investigating the incident and we are also sending a senior security officer to help the Norwegian Police in their investigations.

This is a typical case of a misguided terrorist activity. In view of our sincere effort to resolve the humanitarian problem, I hope that better sense will prevail and these

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types of Incidents will not be repeated. India is not a country which can submit to this type of blackmail. These incidents can be counter-productive.

DISARMAMENT

I have tried to touch upon several aspects. There are other important problems in the world, and Shri Krishna Menon rightly drew our attention to the important question of disarmament.

There is no doubt that disarmament is the most important question facing the international community and the world. I would not like to go into detail, although a great deal can be said; it may be that when I have some other opportunity, I shall try to elaborate this problem. Whereas some sort of limitation has already been accepted in the matter of anti-ballistic missiles between the two super-powers, a great deal more has to be done. Even in the sphere of nuclear weapon tests, there are countries which are outside the present partial test ban. France and China are not signatories and are not parties even to such partial or limited agreements. But, for the developing countries, for a large number of countries, disarmament in the international field, is a matter of high importance.

The General Assembly had adopted a resolution that there should be a world conference on disarmament. Countries are not yet forthright in taking action to implement that resolution. There are hesitations on the part of important countries even in the matter of participation in these discussions.

To sum up, I would like to say that the progress made in this respect is rather disappointing. But the international community has to continue its efforts and try to create a situation, an atmosphere, where further progress could be made. May be that the general emergence of detente and the relaxation of tensions in Europe, even in Asia, the signing of the Paris Peace Agreement in relation to Vietnam, Peace Agreement in Laos these are moves in the direction in which ultimately there will be greater willingness to discuss this important question of disarmament.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Should not the House discuss this subject sometime? Why does not Government come for-

ward with a motion for discussion of the problem of disarmament?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: If the House can spare the time, I would be glad to discuss it.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Every Parliament discusses it.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: The House is busy now with more important matters and I do not think there will be time, at any rate, during the current session. But this is an important matter and we should discuss it in the House and outside.

In the financial field, I share Shri Krishna Menon's anxiety that a great deal of unsettling effect has been generated by the very erratic behaviour of various currencies, the question of balance of payments, the IMF and also the linkage of various currencies with each other or with gold or the delinking of it. These are very important matters but I hope the House would agree that within this short time, we cannot discuss this very important subject.

I would like to say that progressively a consensus is getting evolved in the country about the basic problems that face us. There may be differences in emphasis put across on one or other occasion, there may be several other occasions, but I think on the whole, we can look back with satisfaction that the conduct of our external relations and our relations with our neighbours and our efforts to resolve problems have, by and large, yielded success, and in this I will continue to count upon the co-operation, support and advice of the House. Thank you

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USA UNITED KINGDOM INDIA PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN LEBANON JAPAN BURMA MALI SRI LANKA BHUTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NEPAL LATVIA CHINA RUSSIA IRAN ISRAEL SUDAN OMAN BAHRAIN KUWAIT QATAR IRAQ NORWAY FRANCE VIETNAM LAOS

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

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POLAND

Indo-Polish Agreement on Cooperation in Marine Fisheries

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 6, 1973, about the Indo-Polish agreement on cooperation in marine fisheries:

An agreement on co-operation in marine fisheries between the Governments of India and Poland was signed here today. It provides for co-operation in selected fisheries sectors and is expected to speed up the implementation of programmes to develop the deep sea fishing industry in the country.

Under the agreement joint ventures will also be undertaken. The Polish Government will provide scientific and technical assistance and impart training to Indian personnel in marine fisheries development.

The agreement was signed by Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister of Agriculture, on behalf of the Government of India, and Mr. Jerzy Szopa, Minister of Shipping, on behalf of the Polish Peoples' Republic.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister of Agriculture said that considerable importance was attached to the development of fishing industry not only to increase the availability of protein in the diet of our people, but also because export of selected high-priced varieties of marine products had contributed substantially towards the much needed foreign exchange earnings. The production of fish from marine and inland sources had arisen from 1.37 million tonnes in 1966, i.e., at the end of the Third Five-Year Plan, to 1.84 million tonnes in 1972, and the value of exports of marine products went up from Rs. 135 million to Rs. 581 million during the same period.

The Minister added that fishing resources along our 6,500 kilometre coast-line were

being adequately tapped by non-powered and powered boats and harbours capable of handling deep sea fishing vessels were also being constructed on both the east and west coasts. The manufacturing of deep-sea fishing vessels had also been undertaken in the country. He expressed the hope that the development of deep sea fishing would be accelerated in the remaining part of the Fourth Five-Year Plan and during the Fifth Plan.

POLAND INDIA USA TOTO RUSSIA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

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POLAND

India-Poland Trade Protocol

The following press release on India-Poland trade protocol was issued in New Delhi on April 6, 1973:

A Trade Protocol was signed by Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, and H. E. Edward Sznajder, Minister of Home Trade and Services for Poland, here today.

The Protocol envisages substantial increase in the Polish purchases of Indian cotton textiles, synthetics, including ready-made garments, knitwear, etc., during 1973. Other commodities, which Poland would buy in large quantities are - deep freezers, refrigerators, and compressors for domestic and commercial use, cosmetics, toiletries and detergents, including soaps, E.P.N.S. German Silverware and cast stainless steel cutlery, stationery, including mathematical instruments, etc.,

India has indicated its long-term interest in the Increased supplies of fertilisers, sulphur and non-ferrous metals by Poland. Both sides have shown interest in the conclusion of long-term arrangements for the supply of commodities of mutual interest.

The first meeting of the Indo-Polish Committee on Trade Exchanges was held in New Delhi from April 2 to April 6, 1973. The Joint Commission was established on January 14, 1972 by an exchange of letters during the visit of Mr. Jan Mitrega, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Poland.

The Joint Commission has set up three Committees - On Trade Exchanges, Mining and Construction of Mining Machinery and Heavy Industry. The first Session of the Joint Commission is scheduled to be held at Warsaw in June, this year. The Indian

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Delegation would be led by the Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam.

Other matters on which views were exchanged between the two delegations in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and understanding, were: production cooperation in the fields of textile industry, leather industry and food processing Industry, establishment of joint ventures and the conclusion of a new Long-Term Trade and Payments Agreement on the expiry of the current Agreement.

The Protocol on Trade Exchanges, signed today, would form part of the proceedings of the Joint Commission in the forthcoming Session.

POLAND INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet by Sri Lanka Prime Minister

The following is the text of the speech by prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the banquet given by Sri Lanka Prime Minister at Colombo on April 27, 1973:

Prime Minister, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Long ago, in one of the starry moments of our history, Sangamitta brought a message of peace and brotherhood to Sri Lanka which forged a new link in an old relationship between our two countries. The message of the Buddha is powerful and timeless. Its basic principles have been echoed in different places and in a variety of words over the centuries. But each generation must make it relevant to contemporary life.

One of Sri Lanka's special contributions to the culture of mankind is to have cherished and preserved the thought of Lord Buddha. The core of wisdom shared by Sri Lanka and India is the principle of tolerance. We have not sought to impose the same patterns of thought and living on all. The tolerance of Buddhists for other faiths was summed up by Emperor Asoka in these famous words: "He who does reverence to his own sect while disparaging the sects of others wholly from attachment to his own in reality, by such conduct inflicts the severest injury on his own". This tolerance has guided us also and has preserved us from the folly of seeking to enforce uniformity. As I often point out - there is strength in unity as well as in diversity.

The story of the relations between Sri Lanka and India is one of a two-way cultural impact and enrichment. While there are similarities, each has a distinct individuality. So also in the experience of the

two countries under colonialism and in the policies we have pursued after attaining independence.

Our countries have both adopted systems of government and political institutions which afford full scope for honest differences of opinion and provide for peaceful change. Similarly, in international dealings we have resisted attempts to remake the world in any single image and have stood for friendship amongst all nations, each of whom would have the right to choose its own form of government. Mahatma Gandhi declared: "I want the cultures of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any". We do not wish to live in isolation. Freedom means our being full participants in the affairs of the world, cooperating with others on a footing of equality, refusing to be exploited because of our lack of military and economic strength. Hence our insistence, despite great odds, on an independent foreign policy. Sri Lanka has also envolved and pursued of similar policy out of its own experience and an appraisal of its own needs as also in the interest of international peace.

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The world wars and most of the local wars that we know have been fought to impose some particular Ideology on others. There are some signs, however, that European nations have at last come to realise that stable peace can be maintained only on the basis of acceptance of others. We welcome this detente, this move away from confrontation towards reconciliation. On our own continent of Asia, the prospects for peace are less propitious. The clouds have not cleared over West Asia. The thunder of war in Vietnam has fallen, to a rumble but it is not yet peace in Indo-China. Enduring peace is worth all possible risks. It can be gained through courage, not by calculations of advantage. I hope that the bold initiatives which were taken will be followed through with perseverance. It is tragic that conflict still rages in Cambodia. The valour of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in defence of their respective na-

tional identities will remain a source of inspiration for all who value freedom

Some time ago, a war was forced upon India. Fortunately, it was brought to a quick conclusion. We were anxious to convert the ceasefire into a lasting peace. Setting aside thoughts of pride or diplomatic accountancy, we invited the President of Pakistan and offered him the return of all territories occupied during the hostilities. We did indeed restore to Pakistan what belonged to it. The question remains of the large number of Pakistan prisoners who had surrendered in Bangla Desh to the troops of Bangla Desh and India. Just a few days ago, Bangla Desh and we together put forward a proposal to resolve the problem of all those groups of people who are away from their homelands. Once again we took a broad and generous view. This human problem concerns three groups - the combatants who had surrendered to the troops of Bangla Desh and India, the non-combatant people of Bangla Desh who are detained in Pakistan and the Pakistan nationals still in Bangla. Desh who have opted to return to Pakistan. I hope that the international community will appreciate this significant gesture, which is especially commendable on the part of Bangla Desh and will help in its acceptance.

The poverty and economic backwardness of all the countries of this region are of such vast proportions as to make vanity a travesty. Even were we to spend every rupee and devote every ounce of energy on development, I doubt if the battle could be won in a single generation. A certain expenditure on national defence may be unavoidable, but can we afford the insatiable demands of the war machine, stoked by policies of continuing confrontation?

Fortunately, the record of relations between Sri Lanka and India has been one of the settling of differences through discussion and an outgoing willingness to find accord. The agreement reached between you, Madam Prime Minister, and my predecessor in 1964 is a good example of solving a problem bequeathed by history in a civilised and

sensible manner. This agreement is in the process of satisfactory implementation and the guarantee of its success in the trust and goodwill that prevail between our two countries. Any remaining differences can be resolved in the same spirit of mutual understanding.

Madam Prime Minister, may I thank you for inviting me and giving me the pleasure of meeting you again? Under your dynamic leadership, Sri Lanka is moving forward to strengthen its economic foundations. The people of India share my admiration for your qualities and achievement. We in India have stepped into the second phase of our economic transformation, having completed building the technological infrastructure. As near neighbours, our two countries can gain by sharing experience. Much has happened since we met in Lusaka. In this fast changing world it is useful to keep in touch with each other's assessment of the situation in different parts of the world. We have also had wide-ranging discussions on bilateral problems.

The message of friendship and co-operation which I bring is based not only on cultural or traditional ties but on shared ideals, common goals and interests which are complementary.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I invite you to join me in wishing long life and success to the Honourable Prime minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, to the progress of the people of Sri Lanka, and to lasting friendship between Sri Lanka and India.

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SRI LANKA INDIA USA VIETNAM CHINA CAMBODIA LAOS PAKISTAN ZAMBIA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

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Sri Lanka Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet

The following speech was made by Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at the banquet given by her in honour of Shrimati Indira Gandhi on April 27, 1973:

Shrimati Gandhi, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I, on behalf of my Government and people, extend to you Madam Prime Minister, a very warm and sincere welcome. We are fully aware of your many pressing pre-occupations at home and indeed we appreciate that in the midst of all these you found time to pay us a visit.

We welcome you as the Prime Minister of our neighbour and traditional friend, the Republic of India. I also welcome you as a personal friend. It was my great pleasure and privilege to know your late distinguished father whom you accompanied on previous visits to Sri Lanka and also members of your family. On my part, I have so many happy memories of the courtesy, respect and warm hospitality extended to my late husband, to my children and myself when we had occasion to visit your country on the kind invitation of your late revered father. I therefore regard your visit to Sri Lanka, not only as a formal occasion for fostering closer links between our two countries, but also as an opportunity of renewing the personal ties that we have had.

Our two countries have a long tradition of close co-operation in many fields, cultural, economic and political. In the turmoil of the changing world, we as developing countries are faced With the urgent task of striving for the betterment of our peoples despite dwindling returns from our traditional sources of income. In this situation, therefore, it is befitting that our countries

work closely together to secure peace and prosperity for our peoples.

Madam Prime Minister, in conclusion, may I hope that your stay, despite its shortness, will be both useful and enjoyable. My regret is that your commitments at home have not permitted you to spend more time - with us. May I express to you, your Government and the people of India, the greetings and good wishes of the Government and the people of Sri Lanka.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request you to join me in proposing a toast to our distinguished guest, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India.

SRI LANKA USA INDIA

Date : Apr 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Prime Minister's Address to Sri Lanka Parliament

The following address was delivered by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to the special session of National State Assembly at Colombo on April 28, 1973:

Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister and Hon'ble Members of the National State Assembly:

Addressing the Parliament of a nation is the highest honour to a representative of another country. I am grateful to you for this privilege. I bring to you and, through you, to the people of the Republic of Sri Lanka the warm greetings and good wishes of the legislators and people of India.

It has been my good fortune to visit this

beautiful land many a time. I was 10 years old when I first came with my parents on our way back from Europe. The three of us came again in 1931. The lush and tranquil landscape satisfied an inner need, for we in India had gone through a particularly harrowing period. The visits to Kandy and Anuradhapura kindled an interest in art and self-expression, which was later developed by acquaintance with the perceptive insight of Ananda Coomaraswamy. I discovered that we in India and you in Sri Lanka were struggling for political freedom, for the reassertion of our national identities and for the liberation of our peoples from the bondage of

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poverty and fear. Thus was I able to see our quest in India as part of a greater one -- that of Asia and of a wider humanity.

The suffering and striving of the struggle for liberty succeeded around the middle of the century. Sri Lanka, India, and many other countries of Asia "awoke to life and freedom". We were not so naive as to imagine that political independence would end all difficulties. We recognized it to be but the beginning of a new journey and the assumption of heavy responsibilities that had been withheld from us. We also knew that among us there were some who continued to shirk the strain, to avoid the duty of making choices and offering battle, and who preferred the ease of leaving decisions to others.

Such remnants of our colonial past do persist, counselling us in many insidious ways to seek alien protection of largesse. But by and large, our people have spurned this apparently-easy path, which is in fact the path of the faint-hearted. We have chosen the more complex one of political self-assertion and economic self-reliance. And, because of the willingness of people to undergo sacrifices, we have been able to achieve a hundred years' progress within two decades. More important than material progress, our engineers, scientists, planners and builders have acquired self-confidence.

Old religious hostilities and feelings of

caste superiority have not yet disappeared - and many groups are bent on perpetuating them - but the people as a whole regard them as inimical to national strength. Our programmes for introducing socialism have been opposed at every step by vested interests, but such has been the impact of popular enthusiasm for socialism that even these interests and their advocates are now compelled to pay formal allegiance. These achievements mean as much to us as the fact that the national income has risen from Rs. 86,500 million to Rs. 358,110 million in the last 20 or so years.

There is no need to give this august Assembly an account of all that we have been able to do in India over this period. Briefly stated, our food production has doubled - and this has enabled us to withstand a drought of unimaginable intensity this year. Our industrial base has become stronger and more versatile. But poverty remains and far too many people are still denied the minimum constituents of life without hunger and disease. Unemployment, specially amongst the educated, is a matter for grave concern. There is sharper awareness and growing impatience with inequalities. Now that we have some of the economic and organisational means to overcome poverty and inequality, we are all the more keenly conscious of the urgency of quickening the pace of progress.

It is customary to judge nations by iconic figures and rates of growth. Perhaps I am somewhat old-fashioned in this regard, continuing to attach merely more importance to the quality of a people than to the volume of their possessions. Therefore, in providing our people the means of satisfaction, we do not want to emulate the acquisitive and consumer societies. Affluent and powerful countries, whatever their political ideology, seem to have the same basic concept of what constitutes the good life. As technology advances, it becomes all the more necessary that we do not become victims of our tools.

We should concern ourselves not merely with material advance, but with the need to

evolve a new kind of man who has the wisdom and the understanding to make the best use of technology, a man who can be at peace with himself and with Nature. In this quest, countries like Sri Lanka and India have a contribution to make by remaining true to the best in their respective heritages.

The nature of relationship within a society is as valid for us as its economic activity. We fought for freedom because of the conviction that no people is entitled to rule over another. How then could we acquiesce in any one group dominating another? So we chose democracy - not a restricted form which is no democracy, but a democracy which permits and invites all people to share the responsibility for political decisions. With each year and with each election, our people have grown in political maturity and their faith in the parliamentary system has deepened. The same faith in the equality of man has prompted us to assure equal respect and rights for all religions. For democracy to have meaning and relevance to the lives of our millions, economic oppor-

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tunity had to be extended to all and our politics were therefore the politics of socialism. By this we do not mean State ownership and the control of all wealth and means of production, but the widest diffusion, indeed socialisation, of economic opportunity.

In all our countries the generation which fought for political independence is yielding place to a new generation which, while largely accepting the values of the founding fathers, seems to be more avid for concrete results. To us the choice of democracy evolved from our belief that means are as important as ends and that that change is best which is brought about peacefully. This is in consonance with our ancient philosophy and political conditioning. Democracy may seem slow but it teaches and strengthens as it evolves. However it is our way of life and we do not seek to export it.

In India the internal opposition of communalists and apologists of economic mono-

poly is now becoming rather desperate. Surprisingly, they receive support even from those who call themselves ultra revolutionaries and who, whatever their subjective thinking might be, end by contributing to the cause of reaction. The idea that social, political and economic chaos would inevitably produce cosmos might appear attractive but it is contrary to all revolutionary experience.

We have also had obstruction from outside. Our endeavour to devote all our energies to the well-being of our people has unfortunately been interrupted from time to time. We have reluctantly had to divert resources from development to, defence. It is our hope that we shall now have an era of unchequered peace and that the countries of the sub-continent will be able to build and to strengthen their economies. Such a vision of peace it was that inspired us in Simla last year. It will continue to guide our policies and we shall work for the fulfilment of the openings which the Agreement offers. In their recent declaration, the Governments of Bangla Desh and India have initiated yet another move to further the cause of peace on the sub-continent.

Recent events have shown a new trend towards detente and the peaceful resolution of old conflicts, proving the correctness of the policy of non-alignment. We the non-aligned had regarded the bipolarity of the post-war world as unnatural and transitory. It was our belief that world peace and progress could be ensured only through co-existence and co-operation between nations. The major moves for detente in Europe and the more hesitant ones for reconciliation in Asia amount to the repudiation of the postulates of the Cold war. But there is still not enough realisation that the world of today cannot fit neatly into a pattern set by the powerful nations, and that a structure of peace is more likely to result from a genuinely co-operative approach based on the frank recognition of the limitations of power.

Countries such as Sri Lanka and India should remain aloof from all manoeuvres to

interfere in the affairs of others. We should continue to resist the expansion of military presences. It is of paramount importance to us both that the Indian Ocean remains a Zone of Peace, free from military contests.

There has been no dearth of theories to justify a military presence. One of the most inane of them is the theory of a power vacuum. The colonial powers were compelled to leave because of an opposite political force - the upsurge of nationalism. There can be no question of a vacuum if we make our economies viable and our societies stable. Our common resolve to strengthen our independence rejects the orthodox power theory. We believe that strong and stable neighbours are an asset to us.

Sri Lanka and India have worked together in international forums to enlarge opportunities for the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Greater economic co-operation between developing countries will be advantageous to all of us. There can be no progress in isolation. Sri Lanka and India have close ties, and economic co-operation between our two countries is natural and mutually beneficial. Areas in which the two countries can work together have been identified. For instance, co-operations in working out a viable international arrangement to stabilise the prices of our exports and to extend the area of technical and financial collaboration in fields of high priority in our development programmes. Your Prime Minister, Mrs. Bandara-

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naik, in her foreword to Sri Lanka's Five-Year Plan has asked: "Must our country always remain poor? Must our youth always remain without the prospect of securing the means of livelihood, of making their contribution to society?" These are questions with which planners in my own country are trying to grapple. Regular exchanges of opinion and experience in dealing with these problems will increase the efficacy of our planning processes.

Sri Lanka and India have from the

start adopted the path of resolving political problems through bilateral discussions. Whatever problems, big or small, remain can surely be similarly resolved. I hope that Sri Lanka and India, working together, will help to bring about greater co-operation in our region. Colombo, which has been for many years the headquarters of an international endeavour, could take the lead in furthering economic co-operation among Asian countries.

Once again I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and your fellow parliamentarians for this honour and this opportunity to address you on behalf of India.

I end with a prayer from the Metta Sutra: "May all living things be happy and at their ease: May they be joyous and live in safety: All beings, whether weak or strong" and again "so let him (man) cultivate a boundless goodwill toward the entire world, uncramped, free from ill will or enmity."

SRI LANKA INDIA USA

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Volume No

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SRI LANKA

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Reception by Indian Associations in Sri Lanka

The following speech was delivered by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at a joint reception by Indian Associations in Sri Lanka held at Ramakrishna Hall on April 29, 1973:

Mr. Abraham, Swamiji, Distinguished Guests,

It is indeed a great pleasure to be here amongst you all. I am grateful to you for your welcome and the kind words which the Chairman of the Reception Committee has spoken. He has referred quite rightly to the old cultural and religious ties which have existed between Sri Lanka and India for a very long time. We in India and, I think, the people of Sri Lanka have always believed in friendship because it is one of the forces that make man and his world go round peacefully. But friendship, like any other good thing in life has to be constantly worked for. It does not continue on its own momentum. It is something which has to be renewed and strengthened and made relevant to contemporary life if it is to get satisfaction and not become a mere word. It has been India's policy to be friends with all countries and specially with her neighbours.

There are many aspects to friendship. There is friendship which goes with certain shared ideals and goals. But in today's world friendship has to have a far more practical meaning also. Countries such as Sri Lanka and India did not for a long time have the opportunity of developing while other nations were building up their industry and becoming advanced. While they had their Industrial Revolution, we were cut off from the world of science and industry and we were even made to look down upon ourselves. Now we have entered into a competition, in a way, with the rest of the world at a moment when, with far greater knowledge, resources and experience, the advanced countries are racing farther ahead. Yet to maintain our identity, to maintain our freedom, we have to catch up with them. And that is why it is essential that all the countries which share these common difficulties of development should work together to meet the numerous challenges which confront us.

Each country rightly has its own system of government, its own ideology. But in many international forums we find that ideology does not work and those who have always combined against those who do not have. I have found this pattern repeating itself time and again in international forums.

The "have" countries, the affluent countries, combine with one voice. But we the "have-

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not" countries do not speak with one voice. Our case gets weakened, and whatever we could have got out of a particular situation does not materialise. While friendship has a many sided meaning, we should not ignore the practical side in contemporary life, any more than we should ignore the more idealistic aspect.

Many people of Indian origin have settled in Sri Lanka. They are hard-working. They are working for the welfare of the people here, and strengthening the economy. I hope they will continue to do all they can with full loyalty to Sri Lanka. It is in this that their future lies, and it is to the advantage of Sri Lanka also if they make full use of this potential.

I spoke earlier of the Industrial Revolution in the western countries. They had other revolutions also, one after another. First, there was the Industrial Revolution, during which the masses were uneducated and there was no political consciousness, and hence no political demands. Therefore it was very easy for them to develop industry. By exploiting the people they could build up factories. When the machines became more complex and sophisticated, they realised that the industrial workers should get education so that they would be able to work as skilled workers. When they got education, ideas of equality, justice, equal rights and certain basic facilities came to the fore. But in India, we have started off at the other end. We started with the political movement, which was not the movement of a few political leaders but the movement of the vast masses and millions of Indian people. They gained political consciousness first, and joined the fight for political freedom. When we are fighting for economic freedom and trying to establish an economic base, naturally their first thought is of their rights. They are of course justified. We do not want to deny anybody's right. But it means that our task of economic development becomes

more difficult than it was for countries which developed in an earlier century. Those countries not only took advantage of the situation in their country but also exploited all of us here, whether in India, Sri Lanka or the other countries over which they ruled. So in our countries we have a situation in which several revolutions are taking place simultaneously.

The political revolution is not over. Although we have political freedom, the fight for political rights for all the people continues. Then there is an economic revolution, which is in full swing. There is also a social revolution, because unfortunately in our society we had various systems and mentalities which are not relevant to contemporary life and which were grossly unfair to large sections of the people. Certain people were oppressed merely because they happened to be born in a particular caste or a particular section of the community. So all these revolutions are taking place simultaneously.

We are also at a stage of development which is critical. Everybody realizes what they should have. Expectations are growing. But we are not able to keep pace with the expectations. In India we have made remarkable progress in this last twenty or twenty five years in every direction - in agriculture, in industry, in various other fields. But the progress is not really commensurate with the needs of our people. The needs themselves grow. Some people perhaps feel that poverty is some object that you can just throw out of the window. Sometimes I am asked the question: When will poverty go? Our experience is that in a sense it hardly ever goes, because the minute a group of people have some of the amenities that they did not have, they immediately are ready for more things. While it is true that we do have large numbers who are still very poor, it is also true that a very large number who were poor have moved up and who have quite a new set of demands. We welcome this type of public consciousness, because the great weakness of our country earlier was apathy. We let things drift rather than fight. For what was

right and combat what was wrong and evil. So we welcome this awakening even though for Government it creates difficulties. The spirit we are trying to inculcate in our people is that not only must they want something but they must work to get it. By work I not only mean increasing production in field and factory but I also mean the more creative type of work. We want our democracy to be not merely a matter of voting when there is election but full participation of the people at all levels - at district level, at what we call the block level, and at village level. This is our ideal.

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Up to now our plans have been made from the top, but increasingly we are making an effort to involve people at different levels. It is natural that all their expectations cannot be fulfilled. But I have found that whenever the problem is explained to them, they do try to take an all-India view of the problem, and they give constructive suggestions and constructive criticism. This is how we are trying to broaden the base of our democracy. We do not want democracy to be dependent on a party or a group of people or an individual. We want the entire nation to be committed to democracy, to be conscious of their rights and equally of responsibilities. Responsibilities mean entering the fray, trying to change the mentality which has kept us backward whether they are the divisions between one religion and another, one caste and another, one language and another, one State and another. While all these divisions are there, stronger than them is the basic unity of India which has come to the fore in all periods of crisis, whether it is an external crisis, such as aggression, or whether there is an internal crisis, such as drought or earthquake or anything like that.

Already there is a perceptible change. Earlier there were parties which spoke against socialism. But today, whatever they feel in their hearts, they cannot publicly say they are against socialism. That is because people understand that socialism is the only

path which can bring social and economic justice to them. Any government that does not go ahead in this manner will just not be tolerated.

We find that as a people sometimes we tend to be lethargic when things are going all right. But whenever there is a crisis, there is a tremendous desire for everybody to work together. In a manner our greatest progress has come out of periods of crisis. It is when we had the last drought in 1966-67 that we put into action those Programmes for agricultural development which enabled us to become fully self-sufficient in food a couple of years ago. Now it is true that because of another very severe drought this year, we were not able to keep up to that self-sufficiency, but we have very nearly kept up to it. Some years ago, a drought of this nature would have meant a virtual collapse. But this year we were able to manage with only very marginal imports. In spite of the drought, we hope to have about 102 million tonnes of food grains because of the special measures we adopted. If the rains had been normal, we would have had 112 million tonnes. Even so the increase from the previous years is substantial.

Similarly, in spite of a certain sluggishness of the economy, industry is progressing. Our objective is not just to see that industry grows, but to see that new industries come up in the so-called backward and neglected areas. Secondly, we want to see that what is produced should not benefit just a section of the population but there should be proper distribution so that it benefits all the people. Unless we are able to do that, freedom will have no meaning to the masses of the people.

We have 83 million children in schools today. Yet we cannot have compulsory education because we just do not have enough schools or enough teachers. But year by year, even month by month, the number of children who go to school and the number of school buildings are increasing. You can see the magnitude of the problem which we face, The very size of the country, the diversity of the people, and the

different levels of development are some of the obstacles to a faster growth. But there is also a basic feeling of oneness, a basic commitment to certain ideals, such as the ideal of democracy, the ideal of socialism (because we believe that there can be no democracy without socialism on the domestic front) and the ideal of what we call secularism (that is that equal opportunities for all religions of our country).

If we have friendship with other countries then we ourselves are strengthened. We are also in a position to help our neighbours and other friends. It is by mutual co-operation and working together on international issues that each of us can be strong enough in ourselves and we can best safeguard our independence and our security. Even though we aim at self-sufficiency, we know that in the world of today, no country, however big or however rich, can live in isolation. There has to be a certain amount of give and take. But such interdependence will be successful only if at the same time each country is fully independent in its actions and its policies. This is what

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we are aiming at. The greater the friendship and co-operation, the greater the chances for our peoples to have a better deal and to concentrate their energies on progress and development. At the same time we feel strongly that the development in India has to be of an Indian nature. We do not want to have the kind of society which is developing in affluent countries. Perhaps we may have something to offer to the world but we can do so only after we have made a success of our own plans.

I am specially glad that this meeting is being held in this beautiful hall named after Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa. His teaching has great relevance to the problems which we face today. Many of our religious leaders, specially Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, laid great stress not on spirituality by itself, but on service of the sick, the hungry, the poor, the ignorant. This is what he taught Swami Vivekananda. This is the message he wanted Swami Vivekananda to

spread. It is on this principle that the order of Sri Ramakrishna and the Missions were founded. They are continuing to serve the community wherever they happened to be. Because we live in poorer countries, we seem to think that such services are perhaps necessary only here. But I have discovered, quite recently I must say, that many of our service organizations are now opening branches in the very affluent and rich countries, not to help the poor Indians or Africans or others who live there, but to help the local people. They say there is equal need for service, whether it is London or New York or some other big city. The need for service does not go even with affluence. I am glad that our people are able to provide it. Where they go they create a spirit for service of people helping each other.

So we want a synthesis between the material needs of people and the spiritual needs of people. I think this is what the Ramakrishna Mission is trying to do and thereby trying to evolve a better type of society. It is no use having more material goods if by having them you become more dissatisfied and frustrated and unhappy. The only point of having them is that you should be able to derive satisfaction and fulfilment from them. And this is what our societies should attempt, with our rich spiritual and cultural heritage.

I should like once more to thank you all for your warm welcome. May I give you my very good wishes for your future?

SRI LANKA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

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SRI LANKA

India-Sri Lanka Joint Communique

The following joint Communique was issued on April 29, 1973, at the conclusion of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's visit to Sri Lanka:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mrs. Sirimavo R.D. Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister of India, Shri mati Indira Gandhi, visited Sri Lanka from April 27 to 29, 1973. On her arrival in Sri Lanka, Shrimati Gandhi was met by the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka who greeted her on behalf of the Government and the people of Sri Lanka and was accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the public. The Prime Minister of India expressed her pleasure to revisit Sri Lanka and renew her acquaintance with the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and the country. The Prime Minister of India was deeply touched by the friendship of the Government and people of Sri Lanka towards India and conveyed to them cordial greetings and sincere good wishes on behalf of the Government and people of India.

During her stay in Sri Lanka, the Prime Minister of India called on His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. William Gopallawa. On the invitation of the Speaker of the National State Assembly, the Prime Minister of India visited the National State Assembly and had the honour of addressing its members.

The Prime Ministers welcomed the opportunity to exchange views on recent international developments and bilateral matters. The talks were held in an atmosphere of goodwill and mutual understanding befitting the close and ancient ties between Sri Lanka and India.

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The Prime Minister of India was assisted by: Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Professor P.N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; His Excellency Shri V.H. Coelho, High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka; Shri N. Krishnan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri D.S. Kamtekar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Af-

fairs; Shri A. R. Doe, Deputy High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka; Shri H. Y. Sharada Prasad, Director (Information) Prime Minister's Secretariat; Shri M. Malhoutra, Deputy Secretary, Prime Minister's Secretariat; and Shri R. Varma, First Secretary, High Commission of India in Sri Lanka.

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka was assisted by: Mr. W.T. Jayasinghe, Secretary, Ministry of Defence and Foreign Affairs; His Excellency Mr. N.Q. Dias, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in India; Mr. M.D.D. Peiris, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Mr. V.L.B. Mendis, Director-General of Foreign Affairs; Mr. B. P. Tilakaratna, Director, Foreign Relations (Asia-Africa); Mr. E.L.F. de J. Seneviratne, Director, Foreign Relations (Economic Affairs); Mr. D.M.P.B. Dissanayake, Controller of Immigration and Emigration; and Mr. J.H.N. Gooneratne, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Defence and Foreign Affairs.

The Prime Ministers reviewed important developments in the international situation and were happy to note the identity of their views and similarity of their approach in most matters. They welcomed the general trend towards relaxation of tensions in various parts of the world and expressed the hope that the trend would develop further and favourably influence other areas in the world. They noted the development of close cooperation among neighbouring countries in different continents and expressed their desire for promoting such cooperation in Asia. They agreed that such regional cooperation would most effectively pave the way for wider cooperation among non-aligned countries, Afro-Asian countries, developing countries generally and members of the United Nations.

The Prime Ministers welcomed the Paris Agreement of January 27, 1973, on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam, and the Agreement of February 21, 1973, on Laos. They hoped that these Agreements would be solemnly honoured and faithfully implemented in the interest of ending the suffering of the people of Vietnam and also of harmony in Asia. In this context the

Prime Ministers noted that many problems still remain to be solved before the countries of Indo-China could embark on the path of enduring peace and stability free from foreign interference. They expressed the hope that the world community would contribute to post-war reconstruction of the area.

The two Prime Ministers discussed the situation in West Asia and agreed that the implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 242 of November 1967 by all parties was essential for the restoration of peace and stability in the area.

The Prime Minister of India apprised the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka of the situation in the sub-continent with particular reference to the initiatives taken by India both before and after the Simla Conference for peace and harmony among the countries of the sub-continent. The Prime Minister of India explained the humanitarian considerations which had led to the latest joint Indo-Bangla Desh offer. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka expressed her appreciation of the efforts made by the Indian Prime Minister to arrive at a solution of the outstanding problems. The Prime Ministers expressed the hope that there would be a speedy solution of all the outstanding issues which would enable the countries of the sub-continent to achieve stability and bring about a lasting peace in the region.

The Prime Minister's reiterated their conviction that the policy of non-alignment has a vital contribution to make in the search for an enduring peace and the promotion of a just, stable and equitable international order. They reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of non-alignment and agreed on the continuing validity of this policy despite vicissitudes in the international situation. They agreed that cooperation between non-aligned countries for giving greater viability to their economies would enable them to resist external pressure and greatly strengthen the effectiveness of the forces of non-alignment. The Prime Ministers exchanged views on the forthcoming Non-Aligned Preparatory Meeting in Kabul in May

and the Summit Conference to be held in Algiers in September this year. It was agreed that India and Sri Lanka, who are also members of the Preparatory Committee of the Summit Conference, should continue to be in close touch on various issues concerning the Summit Conference with a view to ensuring its successful outcome. They also agreed that with a view to ensuring solidarity, harmony and effective results the long established practices and procedures at conferences should be adhered to in the true spirit of non-alignment.

The Prime Ministers discussed the current situation in the Indian Ocean area and the possible tensions that could arise through Great Power rivalries and competition in that area. In this connection the two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their support for the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace as contained in the United Nations Resolution 2832 (XXVI). The Prime Minister of India appreciated the initiative of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka in bringing this matter before the United Nations. They noted with satisfaction the establishment of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean which will study the implications of the Declaration and the practical measures that will have to be taken in furtherance of the objectives of the Declaration. They were gratified at the growing support for the proposal by an increasing number of countries. The Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka agreed that the creation of a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean will be a positive step towards the reduction of tensions and rivalries in this region. The two Prime Ministers agreed that the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean should coordinate their efforts for the successful implementation of this proposal.

The Prime Ministers expressed concern about the deteriorating position of the developing countries vis-a-vis the developed countries. They felt that the developing countries must work closely together to secure reduction of the widening gap between the developed and the developing nations. They expressed particular concern over the con-

tinuing fall in the prices of their exports of primary commodities and felt that joint action should be taken to arrest this adverse trend. The two Prime Ministers also expressed their conviction that the developing countries must progress rapidly towards self-reliant growth to ensure their independence and security. The two Prime Ministers stressed the need for the developed countries to take urgent action for the effective implementation of their obligations in terms of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and the adoption of policies and measures directed towards assisting the developing countries in the attainment of their economic objectives.

Reviewing bilateral relations, the two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the development of their political and economic relations. The two Prime Ministers reiterated their determination to further strengthen their cooperation in all spheres of Indo-Sri Lanka relations.

The two Prime Ministers resolved to promote greater economic cooperation between India and Sri Lanka. In this connection they took note of the feasibility studies in respect of glass, refractories, graphite-based industries, rubber manufactures and mica industries submitted by Indian Consulting Agencies to the Government of Sri Lanka at instance of the Government of India. The two Prime Ministers felt that development of these industries would contribute towards creating employment opportunities and export potential in Sri Lanka.

With regard to trade, further efforts were necessary to devise ways and means of achieving a relatively high level of mutual trade. It was suggested that the possibility of achieving this through the exchange of new commodities which have not figured in their trade should be explored. They also stressed the need to increase the volume of commodities now exchanged.

The two Prime Ministers reviewed the collaboration of the two countries within the framework of the objectives of the Indo-

Ceylon Joint Committee for Economic Co-operation. They felt that there was great scope for increasing co-operation in various spheres including those of trade, communications, industrial development and irrigation and power. They directed the Joint Committee scheduled to meet in May 1973, to engage in more frequent consultations and to take active and effective steps towards this end.

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Recognizing the need to improve the existing communication facilities between the two countries, the Prime Minister of India offered to establish a micro-wave link between India and Sri Lanka, as a part of the Indian Technical and Economic Co-operation programme. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka welcomed the offer as yet another step for consolidating the links between the two countries.

Both Prime Ministers expressed their intention to implement in letter and spirit the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964.

It was agreed that the rate of repatriation would be progressively increased by ten per cent each year over the figure of 35,000 contemplated in the Agreement.

The Prime Minister of India stated that representations had been received that some potential repatriates to India had experienced difficulties in the matter of their employment and the education of their children. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka assured the Prime Minister of India that all facilities as contemplated in the Agreement were being afforded to potential repatriates, and suggested that the Indian High Commission could take up such cases with the Government of Sri Lanka.

It was also recognised that it was necessary in the interests of the people concerned, to make an early decision in regard to the status and future of the remaining 150,000 persons, and it was agreed that a decision on this question would be arrived at as soon as possible.

The Prime Ministers also discussed the island of Kachchativu. It was agreed that discussions on this and related matters such as the median line and fishing rights would continue and an early decision arrived at.

The Prime Ministers expressed their complete satisfaction over the results of their discussions which were marked by a spirit of goodwill and mutual trust. They were confident that any outstanding problems between the two countries would be solved in the perspective of the friendship and co-operation between the two countries. They were convinced that the visit would make a significant contribution towards further strengthening and deepening the friendly ties existing between India and Sri Lanka and ushering in a new era in Indo-Sri Lanka relations. The Prime Minister of India expressed her appreciation of the warm reception and hospitality accorded to her during her stay in Sri Lanka. She extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka to visit India. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka accepted the invitation with pleasure and assured the Indian Prime Minister that she would take an early opportunity to visit India.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA FRANCE VIETNAM LAOS CHINA AFGHANISTAN ALGERIA RUSSIA LATVIA

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WORLD MONETARY, SITUATION

Finance Minister Shri Y.B. Chavan's Statement in Lok Sabha

The following is the text of the Finance Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan's statement in Lok Sabha on April 6, 1973, on the recent discussions on the international monetary

situation held in Washington which, he attended:

Recently a meeting of the Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund on Reform of the International Monetary System and Related Issues was held in Washington on March 26 and 27, 1973.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware, the international monetary system has been faced with serious difficulties in recent years. The persistence of uncertainty that has prevailed in the exchange markets since the middle of 1971 can seriously effect the smooth flow of world trade and payments.

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There is how a general agreement that the unsettled state of foreign exchange Markets is basically a reflection of the malfunctioning of the adjustment process Under the present International monetary system. Over the years, the U.S.A. has had a persistent deficit in her balance of payments, the counterpart of which are large surpluses in the balance of payments of countries like Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The continued weakness of the U.S. balance of payments has not only given rise to massive speculation against the dollar but has also called into question its role as a reserve currency. Until five or six years ago, the fact that the dollar was convertible into gold at a fixed price provided a strong inducement for countries to hold their foreign reserves in the form of dollars. However, as the dollar holdings of central banks swelled in the wake of persistent deficits in the U.S. balance of payments, many countries began to entertain doubts about the continued convertibility of the dollar into gold. To forestall any attempt on the part of central banks of other countries to convert their dollars into gold, the U.S. Government suspended in August 1971 the convertibility of the dollar into gold. This gave added urgency to the task of devising a new monetary system which would provide for an orderly growth of world liquidity in accordance with the requirements of an expanding world economy. The fact that the

U.S. dollar or the pound sterling could not perform this role was recognised when the International Monetary Fund decided in 1968 to create a new reserve asset in the form of Special Drawing Rights as a Supplement to other than existing reserve assets. However, the events of 1971 led to the conclusion that it was necessary to move forward speedily towards a system in which a neutral reserve asset like the special Drawing Rights would become the principle reserve asset of the system.

Although the need for international monetary reform has been recognised for many years, until very recently the major developed countries of the West tended to discuss these matters in an exclusive forum such as the Group of Ten. Since the stake of developing countries in a smooth functioning of the world monetary system is in no way less than that of developed countries, we repeatedly stated that it was entirely unacceptable to us that vital decisions about the future of the world monetary system should continue to be taken by a limited group of countries. It is largely as a result of strong protests by the developing countries that the International Monetary Fund set up in September, 1972 the Committee of 20 to advise thus Board of Governors on international monetary reform. The members of this Committee are the Finance Ministers of various countries.

The first meeting of the Committee of 20 was held in September, 1972 at the time of the annual meeting of the Board of Governors. At that meeting, the Committee set up a group of Deputies, consisting of senior monetary officials of various countries, to examine technical issues and make recommendations on reform to the Committee. The Deputies have held so far four meetings and they are due to meet again in May, 1973.

The second meeting of the Committee of 20 was held in Washington on March 26-27, 1973. The principal item of the agenda was to approve the work programme drawn up by the Deputies. At this meeting, the Committee considered a report submitted by Mr. Jeremy Morse, Chairman of

Deputies, on the work of Deputies to date. The Deputies have completed a preliminary review of outstanding issues relating to the improvement of the adjustment process and of reserve assets and convertibility in a reformed monetary system. Mr. Morse's report, which is not a public document, revealed that the Deputies had made substantial progress in their work. However, it became obvious that further progress in the preparation of the outline of reform before the next annual meeting of the Board of Governors would greatly depend on the ability of the Committee of 20 to lay down certain broad guidelines about the direction of reform. Without such guidelines, the Deputies' work was likely to suffer from a lack of proper focus as well as perspective.

Accordingly, both in our formal intervention in the debate as well as in the course of informal exchanges of views with several members of the Committee, the need for the Committee to lay down certain basic principles of the reformed system so as to enable the Deputies to accelerate the speed of their work was stressed. These views were shared by other members of the

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Committee coming from developing countries. Our task was not easy particularly since the Committee was meeting soon after the February-March, 1973 exchange crisis which led to a collapse of the par value system for the second time in a period of less than two years. A number of developed countries initially took the view that it was too early to see clearly the outline of the reformed system. However, after some debate, the Committee agreed on a set of basic principles which constitute a definite step forward. Certainly, these principles and guidelines will help to accelerate the work of Deputies. Clearly, as of now one cannot assert with absolute confidence that the outline of reform will definitely be ready before the annual meeting of the Board of Governors. There are still differences of opinion on many vital details of the reformed system. However, the chances of the outline of reform being ready by September, 1973 appear brighter now than in

the past one or two months.

Before the major conclusions of the meeting of the Committee of 20 are described, the House may like to know the set of objectives we had in mind for this meeting. First of all, we were very keen that the International Monetary Fund rather than the Group of 10 or the new Group of 14 should be the primary forum for discussion of international monetary issues. Secondly, like other developing countries we strongly feel that a stable though adjustable per value system provides a framework which is most conducive to the expansion of world trade. Developing countries do not have the institutional arrangements to cope with prolonged uncertainties in the exchange markets. Thirdly, we were eager that the Special Drawing Rights rather than gold or national currencies should become the principal reserve asset in the reformed monetary system. Fourthly, we are in favour of control of speculative capital movements so as to ensure that exchange rates are not always at the mercy of speculators. Fifth, during the last few years, we have argued consistently in favour of using new international liquidity to provide additional resources for economic development of developing countries. It is our view that while the volume of new international liquidity should be determined solely on the basis of monetary needs of the world economy, it is both feasible and desirable to use the liquidity so created to provide additional real resources to developing countries. This proposal known as the link proposal has gained widespread intellectual acceptance in recent years, even though there is still resistance to it from governments of a number of developed countries.

The results of the deliberations of the Committee are reflected in the Communiqué issued at the end of the meetings. A copy of this communiqué is also laid on the Table of the House. Clearly we have still to resolve a large number of unsettled issues before an agreement can be reached on the outline of reform. Nevertheless, this meeting has helped to provide the needed impetus to the work of Deputies.

It is a matter of satisfaction to us that the Committee has affirmed that the exchange rate regime in the reformed system should continue to be based on stable but adjustable par values. However, there is a strong sentiment in favour of greater exchange rate flexibility than in the past and even though the par value system is likely to be retained developing countries will have to learn to live with the consequences of more frequent changes in exchange rates in the future,

The Committee of 20 has also agreed that the role of reserve currencies should be reduced and the Special Drawing Rights should become the principal reserve asset of the reformed system. This is in line with our own thinking on this subject.

The Committee has also agreed that an intensive study should be made of effective means to deal with the problem of disequilibrating capital flows.

Finally, on the important subject of the link, we have not been able to persuade the Committee to endorse it in principle and to leave its mechanics to be worked out later on. Some developed countries have strong reservations in this matter. However, the Committee has affirmed the desirability on the occasion of reform to promote economic development and the flow of real resources from developed to developing countries. Although this cannot be constituted on endorsement of the link, the language of the Communique reflecting some positive advance.

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In our view, the link is a practical means of securing the objective endorsed by the Committee. It would be wrong to suggest that the link proposal will not face any serious hurdles. However, if developing countries remain united, there is a good chance that the link would constitute an important element of the reformed system.

Prior to the meeting of the Committee of 20, the Ministerial meeting of the Group of 24 developing countries was held on 24th

March, 1973. This group came into being last year to enable developing countries to exchange views and to work out a common position on matters relating to international monetary reform. On our suggestion, the Group of 24 has set up a working party to work out a common position on the link proposal acceptable to all developing countries for presenting it to the Committee of 20. We attach great importance to the work of the Group of 24 for it is only if developing countries are united that their voice is likely to be felt in the forums of the Committee of 20. On our part, we shall make every possible effort to sustain the unity of developing countries in our common quest for a new monetary system which will be more responsive to the needs of developing countries.

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS EXTERNAL PUBLICITY DIVISION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NORWAY USA GERMANY INDIA IRAQ JAPAN NEPAL PAKISTAN SYRIA

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 31, 1973, on the scientific, technical and industrial co-operation agreement with Czechoslovakia signed on May 30, 1973, at Prague:

Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs and Mr. Bohuslav Chnoupek, Czechoslovak Minister for Foreign Affairs, signed, on May 30, an agreement at the Cernin Palace, Prague, for the promotion of scientific, technical and industrial co-operation between India and Czechoslovakia.

According to the agreement, cooperation in applied research and technical development is to be implemented by means of a joint study of problems, exchange of visits by specialists, consultations among experts and participation by them in national scientific and technical conferences, and exchange of scientific and technical information and publications including technical films. It is also hoped to develop cooperation in new fields like electronics, computers, chemicals, etc.

As regards industrial cooperation, the agreement provides for cooperation between industrial organisations for utilisation of their full industrial capability, and division of production and joint production of parts and subassemblies of machines and equipment. Also, there is a provision for cooperation in preparation of project reports and exchange of information on the patents and production licenses and their utilisation.

The agreement is terminable by either side giving a six months notice in writing.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Chnoupek said that the signing of the agreement was proof of the fact that the visit of the Indian External Affairs Minister was significant for strengthening of mutual relations between the two countries. He hoped that

the agreement would serve as basis for further cooperation and development of both India and Czechoslovakia.

Sardar Swaran Singh while thanking the Government of Czechoslovakia for several joint ventures already established in India, observed that the agreement would give juridical basis to the relationship of cooperation and assistance which existed between the two countries.

CZECH SUPPORT FOR INDO-BANGLA DESH OFFER

Earlier, Sardar Swaran Singh called on the Czechoslovak Prime Minister Dr. L. Strougal and President Ludvik Svoboda. Both meetings were marked by great warmth and cordiality.

Later, the External Affairs Minister called on the Secretary-General of the Communist Party Dr. Gustav Husak. Dr. Husak is due to visit India towards the end of this year.

During the official talks the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Mr. Chnoupek reaffirmed Czechoslovakia's strong support for India and Bangla Desh in their efforts to achieve durable peace, cooperation and normalisation of the situation on the subcontinent on the basis of the existing realities. He particularly welcomed the Indo-Bangla Desh joint offer of 17th April, 1973 as being realistic and useful in resolving humanitarian problems arising from 1971 conflict.

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NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC MALI

Date : May 01, 1973

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Joint-Communique on Indo-FRG Annual Consultations

The following is the text of the communique issued at the successful conclusion of Indo-FRG annual consultations at Bonn:

The fourth round of Indo-FRG political consultations took place in Bonn on 22 and 23 May, 1973 between representatives of the FRG Foreign Office and representatives of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs. The delegation of the FRG was headed by State Secretary, Herr Frank, the Indian delegation by Secretary, Mr. Trivedi. Also participating in the talks were the Indian Ambassador to Bonn, Mr. Puri, and the FRG Ambassador in New Delhi, Herr Diehl, as well as senior officials of both sides.

Secretary Trivedi was received by the Federal Minister for Economic Co-operation, Herr Eppler, on 23 May.

The two delegations made a tour d'horizon of international problems and discussed bilateral questions of interest to them.

The delegation of the FRG outlined the situation in Central Europe following the ratification of the Basic Treaty by the Bundestag. They described the further efforts to achieve detente in Europe which they hoped would have a favourable effect on other regions of the world. The Indian side referred to the continuing support of the Indian Government for the Federal Government's peace efforts and indicated their interest in a further positive development in Europe.

The Indian delegation gave a detailed report on the situation in the Indian sub-continent and elucidated the Indo-Bangla Desh initiative of April 17 for a solution of all humanitarian problems arising out of the conflict of December 1971. The FRG side welcomed these efforts and expressed the

hope that they would lead to a peaceful solution of the problems in South Asia.

In the bilateral context, it was noted that Indo-FRG relations in the political, economic and cultural fields had developed satisfactorily. The two sides discussed possibilities of expanding their co-operation further on the basis of partnership already existing in many fields.

The talks were characterized by mutual trust and took place in a cordial and relaxed atmosphere. Both sides were satisfied with the results of the discussions. It was agreed that the next round of Indo-FRG political consultations should take place in, New Delhi on a date still to be arranged.

GERMANY USA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

India-GDR Joint Communiqué

The following is the text of a joint communiqué on the visit of the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, to the German Democratic Republic:

At the invitation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, H.E. Mr. Otto Winzer, the Minister of External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, paid an official visit to the German Democratic Republic from 23 to 29 May 1973. The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the S.E.D., H.E. Mr. Erich Honecker and the First Deputy Chair-

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man of the Council of Ministers of the

German Democratic Republic, H.E. Mr. Horst Sindermann received the Minister of External Affairs of India for a friendly exchange of views. The Minister of External Affairs of India also had a meeting with H.E. Mr. Gerald Coeting, President of the Peoples Chamber of the G.D.R.

Sardar Swaran Singh conveyed to the Party and Government leaders of the German Democratic Republic warm greetings of the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, which were most cordially reciprocated. The Foreign Ministers of the German Democratic Republic and the Republic of India, accompanied by their delegations, met for talks which took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

IDENTITY OF VIEWS

Both sides agreed that the establishment of diplomatic relations between them had opened a new chapter in bilateral relations between the G.D.R. and India. The exchange of views confirmed again the identity or closeness of the viewpoints of the German Democratic Republic and the Republic of India on the international issues and bilateral questions which were discussed. Both sides welcomed the recent positive changes in international life. The two sides reaffirmed their conviction that the most important task at the present time is to work actively for the maintenance and consolidation of world peace. They declared their determination to continue to work for peaceful coexistence between States and for the respect of territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal Affairs of States, and non-recourse to the use or threat of force in international relations.

DETENTE IN EUROPE HAILED

The Foreign Minister of the G.D.R. explained fundamental aspects of G.D.R.'s foreign policy in implementing the peace Programme of the eighth S.E.D. Party Congress. Here he emphasized the decisive contribution made by the G.D.R., jointly with the other socialist States, to promote detente and to strengthen peace in Europe

by their coordinated foreign policy. He stressed that an essential instrument in this regard is the growing role of socialist economic integration of the C.M.E.A. member-States for the all-round strengthening of the countries of the socialist community. The Minister for External Affairs of India appreciated the valuable contribution made by the G.D.R. towards the strengthening of peace in Europe. Both sides noted with great satisfaction the process of detente which is taking shape in Europe and agreed on the importance of the treaties concluded by the USSR, Poland and the G.D.R. with the Federal Republic of Germany, and of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin, for strengthening peace in the European continent.

Both sides welcomed the progress made in the multilateral consultations in Helsinki in preparation for the European conference on security and cooperation and hoped that the conference will be held in the very near future. The German Democratic Republic and India also attach great importance to the forthcoming negotiations on the reduction of forces and armaments in Central Europe.

Both Ministers expressed their hope that these developments in Europe will also favourably influence the peaceful resolution of differences and help to eliminate conflicts and tensions in other parts of the world as well.

INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

The Minister of External Affairs of India outlined the recent developments in the Indian sub-continent subsequent to the Simla Agreement of July, 1972. The Foreign Minister of G.D.R. fully appreciated and supported the efforts of India aimed at achieving a durable peace and good neighbourly relations amongst the States in the region. The G.D.R. welcomed all steps contributing to the creation of an atmosphere of good neighbourliness in the sub-continent and consider the joint declaration of India and Bangla Desh of 17th April 1973 as a practical contribution towards solving

the remaining problems and conducive to the establishment of durable peace in the region.

INDO-CHINA

Both sides welcomed the agreements on peace in Vietnam and Laos as a historic vic-

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tory for the peace-loving forces in the world and reaffirmed their readiness to contribute towards the speedy reconstruction of these devastated countries. They underlined the need for strict observance of the Paris agreement so as to open the way to peace in the countries of Indo-China as a whole, and to enable the peoples of these countries to settle their affairs themselves, without outside interference.

Both sides stand for the speedy settlement of the conflict in West Asia on the basis of the United Nations Security Council Resolution of 22 November 1967. They called for the vacation by Israel of the occupied Arab territories, and supported the just demands of the Arab peoples and the legitimate interests of all States in the area, including the people of Palestine, as being essential for the establishment of just and lasting-peace in the region.

UNITED NATIONS

Both Foreign Ministers stressed the importance of the United Nations in safeguarding peace and international security and for promoting cooperation between States. They regard the universality of membership of the United Nations as an important principle for the effective functioning of the world organization. They advocated the membership of the G.D.R. and the F.R.G. to the United Nations in the very near future. Both sides called for the admission, without further delay, of the Peoples Republic of Bangla Desh to the United Nations.

Both sides underlined the importance of measures to stop the arms race and to bring about general and complete disarmament,

comprising nuclear as well as conventional arms, under effective international control. They supported the proposal to convene a world disarmament conference with the participation of all States.

RACISM CONDEMNED

Both sides condemned the attempts of colonial and racist regimes, particularly in Southern Africa, to reverse the process of eliminating the remnants of colonialism and racism. The policies pursued by the racist and colonial regimes represent a flagrant infringement of basic human rights and jeopardise the security of independent African countries. Both sides reaffirmed their support for national liberation movements in colonial territories and called for the speedy and complete elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism, in accordance with the U.N. declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

Both sides agreed that the policy of non-alignment continues to play a vital role in opposing imperialism and colonialism, in advancing the cause of freedom, in lessening international tensions, and in the consolidation of world peace and security.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Both sides reviewed all aspects of Indo-G.D.R. bilateral relations and discussed the possibilities for their further expansion. While expressing their satisfaction at the development of their relations they agreed that there is considerable scope for the creation of new opportunities for the further intensification of mutually beneficial commercial and economic cooperation both on a short term and long term basis. Both sides agreed to further expand and intensify cooperation in all fields. They considered it useful to exchange views on international and bilateral problems of mutual interest and agreed to hold periodic consultations also in the future.

Both sides expressed complete satisfaction with the result of their discussions

and agreed on the importance of exchange of visits at different levels between the two countries. They considered that the visit to the G.D.R. by the Minister of External Affairs of India and his delegation had contributed to strengthen further the close mutual understanding and cooperation already existing between the two countries. The Minister of External Affairs of India expressed his thanks for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation. He invited the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the G.D.R., His Excellency Mr. Otto Winzer, to pay an official visit to India at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

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INDIA USA POLAND GERMANY FINLAND CHINA LAOS VIETNAM FRANCE ISRAEL

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement at Security Council during Debate on Situation in Southern Rhodesia

Following is the text of the statement made by Shri Samar Sen, Permanent Representative of India, at the Security Council on May 16, 1973, on the special report of the Sanctions Committee on Southern Rhodesia:

Mr. President, in congratulating you on your presidency of the Council for the month of May we express more than our usual goodwill for, in our opinion, it is most apt that you who have struggled persistently and diligently for the freedom of oppressed people should preside over our debate on Rhodesia. You have our full co-operation and understanding in guiding the work of the

Council on this and other difficult questions which we shall be facing this month.

We should also like to place on record our admiration for the smooth and efficient manner in which your predecessor, Ambassador Perez de Cuellar of Peru, conducted the affairs of the Council last month.

We have noted the admirable and eloquent manner in which the Ambassador of Guinea, Mrs. Jeanne Martin Cisse - who is unfortunately not here with us today - introduced the second special report on sanctions on Rhodesia contained in document S/10920. Listening to her and subsequently reading the text of her statement again and again in the verbatim record, my delegation could not help feeling that she was speaking with utmost distress at the delay which has occurred in introducing the principle of self-determination and independence of Zimbabwe on the basis of majority rule. We share here feelings and find nothing in the present report which encourages us to believe that sanctions in the future months and years will be more effective than they have been until the present in their main objective of bringing down the Ian Smith regime. The reasons for this conclusion are well known and have indeed been referred to by speakers before me. When one analyses the various proposals mentioned in section IV of the report it is quite clear that only two or three countries prevent the application of measures, which the vast majority not merely of the Security Council but of the United Nations membership as a whole consider necessary - indeed essential - to make the policy of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia effective.

This morning those of us who wished to hear heard over the wireless that, according to Rhodesian sources, two young Canadian women and an American had been killed by Zambian soldiers. Assuming that the facts are correct, we must regret the death of innocent people and convey our sympathies to the families. Nevertheless, this reported incident, which has been covered by various news media this morning and which is supposed to have been announced by

sources described variously as the Government of Southern Rhodesia, a Minister of the Government of Southern Rhodesia, and an official spokesman of the Government of Southern Rhodesia, raises a number of questions.

First, how and why do these visitors find themselves in Rhodesia? Who authorized their passports, endorsements for Rhodesia and visas for Rhodesia? Why is it that the news media, which should know better, continue to refer to the illegal regime of Ian Smith as "the Government of Rhodesia"? If these unfortunate people went to Rhodesia as tourists - Victoria Falls is supposed to be attracting thousands of tourists every year - is it not time that we should, as part of our sanctions, take steps to discourage such tourism? Lastly, does not this incident, with its attendant circumstances, portray an insensitivity - I almost said callousness - about the fate of Zimbabwe and all that the majority of the people there are suffering? It seems to my delegation that apart from the policy of sanctions - because of the attitude of some

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countries, not all of which are necessarily great Powers - very little has been done through the news media and general official policy of Governments to bring to the attention of the public the tragedy of Zimbabwe and the need to make everyone conscious that any help, encouragement or recognition, direct or indirect, to the white regime of Ian Smith in that country adds to the length and bitterness of the struggle for freedom of the Zimbabwe people as a whole and frustrates to a great extent the efforts of the United Nations and of the Security Council in particular.

Turning to the specific report before us, we consider that section III, containing the agreed recommendations, does mark a small step forward. This section falls far short of what we, along with the African members and Indonesia, Panama, Peru and Yugoslavia, would have wished. But it was clear to the Committee that agreement on the Afri-

can proposals could not be achieved.

However, as section IV indicates, a large number of proposals was forthcoming, and we do not see why some of them, on which there is no general agreement in the Committee cannot be pursued in the Council. In paragraph 23 of the report the Soviet Union made comprehensive proposals which would deny South Africa and Portugal, as also the illegal regime of Zimbabwe, the export or import of many vital goods. We would have been quite prepared to support this proposal. The African counter-proposal that States should limit their purchases of certain goods from South Africa and Mozambique to the 1965 level is not only modest but eminently justified.

On paragraph 24, my delegation feels that while the African proposal is more suitable there is room for compromise between the African proposal and the United Kingdom proposal. We have not, however, been able to understand the United States proposal in this paragraph, for it seems to imply that while Governments can break the sanctions the nationals of the same Government would incur a penalty if they did not declare the "true point of origin" of goods imported from Southern Rhodesia. Apart from the distinction between the nationals and the Government in this respect, one of the difficulties of the Committee, as also of the Council, has been to determine the true point of origin. Or is it the intention that if the true point of origin were revealed the penalties would not apply? I know that this can never be the intention, but the paragraph as drafted today in the report does give rise to much ambiguity.

In paragraph 25 the various proposals could again perhaps be combined. I do not suggest that this would be easy to achieve in the Council meetings, but we can make some attempt. In any event, it would be worth while for the Sanctions Committee to study the proposals on a future occasion and decide if they could not be combined in a manner which would not invite a veto.

On paragraph 26, my only comment is

that I have heard with great regret a recent announcement that Portuguese civil airways have planned regular halts in a north African country.

I have also received several disquieting reports from different sources relating to various other administrative matters. I propose to take them up in the first instance with the authorities concerned rather than mentioning them in the Council.

In paragraph 30, the United Kingdom has suggested alternative proposals to the African proposals contained in paragraphs 27, 28 and 29. We do not believe that the United Kingdom proposals provide an effective deterrent to the violations which are undoubtedly taking place. We also do not believe that the British delegation can have suggested these proposals in the full knowledge of the practical difficulties involved. None the less, as a first step we would be Prepared to give the British proposals a chance on the understanding that we strongly prefer the African proposals.

The proposal in paragraph 31 seems to us a logical consequence of the application of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia. The fact that this proposal has not been accepted makes us doubt the genuineness of the desire of all members of the Council to make the sanctions work.

Similarly, paragraphs 32 and 34 are entirely innocuous, and if the Council cannot

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accept these two proposals I think the outside public, particularly those who wish to make sanctions effective against Southern Rhodesia, will be greatly disillusioned.

Paragraph 33 is directed specifically towards the United States, and I think we have said enough on this subject for the United States delegation to realize the strength of feeling in the Council on the need for relaxation by the United States Government of the measures it has sought and obtained from its Congress.

The purpose of my commenting in detail on these proposals on which there is no agreement is mainly to emphasize that there is scope for further study and serious attempts to find common ground in some groups, if not all the groups of suggestions, where differences now exist. One encouraging feature of this report, as also of the debate that has taken place in the Committee and in the Council so far, is that no false tears are being shed over what would happen to the unprivileged black population of Zimbabwe if sanctions were indeed made effective.

We also believe that the Secretary-General should be authorized to pursue the Governments concerned in any suspected violations committed by them or their nationals or vessels, or in their territories. Many speakers have already referred to the recent acquisition of planes and railway engines by the Ian Smith regime and I think such complaints could easily be pursued by the Secretary-General with the Governments concerned if we gave him the authority to do so.

Similarly, we think that thought should be given to enabling the United Nations to sue individuals and companies in any national courts. The money for this purpose can be found and such prosecution can be arranged in advance and with the co-operation of the country concerned.

Lastly, we believe that the co-operation of the non-governmental organizations, particularly of trade unions, should be sought much more systematically and vigorously than we have sought them until now.

Much of our work in the Committee related to the collection of accurate information on violations and sanctions. Indeed, section III of the report gives considerable attention to detecting these violations and to giving publicity to them. I had, in the Council's debate last year, pressed for such publicity and I am glad that some of our ideas have been accepted. As regards the information about violations, the sources of supplies and so on, my delegation considers

that there is enough technical equipment and trained manpower to detect all the violations if some of the Powers who have these facilities would co-operate with the Council in this matter.

When it comes to detecting military movements, these means are liberally used, irrespective of legal considerations; yet, when it comes to detecting illegal trade by Southern Rhodesia and thus furthering the independence of several millions of people, we seem to shy away from the means which are at our disposal and which can be used without much cost.

While, therefore, we have considerable reservations on the efficacy of the measures suggested in section III of the report, we are, none the less, encouraged that there has been some movement. We hope this process will be strengthened, even if we realize that the independence of Southern Rhodesia will not be brought about through sanctions but by the struggle of the peoples themselves. In this process sanctions can contribute but cannot be a determining factor. To what extent this freedom struggle has gathered strength in recent years is reflected by the new oppressive and disastrous measures which the regime of Ian Smith has adopted. Alarmed by these successes, the Smith regime has reacted with more and more repression. Giving up its pretence that five and a half million blacks of Southern Rhodesia are loyal and happy under their white rule, the Provincial Commissioners have now been authorized to impose collective fines and other punishments on whole communities purely on suspicion that any of them are harbouring or otherwise aiding freedom fighters.

In application of these punitive measures, no notice need be given and no representation is to be allowed. With the renewal of the state of emergency, the majority of the people of Zimbabwe have

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been deprived of all means of protest and their political activity has been effectively stopped. The African National Council,

which has offered peaceful negotiations for settlement, is being subjected to all kinds of restrictions and harassments and its members are being arrested arbitrarily.

Along with these repressions, the illegal regime is moving firmly along the road to apartheid. Residential areas and public recreational facilities are already largely segregated. Laws have been introduced to make it compulsory for all Africans to carry identity cards, and the first steps have been taken towards establishing regional authorities in Mashonaland and Metabeleland on the South African Bantustan pattern. There has also been speculation that the Ian Smith regime is making utmost efforts to revive the Pearce Commission proposals and suggesting in various ways that those Africans who rejected the proposals were not true representatives of the people. In their own opinion, the true representatives are only those who agree with the white minority.

These methods of the Ian Smith regime will not succeed any more than similar measures succeeded elsewhere in suppressing peoples' desire for freedom and human dignity. While, therefore, we would continue to make the sanctions as effective as we can, despite flagrant and most synical violations by many countries, we must not overlook the broader context of the struggle for freedom which the people of Zimbabwe are waging and waging successfully. We are convinced that they shall win, even if these sanctions are ineffective and therefore the struggle becomes more bitter, more long-drawn and more full of human tragedies. If through the application of sanctions we can shorten the struggle and make it a little less painful, we shall have contributed just a little.

INDIA USA PERU GUINEA ZAMBIA MALAYSIA SEYCHELLES ZIMBABWE INDONESIA PANAMA
PORTUGAL SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement on Southern Rhodesia at Security Council

Following is the text of another statement made by Indian representative at the Security Council on Southern Rhodesia on May 22, 1973:

After the moving and congenial speech by our friend and colleague from Kenya, with whom I of course agree, there is not very much I want to say on the merits of these two resolutions. I should like, however, to explain briefly our attitude toward the second draft resolution, which we supported.

In our view, that draft resolution did not ask for extension of sanctions to South Africa and Portugal; so there need not have been any hesitation or any illusion that by adopting it we would be imposing sanctions against South Africa and Portugal. My delegation would have been very happy to agree to any such sanctions. In fact, as is well known, India has no trade with South Africa or Portugal. What we were asking for in that draft resolution was implementation of sanctions already agreed upon, and I was under the impression that all members of the Council had already agreed on the need to redouble our efforts to implement those sanctions.

The negative votes cast today against that draft resolution simply mean that those members who tell us again and again about the need for effective implementation really do not wish to take the concrete steps which were suggested in the draft resolution.

What were the three concrete steps in that draft resolution? One was to respect the trading level in terms of 1965 figures. If the 1965 figures are supposed to be troublesome, let us have an increase of 10

per cent over those of the last eight years. We could allow for that, perhaps. But there is no such desire. Yet we all know that more and more stuff is going to various countries through South Africa and Portugal.

When, therefore, we talk about blatant violations having been brought to our notice and we suggest measures to stop those violations, we seem to be paralyzed by the veto. No reasons are given, and therefore we are entitled to draw the conclusion that those

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who voted for sanctions do not wish to enforce them. What it means in terms of eventual majority rule in Zimbabwe is that the people of that country, as indeed of Africa as a whole, must redouble their efforts to wrest power by violence. Now the Council will know, as will indeed the outside world, who has encouraged this state of affairs, in spite of their protestations that violence must be given up in order to achieve political settlement. I am, of course, assuming that the illegal regime of Smith will not countenance any just and civilized solution through negotiations with the majority of black people.

In a very quick review, I find that the Council has passed 11 resolutions on this subject. In addition, on a related subject the General Assembly has adopted six resolutions referred to it by the Council. If despite all these efforts there is no desire to implement the measures for sanctions, I think it would be right to give the widest publicity to our decision today and to prove that all that the Security Council has done until now for imposing sanctions has not really been meant seriously.

INDIA KENYA PORTUGAL USA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

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IRAQ

India-Iraq Contract on Railway Project

The following press release on a contract signed in Baghdad for Iraqi railway project, was issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1973:

The Indian Railways will soon undertake a Preliminary Feasibility-cum-Cost Study of a 130-kilometre long railway line in Iraq to connect the phosphate mines of Aqasha with Hsiabah. A contract for entrusting this project to India was recently signed in Baghdad as a result of negotiations of a high-level Indian Railways team. India bagged the contract in the face of stiff competition from other countries.

This project, including an Economic Study for Baghdad-Hsiabah-Aqasha line, for which the contract was recently signed, is an extension of an earlier Feasibility-cum-Cost Study carried out in 1970 by the Indian Railways for a new 404-kilometre long railway line to connect Baghdad, capital of Iraq, with Hsiabah on the border of Syria. The cost of the earlier project was estimated by the Indian Railway experts at about 42 million Iraqi Dinars (Rs. 88.2 crores) and at about 59 million Iraqi Dinars (Rs. 124 crores) with additional facilities.

The railway line connecting the Mediterranean Port of Latakia with Deir-ez-Zor in Syria is already under construction by the U.S.S.R. It Hsiabah and Deir-ez-Zor are connected for a length of about 120 kms., both Syria and Iraq will get a direct connection. This project is, therefore, very important for Iraq, particularly in connecting this country with the Mediterranean ports.

It is expected that the question of entrusting the construction work of the line in

Iraq to India will also be considered in due course.

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Date : May 01, 1973

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JAPAN

India-Japan Joint Press Release

Following is the text of the joint press release issued in Tokyo on May 17, 1973 at the conclusion of the eighth Consultative Meeting of the officials of the Japanese and Indian Foreign Ministries:

The eighth Consultative Meeting of the officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Ministry of External Affairs of India, took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo on May 16 and 17, 1973.

The Indian delegation was led by H.E. Mr. V.C. Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and included H.E. Mr. S. Thiruvengada Than, Indian Ambassador to Japan, Mr. V.V. Paranjpe, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. S. Hashmi, Director, Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. S.E. Joshi, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Mr. V.C. Khanna, First Secretary, Embassy of India and was assisted by other officials of the Indian Embassy.

The Japanese Delegation was led by H.E. Mr. S. Hogen, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and included H.E. Mr. T. Kojima, Japanese Ambassador to India, Mr. K. Yoshida, Director-General, Asian Affairs Bureau, Mr. U. Kagei, Director-General, United Na-

tions Bureau, Mr. M. Kuroda, Director-General, Research and Planning Department, Mr. S. Nishida, Deputy Director-General, Economic Affairs Bureau, Mr. Y. Nakae, Assistant Director-General, Asian Affairs Bureau, Mr. H. Nishimiya, Assistant Director-General, Cultural Affairs Department, Mr. S. Omori, Assistant Director General, Asian Affairs Bureau, Mr. M. Donowaki, Head of the Analysis Division, Research and Development Department, Mr. R. Mogi, Head of the Southwest Asia Division, Asian Affairs Bureau, and was assisted by other officials of the Ministry.

The Meeting provided a valuable occasion for following up the discussions held at the seventh meeting in March 1972 in New Delhi and those held last January in Tokyo between H.E. Mr. Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India and H.E. Mr. M. Ohira, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. The meeting was initiated by H.E. Mr. S. Hogen and H.E. Mr. V.C. Trivedi with the discussion of the international situation, and covered a wide range of other subjects including the situation in Asia as well as Indo-Japanese relations in various fields.

Throughout the Meeting, the discussions were held in a most frank and friendly atmosphere and greatly contributed to a better understanding of the policies and positions of the two Governments. In the light of the rapidly changing situation in Asia, the holding of the Consultative Meeting at this time was felt to be most opportune. In concluding the meeting, the two delegations reaffirmed their intention to maintain close consultations on all matters of mutual interest through diplomatic channels and also to promote closer contacts at all levels between the two countries.

It was agreed that the ninth Consultative Meeting should be held in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date.

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Indo-Nepal Joint Statement

Following is the text of the Joint Statement issued in Kathmandu on May 3, 1973, on the conclusion of the visit to Nepal of an Indian delegation led by Shri D.P. Dhar, Minister of Planning:

At the invitation of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, His Excellency Shri D.P. Dhar, the Minister for Planning, Government of India, paid a visit to Nepal from April 29 to May 3, 1973, and held discussions with His Majesty's Government on matters of Nepal-India economic cooperation. Shri D.P. Dhar was assisted by His Excellency Shri L.P. Singh, Ambassador of India in Nepal, Shri M.S. Pathak and Shri B. Sivaraman, Members of Planning Commission of India, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Director General Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Shri L. Kumar and Dr. K.S. Gill, Advisers in the Planning Commission and other officials of the Government of India.

Hon'ble Mr. Hari Bahadur Basnyat, Minister for Food and Agriculture of His Majesty's Government of Nepal led the Nepalese side during the talks and was assisted by Hon'ble Dr. H.B. Gurung, Vice-Chairman, National Planning Commission of Nepal, Hon'ble Dr. Badri Prasad Shrestha and Hon'ble Mr. G.P. Lohani, Members of the National Planning Commission and other senior officials of His Majesty's Government of Nepal- The talks were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

During his stay in Nepal, His Excellency

Shri D.P. Dhar was received in audience by His Majesty the King.

His Excellency Shri D.P. Dhar also called on the Prime Minister Rt. Hon'ble Mr. Kirti Nidhi Bista and the Foreign Minister. Hon'ble Gyanendra Bahadur Karki and held discussions with them on matters of mutual interest.

The two sides had wide-ranging discussions on economic, technical and scientific cooperation between the two countries in the fields of planning, agriculture, industries, power and transport. Both Governments have agreed to take a number of concrete steps in these areas, the principal ones being as follows:

The Government of India will purchase Karnali power that may be surplus to the needs of Nepal. Since India will be the purchaser of the bulk of this power it will be fully associated with the formulation of this project. His Majesty's Government of Nepal will constitute a committee of direction, comprising their representatives, a representative of the Government of India and, if, His Majesty's Government desires, representatives of international agencies.

The two sides agreed to cooperate in the accelerated development of Nepalese design and construction capabilities for the utilisation of water and power resource of Nepal. The Government of India will assist His Majesty's Government in this and would be Prepared to offer facilities for training Nepalese engineers in India.

The Government of India will undertake, in association with experts of His Majesty's Government, survey and construction of the Kathmandu (Dolalghat)-Dhankuta road. The survey and detailed project report will be completed by the end of 1975 and construction work will start soon thereafter.

His Majesty's Government were given the assurance that India is prepared to offer a reasonable price for Nepalese rice imported into India.

His Majesty's Government and the Government of India have agreed to cooperate in a wide range of agricultural research and development activities designed to lead to improvement of cash crops and food crops.

The Government of India will provide assistance to His Majesty's Government in the consolidation of present efforts in hor-

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ticulture development in Nepal giving priority to accessible areas.

The Government of India will in association with expert of His Majesty's Government, undertake a comprehensive study of the development of cement industry in Nepal.

His Majesty's Government and the Government of India will exchange ideas, experiences and information pertaining to development planning and project formulation. The Government of India will also make available such technical advice as may be desired by His Majesty's Government in the field of management of public enterprises.

The Minister of Planning, Government of India, extended an invitation to His Majesty's Government to send a delegation of Members of its Planning Commission to New Delhi for discussions with the Indian Planning Commission. The invitation was accepted by His Majesty's Government. The dates of this visit will be settled later.

NEPAL USA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

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PAKISTAN

Foreign Minister Shri Swaran Singh's Statement in Parliament

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on May 9, 1973 in response to the Calling Attention Notices on the reported arrest of Bengalees in Islamabad by Pakistan authorities (similar statement was made by Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State, in the Rajya Sabha):

We have heard with deep concern reports emanating from Islamabad that several thousand Bengalees were rounded up suddenly from their homes in Islamabad in the early hours of the morning of 6th May and transported in police trucks and buses to unknown destinations. The press reports indicate that these Bengalees have been taken to internment camps in some obscure places. However, the official spokesman of the Government of Pakistan has tried to explain that the Bengalees have been shifted from their homes "because of congestion and pressure on official housing in the capital". He also indicated that this was being done in preparation for their ultimate repatriation to Bangla Desh.

The President of Bangla Desh, Mr. Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury has urged the international community to condemn Pakistan's action in rounding up the Bengalees in Islamabad and has expressed the "deep concern and anguish" of the Government of Bangla Desh on this development. We fully share the anxiety of the Bangla Desh Government at the fate of the innocent Bengalees affected by this arbitrary action of the Pakistan Government. Pakistan should bear in mind that action of this nature, instead of solving the humanitarian problems and ending the suffering of lakhs of people, can only cause further bitterness and retard the process of normalisation in the sub-continent.

Laws of humanity and justice require that persons stranded in foreign countries against their will have the right to return to their homes. The Governments of India and Bangla Desh have already indicated in the Joint Declaration of April 17, 1973 a

fair and Practical way for the immediate and simultaneous resolution of all humanitarian issues arising out of the December 1971 conflict.

It is regrettable that Pakistan Government instead of seizing the opportunity of bringing about a fair and amicable settlement of the humanitarian problems, should have resorted to forcibly uprooting the Bengalees from their homes and sending them to far off internment camps.

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Date : May 01, 1973

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SYRIA

India-Syria Joint Communique

Following is the text of India-Syria Joint Communique issued after an official 3-day visit to Damascus by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs:

In response to an invitation extended by Mr. Abdul Halim Khaddam, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of the Government of India accompanied by officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, paid an official visit to the Syrian Arab Republic from the 20th to the 22nd May, 1973.

Sardar Swaran Singh, during his stay, called on President Hafez Asad and Mr. Mahmoud Ayoubi, President of the Council of Ministers. He and the accompanying delegation visited a number of cultural estab-

lishments.

Sardar Swaran Singh had a series of talks with Mr. Khaddam in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding. In these talks he was assisted by Mr. P.K. Guha, Ambassador of India to the Syrian Arab Republic, Mr. N. P. Alexander, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and Mr. Rajendranath Gupta, First Secretary, Embassy of India, Damascus. Mr. Khaddam was assisted by Dr. Mohamed Zakaria Ismail, Deputy minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Shahir Dreie, Director of the Asian-African Department and Mr. Adnan Omran, Director of Special Bureau Department.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

The talks dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries and the most significant international current problems. Both sides studied the means for enhancing the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Both sides briefed each other on the essential achievements realised in each of the two countries. The Syrian side expressed its appreciation for the success realised by India in the technological, economic and social domains as a result of the efforts exerted by the people and the Government under the leadership of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India. The Syrian side expressed its best wishes to the Indian people for realising further success and progress,

The Indian side expressed its appreciation for the significant achievements realised by the Syrian Arab Republic under the leadership of President Hafez Asad. The Indian side expressed its best wishes to the Syrian people for further progress and prosperity.

INDO-CHINA

Sardar Swaran Singh and Mr. Khaddam reaffirmed the necessity for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the whole of Indo-

China to enable the people of the area to determine their own political destinies. They called for full implementation of the Vietnam and Laos agreements.

INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

Sardar Swaran Singh informed his host of the situation in the Indian sub-continent and India's desire for, and efforts towards, the normalisation of relations among all States of this area. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic expressed the hope that the countries of the sub-continent would be able to resolve their differences by mutual agreement and live together peacefully and in mutual friendship in the spirit of the Simla Agreement for the benefits of all the peoples of the sub-continent.

WEST ASIAN PROBLEM

The two sides also discussed the problems confronting the Arab countries. Both sides reiterated the demand for Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories oc-

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cupied in 1967 and for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. They also expressed their complete opposition to measures taken by Israel for changing the geographical or ethnic character of those territories as being a flagrant violation of the principles of international law, the United Nations Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights.

The Syrian side thanked the Government and the people of India for their consistent support to the Arab cause and for the active role she played, and continues to play, in striving to bring about a just and lasting settlement of this problem.

INDIAN OCEAN

The two sides considered the situation in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf. They declared that it will be in the interest of all the countries of the region and world peace that those seas should be a zone of peace,

free from Great Power rivalries, international tension or an arms-race.

The two sides reviewed the progress of the non-aligned movement and were in agreement on the importance of strengthening this movement in the interest of world peace and independence of all countries, big or small. They recognised that the non-aligned movement has played, and is still playing, a significant role in the struggle of peoples for freedom and independence and agreed on the need to continue with this role.

STRUGGLE AGAINST COLONIALISM

Both sides declared their absolute belief in the necessity of liquidating all forms of imperialism and colonialism, and their belief in the necessity of unifying their struggle against them. They support in this respect the peoples of Guinea Bissau, Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa in their struggle against all forms of racial discrimination and foreign occupation, as well as the struggle of all the peoples of the third world for deepening their economic development and social progress.

Both sides expressed their desire to increase economic and technical and cultural cooperation between them. There were many areas in which such cooperation could be intensified, to the mutual benefit of the two countries.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Government of India expressed his deep appreciation for the cordial reception and warm hospitality accorded to him and the other members of his party by the Government and the people of the Syrian Arab Republic. He extended a very cordial invitation to Mr. Abdul Halim Khaddam to visit India. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

SYRIA INDIA USA CHINA LAOS MALI ISRAEL ANGOLA GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE
NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date : May 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Indo-British Loan Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1973 on Indo-British loan agreement for Rs. 26.56 crores signed in New Delhi:

A loan agreement for an amount of Rs. 26.56 crores (æ 14 million) was concluded here today between the Government of India and the Government of the United Kingdom. The agreement was signed by Sir Tenence Carvey, the British High Commissioner, and Mr. M. G. Kaul, Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

The new loan, "the UK India Capital Investment Loan 1973" is the fifth in the series and is intended for the purchase of

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British manufactured capital goods which are needed to aid India's economic development. The loan is divided as follows:

- a) Rs. 10.43 crores (æ 5.5 million) for the import of capital items by private sector firms in India;
- b) Rs. 10.43 crores (æ 5.5 million) for the import of capital items by public sector enterprises in India;
- c) Rs. 2.85 crores (æ 1.5 million) to the Industrial Finance Corporation of India and Rs. 2.85 crores (æ 1.5 million) to the Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India Ltd. for the import of capital goods by firms who take corresponding rupee loans from these organisa-

tions.

With the signature of this loan agreement, Britain has fulfilled her pledge of Rs. 119.49 crores (æ 63 million) made at last year's meeting of the Aid India Consortium.

The loan is on the usual soft terms of British lending to India, being free of all interest and service charges, with capital repayments spread over 25 years, including an initial grace period of seven years.

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AFGHANISTAN

Vice-President Shri G.S. Pathak's Speech at Banquet in his Honour

Following is the text of the speech of
Shri G. S. Pathak, Vice-President of India,

delivered at the banquet in his honour in Kabul on June 8, 1973. by Their Royal Highnesses Prince Ahmad Shah and Princess Khatoor:

I should like to express my deep appreciation of friendly reception and warm hospitality which my wife and I have received since my arrival in this great country. In coming to Afghanistan I fulfil a long-cherished desire. This desire is shared by great many of my countrymen and is born of cultural heritage common to both our peoples. Afghanistan and India have stood together through many vicissitudes of history preserving their traditions of close friendship and brotherhood with constancy rare and perhaps unique among any two nations of the world. I believe that no Indian can come to your country and no Afghan to mine who is not conscious of this great bond which has united our two peoples in thought and action since the dawn of civilisation.

According to well established tradition, it was through valleys of Afghanistan that Aryans carried Vedic culture and civilisation into the plains of Hindustan. Since those times contacts between our two countries have been close and intimate and our history and culture have flowed as it were in a common stream. King Kanishka in the first century A.D. not only established great empire but also spread the message of Buddhism to distant parts of world.

Historical remains of the Buddhist period at Bamiyan and at Haddah bear silent testimony to high level of culture and civilisation of that great age. It was from here that Babar Shah led his armies to found the Great Mughal Empire in India but he had left his heart behind in Afghanistan and his earthly remains, according to his wishes, were brought back to rest in the snow-crowned valley of Kabul. Likewise memory of the greatest of Mughals, Jalaluddin Akbar is perpetuated in your city of Jalalabad.

To my countrymen Afghanistan has always symbolised spirit of freedom. When India came under foreign domination, our

people looked with admiration upon indomitable people of your country who so successfully defied all attempts at conquest nor can we forget that when large parts of Asia lay under foreign rule Afghanistan alone, not without considerable sacrifice, kept alive the flame of freedom and independence which your people guard as their most valuable possession.

Since India attained Independence our two countries have endeavoured to revive and invigorate our traditional relationships in every field of activity. There have been exchanges and visits at all levels and from all walks of life. We have had the honour of two memorable visits by His Majesty King Zahir Shah. Your distinguished Ministers and leaders, your professors and scientists, your businessmen and traders have come to our country. Similarly our Presidents, our Prime Ministers and our leaders have enjoyed your warm hospitality and it was a great pleasure for me to welcome Your Royal Highnesses to India when you paid us a visit last December and saw something of our country.

We believe that such frequent exchanges increase our knowledge of each other and work, achievements and aspirations of our people can thus be better known as indeed they have always been with some interruptions down the ages.

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In the modern context we consider that our cooperation should also be diversified into economic and technical spheres. I am happy to say that Indo-Afghan Joint Economic Mission has been functioning satisfactorily for the past three years and has achieved some positive results. There is a cultural agreement between our two countries to ensure that resources and researches of our scientists and educationists can be combined and thereby bring the benefits of modern science and technology to masses of our people in many other fields also. We believe that there lies great scope for the exchange of ideas and for cooperation which can make substantial contributions to development and progress of our two peoples.

In the international field we share a great measure of identity of views. We are both members of the non-aligned world and it was only recently that meeting of the preparatory committee of the non-aligned countries was so successfully held in Kabul. We believe that principles of non-alignment of peaceful co-existence and non-interference in affairs of other States have a positive contribution to make to relaxation of international tensions and we are both working closely together in order to enlarge area of peace and cooperation particularly necessary and overdue in our part of the world.

Your Royal Highnesses and we have a long road to travel in our joint endeavour and India is proud in this noble task to march side by side with great people of Afghanistan just as we have marched since times immemorial. I should like to thank Your Royal Highnesses for your kind invitation which has enabled us to visit your beautiful country. I bring greetings and best wishes of the people and Government of India to Their Majesties King and the Queen of Afghanistan and to the people and Government of Afghanistan. I thank you once again for very warm and cordial hospitality that has been shown to me and to the members of my party.

May I invite Your Excellencies ladies and gentlemen to join me in a toast to long life and health of Their Majesties King and the Queen of Afghanistan, Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince and Princess of Afghanistan to the welfare and prosperity of the people of Afghanistan and also to further strengthening of friendship between Afghanistan and India.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

AUSTRALIA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Australian Prime Minister

Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi made the following speech at a banquet held in New Delhi on June 4, 1973, in honour of the Australian Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr. Edward Gough Whitlam:

India is delighted and honoured by this visit of the Prime Minister of Australia and Mrs. Whitlam. I extend a warm welcome to you both and to the other distinguished members of your party. We are glad that Miss Whitlam, a friend of India and specially of Gujarat has accompanied you. I have no doubt that your visit, Prime Minister, will give India better acquaintance with your country and its people, a people abounding in energy and friendliness. This energy has found expression in the industrial progress of Australia and in its pursuit of excellence in science, arts and sport; the friendliness is evident in your contributions to the Commonwealth and the United Nations and the cooperation you have extended to the efforts of developing countries.

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I vividly remember my own visit to Australia, the hospitality of Your Government and of your people. Our talks this morning have enabled us to have a clearer understanding of the direction which Australia is taking under your dynamic leadership.

India is regarded as an old country and Australia as a young one. Yet, viewed from another angle, Australia has had a long career as a modern nation - both in terms of harnessing knowledge and technology to the improvement of people's needs and in terms of evolving Political institutions that foster the human personality. We have learnt from Australia's experience in numerous ways. Australian precedents are cited by our legislators and our courts.

Old or young, nations have constantly to renew themselves. And under you, Australia is undergoing such a renewal.

Your views on racial discrimination and your ideas on brotherhood and cooperation between nations have made a considerable impact on the attention and on the conscience of the world. We welcome your support of the U.N. Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. Both our countries are opposed to nuclear pollution of the atmosphere, irrespective of its course. We share our desire for greater peaceful cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. The close and growing similarity in our outlooks encourages us to look forward to closer and wide-ranging relations with an Australia which, as you have said, will be "a distinctive, tolerant, cooperative and well-regarded nation".

In our part of the world India and Australia both face a changed and challenging international situation. The relaxation of cold war postures have exposed the hollowness of military alliances but old concepts of balance of power still over-shadow us. As a country or pioneers, Australia has a significant contribution to make to the cause of international peace and to a joint endeavour in resolving the world's problems.

For us, in India, this year has been an exceedingly difficult one. The failure of rains has led to shortages of several essential articles. The situation has been further complicated by the scare of scarcity. However, this temporary phase should not blind us to the considerable progress we, have made over the last 25 years. The very process of development generates new expectations and creates fresh problems. But we feel as we go along, our capacity to deal with these also increases. We believe that development has primarily to come out of our own labour and savings. But friends and neighbours can help. We appreciate the aid given through these years by many countries including yours. We are conscious that such external assistance is no substitute for self-reliance and that the best aid is that which contributes to self-reliance

and growth in the recipient countries. We hope that developed countries will open their doors a little wider to the products of developing countries in order to promote such healthy self-reliance. Australia has set a good-example in this direction.

We also look for-ward to a greater exchange of visit between parliamentarians, scientists and scholars, sportsmen and artists of our two countries. This will broaden our mutual understanding and build a bridge between our two countries which share common ideals in spite of difference in culture, history and background.

We have admired your realistic approach to the events that have taken place on our sub-continent and are thankful for the aid and support which your generous Government and people have proffered in time of need to those who have suffered. Indeed, it is the same humanitarian motivation which prompts us to take various initiatives to end this tale of suffering, and to try and convert the confrontation and mistrust of the past into an era of trust, cooperation and genuine peace.

Prime Minister, we are indeed pleased that you have come to India within months of assuming the reins of office. Your stay is far too short. Although many of our trees are in blossom to greet you, the month of June - when temperatures rise, the dust swirls and the land and people thirst for rain - is not the best month to see Northern India. Perhaps you will come again at greater leisure to see more of the places where history has left its mark and others

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where we are now endeavouring to shape the future.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request you to raise your glasses to the health of the Prime Minister and Mrs. Whitlam, to the success of his great endeavours, to the prosperity of the people of Australia and to the greater friendship between Australia and India.

Date : Jun 01, 1973

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AUSTRALIA

Australian Prime Minister's Reply

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. E.G. Whitlam, at the banquet given in his honour by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi:

It is a moving occasion indeed for me to be here on your invitation as Prime Minister of Australia, in your capital - in this ancient seat of Kings, Emperors, Viceroy's and now the centre of the world's largest democracy. Your gracious invitation came very soon after the change of Government in Australia six months ago. Nothing could have been more gratifying to me, nothing could be more attuned to my own desires than that I should return to India as soon as possible in the life of my new Government. The honour you have done me and through me Australia is deeply appreciated and will not easily or quickly be forgotten.

In the countries I have so far visited as Prime Minister, in New Zealand, in Indonesia, in Canada, in Britain, I have been at some pains to emphasise the continuity of Australian policy despite the change of Government. I do so again here in India. There was, for example, no disagreement between the two sides in the Australian Parliament about the support given by the previous Government in the liberation of Bangla Desh. The previous Government's Prompt recognition of Bangla Desh was warmly Supported by the whole Australian people. Neverthe-

less, I cannot help but feel that there has been something missing in recent years in the relationship between our two countries. There has been perhaps too much of the feeling that we can take each other for granted. It is, for instance, just not good enough that I should be the first Australian Prime Minister to visit Delhi for 14 years. It may be that because of our recent preoccupation with Indo-China and the fascinating possibilities Australia has before her in developing new relations with China and Japan, but relations with India have not been given the attention they should have. If this has been so, I intend to amend it and amend it wholeheartedly.

I particularly look forward to closer co-operation with India in the United Nations. We are now both members of the Security Council. When my Government took office, I gave a number of new instructions on the way our votes would be cast in the Security Council and the General Assembly. It is significant I think that all the departures from the previous pattern of voting have brought us in line with India. It has not been, of course, a question of our just following India; but it is an indication of the closeness of our views on a great range of issues facing the world - on race discrimination, on de-colonisation, on Southern Africa, on human rights, on the need to keep this region free of Great Power rivalries.

We gratefully acknowledge the moral leadership India has so often given in the cause of world peace. In that continuing quest we can never forget or overestimate the pioneer role played by your father. Perhaps never in human history and certainly not in the history of the democracies has so great a man had his work so faithfully and splendidly carried forward by a member of his family. The generation in which India achieved independence was one not lacking in great world leaders. None lives so brightly in the memory, not only of the millions of his fellow countrymen but all mankind, as your father.

I find it fascinating to read in his great work "The Discovery of India" his observations about Australia - fascinating and mov-

ing at the same time, because this profound book was written in a British prison when

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his work and the work of his father for independence seemed smashed beyond hope. And I find that in a book in which he has drawn deep lessons from the history of India covering 5,000 years he drew an example from an event then occurring in my own country - a referendum whether to give greater social powers to the central Government of Australia. He speaks of the continuing difficulty confronting central Governments in federal systems in persuading the States to abjure any morsel of their powers, even in times of war. The defeat of that referendum in 1944 happened to be a crucial event in the development of my own political thinking. I find it profoundly moving that such an event in such a far off country provided a lesson for so great a man at such a crisis in his own life. The lesson, I'm afraid, is still to be learnt in my own country.

It was also in that work that Mr. Nehru said that the measure of Indian progress would be the role India would give to her women. Your premiership, Madam Prime Minister, is certainly a striking symbol of that progress. Never in history has a woman faced so formidable a task and met that task with such skill and devotion.

With the change of Government in Australia, my country looks for a fresh approach -- and we hope, a more fruitful approach towards all our neighbours. I have indicated that we are seeking no sharp break with our past role, but we are certainly not satisfied by all the aspects of the role Australia has played in the past. My Government could not, for instance, be content to maintain the old course of a generation of unthinking hostility towards China. Yet our policy is not by any means to place China at the centre of our affairs; rather we seek to ratify the reality of China as a significant member of the world community. We do not propose any radical change from our traditional, close friendship with the United States; but we now look for a more

mature, a give-and-take relationship.

Again, we will continue our very close relationship with Britain; but we want a relationship based less on kin and more on kind - namely on the basis that we are two independent nations of a kind, with common interests as well as common institutions.

So I would want our developing policies to be seen more as an effort to remove anomalies rather than as a complete breaking with the past.

This is particularly so in the case of India. The anomaly I find is this:- here are two great democracies - bordering the Indian Ocean, both members of the Commonwealth, both deeply dedicated to world peace, both with federal systems, both holding great institutions in common; and yet we haven't forged the very close relations I believe we should have.

I profoundly believe that Australia has everything to gain by the closest possible co-operation with India. With all that we hold in common there is no need for formal or written arrangements; our friendship need be no less enduring and fruitful for that.

Madam Prime Minister: Australia is proud to be so closely related with so great a nation, so remarkable a civilization, as India. of course, our views - sometimes perhaps our interests - will not always coincide. I believe what both our countries seek is a relationship mature enough to acknowledge such differences and to discuss them freely whenever they arise.

It is a deep honour you have done me, and my country, in inviting me to your country to help further, as assuredly we shall, that relationship.

Prime Minister, perhaps I might ask the Australians here to share with me - I have no doubt their glasses are filled - I will ask them to be up-standing and to drink with me a toast to the Prime Minister and the people of the greatest democracy in the world.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA NEW ZEALAND CANADA CHINA JAPAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
MALI

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

India-Australia Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued in New Delhi on June 6, 1973, at the conclusion of the visit of the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. E.G. Whitlam, to India:

At the invitation of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Mr. Edward Gough Whitlam, Q.C., M.P., Prime Minister of Australia, visited India from 3 to 6 June, 1973. He was accompanied by Mrs. Whitlam and senior officials of the Government of Australia.

During his stay in Delhi, the Prime Minister of Australia was received by the President of India.

The Prime Minister of Australia had extensive discussions with the Prime Minister of India. The Minister of External Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Planning and the Minister of Commerce called on the Prime Minister of Australia and discussed matters of mutual interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding and covered a wide range of subjects dealing with important international questions and bilateral relations. These discussions revealed a close similarity of views and approach between the Governments of Australia and India.

The Prime Ministers of India and Australia welcomed the general relaxation of tension in the international situation. They felt that this detente Presents opportunities for consolidating peace and freedom and for taking constructive steps towards social and economic progress in a climate of international co-operation. They expressed the hope that all remaining differences, particularly in the areas of conflict, would be resolved peacefully and in accordance with the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of States, thereby ensuring harmony among nations and a stable pattern of international relations.

The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their faith in the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. They declared their intention to maintain active cooperation in the United Nations, particularly in the Security Council of which both countries are currently Members.

The two Prime Ministers exchanged views on regional cooperation. They reaffirmed the importance attached by their respective Governments to increasing regional cooperation and the contribution that such cooperation can make to easing international tensions, to broadening understanding among nations and to the economic and social advancement of countries in the region. In this context, the Prime Ministers noted the important contribution made to these objectives by such organisations as the Colombo Plan, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the Asian Development Bank. The support of both India and Australia for the Kuala Lumpur Declaration of 27 November, 1971, calling for a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in South East Asia was reaffirmed.

Both the Prime Ministers welcomed the Paris Agreement of 27 January, 1973, on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam and the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National concord in Laos signed in Vientiane on 21 February, 1973. The Prime Ministers underlined the need for

strict observance of these Agreements so as to open the way to peace in all the countries of Indo-China and to enable the peoples of those countries to settle their affairs themselves without outside interference. Both Prime Ministers reaffirmed their willingness to contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of this region.

The Prime Minister of India outlined the recent developments in the sub-continent since the conclusion of the Simla Agreement, including the Indo-Bangla Desh Joint Declaration of 17th April, 1973, as well as India's efforts for achieving a just and durable peace leading to good neighbourly relations and cooperation among all the States in the sub-continent. The Australian Prime Minister welcomed the Indo-Bangla Desh Joint Declaration as a positive initiative and, while recognising the complexity of the issues involved, expressed the hope that fur-

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ther progress would soon be made which would lead to the normalisation of relations and the establishment of a durable peace in the sub-continent.

The two Prime Ministers expressed concern at the grave situation in the Middle-East and reaffirmed their belief that the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 of 22nd November, 1967 provided the basis for a just and durable settlement of this serious and long outstanding problem.

The Prime Ministers discussed the current situation in the Indian Ocean area. They both agreed that the area should be free from international tensions, Great Power rivalry and military escalation. In this connection, the two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their support for the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. They noted with satisfaction the establishment of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and the growing support for the proposal by an increasing number of countries. The Prime Ministers of Australia and India agreed that the creation of a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean would be a positive step towards the reduction of ten-

sions and rivalries in this region and agreed to cooperate bilaterally and with all States concerned towards this end

The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their belief in the equality of mankind irrespective of race or colour. They expressed their abhorrence of policies of racial discrimination, such as apartheid, which flagrantly violate the United Nations Charter. The Prime Minister of India noted with appreciation that Australia had resumed membership of the UN Decolonization Committee and that Australia had signed and was now taking steps towards ratifying the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.

The Prime Minister of Australia informed the Indian Prime Minister of the strong opposition of the countries of the South Pacific of the current and proposed programme of atmospheric tests of nuclear weapons in the area. Both Prime Ministers, mindful of United Nations endorsement of the Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the resolution of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in June 1972 and the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, and of the World Health Assembly in May 1973 on the harmful effects of ionizing atomic radiation, reiterated their opposition to the testing of nuclear weapons in all environments and in particular to atmospheric testing by whatever nation.

Views were exchanged on matters concerning the Law of the Sea, and it was agreed that officials of the two countries would maintain close contact with a view to identifying their common interests before the 1974 Law of the Sea Conference.

The two Prime Ministers expressed concern at the increasing gulf between the developing and the developed countries of the world. They were of the view that the gap must be reduced and eventually bridged in the interest of peace and harmony among nations. They also emphasised that the launching of the International Development strategy of the United Nations Second

Development Decade, enjoining the developed countries to help reduce the growing economic disparity between developed and developing countries, was a significant landmark in international economic cooperation. They expressed the hope that the developed countries would fulfil their obligations under the International Development Strategy. The Australian Prime Minister stated that his Government not only intends to expand the present programmes of assistance in Asia, to the Pacific and Africa but is also giving consideration of further changes in Australia's preferential trade with developing countries.

The Prime Minister welcomed the enlargement of the European Communities and hoped that the Communities would adopt a liberal and outward-looking approach which would contribute to international development and world peace. They noted that Australia and India would be looking to the Communities to play a positive part in the forthcoming GATT multilateral trade negotiations and recorded the importance which they attach to the need for these negotiations to deal with the problems facing world trade in agricultural commodities in a satisfactory and equitable manner.

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The two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the continuing warm and friendly relations between Australia and India and reaffirmed their desire to intensify cooperation in all fields.

Both Prime Ministers welcomed the opportunity for consultations and exchange of views afforded by the annual Australia India Officials' talks. It was decided that the next session would take place in Canberra towards the end of the year. The two Prime Ministers agreed on the benefits of expanding contacts between representatives of Australia and India in all regional and international forums.

The Prime Ministers welcomed the development of cultural exchanges between India and Australia since the signing of the

India-Australia Cultural Agreement in 1971. They expressed their desire to see a further extension in the number and variety of these exchanges at all levels. In particular they looked forward to the further development of links between universities in the two countries, both in the scientific area where there was much common experience to be shared, and in the field of the humanities as a contribution to a better knowledge of each other's history and culture.

The two Prime Ministers emphasised the importance of greater collaboration in economic, technical and scientific fields, the desirability of securing greater diversification of economic relations and the possibility of joint ventures. The Prime Minister of India expressed the Government of India's appreciation of Australian assistance to economic development in India particularly Australian involvement in long-range agricultural development programmes. The Australian Prime Minister stated his Government's intention to maintain and if possible to expand its participation in India's economic development.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their complete satisfaction with the results of their discussions.

The Prime Minister of Australia expressed his warm appreciation of the hospitality shown to him and the members of his party during his visit. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Australia again. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The dates of the visit would be settled by mutual consultation.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA PERU SRI LANKA FRANCE LAOS CHINA MALI SWEDEN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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BANGLA DESH

Extension of Trade Agreement with Bangla Desh

The following Press release on the extension of the trade agreement with Bangla Desh was issued in New Delhi on June 26, 1973.

The Governments of India and Bangla Desh have mutually agreed to extend the Limited Payments Arrangement by three months. The Limited Payments Arrangement which was hitherto valid upto 27th June, 1973, will continue to be in force upto 27th September, 1973.

The Arrangement which came into force in March 1972 envisages a balanced trade in commodities to the extent of Rs. 25 crores. The contracts registered as on 16th June, 1973, with the State Bank of India for exports to Bangla Desh work out to Rs. 21.10 crores. Against this, contracts registered for imports from Bangla Desh are of the value of Rs. 22.8 crores.

Important items of export from India are cement, coal, cotton yarn and tobacco. The main items imported from Bangla Desh are raw jute, fresh fish, furnace oil, newsprint and low grammage paper.

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INDIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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CANADA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Lunch by Canadian Governor General

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi gave the following speech at the Canadian Governor General's lunch at Ottawa on June 18, 1973:

Your Excellency the Governor-General,
Lady Michner, Distinguished Guests:

I bring you the greetings of India and her people. I am grateful to the Government of Canada for the invitation which has made this visit possible and has given me the opportunity to meet statesmen whom I have personally known and whom I hold in great regard.

I thank you, Your Excellencies, for your warm hospitality. I have felt at home since my arrival. There have been the familiar demonstrations, the black flags and the red. And in your gracious House are several reminders of my country. Your Excellencies are no strangers to us and you are both remembered with much affection - and may I say that Canada could not have had no truer or more eminent representatives. Canada and India have adopted political institutions which have grown from the same pattern of experience.

We are members of the Commonwealth. We have adopted a federal form of Government as a method for reconciling local and larger loyalties. This makes it easier for us to appreciate at least some of each other's problems.

A central reality of Canada's tradition is multi-culturalism. In India we are building a nation in which people belonging to six major religions and more than a dozen major languages feel at home and enjoy equal rights. The great men and women of my country have sought to strengthen the unity of India within our multi-cultural diversity. Our nationalism has not been based on any narrow doctrine or monolithic belief. Attempts to build nations on religion alone have failed when other factors were neglected. A nation holds together and gains strength

when its people, irrespective of race, religion, language, class and distinctive custom, are united in allegiance to large political and human ideals and are knit together in a common economic endeavour which will benefit all of them alike. We were able to achieve Independence because of the unity forged by love of freedom and the search for social equality. The struggle for freedom removed fear and the visible development in the last 25 years is removing apathy and resignation to fate. The weakest and the poorest are aware that their lives and their children's lives are changing and must change further. They now see destiny not as what makes them but what they make. We have developed the skills and the capacity to wage war against poverty and we know that we shall win. But there is still a long, long way to go before every family can get its minimum requirements of food, education, medical care and employment. Our plans of development, and our democratic institutions are a gigantic experiment in achieving rapid and peaceful transformation, through the people's voluntary involvement. The political maturity which our people have attained was evident in the calm self-restraint which they displayed during the recent crisis over Pakistan's actions in Bangla Desh.

Our people had the wisdom not to yield to militancy and vengeance but to stretch a hand of friendship to Pakistan. Lasting peace is possible only if we are determined to be friends. In Simla it seemed that Pakistan was willing to solve all disputes and misunderstandings bilaterally and through discussion. Thus it was that we returned to Pakistan the territory we had gained in war.

We hoped that further steps towards normalcy would follow. If Pakistan had come to terms with the reality of Bangla Desh, all prisoners of war would have re-

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turned to their families long ago. After a stalemate of months, Bangla Desh and we have made an offer by which not only the soldiers but the larger number of civilian

victims could be repatriated. So far Pakistan has not thought it fit to accept this offer.

Encouragement by others to belligerent groups within Pakistan would be a grave disservice to the people of the sub-continent. If India, Bangla Desh and Pakistan cannot settle down to friendship without suspicion, the stability and peace of Asia will be endangered.

I have come to Canada primarily to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our two countries and to attempt to deepen understanding. India is not an easy country to understand nor can it be contained by any simplistic preconceived definition. Perhaps all the contradictory statements that are made about India have some degree of truth but they skim the surface. What cannot be comprehended is often irritating and usually ignored. Yet India remains -- a country, a way of life and thought that has tenaciously survived many upheavals, and is today struggling against overwhelming odds to seek her own direction to the problems of mankind.

I should like to thank the Government and people of Canada for the consistent sympathy for the many kinds of assistance extended to our programmes of development. We value the concrete help of friends, for it reinforces our own endeavours and urges us to work all the harder. The mood is captured by one of your poets in the lines:

I, too, must climb in wonder,
Uplift at thy command,
Be one with my frail fellows
Beneath the wind's strong hand.

Mr. Prime Minister, Distinguished Guests, may I ask you to join me in drinking to the health of His Excellency the Governor-General and her Excellency Lady Michener.

CANADA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Address at Banquet to Canadian Prime Minister

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the banquet for Canadian prime Minister, Mr. Trudeau, in Ottawa on June 19, 1973:

(*) I last met you, Prime Minister, when you were in India thirty months ago. During your brief visit you managed to combine government discussions with my colleagues and me in Delhi -- our political capital - with a Journey to Banaras, which has been the philosophical capital of India for centuries. This parallel concern with matters of governance and those of the mind is typical of your personality. Many of the world's troubles arise because politics is looked upon as a mere problem of management divorced from the realm of ideals.

It should be the function of politics to prepare for the future. Even accepted concepts such as national interest must be re-interpreted in terms of the power of science and the growing hold of technology. Can the true interests of a nation ignore the larger values of human equality and dignity? Prime Minister, in your years of preparation for this office, you said that politics should be raised to the level of conscience. I would also urge that politics should be imbued with a consciousness of the total needs of man.

Since our discussions, important changes have taken place in the world. It is said that the era which began after World War II has drawn to a close. Perhaps it has - in the sense that bipolarity and the attempts

to herd nations into two rival camps have lessened. But pressures have not ceased and we can only hope that recent moves will not lead to a regrouping of forces for the same old power game. An increasing number of people are now concerned with the menace of the accumulation of nuclear

(*) This paragraph was delivered in French.

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stockpiles, to say nothing of the horror of biological warfare. To us who live in India, the fact that millions of people in Asia, Africa and elsewhere, have become free and are striving to overcome the consequences of colonialism and of technological backwardness, is an equally prominent feature of the history of our period and it is clear that the continuance of blatant inequalities amongst nations, also imperils the future.

Intense preoccupation with political, economic, military and technological changes has blurred perception of the many other aspects of life which are important to the survival of man and to the enlargement of personality. How can man grow without greater freedom of thought? There are many contradictions in our world -- the march of science, the technological advance is breath-taking, yet the thought processes belong to a bygone age. Increasing population, the encroachment of nature have created problems no less complex, no less expensive to deal, with than the age-old problem of poverty. Expanding education has brought knowledge but not wisdom or the self-conquest advocated by Buddha or Socrates; skill with machines has come at the cost of individual artistry. International forums have increased in number but not the capacity to understand or sympathise.

Prime Minister, in Delhi you drew attention to the danger of pollution and the reckless exploitation of natural resources. These and the depletion of many species I would describe as unscientific technology. The years to come may reveal other harmful effects.

There is vague discontent and a groping towards the new. But to me this debate seems to be a mere churning of old concepts. There is no real breakthrough of the mind and little comprehension of the significance of the metamorphosis which is taking place. For example, we speak of left and right. But are not capitalist and communist societies based upon the same premise? Both are the products of the Industrial Revolution and have the same inner motivation: the accumulation of goods - in one case for the individual and in the other for the group. Both assume that fulfilment comes from such accumulation. But man has long known that it does not. A hundred years ago Schopenhauer said: "All men who are secure from want and care, now that at last they have thrown off all other burdens, become a burden to themselves."

Closer in time and place, Buckminster Fuller believes that "Possession is becoming progressively burdensome and wasteful and therefore obsolete!"

We in India have found that development itself unleashes new expectations and tensions. I have read that many young people in affluent countries are disturbed by a sense of purposelessness. Youth in India has a double frustration - of being deprived of necessities and of feeling unneeded. Perhaps our mistake lies in our attempt to give, when it is impossible to satisfy, since wants and desires are limitless, without asking for anything worthwhile in return. Much modern invention is concerned with reducing the trouble of having to make an effort or of having to think of oneself. Doesn't man need to make an effort to stretch his faculties to the utmost in order to find himself?

A few - a very few, who are the tip of the tree, are able to reach out to the experience of others, unconfined by the conventional wisdom or point of view of their own race and region. Canada is fortunate to have at the helm of affairs a person who is hospitable to courage and experimentation.

Ladies and gentlemen, I request you to raise your glasses to the health of the Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs. Trudeau.

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Date : Jun 01, 1973

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CANADA

Prime Minister's Address to Joint Session of Canadian Parliament

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's address to the joint session of the Canadian Parliament in Ottawa on June 19, 1973:

Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, Honourable Members:

It is no ordinary privilege to address the chosen representatives of a great nation. I stand before you in this august chamber in the knowledge that this gesture is not personal to me but an expression of the friendship that Canada has for India. I bring the greetings of my colleagues in Government and Parliament and the good wishes of the people of India.

(*) I remember being here almost a quarter of a century ago when a similar honour was conferred upon my father. In these years it has been my good fortune to make the acquaintance of many eminent leaders of Canada. I am glad to have this opportunity to meet Prime Minister Trudeau and yourself, Mr. Speaker. We all miss another distinguished Canadian, Mr. Lester Pearson, who was held in high regard by the people of India, as a great internationalist.

When my father addressed this Parliament, India had only recently become independent and was a Dominion in the Commonwealth. It had, however, already decided to become a Republic. A formula had to be devised to enable a Republic to remain within the Commonwealth. This posed a difficult constitutional predicament in the resolution of which Canada played a decisive role. A remedy was found and at that time my father described it as - and I quote - "an outstanding example of the peaceful solution of a difficult problem and a solution which is a real one because it does not lead to other problems." Partly because of the formula then devised, the Commonwealth has grown and includes a large number of countries with different political systems and forms of Government. The Commonwealth has survived crisis which sometimes threatened to break it up. In international affairs there is always room for dialogue and the Commonwealth provides a forum.

(*) I have visited Canada on a number of occasions. It is a refreshing experience for one senses something of the old pioneer spirit. Yours is a vast country with windows opening on Europe and Asia. You have a rich mosaic of peoples, each with its own genius, making up a nation that, since Second World War, has made its impact on the world as a distinct and dynamic entity. The criterion of a nation is not its expanse but the energy and creativity of its people. The people of Canada are endowed with these attributes in generous measure. Your greatest achievement, if I may say so, is not the high economic standards you have attained but the fact that the international community regards Canada as a nation of friends, as a factor for international harmony and peace. Canadians stand for a broad liberal outlook on life. They have fought for peace and racial justice. Through international bodies and by their individual efforts they have helped the less fortunate. Canadians have no colonial past to live down nor the trappings of a great power to shackle freedom of action as real human beings.

Nations which consist of diverse elements are compelled to value the art of compromise and of accommodating different viewpoints in a larger perspective. In the building of Canadian nation you have discovered as have we in India through our long history that diversity not only enriches but can strengthen, India has people belonging to every conceivable faith. The vast majority are Hindu, but after Indonesia and Bangla Desh we have the largest Muslim population - 61 million. While Buddhism finds the majority of its devotees outside the land of its birth there is a substantial number of Buddhists. Tradition claims that Thomas the apostle visited South India and St. Francis Xavier's body still reposes in Goa. Thus Christianity came to India. Long ago and our Christian community of more than 13 million is an honoured one. India gave refuge to Zoroastrians fleeing from Iran and we still have the largest number. This diversity gives new validity to our historical outlook of tolerance and freedom for all to

(*) These paragraphs were delivered in French.

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practice their faith and to enjoy equality of opportunity. Mankind will endure when the world appreciates the logic of diversity.

Beneath the stagnant apathy which enveloped the India of the colonial period flowed the living waters of her ageless spirits. It is this which produced two remarkable generations of men and women who led our national renaissance and achieved political liberation.

They learnt from the West from its sciences no less than its politics of liberty and equality. They looked deeply into our own past determined to retain the essentials while removing the encrustations of inert social customs. Above all they yearned to cleanse India of poverty and social divisions and to kindle a new awakening of man. I hope I am speaking for the majority of our people when I say that we do not seek imitative affluence and power but an opportunity to once again make our contribution to the

world.

There has been a consistency in the Indian approach. Our struggle for Independence was unique and found inspiration from our traditions. To free one-seventh of mankind from political subjugation was in itself an enormous undertaking. But to do so non-violent and unarmed person needs greater faith than an armed one. Our strength lay in our belief in the rightness of our cause - we knew our fight was without precedent something of benefit not to us alone but to all peoples of the world. The long years of our struggle for Independence were grim indeed but looking back they were as nothing to the challenges and difficulties of the task of reconstruction and of modernising an ancient country with the peoples consent and participation. Indian philosophy had always stood for freedom of thought and laid stress on the free development of individual personality. Free debate was practised in ancient times in the Panchayat, one of the earliest political institutions in India, which has now been revived in the shape of village councils.

In India three major revolutions are taking place simultaneously - the industrial, the political and the humanist. Living in the second half of the twentieth century we have to undertake welfare investment without the prior accumulation of capital through sweated labour. The questions we ask ourselves are whether we cannot have growth without exploitation and strength that is not based on violence?

The world seems to admire results regardless of the means and the consequences pushing aside questions of value. We are acutely conscious of the rising impatience of our people. We realise that if our system fails to meet their reasonable aspirations they may opt for other methods. Yet we do believe that our chosen path will deliver the economic goods and also bring maturity to our people. Democracy which to us means an enlargement of the area of choice and the socialisation of opportunity invigorates as it evolves.

We do not doubt the answer. Our confidence in our capacity to lessen poverty and bring into being a society of equals through democratic means is unshaken. We are blamed for our inability to generate a higher rate of growth. The entire Indian experiment is criticised and we are advised to be together. The postponement of some demands might indeed have enabled us to move faster but this could only be at the cost of social justice and would therefore lead to social tension. Nor can we agree that a higher rate of growth is reason enough to dispense with free elections and independent parliamentary and judicial institutions.

Through our Plans of development, in 20 years we have been able to double our grain production - to more than 100 million tonnes. We have also laid firm foundations of modern industry, with emphasis on steel, machine tools, chemicals and electronics. We who imported everything from sewing needles to locomotives, can make our own power generators and aeroplanes and even export Machinery and consultancy service. The decline of the death rate has led to an increase in population but as levels of living improve and education spreads, the people are becoming conscious (though far less so than we would wish) of the need to limit their families. Education has expanded at all levels. The number of school-going children has risen from 23 million to 26 million. In higher education the increase is not only of numbers, we have given attention to technological training and research which is the foundation of self-reliance.

Right now we are passing through a most trying period. To the expected strains of growth, were added the burden of a war

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and the care of ten million refugees. The failure of the rains for a third successive year in many parts of western India has aggravated our problems. There have been many droughts in India's long history. Now for the first time, people are not left to fend for themselves and the Government has taken upon itself the full responsibility for giving succour. Reports from India should

be seen in this perspective. We have given work, wages, food and even drinking water to millions of people. At the beginning of this month special employment was provided to nine million people through 137,000 relief projects. That we have been able to tide over the crisis with only marginal imports is a testimony to the internal vitality of our economy.

A nation can achieve economic or political liberation only through its own endeavour and sacrifice. Our development is based primarily on our own savings and labour. But the problem of poverty is world-wide one, demanding international action. We have welcomed and received cooperation from other nations. I should like to express the gratitude of our people for Canada's help. It was concrete and imaginative, and without expectation of political advantage.

Not all countries have been so understanding. Their attempts to derive some political leverage has, not unnaturally, led to impatience with aid on the part of many developing nations. Donors also are becoming aid-weary. The Indian people are resolved to achieve self-reliance. This does not mean diminution of economic give-and-take but that economic relations between one nation and another should be on the basis of equality. We shall continue to look for technological assistance to bridge the gaps in the structure of our basic industries and our know-how of new technologies. Our efforts could be more effective if the advanced countries adopted more enlightened trade policies. When it comes to trade many of the strongest nations behave as though they need protection from the weak. A new outlook which will not condemn developing nations to permanent disadvantage is essential.

Canada and India provide examples of how countries with differing backgrounds can work together for common goals. We have cooperated on international issues such as colonialism and racial discrimination, and on major economic problems such as International trade and commerce. In Korea,

our two countries played a major role in defusing an extremely dangerous situation. We have participated together in peace-keeping missions in many risky situations and areas for example Gaza and Indo-China.

Country's foreign policy is dictated by its historical conditioning and its assessment of national interests. In keeping with our tradition of non-violence and our belief that mankind is one family, we have subscribed to the concept of peaceful coexistence. The world is large enough to hold countries with different civilizations and political ideologies. Anyhow we cannot choose our neighbours nor move to another planet. So we are glad that the powerful have ceased to mock us for our naivete and have moved away from doctrinal rigidities of post-war bipolarity. We welcome the detente in Europe and are glad that China has at last been given its legitimate place in the United Nations.

But can we be certain that the new and more realistic relations between the great powers do in fact indicate a more stable world order? Or are they yet another to reinforce the old concept of balance of power? High-level exchanges and discussions between great powers are good but we hope that they will not lead to decisions which affect other nations, big or small, without full consideration of their legitimate interests. We must be vigilant against Big-Power arrangements for the creation of new spheres of influence. In our own area and with our neighbours, we favour a bilateral approach for resolving issues.

We should and do welcome the relaxation of tensions. But we think that the only nonproliferation of nuclear arms which is compatible with real peace is total disarmament. Such disarmament calls for far greater courage and conviction than is now in evidence. We cannot ignore the acceleration of military preparations. The arming of small nations by Big Powers (which was once in pursuit of cold war compulsions) continues in the name of maintaining regional balances. The induction of arms from outside could promote stability, for it inva-

riably encourages those militaristic elements who have little use for democratic and

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peaceful solutions. This is why we regard it with grave concern continued arms aid to countries in our neighbourhood.

The only safeguard against Big-Power hegemony is for the smaller nations to stand together and help one another on as wide a scale as possible. Countries like Canada and India which have no territorial ambitions, no economic empires to protect and no ideologies to export can take a less self-regarding and more far-seeing view of international affairs.

(*) Once again I thank you for this honour. We in India have always had a special feeling for Canada. The Canadian constitution and parliamentary practice have given us valuable insights into the spirit of democratic government. I hope that the fraternal feelings between our two nations and two Parliaments will grow. A warm welcome awaits the Canadian parliamentary delegation when it visits India in the near future. I hope that my own visit will contribute in some small measure to closer cooperation to serve causes which we both cherish.

I end with a verse from the Atharva Veda:

'Let there be no fear from friend,
no fear from foe,
No fear from the known, no fear from
what lies before us unknown,

Let there be no fear, for us front night,
no fear from day;

Let all the quarters be my friends.'

CANADA USA INDIA INDONESIA IRAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC KOREA CHINA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Prime Minister's Address in Toronto

The following is the text of address delivered by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at a luncheon meeting of the, Empire Club and Canadian Institute of International Affairs, held, in Toronto on June 20, 1973:

I should like to speak to you about "India Today and Tomorrow" in the hope that a distinguished gathering of scholars and active participants in public affairs would be interested to know the assessment of one who has seen Indian events unfold, sometimes from the sidelines and often nearer the centre. Of course I am a partisan and have a vested interest in India's success.

Modern Indian history began with our struggle for independence. We are still in the phase of an ascendant, affirmative nationalism - like many other Asian and African nations. Nearly half of India's people have been born free and have no personal memory of the colonial days. We are engaged in building the nation, in giving Political freedom its full economic and social content. Foreign voices and some Indian echoes frequently ask whether India will hold together. To Indians themselves, political unity and cohesiveness are not in question. However, we know that this unity, like freedom, has to be constantly defended and worked for.

In a large country characterized by the widest imaginable diversity, it is natural for region and language to make a powerful claim to individual loyalties. But our conviction that diversity can be a greater source of strength than any imposed uniformity has prevented parochial passions from

becoming a divisive force. Responsiveness to and accommodation of legitimate local grievances has lent strength to the total fabric.

CONSTITUTION

Our Constitution reflects the complexity, of our society and also its capacity for self-correction. It has helped our endeavour of national-building. Although the framework of the Constitution owes much to our association with Britain and other members of the Commonwealth, its spirit and indeed the motive force of our entire political system was generated through the long years

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of the struggle for freedom under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. The unity of India is not the legacy of the British. Through the centuries, India has been a cultural entity which neither conquests nor the changing boundaries of its kingdoms were able to erode. Its political unity in modern terms was the product of the fight against foreign rule and of challenges faced together. To us freedom was the beginning of a new journey, the door to changes that had been held in abeyance, an opportunity to rid Indian society of hierarchy and social inequality.

Our State policy has four major premises; democracy, socialism, secularism and a non-aligned, independent foreign policy. They are not unconnected objectives but have an organic interrelationship and are consistent with our traditions. Democracy is more than a value; it is the best means of bringing about economic and social development without violence and disruption. The belief that no country has a moral right to rule over another has its corollary that no group within a country can arrogate to itself the right to make decisions for others. Freedom can be complete only when authority is not the preserve of a small power elite and when government is of all. The political process has succeeded in evoking the faith and involvement of a large proportion of our vast population. A majority of our voters may lack formal education but they have dis-

played as sure an understanding of issues as their more educated counterparts in other countries.

For us the justification of politics is the elimination of poverty and disparity. Development constitutes a special dimension of our democracy. It is generally recognised that the changes taking place along desired lines have enabled democracy to take root. The democratic system permits the opponents not only of the government of the day but of the system itself to propagate their viewpoint. In return it expects a sense of responsibility from them indeed from all citizens. The basis of democracy is that people, by and large, will have the discrimination to sift, the false from the true and the wisdom to reconcile personal or group advantage with the larger benefit of the people as a whole. At the same time, the ideal of egalitarianism does release envy at all levels, and the highly competitive nature of contemporary society tempts people to use any means to get ahead. Thus the interest of an individual or a group are in constant clash with the welfare of the community. How far is it possible to inculcate a selfless attitude without the sort of brain-washing that impinges on freedom of thought? How does one reconcile the demands for individual freedom with those of order?

We have also our share of those who do not believe in peaceful change and parliamentary institutions. We have extremists who have preached, and in small areas attempted, murder and expropriation. We have fanatical parties which are opposed to secularism, by which we mean that the State will not further the interests of any one religious creed to the detriment of others but will show equal respect for all religions. There is no conflict between the secular and the sacred.

The evil, the spectacular, the out-of-the-way attract headlines. These happenings must be seen in perspective. India has more people than the North and South American continents and Australia combined. Of our 21 States, 12 have more than 20 million people each and the largest has 90

million. We have troubles and uncertainties but the overall reality is of a people who are growing in political consciousness, assertion and articulation, impatient for faster changes, and at the same time more confident of their capacity. Democracy will hold in India provided it can withstand attempts to deny equality and thwart change in the name of the liberty of the individual which unfortunately is what some groups are doing. They level wholly unjustified criticism invoking the spectre of a totalitarian collectivism, a monster State which is attacking basic rights. This reveals failure to comprehend the changes which are taking place the world over, the mood of our people and the fact that there are many varieties of socialism. We cherish freedom of speech, of association and of belief and the right to life, liberty and the protection of law. But we cannot agree that fundamental liberties include opportunities for a small number of individuals to amass unlimited property.

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STATE INTERVENTION

A people steeped in poverty naturally yearn for relief from want and social injustice. This can be achieved only through a vast expansion of the productive apparatus and equitable distribution of the fruits of progress. It is obvious that development cannot be left to the mercy of market forces. The profit motive, which defies the rights of owners of property, denies hope to the millions. State intervention becomes necessary to ensure that the limited resources are directed into priority sectors of the economy. We do not follow the extreme path of forced savings through the use of State power. We have tried to bring basic industries, financial institutions and wholesale wheat trade under public control, and to initiate measures for social investment. We aim at growth with social justice. A different strategy might have yielded increased industrial production and a higher rate of growth but there is no doubt that any approach leading to greater concentration of economic power in private hands would give cause for explosive social tensions and would distort, even disrupt, our entire democratic structure.

Economic development under State initiative have taken us decisively forward towards self-reliance in industry and technology. Although so much noise is made about our socialism, the state sector's present share of the national expenditure in India is still very much lower than in Canada or the United States.

In metals, machine tools and power equipment, as well as in railway rolling stock, ship-building, automobiles, aircraft, telecommunications, electronics and petroleum refining, our Production and indigenous technological capability has increased. We are now able to design and build our own steel mills, fertiliser factories and atomic power stations.

As in other countries, the development of industry has enabled the modernisation of agriculture. Major and medium dams and canal systems have added 24 million acres to the irrigated area and there is wide-spread adoption of modern methods of farming, resulting in a doubling of grain production. This year a bad drought has affected us, along with other countries of Asia, and we have suffered a setback in agricultural output. But we have reached a stage which, given reasonably normal rainfall, reduces Imports of grain to the minimum.

FIFTH FIVE; YEAR PLAN

We are now drawing up the details of our Fifth Five Year Plan. Its main thrust is to fill the gaps in self-reliance, promote the social well-being of the poorest sections and secure fuller utilisation of capacities already created. Our social programmes will give importance to the provision of house sites for the landless, inputs and credits for the small farmer in rain-poor areas, better housing in slums, more rural electrification, employment schemes for the educated unemployed, and greater attention to family planning.

We are also anxious to reduce our need for concessional foreign credits. In the last two decades about a fifth of our expenditure

on development has come from aid. Up to May 1st this year, Canada alone has given us a billion dollars. We are grateful for the credits and grants - and we particularly appreciate the fact that Canadian credits have been among the most liberal and least encumbered that we have received. But as our economic base gains strength, our endeavour will be to earn our external resources through trade rather than aid.

INDO-CANADIAN TRADE

In terms of your overall trade, the volume of trade between our two countries has been small. Ninety per cent of Canada's trade is with the Atlantic nations and Japan. Of the 2 billion dollars of trade with the rest of the world, the two-way trade with India amounted to 1142 million last year. Of this, Canadian exports accounted for 98 million dollars, and imports from India to 44 million dollars. It should be possible to identify areas in which our trade and economic co-operation could be augmented.

In fact one of the tasks before enlightened international leadership is to revise trade policies and practices and reduce the handicaps suffered by developing countries. Any tendency to form rich men's clubs would lead to hardship and bitterness in the developing nations and harmful consequences for the future of the world.

The majority of the world's peoples live in sordid conditions, deprived of basic necessities. At the same time the sudden fear

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of affluent nations that the earth's resources are fast running out has prompted a reluctance to help the development plans of poor nations. There is no doubt that rates of population growth must be controlled. So must the rate at which advanced societies consume non-renewable resources. It is known that each individual in an industrially advanced country uses up as much as 20 persons in a developing country. Can nations which took advantage of the earlier industrial revolution assume prospectors' right to the world's air, water and other

assets, debarring latecomers? The challenge before human civilization is to develop new forms of satisfaction which would be equitable for all.

POVERTY

Even in the days before we emerged as a sovereign country, we firmly believed that the world's problems should be solved by pooling the wisdom of all nations. Colonialism and racial discrimination are evils which could be fought only by activating the conscience of the world. Poverty is an international problem. The poverty of many nations has been largely the result of colonial exploitation. To us, peace and international co-operation appear essential for the removal of poverty. Our foreign policy rejected any hegemony and sought to promote equality, friendship and peaceful co-existence among nations. This policy has been categorised as nonalignment. The negative prefix describes abstention from military blocs. But non-alignment is also a positive connotation. In asserting our right to shape our own policies, we naturally accept the right of others to do so and thus build a base of tolerance and friendship.

NON-ALIGNMENT

Non-alignment was described by some fundamentalists as refusal to make ethical choices. We did make ethical choices: that is why we were non-aligned. It was difficult to regard the transitory power patterns of the post-war world in terms of moral imperatives. Fortunately, the essentials of non-alignment have at last come to be accepted by others. The Age of Crusades seems to be ending - at least outwardly. Detente has attracted powerful adherents. But detente should lead not to compacts for the sharing of power but become the starting point of a new international endeavour to improve the human ambience: be it the removal of poverty, the reduction of terror and violence or the restoration of the purity of our environment.

We do not seek conventional military strength. We are not interested in becom-

ing a power - major or minor. And certainly not a nuclear power. The founding fathers of our nation asked the question: Can India become a modern nation without sacrificing harmony and human values, without being caught up in the pursuit of possessions? The answer is: India can and will.

India has given much to human civilisation. Even in the dark age of colonial subjection we had men of radiance. A nation which comprises a seventh of mankind must have some contribution to make. It can do so when its millions are given the opportunity of developing their personalities. The transfer of scientific knowledge has brought with it a strong imitative propensity. Increasing awareness of conditions elsewhere has bred dissatisfaction with conditions at home. But I see also a tremendous upsurge of confidence and creative endeavour in our young people. The old insights, the conditioning of the last fifty years and the new vigour may yet combine to enable India to map out a distinctive path in human development.

CANADA INDIA USA AUSTRALIA LATVIA JAPAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in Montreal

Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi delivered the following speech at the banquet hosted in her honour by the Prime Minister of Quebec at Montreal on June 21, 1973:

I thank you for your kind words and your hospitality which has enabled me to

meet so many distinguished citizens.

It is a pleasure to come to Quebec. A poet has sung about the "double-melodied vocabulary" of Montreal. The capacity to harmonise two different strands is one of Quebec's special gifts.

The story of India is one of interaction and mutual enrichment of races, religions and languages. Each region has its own

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heritage of literature, sculpture, music and craftsmanship. But all live and grow within a total Indian consciousness and a basic Indian unity which comes to the fore especially in times of crises.

India has the greatest imaginable diversity within any single nation. As we enter the industrial age and develop features of a single mass market, some of this variety tends to blur. Modernity has become synonymous with uniformity. We cannot neglect whatever makes for greater cohesion, convenience and mobility. One of the biggest changes taking place in India is the opening up of the backward regions with the help of new roads, railways and bridges. Some of these regions are inhabited by groups which were formerly self-sufficient and had their own picturesque folk customs. But young people naturally desire to join the mainstream of national life and resent any attempt at, what they consider, turning them into museum pieces. The synthesizing process is continuous.

It is easy to adhere to the old, it is a little more difficult to scrap everything and start afresh. The path we have selected is the most complex. We want to preserve the old spirit of individuality and the values which are timeless but we must cleanse our society of superstition and of customs which are irrelevant to contemporary living. We want to profit from scientific discoveries and the advance of technology but only up to a point, but choosing what we need to adopt - not to imitate western standards but to improve our own. No one can prophesy which is possible, yet we must

strive for what we believe to be worthwhile. Our endeavour to preserve and enrich our diversity is the cultural analogue of the federal nature of our political system, the guiding principle of which is that local personality can develop without being submerged, without conflicting with the national personality. Similarly we wish to retain a distinct Indian personality within the international community.

Premier, once again, I thank you for the warm welcome which you and your Government and the people of Quebec have extended to me and my party.

CANADA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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CANADA

Prime Minister's Speech at Civic Reception in Montreal

Following is the text of Shrimati Indira Gundhi's speech at the civic reception held in her honour at Mantreal on June 22, 1973:

Mayor Drapeau and other Distinguished Citizens of Montreal:

I am delighted to be in Montreal - a city famous for culture and commerce, for intellectual and economic achievements.

Montreal has preserved its distinctive character and has withstood the contemporary trend towards uniformity in architecture. Amidst all its bustle it has retained a sense of repose.

Mr. Mayor, you were the moving spirit of Expo which brought the world to your doorstep and made Montreal familiar to millions

across the seas. I have been informed by our officials of the personal interest you took in the Indian pavilion.

The leaders of Government and of the academic world in Canada have always had a lively interest in world affairs and have taken an enlightened view of our own efforts in India. In the eyes of scholars, India is a country with an ancient civilisation, a storehouse of philosophy. But to most others, whose impressions are moulded by the press, India is a land of poverty.

Poverty is there, deep-rooted and widespread. But we are making a gigantic effort to eradicate it. In these 25 years of independence, change is tangible, and progress has been achieved by developing human skills which in turn will harness our natural resources. We are seeking a way to balance the rights of the individual with those of society as a whole. We must also be careful to ensure that transitory benefits do not over-ride the long-term requirements of nature's renewal.

Our ancient sages advised us to look upon the world with the eyes of a friend. In our long struggle for freedom and in our present endeavour of building India we try to follow this message of friendship and harmony.

Once again I thank you and the city of Montreal for this welcome. I bring to the people of this famous and beautiful city the greetings and good wishes of the people of India.

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CANADA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Indo-Canadian Joint Communiqué

The following joint communiqué was issued at the end of Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's eight-day official visit to Canada:

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, paid an official visit to Canada from 17th to 24th June 1973, in response to an invitation from the Prime Minister of Canada, the right Honourable P. E. Trudeau. During her stay in Ottawa, the Prime Minister was the guest of Their Excellencies the Governor General of Canada and Mrs. Michener. The Prime Minister addressed a joint Session of the Canadian Parliament and was subsequently received by members of the Senate and the House of Commons.

During her 8 days in Canada, Shrimati Gandhi was enthusiastically welcomed in Toronto, Niagara-on-the Lake, Montreal, Calgary, Banff, Vancouver and Victoria. At every stage of the visit, she was accompanied by a Minister of the Federal Government. The Prime Minister met the Premiers of Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia as well as many members of provincial and municipal governments. In Vancouver, the Prime Minister met with Canadian business leaders and was happy to note the interest in Western Canada in developing trade links with India.

While in Ottawa, the Prime Minister of India held extensive discussions with the Prime Minister of Canada on issues of international and bilateral interest. The two Prime Ministers also participated in a meeting of their senior officials chaired by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Hon. Mitchell Sharp. The Prime Ministers were assisted in their talks by:

On the Indian side:

1. Mr. Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary.
2. Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary of the Prime Minister.
3. Mr. U. S. Bajpai, High Commissioner for India to Canada.
4. Mr. J. S. Teja, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

On the Canadian side:

1. Mr. A. E. Ritchie, Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.
2. Mr. R. G. Robertson, Clerk of the Privy Council.
3. Mr. Ivan Head, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister.
4. Mr. Bruce Williams, Canadian High Commissioner to India.

These conversations, which were held in a free and friendly atmosphere, revealed a broad identity of views on many issues of mutual interest.

The Prime Ministers noted with gratification a quarter of a century of friendly and cooperative relations between India and Canada. They felt that it was now desirable to initiate a review and renewal of bilateral relations between the two countries in economic, cultural, scientific, technical and commercial exchanges. In this context, it was decided that senior officials of the two governments should meet later in the year for detailed discussions, including possibilities for joint economic ventures.

The world food situation was assessed and India's achievements in increasing her food production were appreciated. In this regard it was agreed to give early consideration to further Indo-Canadian cooperation in India's efforts towards self-reliance by supply of foodgrains, edible oils and fertilizers including potash.

The Prime Minister of India conveyed to the Prime Minister of Canada appreciation for Canada's assistance in India's economic development. The Prime Minister of

Canada expressed admiration for India's efforts to tackle basic national problems and reaffirmed Canada's continuing interest in Indian development.

The Prime Minister's talks covered a wide variety of international issues: These includ-

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ed recent developments in Indo-China, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, preparations for the forthcoming conference of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Ottawa, and the non-aligned nations conference in September. The Prime Ministers, welcomed the general atmosphere of detente and relaxation of tensions and expressed the hope that international differences in remaining areas of conflict would be resolved peacefully and on the basis of universally accepted principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of states. They expressed the continued desire and the readiness of their governments to work together towards this end.

The Prime Minister of India explained the latest developments on the Indian sub-continent identifying the joint Indo-Bangla Desh declaration of April 17, 1973, as a sincere initiative to resolve humanitarian problems resulting from the conflict of 1971, designed to promote durable peace and co-operation in the area. The Prime Minister of Canada expressed appreciation for the efforts being made to break the present impasse. The two Prime Ministers agreed that a durable settlement of outstanding problems should be achieved through negotiations among the countries of the subcontinent. They expressed the hope that Bangla Desh would soon be enabled to take her rightful place in the United Nations and other international organisations. They welcomed Bangla Desh membership of the commonwealth.

The two Prime Ministers expressed concern at the serious situation in the Middle east and reaffirmed their support for the UN Security Council resolution of 22nd November 1967 as the basis for a just and durable

Peace in the area. The Prime Ministers welcomed the Paris agreement of 27th June and the agreement signed in Vientiane Laos, on 21st February 1973. They stressed the need for strict observance of these Agreements which could lead to the establishment of durable peace in the region.

The two Prime Ministers also discussed multilateral issues of mutual interest. Tribute was paid to the active and constructive Indian leadership among the developing countries in organisations such as GATT and UNCTAD in promoting change in the world economic order, to bridge the gap between industrially developed and developing countries, to increase the transfer of technology, improve the terms of trade, increase the flow of financial resources and generally accelerate the pace of development in the developing countries. Both sides noted the significance for future world prosperity of the successful outcome of the forthcoming round of tariff negotiations in the GATT and discussions on the reform of the international monetary system.

The Prime Ministers agreed that India and Canada should work closely together on such international questions of common interests as the law of the sea and the improvement of environment. They appreciated the value of bilateral exchanges on important international issues. In this context they felt that the Commonwealth provided another forum for useful exchanges. Moreover they suggested that every opportunity should be sought by the two countries for cooperation in international agencies in the interest of world peace and the ideals to which both countries are dedicated.

The two Prime Ministers declared their full satisfaction at the results of their talks. The Prime Minister of India was deeply touched by the warm welcome and generous hospitality shown to her and her party throughout the visit by the Government and people of Canada.

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Communiqué

The following is the text of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Communiqué on the visit of the Minister of External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:

At the invitation of H.E. Ing. Bohuslav Chnoupek, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, paid an official visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic from May 29 to June 1, 1973.

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, and his party laid a wreath at the memorial for the Unknown Soldier on the Zizkov mountain.

The Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, was received by the Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, H.E. Dr. Gustav Husak, by the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Army General H.E. Mr. Ludvik Svoboda, and by the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic H.E. Dr. Lubomir Strougal. for friendly exchange of views.

During his stay Minister Swaran Singh visited Bratislava where he was received by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia H.E. Dr. Jozef Lenart and the Chairman of

the Slovak National Council H.E. Mr. Ondrej Klokoc and where he also visited a unified agricultural cooperative at Vajnory.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Ing. Bohuslav Chnoupek, and the Minister of External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, held talks on the further development of Czechoslovak-Indian relations and on major issues of the present international situation of common interest. An agreement between India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on scientific, technical and industrial cooperation was also signed by them with a view to further promote bilateral scientific, technical and industrial cooperation between the two countries.

The meetings and talks took place in a cordial atmosphere in keeping with the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries.

The exchange of views confirmed once again the identity or closeness of views of the two sides on international issues discussed.

Both sides noted with great satisfaction that the conclusions of further development of mutually beneficial cooperation, arrived at during the last year's visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic by the Prime Minister of India are being successfully implemented in all fields. They re-affirmed their determination to strengthen this mutually beneficial cooperation and expressed their conviction that this cooperation serves not only the bilateral interests of the two countries but also the interest of international peace and security. Both sides were satisfied with the growth of Czechoslovak-Indian economic relations and gladly took note of further possibilities that exist for their expansion and diversification. In this context, they attached special importance to the forthcoming meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee on Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation in June 1973.

The two sides underlined the importance of the relaxation of international tensions which is the result of the systematic efforts

and initiative of peace-loving forces throughout the world. They expressed the hope that this favourable trend will be further strengthened and that urgent international problems will be solved by peaceful means in the spirit of political realism which is increasingly coming to the fore in many spheres of international life. They stated the determination of their Governments to contribute, within their possibilities, towards ensuring the necessary peaceful conditions for an all-round development and for economic and social advancement of the nations of the world.

Both sides adhered to the resolution of the XXVIIth UN General Assembly on the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons.

DISARMAMENT

Both sides supported the proposal to convene a world conference on disarmament with the participation of all States so as to bring about a cessation of the arms race and the achievement of general and complete disarmament, under strict international control.

There exists the understanding between the two parties that in ensuring peace, consolidation and development in different regions of the world the implementation of the principles of peaceful co-existence among the States with different social system plays a crucial role. In reviewing the situation in Asia both the Ministers noted that there still remained areas of tension and potential conflict in that continent. They attached great importance to the promotion of stable peace in Asia and expressed the hope that the joint efforts of all Asian countries will be directed towards achieving this objective.

Both sides agreed that the policy of non-alignment pursued by India and a large number of independent developing countries continues to play a significant role in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism,

neocolonialism and racial discrimination, in advancing, the cause of freedom, in lessening International tension and in the consolidation of international peace and security.

EUROPEAN SECURITY

Both sides noted the fact that the preparations for the all-European conference on security and cooperation are hopefully advancing. They were convinced that its success would help to exert a favourable influence on the overall international situation.

They noted with great satisfaction that the treaties concluded between the U.S.S.R., the Polish People's Republic and G.D.R., with the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin have made an important contribution to the safeguarding of security, the strengthening of peace and the promotion of cooperation in Europe.

Both sides welcomed the fact that the official talks between the Government delegations of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany have been concluded. They are convinced that the conclusion of the treaty on the normalisation of the relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on the basis of the recognition of the nullity of the so-called Munich Agreement will be a valuable contribution to the strengthening of peace, security and international cooperation.

Both Ministers expressed their conviction that this development in Europe will also help to eliminate tensions and solve conflicts in other parts of the world as well.

Both sides welcomed the ever broader international recognition of the German Democratic Republic and emphasised the importance of the admission of the two German States to the United Nations within the shortest possible time, in accordance with the principle of universality and the purposes of that important world organisation.

VIETNAM ACCORD

Both sides welcomed the peace agreement on Vietnam and emphasised the im-

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portance of strict implementation of all the provisions of the Paris Agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam and of the final act of the international conference on Vietnam for creating conditions permitting the people of Vietnam to settle their internal problems without outside interference and in accordance with their national rights and aspirations. They expressed their conviction that the consistent application of the above agreements will be conducive to the settlement of the situation in the whole of Indochina, towards safeguarding security in Asia and have a positive impact on further reduction of international tension and the promotion of international cooperation.

Both sides expressed themselves in favour of the consistent implementation and application of the agreement on the restoration of peace and national reconciliation in Laos. They expressed the hope that a peaceful settlement will soon be attained also in Cambodia, in accordance with the interests of the people of that country.

INDO-BANGLADESH INITIATIVES

Both sides share the view that full normalisation of the situation on the Indian subcontinent can be achieved only on the basis of the recognition of the political realities. In that connection they attach great importance to the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of July 2, 1972, concluded in Simla. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic appreciated India's efforts for the safeguarding of good neighbourly relations among all States on the subcontinent and welcomed the recent joint Indo-Bangladesh initiative expressed in the declaration of 17th April, 1973 as a valuable and realistic initiative to resolve the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflict of 1971 and to advance the cause of permanent peace and co-operation in that area. Both sides expressed the hope that Bangladesh would soon be enabled to take its legi-

timate place in the United Nations and other international organisations.

WEST ASIA

Both sides expressed great concern on the explosive situation in the Middle East, the continued occupation of Arab territories by Israel and the new attacks against Arab States, which make the region fraught with great danger. Both sides regard the consistent and comprehensive implementation of the Security Council Resolution of 22nd November, 1967, as a realistic and principled basis for achieving a just and peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis and for the safeguarding of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Both sides regard a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 as the most important pre-requisite for the settlement of the crisis.

Both sides emphasised the importance of the United Nations Organisation and its universal character for the maintenance of world peace, security and international co-operation and reaffirmed their interest in strengthening and expanding bilateral and multilateral cooperation within that organisation and its specialised agencies.

Both sides expressed complete satisfaction with the result of their discussions and agreed on the importance of exchange of visits at different levels between the two countries. They considered that the visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic by the Minister of External Affairs of India and his delegation had contributed to strengthen further the close mutual understanding and cooperation already existing between the two countries.

The Minister of External Affairs of India expressed his thanks for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation. He invited the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Ing. Bahušlav Chnoupek to pay an official visit to India at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA GERMANY MALI VIETNAM FRANCE CHINA LAOS CAMBODIA
BANGLADESH PAKISTAN ISRAEL

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Trade Protocol

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on June 23, 1973, at the conclusion of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee meeting at Bratislava during which a trade protocol was signed:

At the conclusion of the fourth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee, a protocol was signed in Bratislava late last evening. On the Indian side, Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, and on the Czechoslovak side, H.E. Ing. Andrej Barcak, Minister of Foreign Trade, the two co-chairmen of the Committee, signed the trade protocol in the presence of high Czechoslovak dignitaries from the Ministries of Foreign Trade, Heavy Engineering and Metallurgy, Technical Development and Investments. The Indian Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, Shri S. H. Desai, was also present.

The protocol spells out major areas of cooperation in the fields of industrial development, trade and science and technology. Positive recommendations have been made to deepen as well as diversify the existing relations between the two countries.

The recommendations include identification of special items which could be manufactured in India for deliveries to Czechoslo-

vakia and of areas where Indo-Czechoslovak collaboration in their countries would be possible. To stimulate balanced growth of trade, appropriate adjustments in future trading pattern have been envisaged by both sides. The present practice of trade balance and trade exchanges between the two countries on yearly basis is proposed to be fitted into a long-term frame. Specific items such as welding, high pressure vessel manufacture, leather technology and microbiology and industrial fibre glass were agreed to between the two sides for substantial scientific and technical cooperation.

Discussions included bilateral cooperation and proposals for an agreement on shipping and promotion of tourism. Planning in the context of Fifth Five Year Plan formulation was also discussed.

Discussions were held in a spirit of cordiality And cooperation reflecting close and developing political and economic relations between the two countries. Approach of both sides during the talks was constructive.

The fourth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee was held in Prague from June 14 to 22, 1973. The Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee was set up in 1966. At this fourth meeting of the Committee, a review of the work done was undertaken and further proposals for future cooperation were discussed. The discussions of the fourth meeting have further broadened the canvas of Indo-Czechoslovak industrial, commercial and technical collaboration. New areas of potential cooperation which should be conducive to mutual satisfaction and advantage have been identified.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA CZECH REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

FINLAND

Speech by Minister of External Affairs Sardar Swaran Singh at Luncheon in his Honour

The following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, at the luncheon given in his honour by the Finnish Foreign Minister, Mr. Ahti Karjalainen, in Helsinki on June 15, 1973:

I have long wished to visit Finland, a country for which we in India have a special

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fascination. May I say that the beauty of your country in these gorgeous summer months is matched by the elegance of your people.

My colleagues and I have been deeply touched by the warmth of your reception. We are very grateful for the excellent and thoughtful arrangements you have made for our stay.

Although Finland and India are separated by vast distances, we have succeeded in establishing firm bonds between us. Our leaders have exchanged visits. We remember with warmth more specially the visit of your distinguished President, Dr. Urho Kekkonen, when you and Mrs. Karjalainen accompanied him. May I say that you are fortunate in having a statesman of his stature as your President. We consider it a matter of special satisfaction to us that he is a friend of India. My present visit to Finland is an expression of our continued interest in further strengthening Indo-Finnish ties. I hope, Sir, you yourself will find the time and occasion to visit us in India again, as our honoured guest.

The situation of our two countries has many surprising common features. We have followed with great interest, and indeed admiration, the struggle of your people to establish and maintain their independence and

neutrality. The story of your struggle is a glorious chapter of history. Your historic experiences have guided you in charting a difficult but successful course through the many challenges faced by your nation. It is because of this singular experience of yours that you have been so forth-right and outspoken in identifying yourself with the movement for preserving and fostering human dignity, human freedom and human rights everywhere. You have stood solidly and stoutly against colonialism, racialism and all forms of human exploitation and oppression. In the forums of the world Finland and India have stood together for the cause of the freedom of the colonial peoples.

We have admired your policy of neutrality which has strengthened your freedom and independence of action. In the United Nations Finland has played a notable role, as a physician rather than a judge, for the settlement of issues on the basis of justice and fairness.

Excellency, our own historical experiences during a period when the old colonies started to become independent and were threatened with the danger of being sucked into the world power groupings led us to the policy of non-alignment. As I said, there is a parallel in this with the particular experience of Finland. The non-aligned movement is spreading and non-alignment itself is being given a deeper content. Although, we are entering from a bipolar into a multipolar world, non-alignment itself is not less valid or relevant. The movement has its own dynamic and is gaining in momentum in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

I mentioned Finland's policy of neutrality and independence. The wise leaders of Finland had the vision to see that their independence and neutrality could only prosper in a general atmosphere of detente. Finland has played a significant part in encouraging the process of detente in Europe. The idea of detente has caught on and has made important gains. It is in this trend that Finland has played host to the multi-lateral preparatory talks for the Conference on European Security and Cooperation. Now

that the prospects of holding the Conference are bright, it should be a matter of immense satisfaction to Finland that her patient and arduous efforts in the pursuit of detente are bearing fruit.

Inspired by the same spirit of detente, we in India have been trying to lay the foundations of a durable peace encompassing the interests of all the states in the sub-continent. It is in this quest that we entered into the Simla Agreement, the most important feature of which was the commitment of both India and Pakistan to settle all problems between them peacefully and bilaterally. The process of detente has, however, been slow and halting, because of a certain lack of response from Pakistan. It is again to revive the spirit of detente and to break the deadlock arising out of Pakistan's unwillingness to recognise Bangla Desh that India and Bangla Desh made a Joint Declaration offering to separate all the pending humanitarian issues and to settle them on a fair and equal basis. Once more, the response from Pakistan has been tardy. But taking a lesson from you in Finland, we shall not give up trying to create an acceptable framework in which

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to settle our differences in the sub-continent, peacefully.

As I said earlier, our relations with Finland are marked by deep respect and affection. We have no problem between us and we often cooperate in the larger interests of humanity and world peace. May I express our appreciation for the assistance and the technical cooperation that we receive from Finland.

In one area, however, our expectations lead us to suggest that a greater effort could be made. I am thinking of our trade which has not so far reflected its full potential. I need hardly dilate on the point that a developing country is at a disadvantage in world trade and to some extent this disadvantage could be mitigated if the developed countries take steps to open their markets and encourage imports from developing countries. I would make a special plea that. Finland

should import more from India. We would be willing to cooperate with Finland in producing goods specially for the Finnish market.

Excellency, permit me, once again, to thank you for your warm hospitality. We hope to see you soon in India and to show you something of the development that has taken place since you last visited India.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I ask you to raise your glasses to drink a toast to the health of His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Finland and to the happiness and prosperity of the Finnish people, and to the cooperation and friendship of the peoples of Finland and India.

FINLAND INDIA USA PAKISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

FINLAND

Speech by Foreign Minister of Finland

The following speech was delivered by Foreign Minister Ahti Karjalainen of Finland at the luncheon given by him in honour of Sardar Swaran Singh on June 15, 1973:

Permit me to wish you, Mr. Foreign Minister and your suite heartily welcome to Finland. We are glad that you have reserved your scant time for a visit to our country.

We have had a considerable exchange of visits between Finland and India. Your esteemed statesman Jawaharlal Nehru visited Finland in 1957, Vice-President - later President - Radhakrishnan in 1960 and President Giri in 1970. President of the

Republic Urho Kekkonen visited India in 1965 and Mr. Sukselainen, then Prime Minister, at present Speaker of Parliament, in 1960.

In connection with the official visit of the President of Republic, I with my wife had the opportunity to visit India in 1965, at the time you had your first term as Foreign Minister. My rich memories from the visit include not only the manyfold-nature of India, the valuable historical monuments of your ancient culture, including the fabulous Taj Mahal; indeed, I also remember the friendly Indian people, be they farmers, workers, high officials or highly trained scientists at the Institute for Atomic Research at Trombay.

The lively exchange of visits I mentioned above also bears witness to the traditionally good relations between Finland and India. The cooperation between the representatives of Finland and India in the United Nations and in its special organisations has also proved to be beneficial and agreeable throughout the years.

Trade between Finland and India has developed normally but it is our hope that trade as well as other economic cooperation could be expanded to the mutual advantage of both countries. Finland has had an exhibition of Finnish architecture in New Delhi and Indian products have been displayed in Helsinki. Likewise, there has been an exchange of scholarships and experts.

India has in recent years been the target for many Finnish tourists groups. Tourism has indeed greatly benefited by the agreement made in 1969 between the Nordic countries and India, according to which visas are no longer required between these countries. The increase in amount of Finnish tourists in your country is natural, as in our minds India with its ancient cultural tradition glimmers as a colourful wonderland, despite the fact that we are well aware of the modern industry of India, of the Indian green revolution in agriculture, of the factories for designed export by Indian engineers and of

Indian achievements in many scientific fields.

Your Excellency, the neutral and non-aligned countries have an important role to play in the struggle for securing world peace. The significance of this task has by no means diminished now as world politics have reached a dynamic stage with rapid and sometimes unexpected changes. We in Finland consider it our duty - within our resources - to endeavour to contribute to the attainment of peace and security, primarily in our own continent - in Europe. We regard our peace-seeking policy of neutrality, the basis of which are good relations with our eastern neighbour, the Soviet Union and to our nordic neighbours, as a good instrument in our efforts towards the stabilisation of peace in Europe. One concrete expression of this Finnish effort has been Finland's activity especially during the last four years in realising the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. We made an initiative to convene such a Conference in 1969. In November last year preliminary multilateral consultations on the Conference proper were begun here in Helsinki. We have now proceeded so far that in the beginning of July the Actual Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe will be convened here in Helsinki, with all the European, Canadian and American Foreign Ministers participating. We are thus at present in the process of creating in Europe such a foundation for peace and security which will form an excellent basis for building cooperation between nations in the future.

Your Excellency, within a few days you will be visiting the other Nordic countries. Since Finland is the first country you visit, allow me to say a few words about the Nordic cooperation which we so highly value. Geographically Finland is a part of the North and our social and cultural traditions are Nordic. The Nordic countries have solved their problems in different ways. This has not prevented their cooperation in nearly all spheres of life. The citizens of the Nordic countries enjoy free access, without passports, to the Nordic countries, these

countries have a common labour market and common arrangements in social security, to name only some examples. A prominent part in Nordic cooperation organ for Nordic Parliaments and Governments; as well as by the Council of Ministers in which each Nordic country is represented by a Minister of Cooperation specially nominated to this post. In order to further develop our cooperation we have recently founded a Secretariat for the Council of Ministers in Oslo. A Finnish official has been elected to lead this Secretariat.

You have arrived in Finland at a time of the year, when the nature is perhaps most beautiful and when the saying "the Land of the Midnight Sun" is very true. It is our sincere wish that you enjoy your visit here. We also hope that your visit may convince you of the fact that we Finns highly esteem your country and wish to increase cooperation with the people of India..

I propose a toast to your health, to the prosperity and happiness of the Indian people, and to the friendly relations between our countries.

FINLAND INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA NORWAY

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri I. K. Gujral's Broadcast on World Environment Day

The following talk was broadcast by Shri L K. Gujral, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, on June 5, 1973, the eve of "World Environment Day":

Motivated by what our Prime Minister

called "Concern for present and future welfare of humanity", the United Nations called a World Conference in Stockholm last year in this very month.

Gradually a consciousness has been aroused that man's reckless exploitation of

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nature is resulting in serious ecological imbalance.

Advance of modern civilisation has resulted in the destruction of flora and fauna. Cities are chocking with smoke. Polluted water and air is posing a serious problem to future of humanity.

It is ironical, perhaps, that man's conquest over nature has now reached a stage when it has become counter-productive. It has taken us time to realise that ecological balance is a very delicately worked out phenomenon and if we recklessly destroy natural resources, their replenishment is beyond human ingenuity.

Club of Rome, now a famous name, had initiated a study which conclusively established that on the one hand natural resources were depleting very fast and on the other population the world over, is increasing with a terrific speed. Such a situation coupled with fast environmental deterioration could only lead this planet to sure destruction.

RENEWAL PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN

The feeling of an impending "Doom's Day" dominated thinking of the developed countries. Such thinking had its purposeful effect too. Major countries of the world, who have resources, have undertaken major renewal programmes. Sweden, for instance, has been able to clean all its water resources. Rivers and lakes have been de-polluted.

London has significantly cut its 'smoking chimneys' and both for factory and home new laws to control smoke have been enforced. Steps have been initiated to preserve marine life and I am told, after a very long time, the Thames has got back various

varieties of fish once again.

Though considerable investment is now being made in Research and Development to evolve de-pollutant technology, yet much remains to be done.

Affluent societies have achieved, thanks to growth of technology, unprecedented comforts and ease. Though in many ways, consumer society has faced its own frustration, the quest continues. Increasing number of automobiles, burnt gases emitted by jet planes are comparatively minor factors which have deteriorated the quality of environment.

Major criminal is, of course, the modern technology of war. Millions of tons of high explosive bombs exploded in the Vietnam War or the test explosion of nuclear bombs, have upset, and continue to create problems of the bio-sphere.

In Asia, Africa and Latin America where 2/3rds of humanity lives, nature of our problem is very different. Our culture and civilisation have always tried to harmonise man and nature and our scriptures have sung hymns in praise of nature and its role in our life.

POVERTY - THE GREATEST POLLUTER

But history has given us an unfair deal. Poverty and squalor has stayed with us for a very long time through no fault of ours.

For the last quarter of a century, we are making a gigantic effort to get out of this backwardness. Technology is a major tool for eradication of poverty. Abundance of food and consumer goods can be achieved only by using fertilisers, insecticide and other chemicals.

We are conscious, like the rest of the world, that reckless use of these chemicals can render even the food unfit for human consumption, yet our inputs are far below the toleration point.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi rightly asked the Stockholm Conference "on the one hand

the rich look askance at our continuing poverty - on the other they warn us against their own methods. We do not wish to impoverish environment any further and yet we cannot, for a moment, forget the grim poverty of large numbers of people. Are not poverty and need the greatest polluters?"

IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVATION

Sub-standard housing, slums, unhealthy drinking water, absence of water-borne latrines pollute the environment and if developed countries have real faith in the

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concept of one earth and one environment, then a massive international programme is needed to improve conditions of human habitation.

At Stockholm, I had authored a resolution asking the world community to set an International Housing Fund to assist the poorer countries to undertake major programmes for better housing. There was considerable resistance from most of the developed countries but it was passed by substantial majority and we hope this fund will be set up soon.

Apart from international debate on these issues which have many involved implications, preservation of environment at national level has to receive our attention too.

As a part of it, we are now trying to take active steps for the preservation of wild life but preservation of our trees and forests needs considerably more effort.

Present drought in Maharashtra, for instance, has conclusively established the havoc that reckless deforestation can cause.

Rightly, we are giving considerable attention to general living conditions of our people. As is known, four out of five Indians live in urban and rural slums. Exposure to dirt and diseases is a common day sight.

Although an effort is being made to step

up investment in public housing schemes, we have only touched a fringe of the problem and we have still to go a long way.

We have still very limited consciousness about planning our cities and villages. Some Policy makers view it as an 'ivory-tower' and irrelevant and its implication in terms of living conditions is not appreciated.

Absence of such planning can create social problems which we face, in an extreme form, as in Calcutta.

LIFE AND ENVIRONMENT INTER-LINKED

Cities like human beings cannot grow beyond certain size and once the civic infrastructure breaks under the heavy weight of unplanned growth, its socioeconomic implications are always far-reaching.

In our four Plans, we have not successfully co-related economic and spatial planning. I am hoping authors of Fifth Plan are now conscious of it and this aspect will receive more emphasis.

Eighty per cent diseases in India are water-born and we have, therefore, to pay a very considerable attention to keep our water resources clean.

Parliament will be soon considering a Bill to keep our water, and air clean. But the major effort will have to be made for provision of potable water to rural India. This programme needs substantial investment.

The very programme of eradication of poverty, in our countries, will contribute to improvement of environment. But let us not forget that ultimately quality of life and quality of environment are closely inter-linked.

This gigantic Programme needs both Collective and individual effort. Besides Governmental Programmes, Individual attitude towards, say, trees and dirt has to undergo a change. Your personal example and mine can bring about this change.

INDIA SWEDEN USA ITALY UNITED KINGDOM VIETNAM

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Address to Security Council on Tense Situation in West Asia

Following is the text of a statement on West Asia made in the Security Council on June 14, 1973, by India's permanent representative to the United Nations, Shri Samar Sen:

Mr. President, we offer you our warmest congratulations on and our best wishes for your Presidency of the Council for June this year. For you, with your long years at the United Nations, this responsibility can be taken as a matter of course, but for us it is most fortunate that during the debate of one of the most important subjects before the Council we shall have the fullest benefit

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of your experience and knowledge. In paying you compliments several speakers have mentioned bilateral relations with your country. I do not think it is necessary for me to elaborate on Indo-Soviet relations, for they are some of the best. We assure you of our fullest co-operation.

We should also like to express our appreciation for the calm and competent manner in which our outgoing President, Ambassador Abdulla, conducted our proceedings in May. We are grateful.

We welcome the presence of so many Foreign Ministers from African and Arab countries; this is indeed a measure of the in-

terest and concern with which the tense situation in the Middle East is viewed in various parts of the world. In consonance with that outlook, the Council decided on 20 April, on a suggestion by the Foreign Minister of Egypt, that it should review comprehensively the situation in the Middle East since June 1967 on the basis of a report to be prepared by the Secretary-General and in the presence of his Special Representative, Ambassador Jarring.

We now have before us the excellent, clear and astute, if indeed depressing, report of the Secretary-General. We congratulate the Secretary-General on it. We are fortunate also to have the benefit of Ambassador Jarring's being with us, both inside and outside the Council Chamber. We welcome and wish to record our appreciation of the determination, objectivity and devotion with which he has tried to carry out his most complex and difficult mission. If success has eluded him, and many other men of goodwill, in the effort to bring to an end this nearly insoluble and dangerous problem of the Middle East, the responsibility for such a lack of success is certainly not that of Mr. Jarring or of other people who have also tried, but tried unsuccessfully. But we cannot relax our efforts, and must continue to hope that, given the good intention of the main parties, this Council must still find a solution. This task is urgent, as indeed the situation is critical. The Secretary-General has reported that 17 complaints were taken up by the Security Council since July 1967 - 16 from the Arabs and 1 from the Israelis - and yet he states that most important violations of the cease-fire did not come before the Council. One needs little imagination to realize what the situation will be, if the cease-fire becomes untenable in the absence of any prospects of a solution without much delay.

The Council's resolution of 22 November 1967 stands by itself and was the basis of action during the last six years. It contains two basic principles which were accepted, so at least it would seem, by the principal parties. But when it comes to implementation, we are confronted with an Israeli in-

terpretation which makes further progress impossible. Ambassador Jarring, after most careful study and detailed discussions with the parties, formulated his aide-memoire of 8 February 1971 to which the Israelis objected as, in their view, it went beyond the mandate given to the Special Representative, and as also, again in their view, it was counter to the interpretation Israel had given to resolution 242 (1967). Ambassador Jarring's initiative was therefore unacceptable to Israel. Israel later went to the extent of suggesting that this aide-memoire of 8 February 1971 should be withdrawn.

Those developments require closer scrutiny. We have heard much about the omission of the definite article "the" and of the adjective "all" or of the mention of any date regarding the line to which Israeli troops should be withdrawn. I may add in parenthesis that at least one of those omissions is not noticeable in the French text, which is equally authentic. But, apart from those technicalities, let us take the words as they are, as indeed Israel would wish us to do. The text reads:

"Withdrawal of Israel armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict." (resolution 242 (1967), paragraph 1 (i))

What territories could have been meant except the Arab territories? No one has suggested that Israeli armed forces occupied lands in other territories. What could be meant by "the recent conflict"? If it were not the conflict of six days in June 1967, could it be interpreted to refer to conflicts which might have occurred even before 5 June? Even if such an interpretation were most welcome to the Arabs, neither the records of the Council of 1967 nor the present membership would give resolution 242 (1967)

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this Interpretation. So, the "recent conflict" in this resolution could only refer to the conflict of the six days in June 1967.

Then we are given a second line of argu-

ment which maintains that all the boundaries of Israel since its establishment inside the mandated territory of Palestine had been in the nature of military lines - cease-fire line, armistice line and truce line. This would seem to us a dangerous argument, even from Israel's point of view.

But I suppose it is so strong militarily that it finds no danger to its negotiating position with a completely undetermined border. However, this argument of Israel's that no boundary for it has ever been worked out is not valid. First, the boundaries of Israel were defined by the United Nations with precision when Palestine was partitioned. That was accepted by Israel. Secondly, the international frontiers between the old Mandated Territory of Palestine and the neighbouring territories of Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt were never in question or doubt. Israel was to be carved out of the Mandated Territory of Palestine and at no point - at no point, I repeat - were its boundaries to be outside the old frontiers of the Mandated Territory of Palestine.

Conscious of that fact, and without apparently commenting on the Israeli claim that the political borders of Israel have never been defined, Ambassador Jarring carefully drafted his aide-memoire of 8 February 1971 and asked Israel to

"give a commitment to withdraw its forces from occupied United Arab Republic territory to the former international boundary between Egypt and the British Mandate of Palestine".
(S/10929, annex II, page 2)

Israel's reply was a blunt

"Israel will not withdraw to the pre-5 June 1967 lines". (ibid., annex IV, page 1)

Thus, Israel told the Special Representative that it would no longer respect the international boundaries either in Egypt or in Syria, or anywhere else where it had occupied territories beyond the old Mandated

Territory, That attitude, taken together with Israel's refusal to confirm the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by war is inconsistent with the Israeli claim that it has accepted resolution 242 (1967). It is also inconsistent with the present Israeli assertion that all claims of either side are open to negotiations - at least, that is the impression we received from the Israeli statements of 6 and 7 June to the effect that everything is negotiable. That is perhaps what led the representative of France yesterday to state the following in the Council:

"That is why the Israeli response to Mr. Jarring's memorandum dated 8 February 1971 constitutes a prior condition which nothing can justify. The dialogue should be started on a footing of equality and not on a footing of relations of force. In stating that it will not withdraw to the lines obtaining prior to 5 June 1967 Israel is undermining the balance in resolution 242 (1967)." (1724th meeting, p. 36)

Much was also said about this resolution providing for negotiations between the parties. Since we are examining the resolution as it stands, without any additions or subtractions even of a dot or a comma, it is worthwhile to point out that the word "negotiations" does not occur in the resolution at all. The relevant paragraph simply requests the Secretary-General

"to designate a Special Representative to proceed to the Middle East to establish and maintain contacts with the States concerned in order to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement in accordance with the provisions and principles in this resolution". (resolution 242 (1967), paragraph 3)

That was Ambassador Jarring's task, and he set about it assiduously and delicately to bend all his efforts to carry out his most explicit mandate. He failed because of the Israeli attitude. Perhaps contacts have been maintained all through these years, but very

little progress could be made beyond clearing up the issues.

During the years many attempts were nevertheless made to have indirect nego-

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tiations, but all of those failed too, because of Israel's refusal to vacate the Arab territories acquired as the result of the 1967 conflict. I need mention only three such attempts: the good offices of certain Heads of State or Government of African countries; the suggestion of "proximity" talks; and what has come to be known as the Rogers Plan. These days, Ambassador Jarring is being criticized for having interpreted resolution 242 (1967) in the only possible way, and yet the Rogers Plan was essentially based on the same interpretation of this resolution. All the four great Powers supported Ambassador Jarring in his interpretation of resolution 242 (1967) and on the nature of his mandate. Only this morning, the Secretary-General once again confirmed that attitude of the four great Powers. Thus, so far as is known, Israel alone, among all 132 Members of the United Nations, interpreted Ambassador Jarring's activities in a different way.

Meanwhile, the four great Powers were making their own efforts, and many of us had hoped that at least one of them would be able to persuade Israel to be more reasonable. That was not an idle hope. When a country has so many special ties with a great Power there are many ways of persuasion. That has happened in the past elsewhere, and even in the Middle East - for example, the abandonment of the River Jordan scheme - and therefore it was reasonable to expect that if, on whatever grounds, sense of justice, national interests or the wider cause of international peace and security, a change of course was decided upon, Israel could be expected to co-operate, not as a matter of coercion or imposition but as a result of persuasion that Israel's interests too were best served by such a change. We still hope for such a change in attitudes and policies.

We are always in favour of negotiations,

and we were pleased to hear from the Egyptian Foreign Minister, to whom a special word of welcome is due, that his country would be ready and willing to negotiate provided there were no preconditions. But, preconditions apart, the objective circumstances are as follows:

First, Israel's refusal to implement resolution 242 (1967).

Second, Israel's assertion that it must have Jerusalem; a good part if not the whole of the West Bank; the Golan Heights; Sharm-el-Sheikh and many other selected Arab lands. It gives the impression that its full hand will be shown only at the negotiating table, but Israel's intention has been made clear through many authoritative statements.

Third, its settling of Jewish populations in the captured lands at the cost of the Arabs, with many fundamental changes, of which the United Nations has disapproved, in the texture of life and economy of these territories.

Fourth, its importation of more Jews - will that lead to the doctrine of Lebensraum being put into effect?

Fifth, its policy of having more Arab lands with as few Arabs as possible coming with them.

Sixth, its refusal to recognize Palestinian rights. Without a settlement of this problem, a permanent solution of the crisis in the Middle East will not be available. Rhetoric will not disperse this issue. It is immaterial whether these people are called Palestinians or by any other name. The fact is that this is where they have lived for untold centuries, and unless their fundamental civil, religious and political rights are protected, and unless every effort is made to facilitate their return home in full dignity, the problem will not be solved and the troubles will continue.

Seventh, Israel's refusal to settle the refugee problems in accordance with United Nations resolutions it has accepted. The

resolutions of the General Assembly may not be binding, but no country can say that some of those resolutions are binding and the others are not. If Israel claims that the resolution on the refugees is not binding, it must concede that the resolution on the admission of Israel is also subject to challenge by the Arabs. But we do not wish to enter into these legalistic arguments.

Eighth, Israel's increase in military strength and its capacity to strike at will anywhere it likes in the Arab world.

Ninth, its desire for time, which allows it to consolidate its hold and to plan further ahead. It has already had six years.

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Tenth, its refusal to abide by innumerable United Nations resolutions.

Eleventh, its desire to treat the Jews everywhere as its responsibility in spite of what Mr. Sharett had to say on this subject at the time of Israel's admission to the United Nations.

Twelfth, Israel's policy of retaliation and reprisal, and its failure to punish the guilty.

Thirteenth, Israel's ideology, about which we have heard so much.

In these prevailing circumstances, therefore, the call for negotiations rightly appears to the Arabs as a call for surrender, or at least as a call for more time to continue with the present stalemate, which inevitably brings advantage to Israel.

On the other hand, we believe that the present policy of laissez faire-laissez passer is of the utmost danger. Some may calculate that, given time, Israel will settle down in its newly annexed lands and, with the Arabs admittedly weaker and seemingly divided, a stage will come when they will accept Israel in its present grandeur. Fortunately, we do not share that view, and if any one of us feels that the present situation is moving towards some form of stability, the statements made before the Council by a succes-

sion of Arab representatives must have dispelled such feelings and theories.

What then can be done? We believe that in spite of Israel's reservation, if not rejection, of resolution 242 (1967), it can still serve as a basis for progress. We should therefore suggest a few immediate measures.

First, we would recommend a declaration, in formal and unequivocal terms, by Israel, accepting the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force, and, as a consequence, committing itself to withdraw from all Arab lands it occupied as a result of the June 1967 conflict.

Secondly, we would suggest that the Arab countries concerned make a declaration, again in formal and unequivocal terms, committing themselves to respect and acknowledge the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political Independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force.

Thirdly, both Israel and the Arab countries concerned should, simultaneously but separately, declare that all of them would respect the rights of the Palestinian people in every field.

It is both unjust and unacceptable to expect non-Jewish people to live with any degree of security or peace of mind in a Jewish State that affords them no legal or constitutional protection from the arbitrary exercise of power.

As for the Palestinians living in exile, there is simply no incentive for them to return, which sadly confirms the hope of the Israeli authorities that they will, in fact, not return home, and that others, who remained in both Israel and the occupied areas, will follow them into exile.

Israel must be fully aware that constant postponement of the Palestine problem is no solution at all. Inevitably, Israel, if it intends to be a democratic State, will have to accommodate these Palestinians by guaran-

teeing them basic civil liberties and political rights. By simply placing non-Jews under their arbitrary authority, Israel is bound to exacerbate the situation and hasten those very problems which it surely wishes to avoid

For years now Israel has been claiming that those Arabs living in Israel or Israeli-occupied territories are economically better off than at any time previously. This statement or this argument is as irrelevant as the South African claim that the blacks in South Africa are better off than the blacks in the neighbouring independent countries. Such an attitude reflects a simple-minded approach and fails to recognize the tragedy of these people and the agony of their plight. They, and we, are interested in their rights, their human values, and not merely in their creature comforts, however welcome and useful they may be.

Since so much has been made of it, I should like to draw the attention of the members to a full account of the conditions

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of the Arabs in the occupied lands, published in the Daily Telegraph magazine of London on 1 June 1973. This article, with several pictures and a good map, is described by the journal, as a part of its advertisement, no doubt, as "The first detailed story of the disputed areas". The author is Mr. John Bulloch, who observes: "The Israeli occupation of the Arab lands is no better and no worse than any other occupation. Sympathizers who believe that the Israelis are more benevolent than other countries are wrong; detractors who believe them more ruthless are equally wrong." All this simply means that these unfortunate Palestinians are under military occupation, have no rights and can only receive what treatment the conquerors may decide to give them in their homeland.

There must be an accommodation between the Arab rights and the Israeli rights, whereby they live together. No one is suggesting that the Israeli rights should be unilaterally sacrificed in order to safeguard

Arab rights or vice-versa. Just as the Israelis have their homeland, as defined in the United Nations decision, in part of the old mandated territories, the Palestinians have a right to their homeland and self-determination in the rest of the mandated territory partitioned in 1947.

Fourthly, the Secretary-General or his Special Representative could publish a document containing the points on which both sides have agreed in response to Ambassador Jarring's aide-memoire of 8 February 1971. Such a document should specifically cover the solution of the problem of refugees as decided by the United Nations resolution, the opening of the Suez Canal, transit facilities and demilitarized zones.

As soon as these declarations have been made, particularly the first and the second, indirect negotiations can begin, as a first step, between the interested parties with the help of the Special Representative. Once an agreement has been reached, the Palestinians should be brought into the negotiations, so that any final settlement may be satisfactory to all the parties concerned.

We are not making any formal proposals but would hope that between now and our next meeting, which I believe will be no later than 16 July and presumably still in New York, some progress along these lines may still be possible.

Many speakers have referred to the concept or the principle of a secure and recognized boundary. This is mainly a political concept and only secondarily a military affair. In the geographical position of Israel and in the context of modern arms, a secure boundary is only feasible for all the States of the Middle East, and not merely of Israel, by mutual respect, friendship, co-operation and understanding. In the absence of such a development, the military aspects, however insignificant in themselves are bound to be exaggerated, particularly in the eyes of the military men. Possibly because of its armed victory, Israel expects some return from the Arabs. But the Israelis have already obtained it -- perhaps the most glittering prize of

any military action - that is, the possibility of living in peace with one's neighbours.

In the Tel Aviv museum hall. Mr. David Ben Gurion read on 14 May 1948 the Proclamation on the Rise of the State of Israel and said:

"Accordingly we, the members of the National Council, representing the Jewish people in Palestine and the Zionist movement of the world met together in solemn assembly today, the day of the termination of the British Mandate for Palestine; by virtue of the national and historic right of the Jewish people and of the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations: hereby proclaim the establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine - to be called Israel."

I have many other clearer and stronger statements on the subject from other Israeli sources, but I thought I should quote from the most ceremonial document adopted at the birth of the State of Israel.

Nonetheless, Israel often states that if it has been condemned or its actions deplored or criticized in the United Nations, it is partly because of the structure of the United Nations, especially of the Security Council, and partly because of the influence the large number of Arab States and their friends have in this Organization - because

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of what it calls a mechanical majority. Apart from the pertinent question why many States - non-aligned countries, Socialist, practically all Asian, all 41 African, several European and Latin American States and several others besides - support and sympathize with the Arabs in varying degrees, the fact remains that when Israel was established by the United Nations and admitted to this Organization, there was considerable sympathy for it, as is evident from the voting figures, but it has forfeited that sympathy by its own actions and attitudes. Many of the resolutions critical of Israel were passed at a time when even Israel could

not complain, and did not in fact complain, of Arab influence and of a mechanical majority. And yet Israel failed to carry out several decisions taken in good faith and in a friendly atmosphere by the United Nations in order to render easier its continued and assured existence in the middle of Arab lands, and in conditions of peace and security of all the States in the Middle East.

But Israel does not draw any particular lesson from this experience. It falls back on the racial pride of suffering through the ages, of struggling as a minority, surrounded by a vast hostile majority. "This condition is not new. We have lived with it throughout the ages. We have always been small in number. That has never weakened our determination to survive. There is no solitude when justice and history are with us." The Jewish people are not alone in believing that, with justice and history beside them, irrespective naturally of what conception of justice and history one may have, they can ignore solitude and struggle on. But this sentiment, which we must all admire, loses some of its romance when we recall that Israel has, at least in recent years, received the unquestioned support of the most powerful country in the world today. In the circumstances, solitude may not be all that unbearable. Besides, this rugged determination to fight on, even in isolation, has always the danger of being perverted. Starting off with the doctrine that nothing good can be achieved without sacrifice, we are apt to delude ourselves that sacrifice itself means achievement.

But Israel does not have to be in such a self-lacerating mood. It has won a spectacular armed victory and obtained most remarkable prizes - the most important of which is that the Arab States have now solemnly offered to live in peace and harmony with it, as soon as it has withdrawn from its territory, which it must do by all rules of law. Must Israel throw away this golden opportunity and relapse into a sullen posture of denouncing everyone else for its misfortunes? Or will it allow its appetite to grow with what it feeds on? The answer is for Israel to give. For us, we should not

like General Burns's gloomy analysis to come true. General Burns, who was Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in the Middle East from August 1954 to November 1956, says at page 68 of the paperback edition of his book, *Between Arab and Israeli*:

"It is not unreasonable to deduce that a society whose young elements have passed their most formative years in an atmosphere in which the military virtues and especially aggressiveness are given the highest values, and where the Arab is always the enemy, to be made to submit to Israel's demands by ruthless force, will grow increasingly militaristic and less inclined to the solving by negotiation of external problems. The Sabra, or the Israeli who has come to the country as a young child, shut in as he is on all his borders by hostility, and precluded from travel abroad by lack of money, does not know much of the world beyond the bounds of Israel and does not at all care about its opinion. And so, born of the success of the campaigns; of 1948 and 1956, there is a certain arrogance, an inability to see that Israel should yield anything for peace, an inability to compromise. Such an attitude in what will soon be the majority of the population does not promise a peaceful solution of Israel's problems, or a peaceful future for the Middle East."

The victories of 1967 strengthened these attitudes. Unless this process of continuous generation of hate, this ignorance and this arrogance is reversed and replaced by healthier trends, our efforts, however made, will make no headway. Many speakers have mentioned the duties and responsibilities of the Security Council, as also of its permanent members. We believe that the world has a right to expect fair and timely decisions from the Council, but it cannot be un-

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aware that these decisions are not possible, because of the Charter provisions, and also that, even when such decisions are taken,

they cannot be implemented in the absence of great-Power agreement. Because of the daily awareness of these circumstances, the Council entrusted to the great Powers some informal tasks of negotiation to supplement and complement the efforts of Mr. Jarring, but these Powers failed to achieve any results, for reasons well known to us, and for nearly two years now they have not met at all - not even the four of them - and a mentality of "time alone will solve the problem" has developed. In our view, this is a most dangerous trend.

We have heard much about history. History has been pushed and prodded here, there and everywhere, and she has spoken to her votaries in voices they wished to hear. The other deities who were so served and who were equally accommodating were Truth and Justice. The debate provided the protagonists with an opportunity to recount historical events which cannot be attributed to the present generation and which find their roots in a rather vague and distant antiquity. All these expensive historical lessons may have a purpose and some of them may even be interesting, but our work is much more urgent, for we are dealing with a grave situation in which the safety and welfare of unknown millions is involved. Unless we proceed with a sense of fairness and practical sense, we shall only contribute to tension and despair.

INDIA USA EGYPT CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL LEBANON SYRIA JORDAN SAUDI ARABIA FRANCE SOUTH AFRICA UNITED KINGDOM OMAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Speech at Security Council on U.N. Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus

Shri Samar Sen made the following statement at Security Council on June 15, 1973, after it had adopted a resolution to renew the mandate of the U.N. Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for a further period of six months:

This morning we voted for a resolution extending the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) by another six months. In doing so, we were conscious that by the middle of December 1973 these forces will have been on that troubled and beautiful island for nearly ten years. There is universal acknowledgement that the presence of these forces has had the salutary effect of maintaining general calm and quiet in Cyprus. On the other hand, particularly during the last few years, there has been growing and increasingly voiced the feeling that the United Nations presence in this form and for so many years may not have contributed to the speed with which all of us would like the negotiations between the parties to proceed. The best way of dispelling such a suspicion would be for the parties to come to a rapid settlement and make it possible for the forces to withdraw. We are therefore glad to see our colleagues from Cyprus, Turkey and Greece with us. We welcome the moderation with which they have presented their views, and particularly the determination they have expressed to achieve a solution to the Cyprus problem by peaceful means.

The Secretary-General's admirable report also breathes hope and a sturdy sense of realism.

Since the Secretary-General reported on 1 December 1972, progress towards the restoration and maintenance of law and order has generally been satisfactory. The Secretary-General's latest report of 31 May 1973 also indicates that during the past six months the intercommunal military situation has remained quiet and that very few incidents have been reported between the Cypriots of Greek and Turkish origin. Incidents have, however, occurred within the Greek Cypriot community itself, but fortu-

nately they did not develop into intercommunal frictions. The need for vigilance is clearly established and we welcome the condemnation by the Governments of Cyprus and Greece of the use of violence, irrespective of its origin.

Since the intercommunal talks are continuing we would not wish to say or do anything which might come in the way of progress and the eventual success of these talks. We shall, therefore, be content with

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limiting our remarks to indicate briefly what in our opinion are the fundamental considerations of the situation prevailing in the island.

First, we should like to ensure that Cyprus would continue as a sovereign, independent and unitary State. This seems to have been already agreed between the parties and reflects geography, demographic distribution of the people and the historical experience of the inhabitants. This is also consistent with the workable political and administrative structure which we believe is necessary for Cyprus. We would not welcome and would indeed dissociate ourselves from any moves which may contain the seed, of partition, even in a distant future.

Secondly, we should like to ensure that the fundamental rights of all the citizens of Cyprus, and certainly of the Turkish community which constitutes nearly 20 per cent of the population, are guaranteed and protected.

Thirdly, we should like to ensure that Cyprus continues as a non-aligned and separate entity.

While, therefore, we would encourage every possible effort for the parties to come to a settlement and would indeed welcome and look forward to such a solution in the very near future, we would, in judging the merits of any final settlement, apply the considerations I have stated.

One immediate problem which we con-

sider must engage the urgent attention of both the parties is that of normalization in the communal intercourse. We think that it is essential that military confrontation should rapidly be reduced, if not altogether eliminated. Similarly, we believe that full freedom of movement for the civilian population, including necessary transport and communication, should be restored. It would also be useful to continue to promote integrated economic activity and to bring about better economic relations between the two communities. These measures are not only good in themselves, but will contribute significantly to the progress of intercommunal talks and, at the same time, restore to the island its old and excellent tradition of all the communities living together in different cities, villages and hamlets in all parts of the island with a degree of toleration and understanding.

The Secretary-General in his report in document S/10940 has drawn our attention, in paragraphs 72 and 93, to the problem of freedom of movement and military confrontation, and we should like to support the removal of all steps which come in the way of normalization and progress towards intercommunal reconciliation, on the basis of living and working together from day to day, from week to week and from one year to another. Meanwhile, we would wish both the Parties all success in their efforts and would look forward to a programme for an agreed final settlement, hopefully before 1973 comes to an end. In this hope we are encouraged by the fact that the sympathetic and efficient services and goodwill of the Secretary-General, his Special Representative, W. Osorio Tafall; the Commander of UNFICYP, Major, General Prem Chand; and all their Colleagues and officers, with their men and staff, would continue to be available to the parties. The reconciliation of the various factors does indeed seem refreshingly favourable.

INDIA USA CYPRUS GREECE TURKEY MALI

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Indian Representative in Security Council on Admission of both German States to U.N.

The following statement was made by Shri Samar Sen at Security Council on June 22, 1973, when it unanimously adopted a resolution recommending the admission of both GDR and FRG to membership of the United Nations:

The Security Council meeting today to approve the applications from the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany for admission to membership of the United Nations is of unusual significance. The United Nations which was formed to prevent "succeeding generation from the scourge of war which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind" has taken today the first formal and

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civilized step to remove the difference between the victors and the vanquished. I say 'civilized' because we cannot and must not live in the past but move forward to build together a better future. This indeed is the spirit of our Charter.

It gives us particular pleasure, therefore, to find that the Admissions Committee has recommended speedily and unanimously the acceptance of both the applications that the simultaneous declaration by the Governments of France, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and U.S.A. have underwritten the applications and that the two German States have solemnly declared their willingness to carry out the obligations contained in the Charter. In approving the applications, the Security Council has judged that both the States are able and willing to carry out these obligations. Since it was

the general wish of the Council to refer the applications to the Committee on Admissions before taking a final decision, we accepted this consensus although we would have been prepared and ready for the Council to take a decision straightaway on the applications yesterday.

UNIVERSAL REPRESENTATION

The Government of India have attempted to make the representation at the United Nations more and more universal. Admission to the United Nations of the two German States with a population of 78 million people marks an important step towards a more effective world organisation. We hope, therefore, that when the Council takes UP the question of admission of other States it would demonstrate the same sense of urgency and give the same degree of encouragement to millions of people who are still outside but who wish ardently and demonstrably to live in peace and prosperity and in cooperation with the rest of the fellow beings in the world.

Several speakers before me have emphasized how the present applications of the two German States came about as a result of the detente in Europe and described doubtless briefly the steps leading to such a detente. We welcome these developments and continue to believe that European security is not only vital in itself but contributes in a large measure to international peace and security. We further believe that a very large number of the newly independent countries, particularly in Asia and Africa, by keeping out of the old policy of confrontation and by following the path of non-alignment would help the process of detente not only in Europe but elsewhere in the world as well. With this added strength of success it is our hope and it will certainly be our endeavour to wake the policy of non-alignment work towards greater goals of peace and security throughout the world and to strive towards a world not torn by conflicting economic interests, by hegemony and spheres and balance of terror and power of influence but towards a world where we can all live and work together as good neighbours and share the achievements of mankind in a just,

honourable and friendly manner. In this task the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany have already made important contributions both bilaterally and multi-laterally. Their admission to the United Nations would, on the one hand, give formal recognition to their important contribution and, on the other hand, ensure that the resources, vigour and wisdom as well as the rich historical and cultural traditions of these two great countries would support, sustain and coordinate our collective efforts in the years to come.

GROWING TIES

With a population of 17 million and an area of 41,635 sq. miles, the German Democratic Republic is today one of the leading industrial nations of Europe. She has worked hard for friendly relations with other countries and has established diplomatic relations with 84 States in all the parts of the world. The German Democratic Republic is a member of several specialised agencies and other international organisations and she is expected to join the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) shortly.

Friendly ties between the GDR and India have grown steadily. She is now one of India's most important trading partners and our cooperation in trade, industry, scientific and technological exchanges shows promising possibilities. The recent establishment of diplomatic relations was followed by a visit this year of our Foreign Minister to that country. In a joint statement issued at the end of this visit, they advocated,

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among other things, "the membership of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations in the very near future. Both sides called for admission without further delay of the People's Republic of Bangla Desh to the United Nations." We are, therefore, particularly glad to carry out the terms of the joint statement in so far as GDR and FRG's admissions are concerned and should soon have the pleasure of welcoming both the German States in the forthcoming

session of the Assembly as full members of the world organisation. We look forward to working with them in the fullest cooperation. We are confident that as members of the world organisation both the German States would use every opportunity for the maintenance and the consolidation of world peace and security.

EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION

The Federal Republic of Germany with a population of nearly 62 million and an area of 75,989 sq. miles is a member of all the specialised agencies and has been an observer member of the United Nations since 1952. Its effective participation in these organisations is well known. As one of the leading industrial and trading nations of the world, the Federal Republic of Germany has pursued a developmental policy which envisages promotion of economic and social progress in the developing countries in a system of world wide partnership. The total foreign aid given by the Federal Republic of Germany from 1952 to 1972 comes to 56.6 billion DM of which 6.6 billion DM was given during 1971 alone. The foreign aid was 0.87 per cent of the GNP in 1971. Asia received 509.8 million DM and India 270 million DM in 1971. India's developmental efforts have been considerably facilitated with the timely assistance from the Federal Republic of Germany. India has maintained friendly relations with the Federal Republic of Germany ever since the end of the war and the future offers promising prospects of further growth and cooperation in many fields. At the end of our Foreign Minister's visit the Federal Republic of Germany in May this year, a joint statement was issued. I shall quote two sentences from this statement: "The Indian side referred to the continuing support of the Indian Government for the Federal Government's peace efforts and indicated their interest in a further positive development in Europe." My second sentence is: "In the bilateral talks, it was noted that Indo-FRG relations in the political, economic and cultural fields had developed satisfactorily. The two sides discussed possibilities of expanding their cooperation further on the basis of partnership already

existing in many fields." So both from bilateral and multi-lateral points of view, we are happy that the Federal Republic of Germany would soon be joining the United Nations as a full member and extend its cooperation in the cause of international peace and progress.

CULTURAL INTERACTION

Since achieving our own independence, we have developed steadily political and economic ties with the two German States. Further, German scholars, artists, musicians and scientists have for several decades had special appeals to our own men and women of intellect and sensitivity. For years now there has been profound cultural interaction between the Indian and German people. In welcoming the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1967, the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi said: "It would not be an exaggeration to say that no European nation made a greater attempt to discover and understand the ancient wisdom of India than Germany did. The reason is obvious. Philosophical inquiry is the fundamental basis of the genius of the German people which those famous last words of Goethe "light more light", sum so completely. Goethe's sensitive spirit responded instinctively to Sanskrit literature. It was the work of German scholars, notably Max Mueller, that enabled us in our turn to rediscover ourselves."

The people of India have great admiration for the people of the two German States, for their great vitality, perseverance and ability. The world has seen how since the end of the war in 1945 they have mainly been responsible for the astounding recovery and the great progress in commerce, industry and technology. With their presence and participation in the United Nations they can and will, we are sure, make most effective contributions towards the great goals to which we are all committed through our Charter.

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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JAPAN

Indo-Japanese Joint Statement

The following is the text of a joint statement issued on June 6, 1973, at a Press conference held in Tokyo on the conclusion of the meeting of India-Japan Committees for studies on economic development in India and Japan:

The India and Japan committees for economic development in India and Japan met in Tokyo from 4 through 6 June inclusive, to exchange views on Indo-Japanese relations in the larger perspective of the new Asian and international scene. The Indian delegation was led by Shri B. R. Bhagat, M.P., and Chairman of the India Committee, and the Japanese team by Prof. Ichiro, Nakayama, Chairman of the Japan Committee.

Discussions at the meeting were friendly and constructive, and underlined the importance of Indo-Japanese cooperation for meeting the challenge of poverty and its resultant tensions and instability in Asia and other parts of the world. Both sides were of the view that more efforts should be made to bring peoples of the two countries together through mutual understanding such as exchange of scholars and improvement of communication.

The meeting came to the unanimous conclusion that present was the most appropriate time for further expanding cooperation not only in trade and investment but also in cultural exchange.

Prof. Nakayama, Chairman of the Japan Committee outlined to newsmen the discussions the two Committees had during the last three days. Answering a question whether the Japan Committee was now satisfied on any fear of nationalisation of enterprises with the Japanese collaboration in India, Prof. Nakayama said that any fears on this score had been set at rest by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during Mr. Nagano's visit to India last December and even earlier. He said while prospective investors still had some misgivings, these had largely been removed.

Shri B. R. Bhagat, Chairman of the India Committee explained to pressmen that nationalisation in India was not on ideological grounds or just for the sake of nationalisation but represented a pragmatic approach. It was resorted to for conserving national resources or to prevent closure of plants due to mismanagement, lack of necessary modernisation, etc., and to prevent unemployment resulting from closure. He cited the example of the takeover of certain textile mills by the Indian Government as an instance. He also explained that nationalisation of Indian banks was done mainly in the interests of rural development such as provision of credit facilities for agriculture and rural industries and to satisfy credit needs of small and medium sector industries. Foreign-owned banks were not taken over because they were not expected to play a role in fulfilling rural credit needs. This again proves that India's approach was essentially pragmatic.

Shri Bhagat recalled the Japanese Foreign Minister's statement at the recent ECAFE session stressing the importance of agricultural development in the Asian region. There was great scope for Japanese collaboration in the field of fertilizer production and also in industrial field to manufacture items for export to third countries, to fill gaps in the Indian economy and to manufacture labour intensive products for import into Japan. He also referred to phenomenal progress made in Japan since the second world war and the progress made in India and said that the new situation in Asia

called for greater cooperation among countries of the region.

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JAPAN USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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NEPAL

Prime Minister's Message on Inauguration of Nepal Eastern Canal

Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, sent the following message on the occasion of the inauguration of the Nepal Eastern Canal on June 3, 1973:

Mountains and rivers have linked the economies of Nepal and India. It has been recognised for a long time that a co-operative approach to the utilisation of the water resources of the two countries will be mutually beneficial. The Gandak project is an example of such cooperation. I am glad to learn that the Nepal Eastern Canal which will provide irrigation for 82,000 acres in Nepal is being formally inaugurated on June 3 and that His Excellency the Prime Minister of Nepal will preside over the function.

It is a privilege for India to have been associated with Nepal in this undertaking. This project will strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between our two peoples and also be of direct daily benefit to a large number of people. I send my greetings and good wishes to the Government and people of Nepal.

NEPAL INDIA LATVIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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NORWAY

Minister of External Affairs Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech at Banquet in his Honour

Following is the text of the speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, on June 19, 1973, at a banquet in Oslo held by the Norwegian Foreign Minister, Mr. Dagfinn Varvik:

We are happy to be in your beautiful Oslo. The warmth of your sun this morning was as generous as the cordiality of your reception. May I thank you for the thoughtful and elaborate arrangements made for our stay in Norway? I am sure we shall be comfortable.

I had undertaken a tour of Scandinavia at the invitation of some Scandinavian friends and it was exceedingly kind of you, Mr. Foreign Minister, to ask me to include your country in my tour, thus affording me an opportunity to come to Norway.

Norway and India are not strangers to each other. We have had a long history of contacts between our two countries and some of your Missionaries are still engaged in humanitarian work in India. Important personalities of our two countries have exchanged visits. But I hope I am not wrong in thinking that this is the first visit by a Foreign Minister of India to Norway. Prime Minister Nehru visited Norway as Prime Minister in 1954 and you reciprocated by sending your Prime Minister Gerhardsen and Foreign Minister Lang to India in November-December 1958. Thereafter we had a few more distinguished visitors from Norway, including your Minister of Industries Mr.

Rostoft in 1969.

Although we in India are far from Norway, and our courses are somewhat different,

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we have not found it difficult to understand your policies and political alignments. We do believe that it is the right of each nation to take appropriate steps in the interests of its security and independence. We have no doubt that Norway's policies have been motivated in the best interest of Norway and her people. It is indeed a characteristic of Norway that despite her alignments, which are strong and firm, the people of Norway have decided to vote against entry into the European Common Market. It was an assertion of Norway's right to uphold the Norwegian way of life.

Our Norwegian friends will, I hope, look into our circumstances and our geopolitical situation and appreciate how we in India have similarly sought to chart a course in the interest of our independence and security. We are fundamentally devoted to peace, and in all our endeavours we have kept the interests of peace in mind, I need hardly remind you that since our independence we decided to remain a non-aligned country because it was our conviction that through non-alignment alone we could best serve the interests of peace.

You in Europe are on the threshold of a lasting peace and detente, in the attainment of which Norway herself has played no mean role. Unhappily our own continent Asia remains tortured and troubled. We are beset by great power rivalries and we are still a long way from a settled peace.

In our own sub-continent, we had an unfortunate war. It was mercifully a short war and since its end we have been consistently searching for a basis for a stable peace. A peace settlement will have to be in consonance with the interests of all the three countries of the sub-continent, Bangla Desh, Pakistan and India. As you will recall it was at my Prime Minister's initiative that we had the Simla Summit in the summer of

1972. We made some headway then, returned the territories we had captured from Pakistan and the prisoners we took in the West. We also delineated the Line of Actual Control in Jammu and Kashmir. We were generous in our search for peace with Pakistan. Other problems still remained which required the goodwill and co-operation of all the countries of the sub-continent, for their solution. I am sorry that Pakistan failed to keep the promise it held out in Simla. Nevertheless we took a further initiative, and along with Bangla Desh made a joint declaration in April last offering to send back Pakistani prisoners to Pakistan, simultaneously with the return of the Bengalis detained in Pakistan and the Pakistanis stranded in Bangla Desh. We had a simple purpose. We wanted to separate the humanitarian issues and problems from the political ones, and have them out of the way. Once again Pakistan's response has been less than helpful. You will appreciate that the interests of three countries are involved and no one country can ride rough-shod over the other two. We have not given up hope that Pakistan will see the larger interests of the sub-continent and respond to our efforts to bring about peace and amity to our three countries.

Our relations with Norway have been good. My visit will, I hope, keep alive the Indo-Norwegian dialogue so that we have a better understanding of each other's policies. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your contribution to our development, particularly in fisheries. Our trade, however, is a source of disappointment to us. We hope you will open your market to the wide range of our products and make a conscious effort to buy more from us. I need hardly dilate on the trading problems of a developing country.

We look forward to greater Indo-Norwegian co-operation. May our friendship and co-operation go from strength to strength. Mr. Foreign Minister, permit me once again to thank you for your kind and warm hospitality. I hope you will give us an opportunity soon to welcome you to India.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glass to drink a toast to the health and happiness of Mr. Dagfinn Varvik, Foreign Minister of Norway.

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NORWAY USA INDIA PAKISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

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NORWAY

Norwegian Foreign Minister's Speech

The following speech was made by the Norwegian Foreign Minister at the banquet held on June 19, 1973:

It is a great honour and privilege for me to welcome you, Mr. Minister, and your party to Norway. Your visit is of special significance for us as it is the first time that a Minister of External Affairs from India is visiting our country. We still cherish the memory of the visit that Jawaharlal Nehru paid to Norway more than 15 years ago. We were received with great respect and enthusiasm as representative of the new and independent India, whose fight for freedom and democracy had been followed with great sympathy and admiration in Norway. The teaching and shining example of Mahatma Gandhi have also made a deep impact on our minds, embodying human and social values which are a strong inspiration for all endeavours of man to create a better society and a better world to live in.

Mr. Minister, although your visit will be short - in our view much too short - I sincerely hope you will feel that you have come to a people that nourishes a warm

sympathy for India and who respect and admire the achievements of the Government and people of India in building a modern state based on economic progress and social improvement.

Mr. Minister, over the years numerous bonds of friendship have been established between our two countries and peoples. Many Norwegians - officials, development experts, businessmen and seamen, to mention some - have visited your country and have brought with them home lasting memories of hospitality and friendship.

Mr. Minister, we on our part believe in personal contacts, and I can assure you that I have been looking forward to receiving you here in Norway and to having a friendly exchange of views with you on matters of mutual interest.

The steady growth of the traditional ties of friendship and co-operation between Norway and India is a source of gratification to us. We look forward with great anticipation to a further strengthening of this co-operation, as we strongly believe that in our time progress on a national and International scale can best be achieved through close co-operation and understanding between nations.

As you know, Mr. Minister, Norway is a maritime country, and our merchant fleet is engaged in sea transport all over the world. Norwegian ships have also for decades participated in the transport to and from India, and I hope that you have found our service in this field satisfactory.

India is now a maritime country with an increasing merchant fleet. It is my hope that Norway and India will co-operate in this field to the benefit of international trade and shipping.

The trade between Norway and India is still comparatively modest. Last year, Norway imported goods from India for about 30 million kroner and exported goods to India for approximately the same amount. It is my hope, Mr. Minister, that we shall find the possibilities and means to increase

the trade between our two countries to our mutual benefit.

Mr. Minister, our co-operation is not limited to the fields of trade and commerce only. Norway and India have similar views as to the importance of the United Nations, and we have a mutual interest in strengthening the co-operation within the framework of that organization in promoting peace, security and well-being in the international society to the benefit of all humanity.

Mr. Minister, we are all aware of the great challenge that faces your Government and people in strengthening and developing the Indian society. We wish you success in your future endeavours. With these words, Mr. Minister, I once more extend a warm welcome to you and your party. I sincerely hope that You will enjoy your stay with us.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish to propose a toast to the health of the Foreign Minister of India, to the progress and prosperity of the people of India and to the friendship between India and Norway.

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NORWAY USA INDIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Agreement with Norway for Supply of Fertiliser

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on June 28, 1973, on the agreement signed with Norway for the supply of fertiliser to India:

An agreement for the supply of fertiliser, as gift, worth Rs. 6.57 crores has been signed here today between India and Norway.

According to the agreement, Norway will supply fertiliser of the above value during the period of three years commencing 1973. Fertiliser worth Rs. 2.74 crores will be supplied each year during 1973 and 1974, whereas fertiliser for the balance amount will be supplied during 1975.

Under the terms of agreement Norway has agreed to supply a quantity of 32,000 metric tonnes of NPK fertiliser for the year 1973-74, which will be shipped during the second half of the current year.

This gift would help India in its efforts to increase food production and development of agricultural economy of the country.

The agreement was signed by His Excellency Mr. Torbjorn Christiansen, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Royal Norwegian Embassy in India and Shri B. C. Kapoor, Additional Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture.

NORWAY INDIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Minister of External Affairs Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech at Dinner in his Honour

The following speech was delivered by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, at the dinner held in Stockholm on June 17, 1973, and hosted by the Swedish Foreign Minister, Mr. Krister Wickman:

I am delighted to be here in friendly Sweden. The generosity and warmth of your reception to us this morning was touching and overwhelming. We were feeling contrite about arriving here on a Sunday morning, dragging you out to the airport in a most inconsiderate manner. It was not only tactful but also very good of you to say that even though, this is a Sunday, it is a full working day for you due to Party and Governmental meetings. Even so, I must tell you how grateful my colleagues and I are to you and how much we appreciate the trouble you have taken over us.

Our friendship has been building up for some time and today I can say that it has a firm foundation. Sweden and India share the same ideals and have the same aspirations for a peaceful, clean and disarmed world. Our cooperation has been good not only for ourselves but for the world; and is an example of how two countries from two different continents and at two different stages of development, can work together for the common good.

The image of Sweden projected by your leaders is of a country which stands for high principles and a desire for justice for all parts of this troubled world.

Our Prime Minister's visit to Stockholm in June 1972 is still fresh in our memory, We remember the warm and affectionate welcome she received from the people of Sweden. She came for the U.N. Conference on Environment and talked to you about an aspect of pollution that the world so easily tends to forget and overlook, the pollution of poverty. People in the affluent countries are so Preoccupied with their kind of pollution that they miss the significance of the pollution of poverty which disfigured so large a part of the face of the world.

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We also recall your own visit to India. It broke new ground. Your informality, frankness and charm endeared you to us. We discussed many problems and found a common outlook based on common idealism.

In a sense it was you who inspired me to think of paying a visit to Stockholm. You have, in the meanwhile, been travelling and taking stock of the international situation as it has evolved since we last met. I am, therefore, specially grateful to have this opportunity of comparing notes with you and seeking counsel from you once again.

When you came to India last autumn, I was glad to have been able to tell you that we were hoping that the principles enshrined in the Simla Agreement with our neighbour, Pakistan, would enable us speedily to move towards building a lasting and stable peace in the sub-continent.

We had agreed in Simla that all Mutual problems and differences with Pakistan should be settled peacefully and bilaterally. We had acknowledged there, partly in discussions with President Bhutto and partly in the Articles of the Simla Agreement, that the bilateral problems between Pakistan and Bangla Desh should be settled by them on the basis of sovereign equality, or in other words, after mutual recognition of each other's presence and existence on the sub-continent. It was our hope that thereafter all three countries could on a fair and equal basis settle the problems of concern to them. I am sorry to have to say that our hopes in this regard have not been fulfilled. To break the continuing stalemate, Bangla Desh and India took a further initiative by separating the humanitarian problems from the political problems. Our offer was in the interest of all three countries to put out of the way humanitarian problems arising out of the war in 1971. Acceptance of our proposal would have enabled the Pakistani Prisoners of War to return home, the Bangla Desh civilians and other personnel in Pakistan to return to Bangla Desh and the Pakistanis in Bangla Desh to return to Pakistan. Unfortunately, Pakistan's response has, so far, not been positive. We have, however, not abandoned hope. We continue our efforts for a settlement of these and other problems bilaterally and peacefully with Pakistan.

As I said earlier, our relations with

Sweden have been developing happily. Sweden's attitude towards economic co-operation, aid and trade with developing countries, has deservedly been praised. Our own trade with Sweden has grown in the last few years. However, much more is possible and we could do more together to help the process of this trade realizing its potential. You will recall in this connection that during your last visit to India, we had exchanged Letters setting up an Indo-Swedish Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation. This Commission has understandably given rise to expectations that our co-operation will expand and multiply in the various fields covered by this Agreement. It is my hope that we can speed up the process and make the Commission start functioning in right earnest. We hope that the Commission will become a mechanism for enlarging the areas of our co-operation and for exploring newer fields in which the two countries can work together. May I also express the hope that a special endeavour will be made to open the Swedish market to Indian products and to encourage imports from India to Sweden.

Sweden has had almost a hundred-and-fifty years of peace, social dynamism and progress. Today it enjoys one of the highest standards of living, combined with social justice and democracy. We wish you continued peace and uninterrupted progress. We ourselves seek to create an environment of peace in the sub-continent in order to speed up the process of our own socioeconomic progress. We seek progress in peace. We seek Progress through co-operation and not through conflict.

Sweden's neutralism and our policy of non-alignment both repudiate not only power groupings but also the concept of power domination. Both Sweden and India want to extend freedom and not to circumscribe it. The world cannot be half free and half slave, just as it cannot be half affluent and half poor. We have much to work for. May our co-operation bring hope to the world.

Dear Colleague, permit me once again to thank you for your warm hospitality.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I ask you to raise your glasses and drink a toast to my friend and colleague, Mr. Krister Wickman, the Foreign Minister of Sweden.

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SWEDEN USA INDIA MALI PAKISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Indo-Swedish Aid Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on June 18, 1973, on the Indo-Swedish aid agreement signed in Stockholm on the same day:

India and Sweden signed in Stockholm today an agreement for development assistance of Rs. 27.21 crores (SKr. 180 million) to be provided by Sweden during 1973-74 and 1975-76. The agreement follows talks held between the two countries at New Delhi last April.

Earlier in an agreement concluded in November 1972 Sweden had agreed to provide assistance to the extent of Rs. 18.144 crores (Skr. 120 million) during the year 1974-75.

The new agreement provides Swedish aid amounting to Rs. 10.584 crores (Skr. 70 million) during 1975-76 for general imports. This will be in the form of a loan repayable over a period of 50 years with an initial grace period of 10 years. The non-project loan is interest free but carries a nominal service charge of 3/4 of one per cent.

The agreement also provides Swedish resources to the extent of Rs. 10.584 crores (SKr. 70 million) to finance imports from Sweden in 1975-76. This assistance will be in the form of a grant.

In addition to the assistance for 1975-76, Sweden will give technical assistance to the extent of SKr. 25 million (Rs. 3.78 crores) during the year 1973-74. This amount will be utilised for the implementation of several projects in the fields of agriculture, family planning, health, export promotion, research and development, etc. The agreement further provides for resources to the extent of Rs. 2.268 crores (SKr. 15 million) for financing imports from Sweden during 1973-74.

It will be recalled that in the Development Co-operation Agreement 1972 between Sweden and India resources to the extent of Rs. 11.34 crores (SKr. 75 million) for general imports from Sweden have already been provided for the current year 1973-74. The provision of Rs. 2.268 crores (SKr. 15 million) for imports from Sweden in the agreement now concluded represents an addition for the year 1973-74.

SWEDEN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indian Ambassador's Statement while Presenting His Credentials to U.S. President

The following is the text of the Ambassador Shri T. N. Kaul's statement on the occasion of presenting his credentials to President Nixon in Washington on June 14, 1973:

I have the honour to present to you the Letter of Credence from my President accrediting me as Ambassador of India to the United States of America. I also present the Letter of Recall of my distinguished predecessor, Mr. Lakshmi Kant Jha.

I had the honour of visiting your great country with my Prime Minister at the end of October, 1971, in my capacity as Foreign Secretary, when the situation in our sub-continent and the world at large was not very encouraging. I am assuming my new responsibilities as Ambassador at a time when, fortunately, tensions and causes of conflict on the sub-continent and in the world at large are showing signs of solution. Your Personal contribution in relaxing tension

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and promoting detente in the International field is well recognised.

COMMON DESIRE

Mr. President, your Government and the Government of India have expressed a common desire for better relations based on equality, reciprocity and mutual respect. A trend in that direction is already evident. Friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples is not only desirable but essential. It could promote peace, security, stability and progress in the region and the world at large.

India and the United States share many common values and ideals. We have a common belief in individual liberty and respect for human dignity; we both believe in freedom of thought and expression; democracy and democratic institutions have taken deep roots in the hearts and minds of both our peoples. And, as you said, Mr. President, in your recent State of The World Message, there is no significant conflict of interests between our two countries; and, if I may add, there need be none.

It is but natural that there should be differences in attitude and outlook between two sovereign independent countries like

U.S.A. and India, especially when both follow the democratic system where people and governments freely express their urges and aspirations. It is significant that these differences have been less of a bilateral character and more in the context of our respective attitudes towards Problems in other areas. However, as a result of some changes for the better in the international scene, to which both our Governments have made their contributions, it is our hope and expectation that the stresses and strains between us will progressively diminish. Even more significant is our conviction that these differences should be understood by both sides and accepted as natural, kept in perspective, and not allowed to cloud the basic direction or the totality of our relations. The values and ideals that our two great peoples cherish and which unite them, are far more important and lasting than the passing differences that seem to divide us from time to time.

GIGANTIC TASK

Mr. President, we celebrated the silver jubilee of our independence last year. As Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said at the dawn of our independence, "Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge". We have embarked on the gigantic task of improving the standard of living of our 560 million people. The progress we have achieved so far gives us hope for the future. But, much more remains to be done. During your visits to India, including the last one in 1969, you have seen some of our achievements and problems. We recognize, and proudly so, that the basic effort in this direction has to be our own and our success will flow from our own labour and sacrifice. Your continued understanding and cooperation is a source of encouragement in our effort. We sincerely believe that trade and commerce, science and culture, research and development in the field of industrial and agricultural technology are some of the many spheres in which our cooperation can be further strengthened for mutual benefit.

PEACE IN SUB-CONTINENT

We are earnestly engaged, along with other countries of the sub-continent, in the vital task of breaking away from conflict and confrontation of the past, to a new relationship of peace and cooperation. Friendly and cooperative relations, between the countries of the sub-continent and their 800 million people, on a footing of equality, mutual respect and understanding, would ensure the security and stability of each one of them and help in the early solution of our common problems of poverty and under-development. We firmly believe that this goal can best be achieved by discussion between the countries themselves. We are glad that your Government has Indicated its support to these principles and the non-involvement of other powers or external influences in the affairs of the sub-continent. We welcome your Governments acceptance of the new realities in the sub-continent and your support of what has come to be known as the "Simla spirit".

Mr. President, it will be my earnest endeavour to promote and develop friendship and cooperation between our two great nations and Governments in all possible fields of activity. I hope, Mr. President, that in

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fulfilling this important and challenging task I shall have the full cooperation of your Government and also your own personal encouragement and support, as I know I have of my own President, Prime Minister, Government and people.

Mr. President, I bring to You warm greetings of my President and, Prime Minister and the sincere good wishes of the people of India for the happiness, prosperity and well-being of the friendly people of the United States.

USA INDIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

President Nixon's Remarks at Credentials Ceremony

The following is the text of remarks made by President Nixon When Ambassador T. N. Kaul presented his credentials on June 14, 1973:

I am pleased to receive the letter from President V. V. Giri accrediting you as Ambassador of India to the United States of America.

Your distinguished predecessor, Mr. L. K. Jha, represented India in this country with great distinction during a time of tension and change in South Asia. Today, there is new hope for the development of a stable regional system founded in the secure independence of all the nations of South Asia. This would not only foster reduced tensions in the area, but would contribute to the structure of the global peace we seek.

The United States has not been directly involved in the complex process of resolving the issues remaining from the conflict of 1971. It believes that the primary responsibility for this rests necessarily with India, Pakistan, and Bangla Desh. We have nonetheless warmly encouraged and supported the constructive efforts to resolve the outstanding problems and to shape a new South Asian stability. While normalization of relations will not be easy, we are encouraged by the determination of India and the other nations of South Asia to make a new beginning and to set aside old conflicts, creating a climate of greater confidence that paves the way for eventual reconciliation.

Mr. Ambassador, you correctly state in your remarks that the Government of the United States and the Government of India "have expressed a common desire for better relations based on equality, reciprocity and

mutual respect." As I noted in my report on U.S. foreign policy, our dialogue has begun. Its substance is both political and economic. On the political side, I strongly believe that there are no significant conflicting interests between the United States and India. We have had our differences in the past, and will no doubt have them in the future. But I believe that we share with India a fundamental common interest in seeing a South Asia that is independent, progressive and peaceful, and that this provides a solid basis for a future cooperative relationship.

In 1949, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru declared, "India is going to be and is bound to be a country that counts in the world affairs." Twenty-five years of Indian Independence have demonstrated the validity of his perception. I stated in my foreign policy report that we respect India as a major country and are prepared to treat India in accordance with its stature and responsibilities on the basis of reciprocity. As democracies, we share great and humane political traditions. We also recognise that our relations cannot be based on sentiment, but must rest on realism and mutual respect for each other's interests.

On the economic side, it is important that we define a new basis for our relationship over the longer term. We are both interested in how to move toward Indian economic self-reliance. Issues such as the role of U.S. development assistance, our trade and financial relations, questions of scientific and technical cooperation, as well as our common interest in economic progress in South Asia and elsewhere in the developing world, provide a broad agenda as we address this task. With goodwill and perseverance, I am confident that we can make progress in this field as well as on political matters.

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Mr. Ambassador, I want to assure you that I and my Government fully reciprocate the desire you have expressed for friendship and cooperation between our two great nations. For our part, we will move step-by-step with India in building a new relation-

ship between our two countries and peoples. In wishing you a happy and successful residence in our country, I would like to thank your President and Prime Minister for their warm greetings and on behalf of the American people, to express our sincere good wishes and friendship to the people of India.

USA INDIA PAKISTAN MALI PERU

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Lunch by President Tito

The following short speech was made by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in reply to President Tito's toast at the lunch hosted by the Yugoslav President in her honour in Belgrade on June 15, 1973:

It is always a privilege to me, and a great satisfaction to be able to come to your beautiful country and, especially, to have the opportunity to meet with YOU, Your Excellency. I came here with my father, I have come later, by myself, to seek advice, to hear your views on various problems, and each of my stays here has always been useful. Many changes have taken place in the world since the last time I was in Yugoslavia.

You have worked with determination and consistency for peace, and it must be a source of great satisfaction to you to see that the people of Europe are moving, at last, along the road you have always marked out. The trend is in the direction of a relaxation of tensions, and the people of Europe have drawn closer economically. We

have always welcomed every step towards friendship, cooperation, and detente. But we also hope that these various combinations will not grow into a new club of the rich which looks after itself alone and from which will be excluded everyone else, their interest neglected. It is a strange paradox that Europe, where the Great world wars have occurred, is the Europe today moving towards peace, while Asia, whose entire philosophy is founded on peace, tolerance and friendship, is today caught up in tension and unrest. We can only hope that the situation there will also improve, and it is in this direction that we are working. And I am convinced that you will also have a big role in this.

YUGOSLAVIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

President Tito's Speech at Lunch in Honour of Prime Minister of India

The following speech was made by President Tito while proposing the toast to Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the lunch given by him on June 15, 1973:

We will try to make the most intensive use of this short time we have, to carry out, after quite some time, an exchange of views, since we do have much to talk about. We should discuss the international situation, which is not good, in my opinion as well as our bilateral relations, which are on a good road and which we may expand even more.

When I say that international relations are not good, this should not be taken literally. These relations are not as we had

hoped they would be after the many efforts that have been made to preserve peace and to provide the peoples of the world with a

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sense of relief and to release them of their fears for tomorrow. In some parts of the globe the situation is improving. Quite a bit has been done with much pain in Europe for its people to breathe more freely and to look at their future with somewhat less on having it (Europe) no longer be that point on our planet from which big wars break out. But however much we try, it is never too much. There is still much to be done, much to be discussed among us. The non-aligned countries in particular must strongly raise their voice in Algeria against the situation which is to be found in some parts of the world today, where there are remnants of colonialism, where neocolonialism is trying to infiltrate, attempting to have some peoples oppressed.

We are alertly following everything which is happening in the Far East. Just as well, we are following the development of India and efforts which Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is making in her country. We do know that great difficulties also exist, and we sympathise in this. We would like for Mrs. Indira Gandhi, her government and people boldly to overcome the difficulties which still stand in their way.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA ALGERIA

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet by Yugoslav Prime Minister

Following is the text of the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the official dinner held at Belgrade in her honour by the President of the Federal Executive Council, H.E. Mr. Dzemail Bijedic, on June 15, 1973:

I am no stranger to Yugoslavia. On each visit I have found a welcome abounding in warmth and friendliness, and have added pleasant pictures to my book of memories. There is always the pleasure and benefit of meeting President Tito and the leaders of Yugoslavia, and of enlarging my understanding. I am glad to renew my personal acquaintance with Chairman Bijedic and Madame Razija, who were both in India recently.

Centuries old ties were re-established in our own days by President Tito and my father, two great fighters for freedom and champions of the human spirit. They were liberators and builders and both assumed the responsibilities of Government about the same time. We in India have special feelings of affection for President Tito and Madame Broz.

President Tito has made a historic contribution to the building of Yugoslavia. But the impact of his thought and work has extended far beyond your borders. He is one of the most eminent of contemporary statesmen - by his wisdom, vision and achievement. For thirty years he has striven untiringly to promote a new kind of international relationship in which all nations can be equal and each can realise its own full personality.

A shared picture of an undivided world, which made President Tito and Jawaharlal Nehru co-workers in the cause of the future, continues to bind Yugoslavia and India. This friendship is not based on coincidence of transient interest. It is strengthened by our common experiences of struggle against foreign hegemony and by our allegiance to peace and cooperation. We have both stood for nonalignment because of our conviction that peace can be secured only through co-existence, and that the problems of the world can be solved only through peace.

We in India have also followed with interest the social experiments in your country, especially the evolution of the system of socialist management. The Yugoslav people are so well-informed of international affairs and even of India, which is one of the least understood countries in the world, that there is no need for me to speak of our progress or of our difficulties. Yugoslavia is familiar with Our Own Pre-occupation with overcoming the economic, social and intellectual consequences of colonialism and feudalism and with building a society based on political and economic freedom and equality. We have come within hailing distance of self-reliance. But self-reliance does not mean

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that nations will be sufficient unto themselves. On the contrary, inter dependence is increasingly evident Self-reliance ensures that economic relations between nations will be on a basis of equality.

In our discussions, We reaffirmed our faith in nonalignment and in its continuing relevance in fact, the big changes that have come about in the world are an effective vindication of its promises. We have always believed in friendship with all countries regardless of their policies or systems of government. In our fast changing world this is becoming all the more urgent for peace and prosperity. The Fourth Conference of the Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries, which is to be held in Algiers later this year, must take us nearer to our basic objectives, namely, international peace, equality among nations, and a more equitable share of the world's resources for developing countries. In particular, it should ensure that the relaxation of tensions is not used as camouflage for new spheres of influence.

Nations have to safeguard their independence by their own strength but we are firmly convinced that just and durable solutions to international problems can be found through negotiations. In the convulsions which have taken place in our part of the world in the last couple of years, we have

taken initiatives to normalise our relations. We shall persevere in our quest for enduring peace with Pakistan in spite of rapid changes of mood and manner in that country. Our objective is a durable relationship of equality, trust, friendship and cooperation among all the nations of our subcontinent and Immediate neighbourhood.

We do not want the Indian subcontinent and South Asia to be tin anxiety zone. If outside arms are inducted into the neighbourhood it would be difficult to achieve peace or to keep it.

We have welcomed the detente in Europe and the agreements on Vietnam. We share anxiety at the delay in the implementation of the agreements. There cannot be real peace in that area until Laos and Cambodia are also brought within the purview of the ceasefire and withdrawal of foreign troops. The situation in the Middle East (or West Asia as we call it) remains a cause for grave concern.

Yugoslavia and India have a good record of cooperation in international organisations. I hope that we shall maintain this tradition and will also further strengthen our political, economic and cultural exchanges.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I invite you to join with me in raising your glasses to the health of His Excellency Marshal Josip Broz Tito, the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and of Madame Broz, to the health of His Excellency Mr. Dzemail Bijedic and Madame Razija, to the prosperity of the people of Yugoslavia, to friendship between our two countries, and to international peace and co-operation.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA ALGERIA MALI PAKISTAN VIETNAM CAMBODIA LAOS

Date : Jun 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Speech by President of Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia

Mr. Dzemail Bijedic, President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, made the following speech at the official dinner held in honour of the Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi in Belgrade on June 15, 1973:

Allow me to express my great satisfaction at the opportunity offered to me to extend cordial greetings, on behalf of the Government of Yugoslavia, my wife and in my own name, to Your Excellency, Madame Prime Minister, and to your esteemed associates, and to wish you a warm welcome and a pleasant stay in our country.

Still fresh in my memory, Madame Prime Minister, is a very warm reception and useful and sincere talks we had at the time of my recent visit to your country. That visit offered us an opportunity to become better acquainted with the results which the friendly people of India had been achieving in the development of their country

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as well as with the efforts that you, Madame Prime Minister, have been exerting towards that end. We hope that in the course of your stay in Yugoslavia we shall have the pleasure of reciprocating that hospitality.

The results which are being attained by the people of India in all fields of their development arouse sincere admiration of the peoples and the Government of Yugoslavia, the more so since these results are being accomplished under difficult and complex conditions and in generally unfavourable position of developing countries among which our two countries also find themselves.

Thanks, first of all, to the very friendly relations between Yugoslavia and India and

to the mutual interests in the continuing promotion of cooperation between our two countries, we have created a broad platform for an even more comprehensive development of our mutual relations. Frequent and useful exchanges of views between our two countries, including those at the highest level, as well as large number of mutual visits of the most responsible officials and delegations of our two countries, have contributed, to a large extent, to such a state of relations. I am convinced that in our relations we shall be able to realise in the future even broader and more extensive cooperation in all fields and that through the efforts on both sides we shall succeed to realise even more favourable conditions and find new forms for such a cooperation.

INDO-CHINA

More than three months have elapsed since I had the honour to have an exchange of views with you on many pressing issues of the contemporary world. Unfortunately, I must mention on this occasion also our concern over the developments in certain regions of the world. The long-awaited agreements on the ceasefire in Vietnam and Laos raised the hopes of the peaceloving mankind, however, the delay in the implementation is giving cause for our anxiety. For this reason, all peaceloving countries demand a strict observance of the agreements with a view to realising peace, so that the peoples of Vietnam and Laos could decide their destiny by themselves. The bombing of Cambodia and the denial of the legitimate rights of the Khmer people to decide its future render even more difficult the creation of the conditions for the establishment of a lasting peace in the region of Indo-China.

All the efforts made in the Middle East so far with a view to returning the territories of the Arab people taken by force, have not yielded any results due to a stubborn refusal of the aggressor to comply with the requests of the international community and its institutions. We are convinced that the peaceloving forces in the world will not and should not permit the aggressor to impose its will

by arms and to enjoy the fruits of its aggression.

For years have we been pointing out that in southern Africa the racist regimes, with the assistance of neo-colonialist forces, still maintain relations that were condemned a long time ago. While sooner or later, this shameful vestige of the past will also inevitably disappear, it is the duty of the whole human community to take, Without delay, even more energetic measures so as to eradicate colonial relations.

INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

We are following with great interest and attention the development of the situation in the Indian subcontinent. You are aware of Yugoslavia's position to the effect that the outstanding issues in that part of the world should be settled directly between the parties concerned, by peaceful means and negotiations, without interference from outside. In this sense the Yugoslav Government welcome the steps taken towards the resolving of sensitive questions of the repatriation of war prisoners from India, the Bengalese from Pakistan and the Pakistani citizens from Bangla Desh. We hope that a solution for these and other issues will be found as soon as possible and that the full normalisation of relations between the countries of the subcontinent will be achieved, which is in the interest not only of those countries, but also of peace and stability in Asia and elsewhere in the world.

The policy of non-alignment, to which our two countries have adhered from the very outset, has assumed a new and significant role in the field of the strengthening of peace and security, independence and equality of all countries. I feel that I also share your opinion in saying that it is necessary for the non-aligned countries to intensify their activity and to coordinate their approaches so as negotiations and detente would extend to

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international relations as a whole. It is also fact that increasingly unfavourable position of the developing countries calls for more

effective action with a view to finding solutions to a more equitable treatment and faster development. Along these lines it is indispensable not only to obtain greater understanding of the developed countries, but also much wider and even more comprehensive mutual cooperation among the non-aligned countries, i.e., the developing countries in general.

NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

At the recently held preparatory meeting in Kabul, the desire of the participants in this gathering to strengthen further cooperation, unity and action-oriented capability of the non-aligned countries in all fields was clearly expressed. A positive contribution and an important incentive towards such an orientation of the non-aligned world is the growing interest of new countries, even of whole regions, to integrate themselves in the activities of the non-aligned countries.

The exchange of views with you, Madame Prime Minister, has always been of exceptional importance for us Yugoslavs, since it enhances better mutual understanding and promotion of relations between our two friendly and non-aligned countries. I am confident that on this occasion also our talks will mark a new contribution to an even more comprehensive and broader cooperation between Yugoslavia and India. The meeting with you will also represent a new contribution to our fruitful cooperation in the area of the preparations for the fourth summit in the success of which our two countries are equally interested.

I feel you will agree that there exist new possibilities and mutual interest of the Yugoslav and Indian economy for the further expansion and intensification of bilateral economic relations, particularly in the field of industrial cooperation, joint ventures, ship-building and in some other fields on which an understanding has already been reached between the appropriate political and economic factors of the two countries. As I informed you during our talks in New

Delhi, the Yugoslav Government has already taken concrete measures for the promotion of economic cooperation and exchange between our two countries within the framework of broader measures for cooperation with the developing countries. The Government of Yugoslavia will also lend its support to all its institutions concerned for the expansion and intensification of cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between our two countries.

Allow me, in conclusion, to propose this toast to the health and long life of His Excellency the President of the Republic of India, to your health, Madame Prime Minister, and to your esteemed associates, to the further friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Yugoslavia and India.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA CHINA LAOS VIETNAM CAMBODIA PAKISTAN MALI AFGHANISTAN

Date : Jun 01, 1973

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YUGOSLAVIA

India-Yugoslavia Joint Communiqué

The following is the text of the Joint Communiqué issued in Belgrade on June 17, 1973, at the end of Shrimati Indira Gandhi's three-day State visit to Yugoslavia:

On the invitation of the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, paid a State visit to Yugoslavia from June 15 to 17, 1973.

The Prime Minister of India and her party received a warm and cordial reception reflecting the traditional relations of sincere and deep friendship existing between the two

Governments and peoples.

In the course of her stay in Belgrade, the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, was received by the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Marshal Josip Broz Tito, for a friendly exchange of views and also held wide-ranging discussions with the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, H.E. Mr. Dzemail Bijedic, on important international issues and on bilateral relations. The talks and meetings were held in an atmosphere of frankness, friendship and mutual understanding.

The two Prime Ministers were assisted in the talks by:

ON THE INDIAN SIDE: Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri P. N. Menon, Ambassador of India; Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary; Shri C. R. Ghare-

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khan, Counsellor of the Indian Embassy; and Shri M. Malhoutra, Deputy Secretary.

ON THE YUGOSLAV SIDE: Mr. Milos Minic, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Dr. Emil Ludviger, Member, Executive Council; Mr. Salko Fejic, Ambassador of Yugoslavia in India; Mr. Branko Mikasimovic, Adviser on Foreign Affairs; Mr. Paun Serbanovic, Director; and Mr. Nikola Cicanovic, Chief of Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Both Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the existing state of relations between the two countries. They agreed that the main guide lines of action decided upon during the visit of the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia to India in March 1973 are developing successfully in the political, commercial, economic, cultural and other fields and reaffirmed their determination to expand further their mutually beneficial cooperation in all fields. They agreed that this cooperation not only meets the interests of both countries but also serves the interests of international peace and security.

The two sides emphasised, in particular, their readiness to exert further efforts for the increase of mutual trade, and for the diversification of all forms of economic co-operation between them, including joint ventures and cooperation in third markets. They noted that the broadening of mutual economic cooperation was in line with the long-term interests of the two countries and that it made a useful contribution and served as an example of mutually beneficial cooperation between non-aligned and developing countries. In this context, they underlined the significance of the tripartite economic cooperation agreement between Yugoslavia, India and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The discussions on, international questions revealed an identity of views. Both sides declared their irrevocable support for the freedom, independence and equal rights of all nations and for active international co-operation for peace and progress of all the Peoples. In their foreign policies, both States are guided by the principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence among States with different social systems.

Both sides welcomed the trend towards relaxation of international tensions as a result of the unremitting efforts and initiatives of peace-loving forces throughout the world. Concern was expressed over the fact that there still exist hotbeds of open war conflicts, the use of the policy of force, pressure and interference in the internal affairs of other States, threatening thereby peace and security in the world. They earnestly hoped that the positive developments will be consolidated and strengthened and expressed the determination of their Governments to contribute their utmost for ensuring the necessary peaceful conditions to enable the economic and social advancement of the nations of the world.

Both Prime Ministers noted that the policy of non-alignment pursued by India and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as an increasing number of independent countries, plays an increasingly important role in achieving the above-

mentioned objectives and in the development of international cooperation beneficial to all. They reaffirmed their conviction that the task of paramount importance at the present time is to work actively for the maintenance and consolidation of world peace.

Both sides expressed their confidence that at the forthcoming Summit Conference of non-aligned countries in Algiers, in September 1973, all efforts will be made for the further intensification of mutually beneficial cooperation among non-aligned countries, with a view to strengthening of peace and security and to the promotion of constructive programmes of action for accelerating the economic growth of developing countries. Both sides expressed their satisfaction on the deliberations at the preparatory meeting held in Kabul in May 1973 and agreed to keep in close touch with each other and with other non-aligned countries to ensure effective preparations for, and the success of, the forthcoming Summit Conference of non-aligned countries.

The Prime Minister of India explained the latest developments on the Indian sub-continent subsequent to the recent Joint Indo-Bangla Desh Declaration of April 17, 1973, as a sincere and realistic initiative to resolve the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflict of 1971 and to advance the cause of permanent peace and cooperation in that area. The President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia fully appreciated and supported the efforts and initiatives of India aimed at achieving a durable

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peace and good-neighbourly relations among the States in the region.

Both sides noted that the People's Republic of Bangla Desh has now been recognized by an overwhelming majority of the world community and expressed the hope that Bangla Desh will soon be enabled to take her legitimate place in the United Nations and other international organizations. Both sides welcomed the tendency towards relaxation of tension through negotiations, which has led to positive processes

in Europe. Being aware of the inter-dependence in the world, the two sides expressed the hope that the trends of the relaxation of tension and solving of problems through peaceful negotiations would also extend to other regions of the world.

Both sides expressed concern on the persistence of the crisis in West Asia due to the continued occupation of Arab territories by Israel and the new attacks against Arab States, which further endangers the situation. They emphasized the urgency for Israel to implement the provisions of the Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967 and to accept the proposals for a peaceful political settlement, with full respect for the legitimate rights of the Arab States, as well as for the people of Palestine. Both sides called for the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 as an important pre-requisite for facilitating a settlement. Both sides expressed their concern over the fact that peace has not yet been restored in Indo-China. They stressed the indispensability of the consistent implementation of the Peace Agreements in Vietnam and Laos, and called for the immediate stopping of the bombings of Cambodia, so as to enable the peoples of Indo-China to realize their legitimate rights to freedom, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and to decide their future according to their own interests, without outside interference.

Both sides stressed the need to strive for general and complete disarmament, covering both nuclear and conventional types of weapons, under strict international control. In this context, they expressed themselves in favour of an early convening of a world conference on disarmament with the participation of all countries so as to achieve a realistic and generally acceptable solution of the problems of disarmament.

Both sides declared their support for National Liberation Movements in colonial territories and called for the speedy and complete elimination of the last vestiges of Colonialism, in accordance with the U.N. Declaration on the granting of independence to

colonial countries and peoples. They resolutely condemned all racist policies and practices as a gross violation of human and fundamental freedoms.

The two sides reiterated the urgent need to take measures for bridging the growing gap between the industrially developed countries and the developing countries, which could constitute a threat to world peace. They expressed the determination of their Governments to continue to exert efforts for the full and equitable participation of all countries and, in particular, the developing countries, in resolving world trade, monetary and other economic issues of general significance.

Both sides declared their support to the United Nations and agreed on the need to increase the effectiveness of this world organization in its endeavours to preserve peace, to guarantee security and to develop international cooperation, in accordance with the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. They underlined the need for the speedy realization of the principle of universality of the Organization's membership.

Both sides expressed complete satisfaction over the results of their discussions and stated their conviction that the visit of the Prime Minister of India to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will make a significant contribution to the further strengthening and deepening of the ties of friendly cooperation between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of India expressed her appreciation of the hospitality shown to her and to the members of her Delegation during their stay in Belgrade. She extended cordial invitations to the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Marshal Josip Broz Tito, and to the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, H.E. Mr. Dzemail Bijedic, to visit India at a mutually convenient time. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

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BANGLADESH

Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh

Following is the text of the trade agreement between India and Bangladesh signed in Dacca on July 5, 1973:

The Government of the Republic of India
and

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Conscious of the urge of their two peoples to enlarge areas of mutual co-operation;
Desirous of strengthening economic relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit;

Recognising that the common people of both countries should be the beneficiaries of close co-operation between the two Governments

in the fields of trade and development;

Aware that this objective can best be secured by organising trade between the two countries on a State-to-State basis as far as possible;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The two Governments recognising the need and requirements of each other in the context of their developing economies undertake to explore all possibilities for expansion and promotion of trade between the two countries on the basis of mutual advantage.

ARTICLE II

The two Governments agree to take appropriate measures in accordance with the evolving international commercial policy for the benefit of developing countries in so far as such measures are consistent with their individual, present and future development, financial and trade needs.

ARTICLE III

The two Governments agree that expansion of their mutual trade exchanges would make an important contribution towards their development. To this end, they agree to take appropriate measures through negotiations with a view to augmenting and diversifying their mutual trade specially in respect of specific products currently or potentially of export interest to them.

ARTICLE IV

The two Governments agree to evolve a system of a Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement for a specific period and for specified commodities, as may be mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE V

Imports and exports of commodities and goods produced or manufactured in India

or Bangladesh, as the case may be, which are not included in the Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement and, in the case of commodities and goods included in that Arrangement, imports and exports in excess of the values specified therein, shall be permitted in accordance with the import, export and foreign exchange laws, regulations and procedures in force in either country from time to time.

ARTICLE VI

Each Government shall accord to the commerce of the country of the other Government, treatment no less favourable than that accorded to the commerce of any third country.

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ARTICLE VII

The provision of Article VI shall not prevent the grant or continuance of

- (a) privileges which are or may be granted by either of the two Governments in order to facilitate frontier trade.
- (b) advantages and privileges which are, or may be, granted by either of the two Governments to any of their respective neighbouring countries.
- (c) advantages resulting from a customs union, a free-trade area or similar arrangements which either of the two Governments has concluded or may conclude in the future.
- (d) advantages or preferences accorded under any scheme for expansion of trade and economic cooperation among developing countries, which is open for participation by all developing countries and to which either of the two Governments is or may become a party.

ARTICLE VIII

The two Governments agree to make

mutually beneficial arrangements for the use of their waterways, railways and roadways for commerce between the two countries and for passage of goods between two places in one country through the territory of the other.

ARTICLE IX

Each Government will grant merchant vessels of the other country while entering, putting off and lying at its ports the most-favoured-nation treatment accorded by their respective laws, rules and regulations to the vessels under the flag of any third country.

Both the Governments agree, on the basis of shippers' preference, to utilise to the maximum extent possible, the vessels owned chartered by shipping organisations of the two countries concerned for shipping cargoes imported or exported under this agreement at competitive freight rates.

ARTICLE X

The two Governments agree to cooperate effectively with each other to prevent infringement and circumvention of the laws, rules and regulations of either country in regard to matters relating to foreign exchange and foreign trade.

ARTICLE XI

The two Governments agree to accord, subject to their respective laws and regulations, reasonable facilities for the holding of trade fairs and exhibitions and visits of business and trade delegations sponsored by the Government concerned.

ARTICLE XII

In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, the two Governments shall consult each other as and when necessary and shall review the working of the Agreement, at intervals of six months.

ARTICLE XIII

This Agreement shall come into force

on the twentyeighth September, 1973. It shall remain in force for a period of three years. It shall continue in force for a further Period thereafter by mutual consent subject to such modifications as may be agreed upon.

Done in Dacca on the fifth July, 1973,
in two original copies in the English
Language, both texts being equally authentic.

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Date : Jul 01, 1973

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BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Talks on Development of Eastern Rivers

The following joint press release on the talks between the delegations of India and Bangladesh on the eastern rivers was issued in New Delhi on July 18, 1973:
During the discussions in New Delhi between the delegation from Bangladesh led by His Excellency Khandaker Moshtaque Ahmed, Minister of Flood Control, Water Resources and Power, and the delegation of India led by His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, on the 16th and 17th July, 1973, the Governments

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of India and Bangladesh reiterated that matters concerning the development of Eastern Rivers which are common to both countries will be settled through mutual discussions with a view to ensuring benefits to the people of both the countries. This will be in accordance with Article 6 of the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Peace between the two countries and the statute

of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission.

The discussions dealt mainly with the commissioning of the Farakka Feeder Canal and its impact in Bangladesh. A point of view was expressed in the discussions that the Farakka Project might increase the flood intensity of Padma in Bangladesh by reducing the natural spill discharges into the Bhagirathi. This point was discussed and the Indian side assured the Bangladesh side that the feeder canal and the Jangipur Barrage will be so operated that the Bhagirathi will continue to receive during the monsoon period as much water as before, or more if possible. It was accepted by the Government of India that the Farakka Barrage Project will not increase the flood intensity of Padma in Bangladesh.

There was discussion about the Farakka Barrage Project and its impact on both the countries. It was agreed that the two sides will meet again and continue the discussions with a view to arriving at a solution of the problem. The two sides further agreed that a mutually acceptable solution will be arrived at before operating the Farakka Barrage Project.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1973

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BURMA

Indo-Burmese Cooperation

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on July 31, 1973 on the visit of Dr. Nyi Nyi, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the Union of

Burma:

His Excellency Dr. Nyi NO, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the Union of Burma, visited India on the invitation of the Government of India from July 13 to August 4, 1973. He was accompanied by a team of 14 senior officials representing the fields of Food Technology, Chemistry, Paper Technology, Chemical Engineering, Agriculture, Irrigation, Metallurgy and Mining, Medicine and Electrical Engineering.

During the visit, Dr. Nyi Nyi, leader of the Burmese delegation, called on Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Shri D. K. Barooah, Minister of Petroleum & Chemicals, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, and Prof. Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education, Social Welfare & Culture.

The Burmese delegation led by H.E. Dr. Nyi Nyi held talks with the Indian delegation led by Shri Z. R. Ansari, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industrial Development, who was assisted by a team of officials headed by Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary in the Economic Division of the Ministry of External Affairs. The Burmese delegation visited (in eight groups) Government departments, research institutions, project sites and industrial establishments in India between July 16 and 29.

The Indian and Burmese delegations expressed their complete satisfaction with their discussions which were characterised by the spirit of cooperation and understanding reflecting the existing friendly relations between the two countries. The Burmese dele-

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gation expressed their gratitude for the arrangements made for the visit, particularly the comprehensive tour programme. Both sides expressed the hope that more visits of delegations at all levels between the two countries would follow for further strengthening the cooperation between the two countries.

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EEC

Indo-EEC Talks for Commercial Cooperation Agreement

The following is the text of the press release issued in Brussels on July 17, 1973, after negotiations between India and the EEC for the conclusion of a commercial co-operation agreement:

As decided in May 1973, delegations of the European Economic Community and India met in Brussels on 16th and 17th July, 1973, to resume negotiations for the proposed commercial cooperation agreement. The Indian delegation was led by Dr. K. B. Lall, Ambassador of India to EEC and the delegation of the EEC was led by Mr. W. Ernst, Deputy Director-General for External Relations.

The Principles, objectives and contents of the agreement were considered in depth. The establishment of a joint commission within the framework of the agreement was agreed to in principle. A detailed exchange of views took place on the tasks and methods of work of the joint commission. The two sides expressed hope that further consideration of the proposals would proceed expeditiously and lead to the early conclusion of the agreement.

Later, at a press conference, Ambassador Lall gave an account of the various stages of the negotiations and underlined the potential significance of the agreement at a time when the European Community is examining the whole gamut of its external

relations, including those with the developing countries. He expressed cautious optimism for the conclusion of an agreement during the course of this year.

BELGIUM USA INDIA

Date : Jul 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement on Admission of Bahamas to U.N.

The following is the text of Shri Samar Sen's statement at the Security Council (July 19, 1973) On the admission of the Bahamas to the United Nations:

The formal action we have taken this morning should invite a few comments from the delegation of India. However, before doing so, I should like to offer you our congratulations on your assuming the presidency of the Council. I do not think that this is the appropriate opportunity to speak about your qualifications or indeed about Indo-

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British relations - these are so intimate, so detailed and so long that only the historians can discuss them adequately.

As a representative of the United Kingdom and as the President of the Council, you can expect to receive full co-operation from the delegation of India and I assure you that we shall extend it most willingly and with the greatest of pleasure. We made a similar promise of co-operation to the outgoing president, Ambassador Malik of the Soviet Union, who conducted the business of the Council in June with remarkable skill and understanding, and we hope that he

found our co-operation useful in the smooth and efficient carrying out of his complex and delicate duties.

We have this morning decided to recommend the application of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas for admission to the United Nations as a full member. In doing so, we have fulfilled a part of our responsibility for bringing about freedom for as many colonial countries and peoples as possible and with as great a speed as feasible. In a resolution adopted at the last session of the Assembly, the question of American Samoa, the Bahamas, Bermuda and various other islands was discussed. In taking note of the recent independence of the Bahamas, and in recommending her admission to the United Nations, we see a process, beginning with the Bahamas, which should eventually lead to the freedom of all these territories.

Our special felicitations go to the people and Government of the Bahamas on this occasion. To-day's decision should give particular satisfaction to the Bahamas as much as it would to the general membership of the United Nations. To-day's action by the Council will also bring faith and comfort in the United Nations to many countries and Peoples who are still unfortunately outside this great organization - they can confidently hope that their turn will also come soon.

The Bahamas enjoy a stable Government, freedom of speech and movement, and has an extraordinarily good record of lack of violence in its political field. The Government is led by a Prime Minister who has not only full command of the affairs of the islands but is an outstanding statesman in the region. His political party, the Progressive Liberal Party, has done much for achieving independence and his foresight is clearly reflected in a statement he made in February 1971 in which he said that his country would be independent in the course of the next two years. This pledge has been kept and we look forward to close co-operation with the Bahamas in the United Nations and elsewhere. We are confident that, irrespective of its newness as a member,

it will contribute significantly to our co-operative endeavours.

Finally, it is appropriate that we should record our appreciation for the Government of the United Kingdom for its understanding of the spirit of freedom that prevails in these islands and that Government's acceptance of the objective of the United Nations to ensure independence of these territories at the earliest possible moment. We hope that this policy will be continued in respect of all other territories on which the United Kingdom still rules as a colonial power.

The Bahamas can be expected to be a member of the Commonwealth, whose Prime Ministers will be meeting in Ottawa in a few days' time. We are sure that in that forum the Bahamas will receive as warm a welcome as we are giving it today on its application for membership of the United Nations.

The fact that several authoritative statements indicating that the people of the Bahamas do not believe in joining military blocs and will adopt the general attitude of non-alignment gives us much pleasure. For all these reasons we shall indeed be happy to welcome and cheer the admission of the Bahamas as a full and equal member of the United Nations at the next session of the General Assembly beginning on September 18.

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri S. Sen's Statement at Security Council on West Asia

The following is the statement made by Shri S. Sen, permanent representative of India on West Asia in the Security Council on July 25, 1973:

Our pleasure in seeing you back at the United Nations, even if only temporarily, is all the greater because you have come to preside over one of the most important series of meetings of the Council when your skill as a diplomat, your modesty, and sensitivity as a man, and your understanding and experience of complicated problems as a lifelong student of international politics, have all been placed at the disposal of the Council. With disarming simplicity you said the other day, that this was the first time in your long career at the United Nations you could use the gavel at the Security Council. But all of us who know you are aware that this symbolic and open exercise of authority is backed by your most valuable contribution to the Council's work in a variety of ways. We did not have an opportunity to render our tributes to you in the Council when you left us a few weeks ago, but were gratified to learn that your Government had awarded to you one of the highest honours of the realm - the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George - in recognition of your devoted service to your country. All our good wishes go to you on your retirement from a most active and useful career in diplomacy.

The intractable problem of the Middle East is the most urgent and the most serious of the problems the Council has before it. Years of efforts, decades of agony, bloodshed and misery, and frequent introduction of new factors in a complex situation, have not brought a solution any nearer. We had a most thorough review of the problem last month and when we met here last Friday the important question was what the Council could and should do for making some slight progress towards a solution. We had over a month to think about a suitable course of action.

On the one hand we were aware of the strong views held by the parties about their rights and duties, their own appreciation of their national future and national interests, and finally an expression of their human dignity, worth and pride. On the other hand, the members of the Council, the supreme organ of the United Nations, with prime responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, have the duty to place their combined wisdom at the disposal of the parties so that they may know in what direction, in our opinion, they should move.

The draft I am about to introduce on behalf of eight members of the Council, does not seek to do more than this. Our basic consideration has been that it should reflect the greatest common measure of agreement among the 15 members of the Council, that it should confine itself to the facts, as they are today, and express the Council's views on them, in the most moderate language, without affecting or even discussing the legal rights of the parties, or pronouncing on the various principles of international law, and of our Charter, and of our Resolutions, which may apply in the situation in the Middle East.

Before making further general comments I think it would be useful at this stage to introduce the draft Resolution in document S/10974 and read out its full text. I have been asked to do so and I have the honour to do so on behalf of the delegations of Guinea, India, Indonesia, Kenya - which has just joined us - Panama, Peru, Sudan and Yugoslavia. The text of the draft resolution is as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Having examined comprehensively the current situation in the Middle East,

"Having heard in this context the statements of the participants in this debate, including the Foreign Ministers of Egypt, Algeria, Chad, Guinea, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania,

"Emphasising its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

"Emphasizing further that all members of the United Nations are committed to res-

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pect the Resolutions of the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

"Reaffirming Resolution 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967,

"Conscious that the rights of the Palestinians have to be safeguarded,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary General (S 10929) which includes an account of the objective and determined efforts of his special representative since 1967,

1. Deeply regrets that the Secretary General was unable to report any significant progress by him or by his special representative in carrying out the terms of Resolution 242 (1967) and that nearly six years after its adoption a just and lasting peace in the Middle East has still not been achieved.

2. Strongly deplores Israel's continuing occupation of the territories occupied as a result of the 1967 conflict, contrary to the principles of the Charter.

3. Expresses serious concern at Israel's lack of cooperation with the special representative of the Secretary General.

4. Supports the initiatives of the special representative of the Secretary General, taken in conformity with his mandate and contained in his aide memoire of 8 February 1971.

5. Expresses its conviction that a just and peaceful solution of the problem of the Middle East can be achieved only on the basis of respect for national sovereignty, territorial

integrity, the rights of all states in the area, and for the rights and legitimate aspirations of the Palestinians.

6. Declares that in the occupied territories, no changes which may obstruct a Peaceful and final settlement, or which may adversely affect the Political and other fundamental rights of all the inhabitants in these territories, should be introduced or recognised.

7. Requests the Secretary General and his special representative to resume and to pursue their efforts to promote a just and peaceful solution of the Middle East problem.

8. Decides to afford the Secretary General and his special representative all support and assistance for the discharge of their responsibilities.

9. Calls upon all parties concerned to extend full cooperation to the Secretary General and his special representative.

10. Decides to remain seized of the problem, and to meet again urgently, whenever it becomes necessary" (S/10974).

This text has been arrived at after most intensive consultation, and any delegation which wished to contribute its views for such consultation, had ample opportunity to do so. This draft Resolution will not, I am afraid, bring much satisfaction to any of the parties directly involved, but it will, we believe, inform them of the general thinking of the Council and instruct them of the ways in which they should, in the opinion of the Council, move and make progress.

I should like now to offer a few brief comments on some of the preambular and operative paragraphs of our draft resolution.

The first, second, third and fourth preambular paragraphs are self-explanatory and do not require any comments.

The fifth preambular paragraph is a reaffirmation of a Resolution which the Council adopted unanimously and which con-

tains some of the basic principles which apply to the problem of the Middle East.

The sixth preambular paragraph refers to the problem of the Palestinians which cannot be ignored in any solution, and which has repeatedly been referred to inside and outside the Council, in numerous forms and with varying emphasis.

No comments are necessary on the seventh preambular paragraph.

Operative Paragraph one sums up the views of the Council on the report which the Secretary General submitted to us at our request. It also states the fact that a just and lasting solution of the problem has not

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been found during the six long years and deeply regrets this fact.

Similarly, operative paragraph two, states the fact that contrary to the Charter, Israeli armed forces continue their occupation of all the territories they occupied in the June 1967 conflict and strongly deplores this fact.

Operative paragraph three, once again reflects the views of the Council, based on the Secretary General's report and also on his and others' oral statements before the Council on Israel's attitude towards the mission undertaken by Ambassador Jarring, as a result of his mandate from the Council. Operative paragraph four, simply gives the views of the Council, repeatedly expressed over the years, and without dissension on the validity of Ambassador Jarring's memorandum of 8 February 1971.

Operative paragraph five, expresses the Council's strong view that the states and peoples in the area, including the Palestinian people, have both the right and the duty to live in peace, inside their own national territories.

Operative paragraph six, emphasises that so long as the occupation continues, nothing should be done in the occupied terri-

tories which may come in the way of a settlement or which reduces or tends to reduce the rights of their inhabitants.

Operative Paragraph seven, renews the Mandate of the Secretary General and his special representative and requests them to continue with the unfinished business of promoting a solution.

Operative paragraph eight, simply shows the Council's determination to continue with the unfinished business of promoting a solution.

Operative paragraph nine, asks the parties for full cooperation in the work of the Secretary General and his representative.

Operative paragraph ten, implies that the Council does not believe that by adopting this draft Resolution it has done all it could, or that progress has automatically been achieved. The problem will require continuous attention.

I believe that this brief introduction will establish beyond all doubt, that the co-sponsors are interested neither in polemics nor in attempting to bring the Council to support the conflicting principles which divide the parties. What we have attempted to do and, with utmost moderation, but with firm conviction, is to enable the Council to do its work by expressing itself on the current and significant facts of the situation in a manner which might bring about some progress in the deplorable and potentially dangerous stalemate. We have worked for unanimous support and have every hope it will be forthcoming.

Indeed we do not see that this draft Resolution, which is entirely based on facts and their objective consideration, can invite any reservations or criticisms. Such reservations or criticisms can be valid only if we wish to support wholly and totally, and without questioning one side of the other. The co-sponsors could not have adopted such an attitude, nor did they ever have the slightest intention or inclination of doing so. We hope therefore that the Council will accept this draft Resolution unanimously and thus en-

courage the Parties to move towards a solution with the able and devoted assistance of the Secretary General and his special representative.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GUINEA INDONESIA KENYA PANAMA PERU SUDAN
YUGOSLAVIA EGYPT ALGERIA CHAD NIGER NIGERIA SAUDI ARABIA TANZANIA ISRAEL

Date : Jul 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Explanation of India's Vote on UN Draft Resolution on West Asia

The following is the text of Shri Sen's statement in the Security Council made on July 26, 1973, in explanation of India's vote on the Draft Resolution on West Asia. The statement was made before the vote:

Yesterday when I introduced the draft Resolution on behalf of the eight co-sponsors, I deliberately did not give the Indian views on it which are, in any event, fully explained in my statement of 14 June.

I should like however, briefly to give my delegation's views before the vote on the draft Resolution before us and also to meet some of the arguments voiced yesterday and

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today. I have the highest respect for any man who fights well for his country, in the field or in the Council, whatever be the quality of his armour, or of his arguments. This does not absolve us, who are not directly involved, or whose specific national interests are not affected, from applying our charter and considering the facts as objectively as we can.

In its preambular part our draft Reso-

lution says:

"Emphasizing further that all members of the United Nations are committed to respect the Resolutions of the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter." This text was taken from an alternative draft and is much weaker than a reference to Article 25 of the Charter but in a spirit of compromise we accepted it.

Secondly, we reaffirm Resolution 242 (1967), and we are aware that that Resolution has not made the necessary progress, for unexpectedly, Ambassador Jarring faced insurmountable difficulty in obtaining acceptance of his aide memoire of 8 February 1971. It is our hope that this draft Resolution will help remove this difficulty.

Alternatively the threat that Israel will withdraw its acceptance of Resolution 242 (1967), should the present draft Resolution be accepted will not, in our view, be a welcome development either for Israel's interests, or in the interest of the Council's efforts for a peaceful solution.

None-the-less, speaking to the parties, we perceive that there are elements on both sides who wish to avoid their obligations under Resolution 242 (1967) so that they can revert to the situation before the 1967 conflict.

Similarly, continued refusal by Israel to accept Ambassador Jarring's aide memoire of 8 February 1971 may enable Egypt to withdraw its initial acceptance of these proposals.

While Egypt may legitimately consider itself free to take this action, we believe that such a development will oblige the Council, the Secretary General and his special representative to start all over again, and will therefore mean going back even on the small progress we have made.

It is because of those two considerations that we have indicated that Resolution 242 (1967) still provides a valid basis for a solution and that Dr. Jarring's memorandum

should be the point of resumption.

As regards withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied lands, we make no distinction among the types of territories captured and occupied. Israel's withdrawal is to take place from the lands of the three member-states, as well as from Gaza. In this respect, we abide by our statement in 1967, that such adjustments as may be made by agreement between sovereign states, would of course be acceptable, provided that such agreements are reached after the troops have been withdrawn, provided that there is no coercion and provided also that they relate to minor adjustments or insignificant changes or do not reflect the weight of conquest or victory, or military superiority.

Now we come to the need for negotiations between the parties. I think we are all agreed that eventually negotiations will take place, but at the moment, conditions simply do not exist for opening such negotiations. The Ambassador of Tunisia has described the present conditions as impossible, and it is because of this that we are asking in our draft Resolution that these conditions be brought about. In the words of the draft Resolution the Secretary General and his special representative are "to resume and to pursue their efforts to promote a just and peaceful solution" (S/10974).

(Operative paragraph 7). When we say "resume" we mean exactly what we say - to resume, at the point where Ambassador Jarring left off, and within the framework of Resolution 242 (1967). However, we totally reject any claim that either Resolution 242 (1967) or the cease-fire agreement, in any way, gives tolerance, much less authority, direct or indirect, tacit or implicit, or explicit, for Israeli forces to continue to occupy Arab territories.

We are glad that the Secretary General will shortly be visiting the countries of the area, and that he will have an opportunity

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to speak to their leaders and make his own assessment. For this purpose, he does not

need any Resolution from the Council. He has already visited many other member states, including my own, and he will no doubt visit many others.

In these circumstances, to relate the Secretary General's visit to the draft Resolution is, in our view, both irrelevant and undesirable. After his visit to the area he and his special representative will be better able to contribute to each other's thinking, and thus to make greater headway. I do not wish to say much on this subject, for we are all aware how this intended visit and its timing have been planned, and of how at one stage, this visit was cited as a reason for the Council to delay its consideration of this problem. We wish the Secretary General a successful trip.

We have been told that this draft Resolution will be vetoed. This is a privilege of all permanent members. But I would ask the Council to reflect on whether decisions regarding these distant wars, taken unilaterally and without adequate attention to the views of the countries of the conflict areas, as distinct from the parties, have always produced the best results. The responsibility lies on all of us, and indeed we are all aware of it.

Finally, before I conclude, I should like to thank the representative of Israel for the particular notice he took of my country in his statement Yesterday. He paid many compliments to India. Most of them are however undeserved. He paid compliments to us for our fidelity to our clients. This is of course admirable, except that clients do not exist and Indian foreign relations are not conducted on the basis of a patron-client equation, as is done in some other bilateral relations. We are friendly, or at least wish to be friendly, to all countries including Israel. But friendship involves a two-way traffic, and requires from all members of the United Nations, adherence to our Charter in its totality.

They should also explain why Israel's diplomatic recognition has not been as widespread as it could have been, either among

the members of the General Assembly as a whole - a grievance to which Israel constantly refers.

Secondly, Ambassador Tekoah wondered why our friendship for Egypt is not used to better purposes. In my statement of 14 June I explained why India, as a friend of Egypt, could not advise a course of action as suggested by Israel. I should again draw the attention of the delegation of Israel to that statement, in which I asked for a declaration from Israel, accepting the principle of the non-admissibility of the acquisition of territory by force - but no such declaration was forthcoming.

Israel also said the Council had put itself into the hands of such countries as India and Yugoslavia. I have far too great a respect for truth, and for the integrity of the other members of the Council, to accept this compliment.

Out of eight co-sponsors of the draft Resolution, only India and Yugoslavia were mentioned. This does not surprise us, as any wider reference would have been inconsistent with the recent practice of the Israeli delegation not to be critical of the Africans, after the OAU Resolution was adopted about two months ago. But of course I know to my cost, that instructions to Ambassadors are often less flexible than those of Cabinet Ministers. And presumably that is why Defence Minister Moshe Dayan was able to say that one of the defects of the United Nations is that it is full of Communists, Arabs and Africans.

Lastly, the Israeli representative wondered if the Indian impact on the United Nations is due to our record for upholding international peace and security, I do not believe that our impact is due to that at all. But if it is, there is nothing to prevent the Israelis to follow Indian ways and to persuade itself and its friends to do likewise. I can assure them all that they will find me ever ready to give whatever help I can to make progress in that process.

INDIA USA ISRAEL EGYPT TUNISIA YUGOSLAVIA

Date : Jul 01, 1973

Volume No

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INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

World Court Order Concerning Trial of Pakistani POWs

Following is the full text of the World Court order of July 13, 1973, concerning the trial of Pakistani POWs:

13 JULY 1973, CASE CONCERNING TRIAL OF PAKISTANI POWS (PAK VS. INDIA) REQUEST FOR THE INDICATION OF INTERIM MEASURES OF PROTECTION.

ORDER

The International Court of Justice, after deliberation, having regard to Articles 41 and 48 of the Statute of the Court, having regard to Article 66 of the Rules of Court, having regard to the application by Pakistan filed in the Registry of the Court on 11 May 1973, instituting proceedings against India in respect of a dispute concerning charges of genocide against 195 Pakistani nationals, POWs or civilian internees in Indian custody, makes the following order:

1. Having regard to the request dated 11 May and filed in the Registry the same day, whereby the Government of Pakistan, relying on Article 41 of the Statute and Article 66 of the Rules of Court asks the Court to indicate, pending the final decision in the case brought before it by the application of the same date, the following interim measures of protection:

"(1) that the process of repatriation of POWs and civilian internees in accordance with international law which has already begun should not be interrupted by virtue of charges of genocide against a certain number of individuals detained in India.

(2) that such individuals as are in the custody of India and are charged with alleged acts of genocide should not be transferred to Bangladesh for trial till such time as Pakistan's claim to exclusive jurisdiction and the lack of jurisdiction of any other Government or authority in this respect has been adjudged by the Court."

2. Whereas the Government of India was notified by telegram the same day of the filing of the application and request for indication of interim measures of protection, and of the precise measures requested and copies of the application and the request were at the same time transmitted to it by air mail,
3. Whereas pursuant to Article 40, Para 3 of the Statute, and Article 37, Para 2 of the Rules of Court, copies of the application were transmitted to members of the United Nations through the Secretary-General and to other States entitled to appear before the Court,
4. Whereas pursuant to Article 31, Para 2 of the Statute, the Government of Pakistan chose Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan to sit as Judge Ad Hoc and he sat in the case until 2 July, 1973,
5. Whereas the Governments of Pakistan and India were informed by communications of 14 May 1973 that the Court would in due course hold public hearings to afford the parties the opportunity of presenting their observations on the request by Pakistan for the indication of interim measures of protection and the opening of such hearings was subsequently fixed for 29 May 1973,

6. Whereas on 28 May 1973, as a result of communications received from the Governments of Pakistan and India, the Court decided to postpone the opening of the public hearings and subsequently fixed 4 June 1973 as the date for such opening.
7. Whereas by a letter dated 23 May 1973 from the Ambassador of India to the Netherlands received in the Registry on 24 May 1973 the Government of India declined to consent to the juris-

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diction of the Court in the case and claimed that without such consent the Court could not properly be seized of the case and could not proceed with it, and that there was no legal basis whatever for the jurisdiction of the Court in the case; and whereas in two statements transmitted to the Court with letters from the Ambassador of India to the Netherlands dated 28 May and 4 June 1973, the Government of India presented a further reasoned statement that the Court had no jurisdiction in the case,

8. Whereas the opening of the public hearings, which were held on 4, 5 and 26 June 1973, there were present in Court the Agent, Deputy Agent and Counsel of the Government of Pakistan,
9. Having heard the observations on the request for interim measures on behalf of the Government of Pakistan and the replies on behalf of that Government to questions put by members of the Court submitted by His Excellency Mr. J. G. Kharas and Mr. Yahya Bakhtiar, Attorney-General of Pakistan,
10. Whereas in a letter of 11 July 1973 the Agent for Pakistan informed the Court of its expectation that negotiations will take place between Pakistan and India in the near future in which the issues which are the subject of its application will be under discussion; and whereas in that letter the Government of Pakistan asked the Court to postpone further

consideration of its request for interim measures in order to facilitate those negotiations,

11. Whereas in the same letter the Government of Pakistan further asks the Court to fix time-limits for the filing of written pleadings in the case,
12. Considering that it is Pakistan which requested the Court to indicate interim measures of protection on the basis that the circumstances of the case so required,
13. Whereas it is of the essence of a request for interim measures of protection that it asks for a decision by the Court as a matter of urgency as it is expressly recognised by the Court in Article 66, para 2 of the Rules of Court,
14. Whereas the fact that the Government of Pakistan now asks the Court to postpone further consideration of its request for the indication of interim measures (in order to facilitate those negotiations) signifies that the Court no longer has before it a request for interim measures which is to be treated as a matter of urgency,
15. Whereas the Court is not therefore called upon to pronounce upon the said request, having regard to Article 66, para 1 of the Rules of Court, which provides that a request for the indication of interim measures of protection may be made at any time during the proceedings in the case in connection with which it is made,
16. Whereas in the circumstances of the present case the Court must first of all satisfy itself that it has jurisdiction to entertain the complaint,
Accordingly the Court by 8 votes to 4 decides that the written proceedings shall first be addressed to the question of jurisdiction of the Court to entertain the dispute-

Fixes as follows the time limit for the written proceedings:

1 October 1973 for the memorial of the
Government of Pakistan,

15 December 1973 for the counter-memorial
of the Govt. of India,

And reserves the subsequent procedure
for further decision.

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USA PAKISTAN INDIA BANGLADESH

Date : Jul 01, 1973

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PAKISTAN

Joint Statement on Indo-Pakistan Talks

Following is the text of the joint statement issued at the end of the talks between India and Pakistan in Rawalpindi and Islamabad and was released in New Delhi on July 31, 1973:

The Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs of the Government of Pakistan, Mr. Aziz Ahmed, and the Special Emissary of the Prime Minister of India, Shri P.N. Haksar, assisted by the delegations consisting of senior officials of the two sides, held talks in Rawalpindi and Islamabad from July 24 to 31, 1973. The Special Emissary of the Prime Minister of India also, called on His Excellency Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, President of Pakistan, on July 27 and 30, 1973.

During the course of these talks which were marked by mutual understanding, the two sides reviewed the progress so far made in the implementation of the Simla Agreement since their last meeting in New Delhi

in August, 1972. In the context of the normalisation of the situation in the sub-continent, they discussed the humanitarian issues set forth in the India-Bangladesh Declaration of April 17, 1973, namely, the questions of repatriation of Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees in India, Bengalis in Pakistan and Pakistan nationals in Bangladesh.

In the course of the talks certain issues arose which required further consideration by both sides. It was, therefore agreed that the discussions will be resumed at New Delhi on August 18, 1973.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI BANGLADESH

Date : Jul 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Economic Cooperation

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on July 6, 1973, on the establishment of a joint Indo-Romanian commission on economic, technical and scientific cooperation:

India and Romania have agreed to establish an inter-governmental joint commission on economic, technical and scientific cooperation. The first meeting of the joint commission is proposed to be held in New Delhi towards the end of this year.

The establishment of the commission is sequel to the visit of an Indian delegation to Bucharest led by the Minister of Planning Shri D. P. Dhar.

Shri Dhar arrived in Bucharest on July 2

at the invitation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Committee His Excellency Mr. Manea Manescu.

An advance party of eight Indian experts in the fields of oil and natural gas, power generating equipment, steel, fertilizers, as well as representatives of M.M.T.C. had been holding discussions with Romanian officials in anticipation of the arrival of the Planning Minister with a view to identifying fields of mutual interest in which co-operation can be developed between the two countries.

The Planning Minister Shri Dhar had discussions with Mr. Manea Manescu and Ministers of Foreign Trade, Chemical Industry, Electrical Energy and Heavy Machine Building. The discussions underlined the need to establish complementarity of the economics of India and Romania in order to enlarge the area of cooperation between the two countries,

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OMAN ROMANIA INDIA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1973

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WORLD MONETARY SITUATION

Report of Deputies of Group of 24

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on July 30, 1973, the following report was submitted by the Deputies of the Group of Twenty-Four developing countries, who have been meeting in Washington to coordinate their views on the proposed reform of the international monetary system, to the Chairman of the Group:

The Ministers of the Group of Twenty-Four reaffirm that the developing countries along with the rest of the international community have a vital interest in all aspects of the reformed international monetary system. The manner of resolution of all issues outstanding before the Committee of Twenty affects intimately the environment in which the developing countries have to proceed with their developmental tasks. Consequently, they look forward to participating in the forthcoming negotiations and stand ready to contribute their ideas and eventual support to the various aspects of reform. At this stage, however, they would like to state that this support, wherever possible, would be given in a constructive spirit but that any resulting provisional agreement would be conditional on the final outcome of the whole reform including in particular those issues of special interest to developing countries.

1. ADJUSTMENT AND CONVERTIBILITY

The developing countries have studied alternatives A and B of the outline placed before the Committee. On these alternatives they are convinced that the characteristics common to both, namely universality in application and an equitable sharing of the burden of adjustment, are goals worth pursuing. These imply a commitment to a one world system of interdependent economies with a common framework of discipline. They wish to further emphasise that the effective working of the adjustment process is intimately bound up with access by developing countries to developed country markets and with the aggregate flow of real resources to developing countries and its financing. The new procedures for reviewing the working of the adjustment process cannot in any event be fully effective unless adequate measures are taken to ensure the compatibility of the balance of payments aims of countries being considered for review. In their view, so long as countries under review continue to seek to run surpluses in their balance of payments, steps must be taken to bring about the implied transfer of real resources to developing countries.

In any event, so long as the international community decides as a matter of political will to bring about an adequate transfer of real resources to developing countries as an independent goal of policy, the manner in which the developed countries set their balance of payment aims should be accommodated to this consideration. They accordingly view the link proposal and other measures to promote the flow of long-term capital to developing countries as an important means to this end. Mechanisms to ensure these objectives should be built into the reform and the World Bank study on the flow of capital to developing countries should be expedited.

In their view, the new procedures of the special meetings of the Executive Board require further study in the light of the final shape of the reformed system. They would like to emphasise the agreement that, as a general rule, only those cases of imbalances that individually or collectively have significant international repercussions will be examined at these special meetings. They interpret this agreement to mean that the special examination of developing country situations ought not to arise as a rule, and that in the annual consultations which the Fund will continue to hold with member countries the special characteristics of developing countries will be fully taken into account in any adjustment disciplines they are obliged to accept as Fund members. In particular, they have reservations about the relevance to their economies of graduated pressures. In any event, they are of the view that any decision to apply graduated

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pressures on countries ought to be taken at the highest political level.

They recognise as an important principle in connection with the system of convertibility the need to support those proposals which, while ensuring global reserve management, will safeguard the greatest possible freedom of reserve composition for individual countries.

(2) PRIMARY RESERVE ASSET

Developing countries reaffirm their full support for the view that the amount of SDR allocations should be determined solely on the basis of global monetary requirements and that the principal characteristics of the SDR should be similarly determined and should be the same whether they are distributed through the normal allocations or through the link. Subject to this consideration, however, developing countries take the view that their interests should be fully taken into account in the determination of the effective yield of SDRs.

(3) THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

In regard to both the procedure of special meetings and other decision-making processes of the Fund, the developing countries are of the view that their role in the decision-making process should be suitably strengthened through an appropriate adjustment in the structures of Fund quotas. They also want to emphasise that all major decisions in the money field should be taken within the full membership of the Committee of Twenty, so that the interests of the entire international community are fully taken into account.

(4) ISSUES OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Group of 24 reaffirm their commitment to the form of link between the allocation of SDRs and additional development finance which they have already accepted, namely, the direct distribution to them of a larger proportion of SDR allocations than they would receive on the basis of their share in Fund quotas to be used for developmental purposes. This would be apart from any increase that may result from raising their share in Fund quotas. They are agreed that any formula for distributing link resources among themselves should be such that (a) all developing countries should benefit and (b) the distribution would be relatively more favourable to the least developed countries and consider that these provisions taken together would suffice to secure equity in the distribution of link resources.

They accept further that some broadening of the ambit of Fund consultations based upon a more flexible approach to the assessment of development performance could provide a satisfactory degree of assurance of effective use for developmental purposes of link resources allocated directly to developing countries.

They are also of the view that more adequate provision should be made for the financing of imbalances. They find asymmetry between swap facilities available to developed countries and the lack of an adequate facility to deal with analogous situations in developing countries. They are aware that a delayed examination of proposals for establishing a new facility in the Fund to provide longer term balance of payments finance has already been accepted. They wish to emphasise that this examination should be expedited by the Executive Board so that the new facility can be implemented to the extent possible within the resources of the general account of the Fund. They would emphasise, however, that if such a facility is to contribute to satisfactory development of developing countries, its terms and conditions should be tailored to the specific socioeconomic requirements which developing countries are bound to respect in the course of their development efforts. They would like to reiterate, however, that any such new facility within the Fund ought not in any way to be regarded as a substitute for the link.

5. DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AND THE REFORM

Developing countries reiterate their view that attention must be focussed on an operative solution to the problem of an adequate transfer of real resources to promote development, on the same basis on which solutions are being sought in the other two areas of the reform exercise concerning money and trade respectively because it

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is necessary to bear in mind from the outset the tripartite nature of the exercise.

The draft outline recognises that "the

attainment of the purposes of the reform depends also upon arrangements for international trade, capital, investment and development assistance including the access of developing countries to markets in developed countries; and it is agreed that the principles which govern the international monetary reform and arrangements in these related areas must be consistent".

In accordance with these considerations, unless the questions of resources transfer to developing countries - adequately financed in quantity and quality - are directly focused upon as such, so as to facilitate the needed political decisions, the agreed position in the "Draft Outline" would not be capable of implementation.

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USA BANGLADESH CANADA GERMANY INDIA ISRAEL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA TURKEY

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation

In reply to a Rajya Sabha unstarred question the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, stated the following on August 17, 1973:

India has so far allocated a sum of Rs. 210 crores as financial assistance to Bangladesh in the form of grants and loans. Details are given in the Annexure hereto.

In addition the Government of India has offered special bank credit amounting to Rs. 25 crores for supply of items like railway wagons, coaches, Pumps, tube-wells, transmission lines, power equipment, etc. The modalities of these credits have yet to be settled.

The Government of India has further agreed to provide normal banking credits for supply of textiles amounting to Rs. 15 crores. The period of payment is being relaxed upto 365 days.

BANGLADESH USA INDIA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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ANNEXURE

I. GRANTS:

	AMOUNT (RS. CRORES)	PURPOSE PROJECT
1. Foodgrains	78-46	For supply of 7,50,000 tons of foodgrains (100,000 tons of rice and 650,000 tons of wheat).
2. Commodity grant	32-78	For supply of essential goods such as petroleum products, fertilizers, cement, coal, cotton, cotton yarn, drugs and pharmaceuticals, etc.
3. Refugee Relief Grant	18.58	The entire amount has been paid into a non-convertible rupee account opened by the Bangladesh Bank with the RBI, Calcutta. This amount is being used for purchase of consumer goods and industrial raw materials from India.
4. Second Relief Grant	0.86	For supply of pulses, match boxes, and 20,000 hand-pumps.
5. Third Relief Grant	1.36	For supply of shelter material.
6. Restoration of five rail-links in Bangladesh	0.70	
7. Technical assistance	10.00	This amount will be used for carrying out feasibility studies, making available experts and providing training facilities for Bangladesh nationals in India.
8. Commodity assistance	2.00	For supply of baby foods, pharmaceuticals, raw-materials, etc.
9. Unallocated	1.00	Technical and cultural or commodity assistance.

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Total of Serial Numbers 1 to 9 136.74

10. Educational and Cultural 0.20

Grand total of grants 136.94

II. LOANS:

1. For the rehabilitation of the Bangladesh Railway System and for supply of telecommunication and power equipment. 18 years 10.00 (a) Rate of interest: nil
(b) Grace period: 7 years
(c) Period of repayment:
2. For supply of two ships and two aircraft and spares and services related thereto. 20 years 6.00 (a) Rate of interest: 2 1/2%
(b) Grace period: 5 years
(c) Period of repayment:
3. Loan to finance the import of 50,000 tons of crude oil by Bangladesh. 5 years 8.10 (a) Rate of interest: 6 1/4 %
(b) Grace period:
(c) Period of repayment:
commencing January, 1973
4. Foreign exchange loan (æ5 million) 15 years 9.50 (a) Rate of interest: 2 1/2%
(b) Grace period: 5 years
(c) Period of repayment:
commencing 5 years after the date of disbursement.
5. For supply of 150 buses 10 years 1.33 (a) Rate of interest: 6%
(b) Grace period: 5 years
(c) Period of repayment:
commencing from 30th June 1978.
6. For supply of textile 6.00 (a) Details yet to be wor

ked out		
machinery.	(b)	
	(c)	
7. Supply of commodities yet	10.00	This will be utilized
in the last		
quarter		
to be worked out.		of Bangladesh's curre
nt financial		
year		
	(which coincides with	
our financial		
	year 1974-75) and wil	
I be included in		
	our budget estimates	
for the year		
	1974-75	
Total	50.93	

III. Miscellaneous expenditure including over-runs, etc.

Loans and grants 22.13

GRAND TOTAL: Rs. 210 crores

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BANGLADESH INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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CANADA

Indo-Canadian Aid Agreements

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on August 9, 1973, regarding Indo-Canadian aid agreements for Rs. 3.62 crores:

Indo-Canadian aid agreements providing a loan of Rs. 2.78 crores (C \$ 3.972 million)

and grant of Rs. 0.84 crores (C \$ 1.2 million) were signed here today.

The aid is to meet the foreign exchange cost of two generating sets, equipments, spares, services and installation and commissioning charges required for implementing the Stage IV of Kundah Hydro Electric Project in Tamil Nadu.

The agreements were signed by Shri S. Krishnaswami, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on behalf of India and by Mr. William Jenkins, Deputy High Commissioner of the Canadian High Commission on behalf of Canada.

The loan is on soft terms applicable to Canadian assistance; it is repayable over 50 years with a grace period of 10 years and carries no interest, commitment or service charges.

The equipments, spares and services for installation and commissioning of the project will be supplied by the Canadian General Electric Company under a contract signed with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. The project when completed will provide additional peaking capacity to the state electricity system.

The Kundah project of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has at present a total installed capacity of 425 MW in five power houses located in the Kundah basin. Stages I and II of the schemes were completed in the Second Five Year Plan and Stage III in the Third Five Year Plan. The Stage IV extension of the project envisages installation of two generating sets of a total capacity of 110 MW. Government of Canada has assisted the Kundah project in three stages under the Colombo Plan to the extent of Rs. 30.1 crores (C \$ 43 million).

CANADA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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1995

COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech

Following is the text of the speech by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs delivered on August 3, 1973, at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference, Ottawa:

We are very happy to see amongst us two new members - Bangladesh and the Bahamas. The process of winning freedom is never unattended by sacrifices and heart-breaks. Bangladesh is our close neighbour and we rejoice in what they represent: the victory of idealism against tyranny. In Bangabandhu, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who is here with us, we salute an outstanding freedom fighter of our era. He personifies in himself the idealism, the nobility, and the poetry of his people. To Prime Minister Pindling, the dynamic leader of a proud and happy people we wish to offer our greetings and congratulations.

The international system based on rivalry and competition, and the cold war which

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often threatened to become a hot one - both legacies of the Second World War, have petered out, after plaguing humanity for twenty-five years.

As Prime Minister Heath said yesterday, the military, trading and monetary systems that were built up after the end of the Second World War, started slowing down because of the inherent contradictions and fallacies on which the system itself had been built. The concept of a bi-polar world was based on the assumption that the international community could be divided between two groups led by two ultimate and supreme leader countries, whom their followers could cherish and obey. Also this concept based

itself upon the assumption that competition and not cooperation had to be the philosophy of existence in international relationships. As early as in the 1950s, some world leaders and the late Jawaharlal Nehru had stated, and established the need for building up an international system upon the concept of cooperation and freedom, and not on competition and obedience. He was convinced that each State must retain its capacity of making a judgment, a determination, and a choice in every situation that arose in the field of international relations. Nehru and his colleagues rejected the very premises on which the concept of bipolarism was based.

PROGRESS TOWARDS CO-EXISTENCE

Today, as Americans and Russians begin to think in terms of building up mutual economic cooperation and collaboration and the realistic possibility of being able to co-exist with one another militarily, Nehru's thesis stands vindicated. That the President of the United States can think in terms of summit meetings both in Peking and in Moscow, is the vindication of the correctness of the thesis of co-existence which was once considered either improbable or immoral or both. Some day the historian of this era will comment not only on the futility of the concept of competition, as the basis for the building up of the system of international relations during the last twenty-five years, but also on the gigantic waste of the resources of our earth, which was involved in this futile pursuit. Admittedly the progress towards co-existence, and away from wasteful and ruthless competition has been slow but steady. We rejoice in it. We rejoice in the movement towards realism in Central Europe. We have also taken note of the evidence of greater realism in the field of inter-se economic relations amongst the Great Powers. We are glad to see the beginnings of the SALT, the MBFR and the European Security Arrangements, now in the process of being considered and hammered out. Humanity is glad of the realisation in most if not all, the power centres of our world that the nuclear balance of terror need not merely be a negative factor but also a factor helping in the realisation of the ob-

jective of a peaceful and cooperative international system.

SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

All this is to the good, and we welcome the mood of detente that has descended on the world. Nevertheless all the problems of the world are far from being solved, and dangerous conflict-situations continue in certain areas. To all these has been added a dangerous deterioration in relations between the Soviet Union and China, giving rise to new and acute fears and tensions in Asia. One must sound a note of warning against super power chess as a means of one power gaining marginal advantage over another. It would be imprudent, to say the least, for any country to play on the differences between those two great countries, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic China and to fan their accumulated mistrust and fears.

INDIAN OCEAN

The distinguished Prime Minister of Sri Lanka mentioned the need for ensuring that the Indian Ocean is consciously and deliberately made a zone of peace. Many of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean are here. We are all deeply interested in ensuring that it remains an area of peace and tranquillity and not of conflict and competition, for the rest of the world. India has stood by Sri Lanka in her efforts to ensure that the Indian Ocean did not become an arena of Big Power rivalry, for that way lies the possibility of return to violence. We have been gratified by the support given recently by Prime Minister Whitlam of Australia and Prime Minister of New Zealand to this idea of keeping the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. We have to remember, however, that in the various arteries of this Ocean a new competitive arms build-up is being encouraged and that could be the beginning of a future discord.

SITUATION IN GULF AREA

The problems of the oil rich Gulf give us all a pause. There are in that region the

beginnings of an arms race which is initiated and encouraged by the vendors of arms, and does not serve the interests either of peace or of the peoples of the small and affluent oil producing nation and city-States of that region. Oil in the Middle East was a symbol of affluence and strength, and could, given time, become the basis of social regeneration and march towards science, technology and modernism. Instead, it is today a problem and an embarrassment for those peoples and a pretext for an unnecessary and dangerous arms race in which the rulers of that region are being encouraged by outsiders who buy their oil and sell them Sophisticated engines or destruction.

Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and several other smaller countries are beginning to go in for a huge and dangerous programme of arming themselves. Nobody seems to ask the obvious question: who are these arms to fight. As more and more arms keep getting pumped into this volatile and explosive region we wonder how safe freedom and peace in this region will be. In the name of the safety of the sea lanes through which the middle-East oil has to pass to the Western world, a large stockpile of armaments is being built up and this stockpile itself will be coveted by those, within and outside the societies of that region, against whom it is supposed to be an insurance policy. Surely, it must be clear to all that these arms are themselves going to be the basis on which militarism will be built up in that region leading to incalculable consequences for the people of those countries and for their neighbours.

INDO-CHINA

In Vietnam and in Laos some progress towards attaining peace settlements has been made. So far it has remained an elusive and ever-receding peace, the glimmer of which tantalises but does not satisfy. Our hosts in Ottawa are themselves acutely conscious of the circumstances and underlying reasons which made it impossible for them to continue as active members of the ICCS in Vietnam. Canada and India have shared this experience, over the years. Our tradition of

friendship with the people of Cambodia has been a long one. We have watched with great sympathy and distress the ordeal through which Cambodia has been passing. We have supported the restoration of peace and normalcy to Cambodia on the basis of respect for their sovereignty and territorial integrity. We hope that peace will return to Cambodia.

COLONIAL DOMINATION IN AFRICA

The problems of Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa, Mozambique, Angola and Guinea-Bissau are not separate or isolated and individual problems, but earlier, a manifestation of an attitude of colonial political domination, compounded by the efforts of some towards maintaining their economic exploitation and domination, and all this made uglier by their attitude of racialism against the peoples of this region. Mr. Ian Smith's illegal regime is not prepared to concede an inch. The Government of South Africa finds it impossible to do anything about Namibia, and massacres continue to take place with appalling regularity in the Portuguese colonies. The international community watches on, so far, helplessly but not mutely. There are some in our world who have been trying, with indifferent success, to forget or to ignore the tide of African nationalism. The problem of Southern Africa is not merely an African problem but belongs to the entire human race. Peace in our world today cannot be stabilised as long as colonial oppression and racial domination continue to be practiced in that part of the world. We are specially concerned that there is increased pressure which is being put through the joint efforts of South Africa, Rhodesia and Portugal on independent African States adjoining that region. Let it be remembered that the wealth of these oppressive regimes, and their involvement with the rich and industrialised world powers will not be able to save them against the rising tide of African nationalism.

Mr. Chariman, the President of Tanzania made it quite clear that with some will and a little bit of imagination it should be easy to harmonise the idealistic and the moral with the pragmatic and politically feasible.

We are grateful to President Nyerere for this message which has already received

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attention in a number of statements by several of my colleagues yesterday. The problem of today's world is that neither the idealistic solution is wholly idealistic nor is the pragmatic one wholly practical.

Mr. Chairman the world order which was sought to be built up after the end of the Second World War is in the process of disintegrating. New forces and new configurations of power are pushing themselves forward. The need is to ensure that the mistakes of the past are not repeated, and the apprehensions of the future do not make us feeble-hearted.

USA CANADA BANGLADESH BAHAMAS RUSSIA CHINA INDIA SRI LANKA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND IRAN KUWAIT SAUDI ARABIA LAOS VIETNAM CAMBODIA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE SOUTH AFRICA GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU PORTUGAL TANZANIA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No

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COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech on Trade, Tariffs and Monetary Matters

The following speech on trade, tariffs and monetary matters was delivered by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, on August 7, 1978, at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference, Ottawa:

I thank you for asking me to participate in the discussion on intra-Commonwealth trade, Commonwealth preferences system, and monetary matters. There have been many critical situations in the life of the Commonwealth which have been over-

come through the political will and cooperation of our members. It would be true to say that in the economic field such a moment of crisis has again arrived. The trends we face today threaten to erode the inner cohesiveness and economic bonds that have developed within the Commonwealth. It is surely not desirable that this process of erosion be allowed to continue and the Commonwealth be dispersed into various regional groupings and loyalties and become economically irrelevant. On the other hand, I would suggest that the Commonwealth dynamic should be further developed, and the institution be given a new validity. Whether this can be done is for this Conference to decide.

HISTORICAL COINCIDENCE

It is a matter of historical coincidence that we should have assembled in Ottawa to look at the Commonwealth trading system once again. Forty years ago this system was evolved in another conference held in this very city. In the four decades since then, the system has evolved and developed, affording considerable economic benefits to its members. Commonwealth trade has now reached a critical turning point, and the Commonwealth trading system is now in danger of extinction because of the obligation of the U.K. to eliminate the preferences given by it as a result of its accession to the EEC. We understand and appreciate the reasons that have induced the U.K. to seek membership of the Community. It would be unrealistic, however, to ignore the consequences or implications of British entry on Commonwealth trade. The simple fact is that this merger gives better access in the U.K. market to countries outside the Commonwealth than to Commonwealth countries. As a result of this development, the Commonwealth countries today face a two-fold problem. We have to find satisfactory solutions to our trading problems with the enlarged community on terms equitable to us. Equally, we have also to take stock of our situation within the Commonwealth to develop our internal potential as a trading community.

DIALOGUE WITH EEC

It will be recalled that the Treaty of

Accession has provided a transition period of one year for the Asian Commonwealth countries, and a period of two years for the Commonwealth countries in Africa, Caribbean and the West Pacific. Commonwealth countries on their part have taken the initiative to open a dialogue with the EEC, but the progress so far has been slow. For one thing, negotiations with the EEC by Commonwealth countries have had a late start by several months, and even now there is neither the frequency nor the continuity of meetings to make one feel hopeful that all these complex problems affecting so many commodities and countries in all their varying aspects; can be sufficiently discussed, and solutions found within the time constraints envisaged in the Treaty of Accession. Under these circumstances, it would be desirable

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for this Conference to unanimously urge the European Community that special trading relationship with Britain be extended for at least another year to enable trade relations with the enlarged Community to be worked out and implemented. We would make a special plea to the United Kingdom to lend its support to this proposal and to take steps with the Community to ensure an expeditious examination and solution of trading problems of the Commonwealth.

In view of the large Scale interest of Several members of the Commonwealth in Association arrangements with the Community, we would hope that the Governments of the EEC will use their economic strength with wisdom and foresight, and work out arrangements which will adequately protect the existing trade opportunities of potential associates. Association with EEC should provide additional trading opportunities rather than replace the existing ones. We believe that the terms of association as recently proposed by the Protocol 22 countries (i.e., the African, the Caribbean and the Pacific countries members of Commonwealth) are just and fair, and we hope that the EEC countries will find it possible to accept them.

COMMON APPROACH

In this connection, I would suggest that, in addition to the arrangement now being considered, it would be useful for the Commonwealth countries to adopt a common approach on a few commodities of special interest to members of the Commonwealth. The recent experience in evolving a common approach in respect of Commonwealth sugar perhaps supports the view that this can be extended to a few more commodities to our mutual advantage.

In the context of world trade also, there need for us to concert our steps. The forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations, which are going to be initiated at a Ministerial meeting to be held in Tokyo in September, provide an important opportunity for doing so. It is no secret that the past experience of developing countries with trade negotiations in the GATT has not been happy. As is well known, the Kennedy Round negotiations led to much steeper reductions in tariffs on products of primary interest to developed rather than to developing countries. The new round of trade negotiations that is now planned will be more comprehensive in scope, more global in participation, and more ambitious in terms of objectives than any of the six previous rounds. All of us, both developed and developing countries, therefore, have a vital stake in the success of these negotiations. The principles that should guide them, in so far as they concern the developing countries, have already received international endorsement in forums such as the UNCTAD and GATT. It is greatly to be desired that the developed countries members of the Commonwealth, in particular, should make their best efforts to persuade other developed countries to take full account of the problems and views of developing countries in the course of these trade negotiations.

EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS AS BASIS

In focussing our attention on world trade and access to EEC we should not overlook the possibilities which the Commonwealth itself offers for increased trade. In this connection, one should remember that Britain's

accession to the Community does not automatically involve the abrogation of inter se preferential arrangements amongst the other members of the Commonwealth. These existing arrangements could furnish the basis for further measures for trade expansion within the Commonwealth. I, therefore, suggest that this meeting should reiterate the desirability of preserving the existing preferences system and to build upon this for mutual benefit and welfare of our members.

GENERALIZED SCHEME OF PREFERENCE

A significant development in the field of trade during the last few years has been the introduction of the Generalized Scheme of Preference by many developed countries. Some of the developed countries members of the Commonwealth have been the most progressive in this regard, which is a matter of some satisfaction to us. However, it would be a mistake to regard the current GSP offers as a substitute for Commonwealth Preferences. This is for two reasons; firstly, the current GSP offer excludes agricultural and primary products as well as manufactures of export interest to the developing countries (e.g. tobacco, cashew, packed tea

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and coffee, marine products, jute goods, etc.). To the extent that these commodities used to enjoy Commonwealth Preferences in the UK market, GSP offers are not an adequate substitute for loss of these Preferences. Secondly, the enlargement of the EEC has ipso facto diminished GSP benefits by enlarging the area of customs free trade among a group of highly industrialized countries and their associates.

It is, therefore, necessary that the coverage of the GSP offers is improved substantially. In this connection, there is one aspect which requires our particular consideration. Compared with the EEC offer of GSP, the British scheme is much more liberal, and covers a wider range of products. We fear, however, that in the process of harmonisation with the EEC there may be a tendency to base the new scheme of the Community on the lowest common denomi-

nator. This would be a retrograde step. We would, therefore, strongly urge that the salient features of the British scheme together with the better features of the Community's scheme should be taken together to evolve the new pattern.

To sum up, we believe that so far as the future of Commonwealth trade is concerned, the accession of Britain to the EEC has implications which this Conference cannot ignore. If the Commonwealth is to meet this new challenge, it is necessary to have joint and concerted action to improve the trading opportunities available to all of us both within the Commonwealth as well as in relation to the enlarged EEC on terms which are equitable. To this end, it is necessary that:

- (i) the system of Preference that exist among the Commonwealth countries should continue, even though preference given to and by the UK must end;
- (ii) special trading relationship of Commonwealth countries with Britain should be maintained by at least one additional year in order to enable these countries to work out and implement appropriate trading arrangements with EEC;
- (iii) terms of association with EEC offered to some of the developing countries members of Commonwealth should adequately protect their existing trading interests;
- (iv) countries of the Commonwealth should consider adopting joint approach to EEC on commodities of common interest to Commonwealth countries;
- (v) in the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations, the interests of the developing countries must be fully taken into account, and Commonwealth countries should work towards this goal: and
- (vi) the coverage and scope of the GSP

offers needs to be improved substantially; in particular, the process of harmonisation with the EEC should not lead to a dilution of the progressive features of the British scheme.

The measures I have outlined above are necessary in our view to protect the trading interests of the developing countries members of the Commonwealth as well as other developing countries. I do not need to remind this group that the ever widening income gap between the developed and the developing countries has become one of the most crucial issues of our time, an economic issue with potent political implications. The danger to world stability is increased by the fact that the progress made by the international community in taking concrete measures to improve the income-generating process in developing countries has been slow and well below expectations. The primary impulse for development has and must continue to come from developing countries themselves - this we all accept. However, if our countries are to move towards self-reliance and decrease their dependence on aid the amount of which is itself totally inadequate, it is necessary that their trading opportunities are increased rather than stifled. In this context, it is pertinent to recall that the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade has proposed a rate of growth of 7 per cent in the export of developing countries in order to enable them to achieve reasonable growth of income.

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CONTINUOUS WIDENING OF GAP

The dice unfortunately are loaded against the developing countries. In this scientific and technological era, the industrialised countries possess an in-built advantage in trade. The demand for their industrial products, based on sophisticated technology, tends to increase at a rate which is even higher than the growth in their national incomes. The developing countries face the opposite situation. The demand for many of their traditional products is stagnant or res-

stricted, while such progress as they have been able to make in acquiring industrial capability does not find sufficient outlet in the form of increased exports due to tariffs, or quotas or both. If the developing countries have to realise their full potential for growth, it is incumbent on us to take effective measures to reverse these trends. I am not unaware of the great difficulties involved. There is continuous widening of the gap between developed and developing countries, and I am under no illusions that this gap will be closed or even decreased with implementation of the measures I have outlined above. I do feel, however, this is the least that can be done in this unequal world to decrease the rate at which the gulf between these countries is widening.

The problem of trade, of course, cannot be viewed in isolation, and the current discussion on the international monetary system is likely to have a profound impact on the nature and future of our trading relationships. We note with satisfaction that the work for restructuring the monetary system has been entrusted to the Committee of Twenty, a decision which recognises the right of developing countries to participate in decision making in this important field. We hope the final outlines of this reform will also legislate for adequate consultation in regard to such short-term measures by individual countries as are likely to result in significant international repercussions; unfortunately, this has not so far been the case.

Negotiations on the basic reform of the monetary system are now taking place in the Committee of Twenty, and I do not wish to take the time of this Conference by going into the details of the new monetary system currently in the process of being worked out. The task is by no means easy; differences of viewpoint and emphasis still persist among countries on many of the Operational and technical issues. I am glad to learn however that considerable progress has been made in reconciling differences at the last meeting of the Committee of Twenty held a few days ago in Washington. Full consensus however is yet to be achieved on many important aspects of the reform: the working of the ad-

justment mechanism, the role of objective indicators, convertibility, the properties of the Special Drawing Rights in the new system, and some other matters.

MONETARY REFORM

From the point of view of developing countries there are two aspects of monetary reform which are of particular importance, and which I would like to dwell on. The first relates to the "link" between Special Drawing Rights and development finance. The second concerns the need for achieving an appropriate exchange rate system which may re-introduce stability in the monetary system.

The question of the "link" between SDRs and development finance has been extensively discussed, and considerable progress has been made in securing endorsement of the mechanism by all developing and quite a number of developed countries. The issue is as old as monetary reform itself, and it is necessary to state why the developing countries attach so much significance to this aspect of the reform. Primarily, the present share of the developing countries in SDR allocations (roughly one-fourth of the total) is inadequate, and completely out of proportion to their numbers, their size, and their need for additional liquidity. Further, all countries are agreed that transfer of additional development finance to developing countries is a very desirable international goal, being a part of the strategy for the Second Development Decade for diminishing the income gap between developed and developing countries. Putting these two facts together, the conclusion is inescapable that a link between SDRs and development finance is not only desirable and equitable, but also a practical way of transferring additional development resources.

We are not unaware that some developed countries continue to be opposed to the idea of a link on grounds which seem to us less than compelling. One objection relates to the

are told this will take place if SDRs are used for development purposes. In our view, these fears are unwarranted. SDRs will be held only by monetary authorities and will not be traded in foreign exchange markets. Since monetary authorities and the member countries of the IMF are willing to hold SDRs and accept these in settlement of payment imbalances, the problem of loss of confidence is clearly a chimera.

Another argument advanced against the link in international discussions is the danger of intensified inflationary pressures in developed countries due to the creation of too much liquidity. This fear is equally baseless since on any reasonable calculation the link will add only to a minor extent to the gross national expenditure of developed countries, which today amounts to trillions of dollars (as against total cumulative allocations of SDRs of less than \$ 10 billion). Developing and developed countries are agreed on one important matter, namely, that the decision on the extent of creation of additional liquidity must be based solely on the assessment of the monetary needs for liquidity of the world economy at any particular time, and considerations relating to development assistance should not be allowed to influence this decision. Developed countries at present hold the large majority of fund quotas and have effective control on monetary decisions. Even if changes in the organisation are effected as a result of monetary reform, a situation is unlikely to arise where additional liquidity can be created without the concurrence of developed countries. Thus the creation of additional liquidity can always be curbed by developed countries themselves if there are any signals of inflation. Once, however, a certain amount of additional liquidity creation has been decided upon, it would seem appropriate that a part of this liquidity should be channelled to provide additional real resources for the progress of developing countries.

We believe therefore that both rationality and equity in the distribution of resources require that the link should be made an integral part of monetary reform. It is to me a matter of some regret, if I may say so,

that the developed countries members of the Commonwealth have not given adequate support to the concept of the link. In this regard their attitude has been less helpful than that of many other developed countries outside the Commonwealth. I would hope that one of the results of the Conference could be a general expression of support for the concept of the link.

EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM

On the question of the exchange rate system, it is a matter of gratification that the Committee of Twenty has already reached agreement to the effect that exchange rates should be stable, but adjustable. It is, however, a matter of some concern that the return of developed countries to stable exchange rates has been much delayed. The hope was that floating exchange rates would insulate the monetary system from periodic crises. This has been belied. In spite of floatation, the currency markets of developed countries continue to be marked by speculative attacks and recurring alarms, Sometimes for reasons not easily comprehensible. While the uncertainty regarding exchange rates affects all countries, its effects are particularly unsettling for the trade of developing countries because they do not possess the reserves and resilience of developed countries. We would strongly urge an early return by all countries to a system of stable exchange rates, adherence to which, at least in theory, has been professed by everyone. It is in fact my impression that among a number of developed countries there has recently been a discernable desire to return to stable exchange rates, and I hope that this will happen soon.

We also attach great importance to phasing out the role of gold in the monetary system and the replacement of the present reserve currencies by SDRs. In principle this has general acceptance. As a corollary, however, to enable this to be done, there must be a further sizeable creation of SDRs. At the same time, it needs to be ensured that such additional creation is not all utilized to provide a substitution facility for the "overhang" of dollars and other reserve currencies

held by developed countries to the extent of absorbing all fresh SDR creation, thereby jeopardizing the flow of SDRs for developing countries.

To sum up, Sir, we believe that this Conference should endorse the following principles of monetary reform:

- (a) A link between the SDRs and development finance is not only desirable in principle, but also a practical

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means of transferring additional development finance to developing countries in the context of the reform of the international monetary system.

- (b) All countries should return to a system of stable, although adjustable exchange rates as soon as possible; and
- (c) International community should take concrete steps towards progressively making the SDR the primary reserve asset.

I would recall what I had said in Singapore and what I have no hesitation in reiterating now, that is the need to give the Commonwealth a new relevance and a fresh validity. It is our hope that the Commonwealth will give a lead to the international community, particularly in the economic field.

USA CANADA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN RUSSIA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

Communique of Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference

Following is the text of the communique issued at the end of the Commonwealth Heads of Government conference in Ottawa on August 10, 1973:

1. Commonwealth Heads of Government met in Ottawa from August 1 to 10. All Commonwealth countries were represented, five by their Presidents or their Heads of State, 18 by their Prime Ministers, three by their Vice-Presidents and six by senior Ministers. The Prime Minister of Canada was in the Chair.
2. Heads of Government warmly welcomed the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, whose countries have become members of the Commonwealth since the last meeting in 1971. They expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister of Canada for the hospitality provided by his Government.
3. On August 3, the meeting was informed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia of the sudden death of the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Dr. Ismail bin Dato Abdul Rahman, suspended its proceedings in tribute, and conveyed sincere condolences to the Government and people of Malaysia and to the bereaved family.
4. The meeting was positive in tone and constructive in its approach. Having agreed to new procedures designed to ensure informality and free discussion, the leaders put aside set-piece speeches and addressed themselves directly both to each other and to the pressing questions before the meeting. When unanimous agreement was not possible, mutual understanding of conflicting viewpoints was achieved. It was agreed that in this regard the meeting established a most useful precedent for future Commonwealth consultations. The Commonwealth had been greatly strengthened by the event and Heads of Government were heartened by this.
5. Heads of Government were convinced that the association had once again demons-

trated its vitality and flexibility. They intend to make maximum use of the Commonwealth machinery to put the principles of the Commonwealth Declaration into practice and to accelerate the pace of social and economic development among the less affluent members.

STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

6. Heads of Government issued a statement, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the signing of the treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space, and under water. (The statement is; annexed.)

WORLD AND COMMONWEALTH TRENDS

7. In a frank and informal review of world trends, Heads of Government examined changing Power relationships and their political and economic consequences, with particular reference to Commonwealth countries. Views were exchanged on: changing relationships among the United States, the Soviet Union and China; problems of security

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in various regions; the emergence of new centres of economic power; the continued atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons, and the need for a comprehensive test-ban treaty and for general and complete disarmament under effective international control; the situation in the Middle East and South-East Asia; the establishment of a peace zone in the Indian Ocean; and the situation in southern Africa, with particular reference to Rhodesia.

8. While welcoming the general relaxation in international tension, they nevertheless noted those areas of tension which continue to threaten international peace and security as well as the widening gap between the rich and poor nations and recognised the need for the spirit of detente in all international relations. Acknowledging the potential for progressive change arising from shifting Power relations, Heads of Government recognised that economic and monetary instability continues to pose urgent problems

for the world's community. As the search for solutions to these political and economic problems was pursued in the context of the changing Power relationships, new opportunities arose for States other than the major Powers to influence world developments, to contribute to the achievement of peace and security, to ensure the avoidance of spheres of influence and to secure a regime of social justice, economic progress and racial harmony throughout an increasingly interdependent world.

9. Consultation and co-operation in the Commonwealth, an informal worldwide association which included no super-Power, could make a special contribution to greater international understanding as well as to the search for solutions to economic problems. Heads of Government, therefore, stressed the value of strengthening practical co-operation between member-countries, both internationally and on a regional basis, and working within other international organisations and groupings in order to give the medium and small countries a more effective voice in international relations to raise living standards and to improve the quality of life for all their peoples.

10. Heads of Government noted the progress made with regard to the proposal for a peace zone in the Indian Ocean since the last conference in Singapore, where they agreed on the desirability of ensuring that it remains an area of peace and stability. They noted that the proposal was under study by an ad hoc committee which had been established by the United Nations and they expressed the hope that its deliberations would receive the support and co-operation of all States concerned.

11. Heads of Government were greatly concerned about the deteriorating situation in the Middle East which now presents a most serious threat to world peace. This deterioration was directly attributable to the lack of progress in the implementation of the Security Council resolution of 242 of 1967. They considered that ways and means should now be urgently sought by all States to give substance to the Security Council

resolution.

12. Heads of Government also noted that since the last conference in Singapore, the Foreign Ministers of the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have adopted a declaration to make South-East Asia a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality. They regarded this initiative as a positive contribution towards peace and stability in that region.

TRADE

13. Heads of Government had a wide-ranging and substantive discussion on economic issues against the background of widespread inflation. Particular attention was devoted to problems of international trade. Heads of Government considered the prospects for the implementation of the generalised system of preferences by all the developed countries, and for improvements where schemes had already been introduced or were due to be harmonised. They hoped that the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations under the auspices of GATT would secure worldwide expansion of trade and take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

14. Heads of Government exchanged views on the prospects for the forthcoming negotiations between the enlarged European Economic Community and the developing countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, and expressed the hope that they would lead to the conclusion of just, enlightened, and effective arrangements. The

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developing Commonwealth countries reiterated their previously expressed views that the notion of reciprocity could not be a basis for equitable and enduring relations between them and the EEC. In the case of the countries to which the Joint Declaration of Intent in the treaty of enlargement applies, it was urged that the Community should take a positive attitude to approaches that have already been made or might be made, and work out suitable arrangements taking their trade interests into account before the

common external tariff is applied to British imports from them in accordance with that treaty.

15. It was recognised that the system of Commonwealth preferences had provided and continues to provide important advantages for Commonwealth countries, and the hope was expressed that the existing favourable arrangements for developing Commonwealth countries in markets of developed Commonwealth countries other than Britain should wherever possible be maintained.

16. Heads of Government considered the special problems of countries highly dependent on exports of agricultural products in primary, semi-processed, and processed forms, and noted the desirability of achieving substantial liberalisation of trade in these products in the course of the forthcoming GATT multilateral negotiations. They underlined the urgent need for deliberate measures to be taken by the international community to secure equitable and remunerative returns for such products. To this end, they considered it essential that new international community arrangements be devised which would deal with this serious problem and protect the foreign exchange earnings of developing countries against excessive price fluctuations and inroads from synthetics, thereby increasing their capacity to buy needed imports. There was need also to increase the export earnings of developing countries from primary products, especially agricultural products, as prices of industrial goods continue to rise; and to study methods to introduce a realistic relationship between the prices of the two categories of goods. Commonwealth countries should play an active role in the search for new international commodity arrangements. It was felt that it was equally necessary to explore measures to minimise fluctuations in the prices of mineral products.

MONETARY ISSUES

17. Heads of Government reviewed the work of the Committee of 20 and recognised the urgent need to work towards the achievement as quickly as possible of a new and

stable international monetary order, which would take into account the special concerns of developing countries, particularly as regards the creation of a link between Special Drawing Rights and development finance.

18. The meeting examined various aspects of development assistance, including the disadvantages of tied aid, the need for a more flexible approach by aid donors and the importance of achieving mutually satisfactory relationships between the donors and recipients of aid, as well as measures for reducing the onerous debt burdens of developing countries.

PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT

19. Heads of Government had a lively discussion of the problems and opportunities involved in private foreign investment. Special reference was made of the role of multi-national corporations in a number of Commonwealth countries. Views were exchanged on possible techniques for ensuring that the operations of investing companies are compatible with the national goals of host countries, on the possibility of promoting the exchange of information on this subject among Commonwealth countries, and on the desirability of drawing up a code of conduct for international corporations.

INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT

20. Heads of Government exchanged views on a number of important aspects of international transport problems and their implications including rising freight rates, dependence on foreign-owned shipping, and conflicts of interest created by differences in labour costs and trade union action among member-countries.

FOOD SHORTAGES

21. Heads of Government expressed their concern at the growing shortages and rising

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prices of food and their hope that these problems might be considered without undue delay in appropriate international forums

such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

22. It was noted that the facilities of the Commonwealth Secretariat were available to examine a number of subjects mentioned in paragraphs 13 to 22. Such an examination might provide the basis for further action by Commonwealth countries.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

23. Heads of Government had a full and frank exchange of views on changes and developments in southern Africa. The meeting also gave special consideration to the problems faced by countries in southern Africa which border on territories and countries still under minority rule. While recognising that there were complex and difficult problems involved, Heads of Government were agreed in their opposition to apartheid and minority rule in southern Africa. They therefore recognised the legitimacy of the struggle to win full human rights and self-determination.

24. In discussing conditions in South Africa, Namibia and the Portuguese colonies, it was agreed that Commonwealth members in a position to do so should seek to use their influence to persuade Portugal to grant a negotiated independence to its African colonies. The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and Security Council resolutions on Namibia were recalled and emphasis placed on international responsibility for that territory. There was discussion on how Commonwealth countries, especially those with economic interests in South Africa and Namibia, might best bring influence to bear to promote change. Heads of Government reviewed the efforts of the indigenous people of the territories in southern Africa to achieve self-determination and independence and agreed on the need to give every humanitarian assistance to all those engaged in such efforts. The British Government reserved its position in relation to the last proposal it, circumstances in which assistance might be converted into military purposes.

25. Heads of Government expressed their

intense concern for the situation in Rhodesia and the damaging consequences of a continued absence of a settlement. They appreciated the efforts made by the British Government with whom the responsibility lay and were united in their willingness to contribute towards a solution. All were agreed on seeking a peaceful settlement and that the objective was majority rule. They took note of the meeting between Mr. Ian Smith and Bishop Muzorewa and associated themselves with the British Government's wish for the discussions to be broadened and the necessary steps taken to remove restrictions so as to enable all groups representative of Rhodesian opinion to take part. The British Prime Minister welcomed the constructive suggestions made and undertook to take them into account as the situation developed.

26. Heads of Government considered the reports of the Commonwealth Sanctions Committee and authorised the Committee to continue its work. It was agreed that in the light of the recommendations contained in that report further efforts should be made to render sanctions more effective pending an acceptable settlement. Heads of Government also took note of the special Commonwealth programme for assisting the education of Rhodesian Africans and supported its continuation. The Zambian Foreign Minister expressed his Government's appreciation of Commonwealth assistance to Zambia.

27. Heads of Government welcomed the opportunity to exchange views on comparative techniques of government. They had a lively and useful discussion which included consideration of such subjects as: the determination of national priorities; the problem of ensuring effective implementation of government decisions; fostering communication between government and people; the redress of economic disparities; and the problem of correcting economic imbalances as between urban and rural areas. Heads of Government agreed that the question of comparative techniques of government should be the subject of further discussion at future Heads of Government meetings and that, in the in-

terim, the Commonwealth Secretariat should undertake appropriate preliminary studies to facilitate such discussion.

COMMONWEALTH FUNCTIONAL CO-OPERATION

28. Heads of Government agreed that functional co-operation was an important and

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dynamic aspect of the Commonwealth. They expressed warm appreciation of the way in which the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) was developing in meeting the priority needs of member-countries, and commented favourably on its flexibility and speedy response. They agreed that activities undertaken through the Fund should be intensified and commended for further study various proposals for their extension.

29. Heads of Government noted with appreciation the generous contributions being made by several Governments, and especially by Canada, and hoped that further contributions on a voluntary basis would be provided by other participating countries.

30. Heads of Government noted the Secretary-General's proposal for a target of between 1 per cent and 2 per cent of total Commonwealth aid flows through Commonwealth multilateral channels. They agreed that further consideration should be given at the next Finance Ministers' meeting to the means by which an increased flow could be brought about.

31. Heads of Government agreed to refer the proposal for the establishment of a Commonwealth Development Bank and a report on export credit financing in Commonwealth developing countries to Commonwealth Finance Ministers for consideration.

32. Heads of Government gave preliminary consideration to a proposal for a Commonwealth centre for applied studies in government and agreed that the detailed requirements for such a centre should be studied and a report prepared for consideration, if possible, by senior Commonwealth officials in 1974.

COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PROGRAMME

33. Heads of Government endorsed the Commonwealth youth programme which was approved by Ministers concerned with youth matters. They agreed that the scope of the programme should take into account the particular needs of individual countries and expressed warm appreciation of the pledges which had been made towards the agreed target of $\text{œ } 1 \text{ m}$ over three years. Heads of Government instructed the Secretary-General to proceed with the immediate implementation of the agreed programme.

COMMONWEALTH FOUNDATIONS

34. Heads of Government agreed that the budget of the Commonwealth Foundation be increased to $\text{œ } 450,000$ per annum for the period July 1, 1974 to June 30, 1976.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

35. Heads of Government noted with appreciation the contribution by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in promoting contacts between Members of Parliament of Commonwealth countries at annual conferences, and providing a forum for them to exchange views and discuss matters of common interest at regional and international levels, thereby furthering Commonwealth ideals and interests.

REPORT OF THE: COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL

36. Heads of Government took note of the fourth report of the Commonwealth Secretary-General.

ANNEXURES

Statement by Commonwealth Heads of Government on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water:

"On this, the 10th anniversary of the signing of the treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water, Heads of Government of the Commonwealth, meeting in Ottawa, reaffirmed their unfailing support for the treaty and their concern to ensure its universal observance.

"Recalling the terms of the preamble of the treaty, proclaiming as their principal aim the speediest possible achievement of an

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agreement on general and complete disarmament under strict international control in accordance with the objectives of the United Nations which would put an end to the armaments race and eliminate the incentive to the production and testing of all kinds of weapons, including nuclear weapons, seeking to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, determined to continue negotiations to this end, and desiring to put an end to the contamination of man's environment by radioactive substances, Commonwealth Heads of Government appealed to all Powers, and in particular the nuclear Powers, to take up as an urgent task the negotiation of a new agreement to bring about the total cessation of nuclear weapon tests in all environments."

CANADA USA BANGLADESH BAHAMAS MALAYSIA MALI CHINA INDIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA PORTUGAL SOUTH AFRICA ZAMBIA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No
1995
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
Indo-F.R.G. Aid Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on August 28, 1973 with regard to an agreement signed with the Federal Republic of Germany for a DM 310 million aid to India:

An agreement providing aid of DM 310 million (approximately Rs. 95.79 crores at the current rate of exchange) from the Federal Republic of Germany to India for 1973-74 was signed here today.

The aid, which represents an increase of 10.7 per cent over the last year's assistance of DM 280 million, is completely untied and enables India to procure goods and services from any part of the world to her best advantage.

The agreement was signed by Dr. G. Pfeiffer, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and the head of the German Delegation, Ministerialdirektor Dr. Ulrich Boernstein, and by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of India.

The total assistance of DM 310 million includes debt relief of DM 140 million.

The balance of DM 170 million will comprise DM 80 million assistance for import of commodities and services; DM 20 million for imports approved by Indian inter-Ministerial Committee for capital goods; DM 50 million for projects to be mutually selected; and DM 20 million for granting loans to small and medium undertakings by the Industrial Finance Corporation, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India and the National Small Industries Corporation.

Of the total aid, DM 190 million will be repayable in 30 years, including a grace period of 10 years carrying a rate of interest of 2 per cent per annum.

The debt rescheduling loan of DM 98 million is repayable in 20 years including a grace period of seven years and carries interest at 3 per cent per annum. The amount of DM 22 million towards reduction of in-

terest payments failing due between April 1, 1973 and March 31, 1974, will be extended as a grant.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Republic of Germany, which is a member of the Aid India Consortium, had pledged assistance totalling DM 310 million for the year 1973-74 at the Consortium meeting in June 1973.

India has, in common with other developing countries, been pressing for untying of aid for a long time. The decision of the Federal Republic of Germany to wholly untie

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their aid is thus an important and welcome development in the economic relations between developed and developing countries.

The assistance of the Federal Republic of Germany is utilised by India for import of raw materials, components and other maintenance requirements for the economy and capital equipment for various industries like automobiles, chemicals, engineering, power and steel. Among the important projects now being implemented with the assistance are the Gujarat Aromatics Project, the Mico-Bosch expansion scheme, the Bihar Alloy Steels Project, Modi Rubber Tyres and Tubes project and the Travancore Cochin Chemicals Caustic Soda plant.

Projects now under consideration, for future assistance from Germany include the Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation's caustic soda project, Messrs. Ramon and Demm's Industrial Gear Project, the expansion project of TELCO, the foundry forge project of the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., etc. The possibilities of West German assistance for establishment of a new fertilizer project will also be considered.

The German and the Indian Delegations had friendly and wide ranging discussions on Indo-German technical cooperation covering both the on-going projects and possible new areas for such cooperation in increasingly sophisticated fields of science and technology.

Both the Delegations expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved in respect of the existing projects in developmental sectors like agriculture, education, TV, vocational training, etc.

During the negotiations, an agreement was signed for a Commercial Development Programme, to promote export from India.

GERMANY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

President Giri's Condolence Message

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on August 2, 1973 the President, Shri V. V. Giri, has sent the following message of condolence to the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, on the death of Mr. Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic:

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, please accept sincere condolences on the sad demise of His Excellency Mr. Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic. Mr. Ulbricht's steadfast opposition to fascism and his wholehearted dedication to the cause of peace had made him a truly international personality. His passing away will be mourned by all.

Please also convey our sincere condolences to the bereaved members of the

family.

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INDIA USA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri P. K. Banerjee's Statement at UN Conference of Committee on Disarmament

The following is the text of a statement made on August 7, 1973, by Shri P.K. Banerjee, leader of the Indian delegation to the conference of the committee on Disarmament at a special meeting on the occasion of the ten years that have passed since the signing of the Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty:

As we gather here this morning to review the last ten years since the signing of the Partial Test Ban Treaty, I recall the role played by our late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, during the conference of non-aligned nations at Belgrade in September, 1961, when he warned about the dangers inherent in the continuing development of nuclear weapons and its testing. He said that it had become even more urgent that the process of negotiation should begin without any further delay or excuse.

The Cuban missile crisis in 1962 brought home to everyone that the path of confrontation would surely lead to catastrophic destruction, if not complete annihilation. As a step away from this path, the Partial Test Ban Treaty was signed in Moscow on 5th August, 1963. The discussion at the 18-nation committee on disarmament and the various resolutions adopted by the United

Nations also played an important part in stimulating the exchanges between the two Super Powers. The treaty at that time raised great hope of having achieved a breakthrough in disarmament negotiations. Today we may ask - has it lived up to its expectations?

Accordingg to the SIPRI research report No. 11 of August 1973, and I quote: It is questionable whether the pledge given by the UK, the USA and the USSR to negotiate the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons is being fulfilled. During the past decade there have been no real negotiations on the subject of underground tests. In the discussion of verification which is ostensibly the most important stumbling block on the way of achieving a comprehensive agreement, the positions of the main parties have remained unchanged since 1963. Other provisions of the agreement have not even been meaningfully discussed. The Super Powers have, as yet, failed to specify in treaty language, the terms that would be acceptable to either of them for the prohibition of underground nuclear weapon tests. The adherence to the PTB, though wide, is not universal. A few military important countries, such as Argentina and Pakistan, and especially China and France, are still missing from the list of parties.

Mr. Chairman, 424 nuclear explosions have been carried out from 5th August, 1963, to 31st December, 1972, i.e., almost one half of the total of 924, announced and presumed nuclear explosions conducted since 1945. We have always emphasised that the provisions of the Partial Test Ban Treaty should be fully observed and those nuclear weapon states which have not yet adhered to that treaty should do so without any further excuse or delay. Also, whatever the differences on the issue of verification of a ban on underground nuclear weapon tests and notwithstanding any other considerations, testing of nuclear weapons in all environments, must be immediately suspended.

I would like to conclude by quoting from the message which our Prime Minister sent to the international NGO Conference on Dis-

armament in Geneva, last September: "In this nuclear age, the question of disarmament is the most vital and urgent one confronting mankind. The spiralling arms race in nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction raised fundamental issues which no one can ignore, for it threatens the survival of the human species, indeed of all life on our planet. And yet there is helpless acceptance of these fearful weapons as part of our daily lives and a complacent acquiescence in the pernicious concept of the balance of terror. The irony is that we see the goal, we have the means, but we lack the political will and mutual trust necessary to take one big step forward."

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Mr. Chairman, what we need today is the political will and mutual trust. Discussion and exchange of ideas and data among and between the nuclear scientists may be enlightening and even useful. Will such discussion lead to political decision or will it be more useful if first a political decision is made and then the scientists are called upon to assist in implementation?

Despite many pressures, we in India have steadfastly adhered to our decision to use the atom only for peaceful purposes, for the betterment of the human condition. We believe that nuclear weapons, but not nuclear energy, are the evil which we must avoid.

Mr. Chairman, members, we in India would be pleased to know that, the Commonwealth Heads of Government, now meeting in Ottawa (Canada) have called for the speediest possible achievement of agreement on general and complete disarmament under strict international control and in accordance with the objectives of the United Nations.

We hope that the CCD will continue to press, with even greater determination, for the urgent solution of the problem of nuclear disarmament and other weapons of mass destruction, sepecially chemical and biological, whose horrors have come to be fully understood by the international community

only in recent years. The absence of war is not peace. Peace and progress are entirely dependent on disarmament. International opinion therefore must be mobilised in support of concrete measures of disarmament and the consequent diversion of savings from the arms race to the cause of much-awaited and much-needed world-wide economic development.

Mr. Chairman, this mornings special session of the CCD, we hope, will contribute substantially to this end.

INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA CUBA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM ARGENTINA PAKISTAN CHINA
FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND CANADA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement in Security Council on Diversion of Civilian Aircraft by Israel

The following is the text of Shri Samar Sen's statement in the Security Council on August 14, 1973, on the item concerning the diversion of a civilian airliner by the Israelis:

Mr. President, we offer you our congratulations on your assumption of the Presidency for the month of August and extend to You our fullest co-operation as you carry out the difficult and responsible tasks before the Council. Your country and mine try to serve many common values and face many common difficulties, and so we have built together many bonds of understanding and tolerance.

We welcome our new British colleague, Sir Donald Maitland.

I shall not make another speech in tri-

bute to Sir Colin Crowe, because I think I have done my share, as far as time has permitted.

The specific complaint brought to the Council by the Government of Lebanon cannot, of course, be completely separated from the general problem of the Middle East, which was debated so thoroughly only a few days ago. At that stage the various principles which should govern a final solution of this complex problem were embodied in a draft resolution which could not, however, be adopted because of the negative vote of a Permanent member of the Council. None the less, we continue to hold firmly to the view that unless and until Israel has undertaken to withdraw from the occupied territories and to respect and accommodate the rights, interests and aspirations of the Palestinian people there will be no solution. Once Israel has taken those steps I can assure it that it will find all those it describes as "friends of the Arabs" most forthcoming in supporting Israel in its desire to live in peace and security with all its Arab neighbours.

The arguments have been advanced. Their Arab terrorism must inevitably, indeed morally, attract retaliation everywhere and at any time. We do not and cannot - for

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reasons so clearly given by various speakers before me - accept that view, particularly if such acts of retaliation take place at a time when a cease-fire is in force and when such actions take place on the territory of other sovereign countries. Nor is it true that the problem of terrorism has not been solved because of Arab machinations.

Let us see what the Secretary-General himself has to say on this problem:

"Obviously it is no good to consider this very complex phenomenon without at the same time considering the underlying situations which give rise to terrorism and violence in many parts of the world. It is these underlying causes that make the problem so appallingly difficult to tackle owing to their variety and

different natures, and which also make it so difficult for Governments to agree upon the kind of measures which could reverse the current trend to violence.

The roots of terrorism and violence in many cases lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair so deep that men are prepared to sacrifice human lives, including their own, in the attempt to effect radical changes."

That paragraph - from a statement by the Secretary-General, who, I believe, cannot be dubbed "a friend of the Arabs" - clearly explains the difficulties inherent in this problem. And those of us who have followed the proceedings of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism will be impressed that, by equating individual and private and group terrorism with State terrorism, the point has been established that all types of terrorism must be the subject of international action at the same time. In fairness to the Committee, it should also be stated that it was not asked to deal only with Arab terrorism and that much of its difficulty related to the struggle for independence of people in the colonial Territories and under racist regimes.

On the specific complaint before us the facts, fortunately, are not in dispute; nor will any member of the Council question Israel's right of self-defence should it be attacked or its duty to take necessary security measures on its own territory. However, no member of the Council - indeed, no Member of the United Nations - will or can give Israel the right to take violent and illegal actions on the territories of other States. Nor will any State accept that Israel has any right to enforce, as a kind of world policeman, what it conceives to be international law. If Israel has any grievances about any terrorist acts that can be the subject of international action, it is free to bring such complaints to the Security Council. If it chooses not to do so, for whatever reasons, it cannot at the same time decide how those grievances are to be removed by its unilateral and admittedly illegal actions.

When parties; are in full war cry many

exchanges are indulged in which, in a more objective analysis of the problem, would appear to be totally irrelevant. For instance, it was stated yesterday that what Israel was doing was in Lebanon's long-term interest. We have in a different context the advice of The Times of London on what is in Israel's interest. We believe that each country is competent to decide what is in its own interests; but it cannot, in serving those interests, violate, particularly by violent means, the rights of other States. What Israel has done cannot be justified and must be firmly condemned.

But apart from condemnation, these frequent and varied aggressive acts seriously threaten the tenuous cease-fire in the area and certainly make the task of any mediator, or even of the Council, much more difficult. We are therefore most anxious that any action we may take must ensure that Israel desists from these actions entirely in the future and that its profession to live in peace and friendship with its Arab neighbours will be translated into action by withdrawal from the territories it illegally occupies and by respecting the rights of the Palestinians.

Finally, this Council and each of its members will always be ready to apply international law and the provisions of the Charter in their totality to any action taken by any Member of the United Nations.

Those considerations will determine the attitude of the Indian delegation towards any draft resolution that may be presented for our consideration.

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INDIA ISRAEL USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LEBANON CHINA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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NETHERLANDS

Agreement for Dutch Aid to India

The following Press release was issued in New Delhi on August 23, 1973, on the new Dutch Credit agreement:

The Dutch Credit Aid to India Agreement amounting to Guilders 68 millions was signed on August 22 morning by our Ambassador on behalf of the President of India and Mr. P. C. Mass, President of the Netherlands Investment Bank for Developing Countries. This loan agreement, referred to as XVIII Loan, forms the financial contribution which the Netherlands Government has undertaken to make to India for the year 1973-74 within the framework of the India-Consortium of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The loan is for utilisation by India for programme and project assistance within the framework of India's development plans.

A special feature of this year's loan agreement is that India will be free to make commitments up to a maximum of Guilders 45 million for special long term projects with a resultant disbursement spread over two or three years. These disbursements will be considered to be included in the total amount of the financial assistance for the respective years by the Netherlands Government within the framework of the India-Consortium if and when made available to India.

INDIA USA THE NETHERLANDS

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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PAKISTAN

Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, made the following statement in both Houses of Parliament on August 2, 1973, on the talks in Rawalpindi about the India-Bangladesh Joint Declaration:

As the House is aware, on April 17, 1973, the Governments of India and Bangladesh issued a Joint Declaration which contained an offer for the immediate and simultaneous resolution of the humanitarian issues arising out of the conflict of December, 1971. The Government of Pakistan sought certain clarifications on the Declaration and for this purpose invited the Government of India to send a Representative to explain the various provisions of the Declaration. However, at the same time the Pakistan Government in its statement of April 20, 1973, came out with certain positions on these humanitarian issues which were not acceptable to the Governments of India and Bangladesh. After an exchange of correspondence between our Foreign Minister and Pakistan's Minister of State, for Defence and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Pakistan indicated its willingness to discuss on the humanitarian basis the repatriation of the three categories of persons mentioned in the Declaration, namely, Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees in India, Bangladesh nationals detained in Pakistan and Pakistani nationals in Bangladesh. This exchange of correspondence took place with the knowledge and in consultation with the Bangladesh Government.

A Delegation led by the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of India, Shri

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P. N. Haksar, and comprising Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, and senior officials from the Ministry of External Affairs, visited Rawalpindi and Islamabad and held discussions with the Pakistan Dele-

gation from July 20 to July 31, 1973, The Pakistan Delegation was led by Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Pakistan's Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs and included Pakistan's Foreign Secretary, Mr. Agha Shahi, and other senior officials.

During the course of these talks, questions relating to simultaneous repatriation of the three categories of person,, mentioned in the Joint India-Bangladesh declaration were discussed in full detail. In the context of normalising the situation in the sub-continent, the two sides also reviewed the progress made so far in implementing the Simla Agreement. The Pakistan side acknowledged the fact that the Joint India-Bangladesh Declaration Which had separated political considerations from the humanitarian issues was a step forward and paved the way for an early resolution of these Issues. Some progress was made in defining these issues and it was agreed between the two Delegations that a point had been reached where further consideration by both sides was necessary. It was, therefore, agreed that the current discussions be adjourned and later resumed. at New Delhi on August 18, 1973.

As the Hon'ble Members will appreciate, in view of the delicate nature of the negotiations and the need for further consultation with the Government of Bangladesh, it will not be in our interest to reveal further details about these talks.

A copy of the Joint Statement issued at the conclusion of the recent talks is laid on the table of the House.

PAKISTAN USA BANGLADESH INDIA MALI

Date : Aug 01, 1973

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PAKISTAN

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on August 14, 1973, the President, Shri V. V. Giri, has sent the following message of greetings to H.E. Mr. Fazal Ilahi on his election at,; President of Pakistan:

On the occasion of your election to the exalted office of the President of Pakistan, I send, your Excellency, my sincere felicitations and good wishes. I am confident that with goodwill and understanding we can amicably resolve all our mutual problems so that durable peace is established in the sub-continent and we can devote our energies to the well-being and welfare of our peoples.

According to a press Release issued in New Delhi on August 13, 1973, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, has sent the following message of greetings to H.E. Mr. Z. A. Bhutto on his election as Prime Minister of Pakistan:

On the occasion of your election as Prime Minister, I send Your Excellency my sincere congratulations. It is my earnest hope that with a vigorous and responsive parliamentary system of Government functioning in the countries of this sub-continent, the problems that we face in common will be resolved through goodwill and discussion, and that we should be able to lighten the burden of our peoples.

With regards and good wishes.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Aug 01, 1973

PAKISTAN

India-Pakistan Agreement

The following agreement was signed by the leaders of the two delegations at the conclusion of the Indo-Pakistan, talks in New Delhi on August 28, 1973:

The Special Representative of the Prime Minister of India, Shri P. N. Haksar, and the Pakistan Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Mr. Aziz Ahmed, held talks in Rawalpindi from July 24 to July 31, 1973, and in New Delhi from August 18, to August 28, 1973. Shri P. N. Haksar was assisted by Foreign Secretary,

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Shri Kewal Singh, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri P. N. Dhar, Joint Secretaries in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri K. P. S. Menon, Shri A. S. Chib and Dr. S. P. Jagota, and Deputy Secretaries, Shri K. N. Bakshi and Shri Naresh Dayal. The Leader of the Pakistani Delegation was assisted by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Agha Shahi, Director General in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Abdul Sattar and Directors, Mr. Abdul Waheed and Mr. Khalid Saleem. These talks were held in the context of solving the humanitarian problems set out in the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration of April 17, 1973.

2. During the course of the talks both at Rawalpindi and at New Delhi, which were marked by mutual understanding, the delegations of India and Pakistan reviewed the progress so far made in the implementation of the Simla Agreement since they met last in New Delhi on August, 1972. The Special Representatives reaffirmed the resolve of their respective Governments expressed in the Simla Agreement that "the two countries put an end to the conflict and confrontation

that have hitherto marred their relations and work for the promotion of a friendly and harmonious relationship and the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent."

In this connection the Special Representatives were confident that the repatriation of prisoners of war and nationals of Bangladesh and Pakistan will generate an atmosphere of reconciliation and thus contribute to the building of a structure of durable peace in the sub-continent.

3. Desirous of solving the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflict of 1971 and thus enabling the vast majority of human beings referred to in the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration to go to their respective countries, India and Pakistan have reached the following agreement:

- (i) The immediate implementation of the solution of these humanitarian problems is without prejudice to the respective positions of the parties concerned relating to the case of 195 prisoners of war referred to in clauses (vi) and (vii) of this paragraph;
- (ii) Subject to clause (i), repatriation of all Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees will commence with the utmost despatch as soon as logistic arrangements are completed and from a date to be settled by mutual agreement;
- (iii) Simultaneously, the repatriation of all Bengalees in Pakistan, and all Pakistanis in Bangladesh referred to in clause (v) below, to their respective Countries will commence;
- (iv) In the matter of repatriation of all categories of persons the principle of simultaneity will be observed throughout as far as possible.
- (v) Without prejudice to the respective positions of Bangladesh and Pakistan on the question of non-Bengalees who are stated to have "opted for repatriation to Pakistan", the

Government of Pakistan, guided by considerations of humanity, agrees, initially, to receive a substantial number of such non-Bengalees from Bangladesh. It is further agreed that the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and Pakistan or their designated representatives will thereafter meet to decide what additional number of persons who may wish to migrate to Pakistan may be permitted to do so. Bangladesh has made it clear that it will participate in such a meeting only on the basis of sovereign equality;

(vi) Bangladesh agrees that no trials of the 195 prisoners of war shall take place during the entire period of repatriation and that pending the settlement envisaged in clause (vii) below these prisoners of war shall remain in India;

(vii) on completion of repatriation of Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees in India, Bengalees in Pakistan and Pakistanis in Bangladesh referred to in clause (v) above, or earlier if they so agree, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan will discuss and settle the question of 195 prisoners of war. Bangladesh has made it clear that it can participate in such a meeting only on the basis of sovereign equality.

The Special Representatives are confident that the completion of re-

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patriation provided for in this Agreement would make a signal contribution to the promotion of reconciliation in the sub-continent and create an atmosphere favourable to a constructive outcome of the meeting of the three countries;

(viii) The time schedule for the completion of repatriation of the Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian inter-

nees from India, the Bengalees from Pakistan, and the Pakistanis referred to in clause (v) above from Bangladesh, will be worked out by India in consultation with Bangladesh and Pakistan, as the case may be. The Government of India will make the logistic arrangements for the Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees who are to be repatriated to Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan will make logistic arrangements within its territory upto agreed points of exit for the repatriation of Bangladesh nationals, to Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh will make necessary arrangements for the transport of these persons from such agreed points of exit to Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh will make logistic arrangements within its territory up to agreed points of exit for the movement of the Pakistanis referred to in clause (v) above who will go to Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan will make necessary arrangements for the transport of these persons from such agreed points of exit to Pakistan. In making logistic arrangements the Governments concerned may seek the assistance of international humanitarian organisations and others:

- (ix) For the purpose of facilitating the repatriation provided for in this Agreement, the representatives of the Swiss Federal Government and any international humanitarian organisation entrusted with this task shall have unrestricted access at all times to Bengalees in Pakistan and to Pakistanis in Bangladesh referred to in clause (v) above. The Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Pakistan will provide all assistance and facilities to such representatives in this regard including facilities for adequate publicity for the benefit of the persons entitled to repatriation under

this Agreement;

- (x) All persons to be repatriated in accordance with this Agreement will be treated with humanity and consideration.

4. The Government of India and the Government of Pakistan have concurred in this Agreement. The Special Representative of the Prime Minister of India, having consulted the Government of Bangladesh, has also conveyed the concurrence of Bangladesh Government in this Agreement.

Done in New Delhi on August 28, 1973
in three originals, all of which are equally authentic.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA BANGLADESH

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement on Indo-Pakistan Talks in New Delhi

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on August 29, 1973, regarding the talks held in New Delhi from August 18 to 28, 1973, between the Special Representatives of India and Pakistan (similar statement was made in the Rajya Sabha by the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh):

As the House is aware, a Delegation led by the Special Emissary of the Prime Minister of India, Shri P. N. Haksar, visited Rawalpindi and Islamabad and held discussions with the Pakistan Delegation led by

Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Pakistan's Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs, from 24th to 31st July, 1973. During the course of these talks questions relating to simultaneous repatriation of the three categories of persons mentioned in the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration of April 17, 1973, were discussed in full detail. The Pakistan side acknowledged the fact that the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration, which had separated political

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considerations from the humanitarian issues, was a step forward and paved the way for an early resolution of these Issues. Some progress was made in defining these Issues and it was agreed between the two Delegations that a point had been reached where further consideration by both sides was necessary. In pursuance of this decision, the discussions were resumed at New Delhi from 18th August, 1973 and continued till the 28th August, 1973. These discussions took place with the full knowledge of and in consultation with the Bangladesh Government.

As it result of these talks, (in agreement was signed yesterday, the 28th August, 1973, between the Governments of India and Pakistan. I lay on the Table of the House, a copy of this Agreement.

The Agreement provides for the resolution of the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflict of 1971. The Agreement envisages the simultaneous repatriation of all Pakistani prisoners of war (except 195), the repatriation to Bangladesh of all Bengalees in Pakistan and initially a substantial number of Pakistanis now in Bangladesh to Pakistan. The time-schedule for the completion of repatriation of these three categories of persons will be worked out by India in consultation with Bangladesh and Pakistan as the case may be. It is further agreed that the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and Pakistan or their designated representatives will thereafter meet to decide what additional number of Pakistanis in Bangladesh may be permitted to return to Pakistan. Bangladesh has made it clear that it will participate in such a meeting only on the basis of sovereign equality.

The immediate implementation of the solution of these humanitarian problems is without prejudice to the respective positions of the parties concerned relating to the case of 195 prisoners of war. In the meantime these 195 prisoners of war shall remain in India and no trials shall take place during the entire period of repatriation. It is further agreed that Bangladesh, India and Pakistan in a tripartite meeting will arrive at a settlement of the question of these 195 prisoners of war.

In arriving at this Agreement all three countries, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, made constructive contributions. It is our earnest hope that this Agreement will be one more step towards the goal of establishing durable peace in the sub-continent.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA BANGLADESH

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Indo-Sri Lanka Economic Cooperation

The following Press Note was issued in New Delhi on August 27, 1973, on the third meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Sub-Committee on Economic Cooperation held in New Delhi:

At the invitation of the Government of India, a high-level delegation from Sri Lanka visited India from August 23 to 28, 1973 consisting of:

H.E. Dr. H. A. De S. Gunasekera,
Secretary, Ministry of Planning and
Economic Affairs

H.E. Mr. M. Sivanathan, Secretary,
Ministry of Industries & Scientific
Affairs

Mr. S. Velayutham, Deputy Director,
External Resources Division, Ministry of Planning and Economic
Affairs.

The Sri Lanka delegation was joined by G.D.I.G. Seneviratne, Deputy High Commissioner and Dr. A. H. Mirande, Third Secretary, Sri Lanka High Commission in New Delhi.

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The leader of the Sri Lanka delegation accompanied by H.E. Mr. M. Sivanathan called on Shri Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Prof. S. Chakravarty, Member, Planning Commission, Shri B. D. Pande, Cabinet Secretary, Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Prof P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Economic Affairs, and Shri Mohd. Yunus, Secretary, Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

During this visit, the Third Meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Sub-Committee on Economic Cooperation took place, and a review was made of the economic, commercial, technical and scientific ties between the two countries. The Indian delegation at that talks was led by Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

Both sides took satisfaction at the substantial progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Second Meeting of the Sub-Committee which had taken place in May, 1973. Discussions covered possibilities of cooperation in the industrial development in Sri Lanka, in the fields of mica and sugarcane, and in the exchange of scientific and technological information. It was agreed that exchanges of expert delegations would be useful in the spheres of trade, animal husbandry, small scale industries, science and technology, sugarcane, shipping and telecommunications. An Agreement was signed

providing for a further credit of Rs. 50 million to Sri Lanka.

The leaders of the two delegations discussed in detail ways and means of further expanding the areas of economic cooperation. It was decided to recommend to the two Governments the appointment of a technical committee to study these matters further.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA IRAN

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

TURKEY

Indo-Turkish Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued in New Delhi on August 23, 1973, at the end of the visit to India of H.E. Mr. Umit Haluk Bayulken, Foreign Minister of Turkey:

At the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, His Excellency Mr. Umit Haluk Bayulken, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Turkey, paid a visit to India from August 21 to 23, 1973.

His Excellency Mr. Bayulken was received by the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri, and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

During his stay, the Minister of Foreign Affairs paid a visit to Agra.

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The two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on matters of mutual interest and also

reviewed the international situation. On the Turkish side the talks were attended by:

H.E. Mr. Gundogdu Ustun, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Ozer Fuat Tevs, Minister Plenipotentiary, Director of the Department of Middle East and Africa, Mr. Necdet Tezel, Minister Plenipotentiary, Director of the Department of East, Mr. Ecmel Barutcu, Minister Plenipotentiary, Special Adviser to the Minister, Mr. Kaya Toperi, Acting Director of the Department of Information.

On the Indian side the talks were attended by:

Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary, Shri S. Sinha, Joint Secretary, Shri K. R. Narayanan, Ambassador of India in Turkey, and Shri O. N. Sheopuri, Deputy Secretary.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and in the spirit of mutual understanding and goodwill.

The Minister of External Affairs of India informed the Foreign Minister of Turkey of recent developments in the sub-continent and the initiatives taken by India in bringing about normalisation of relations among the three countries of the sub-continent following the war of December, 1971. He recounted the progress already made and the efforts currently under way to resolve the remaining issues, specially the humanitarian issues. The Foreign Minister of Turkey appreciated the steps taken by India and wished a speedy restoration of normal and good-neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan on the basis of the Simla Agreement.

The Foreign Minister of Turkey reviewed the situation in Cyprus and the recent developments in the inter-communal talks. The two Foreign Ministers agreed that a solution for the Cyprus question must be found peacefully within the framework of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus safeguarding fully the legitimate rights and interests of the Turkish and Greek

communities.

The two Foreign Ministers welcomed the general detente in international relations and expressed the belief that the world situation presented opportunities for the consolidation of peace and the enlargement of international cooperation.

The Turkish Foreign Minister explained the developments in Europe, specially with reference to the Conference on European Security and Cooperation. The two Foreign Ministers hoped for a successful conclusion of the further stages of the conference, leading to the establishment of genuine peace and security in Europe.

The Turkish Foreign Minister conveyed the impressions he gathered from his recent tour of South East Asian countries. The two Foreign Ministers agreed that the peace and stability of the region is dependent on all countries respecting the independence and sovereignty of the countries of the region.

The Foreign Ministers referred to the continuing stalemate in the Middle East and reiterated their concern over the serious threat that the continuation of the crisis constitutes to peace in that region and in the world. They reiterated the need for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories in accordance with the Security Council Resolution 242 of November 22, 1967, and expressed the urgency of reaching a political solution for the purpose of establishing a just and lasting peace.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed the bilateral relations between their two countries and expressed satisfaction that these relations have been developing in various fields of activity. They reiterated their desire to see an all round growth in these relations in the spirit of the Indo-Turkish Treaty of Friendship and the Cultural Agreement signed in 1951.

The Foreign Minister of Turkey informed the Minister of External Affairs of India that the Minister of Commerce of Turkey will visit India in September to sign the Trade

Agreement between the two countries. The two Ministers hoped that the signing of the Agreement will promote expansion of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The two Foreign Ministers recognising that both India and Turkey had much in common in their cultural heritage expressed the desire to expand cultural exchanges between the two countries. It was agreed that officials of the two countries should meet to consider a programme of cultural exchanges and its proper implementation.

The two Foreign Ministers agreed that this visit had proved to be extremely useful in understanding and appreciating each other's policies and objectives. They highly valued such high level contacts between the two Governments and hoped that these contacts will continue on a regular basis in the interests of promoting friendship and understanding between their two countries.

The Foreign Minister of Turkey, His Excellency Mr. Bayulken, expressed to the Minister of External Affairs of India his sincere gratitude for the warm and friendly

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welcome and hospitality extended to him and to the members of his party.

His Excellency Mr. Umit Haluk Bayulken, extended an invitation to His Excellency the Minister of External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, to pay an official visit to Turkey. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and the date of the visit will be fixed later on through diplomatic channels.

TURKEY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM MALI PAKISTAN CYPRUS ISRAEL

Date : Aug 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

Prime Minister's Message on Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty Anniversary

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on August 8, 1973, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, has conveyed the following message of greetings to the Soviet Union on the second anniversary of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, which falls on August 9, in an interview to the TASS:

On behalf of the Government and people of India I send my greetings to the leaders and people of the Soviet Union on the second anniversary of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation.

In these two years major events have taken place in Asia and the rest of the world. On our own sub-continent, a new freedom-loving nation, Bangladesh, has come into being. We in India have taken several initiatives to promote stability, friendship and co-operation among our neighbours. The Soviet Union has also taken major initiatives for international peace. The Indo-Soviet Treaty has contributed in its own way to the fostering of a general climate of peace and understanding.

The Treaty has also led to the further strengthening of the foundations of goodwill and co-operation between our two nations. We look forward to greater economic and cultural interchange to mutual advantage and to continued dedication to the larger cause of peace and equality among nations.

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Date : Sep 01, 1973

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AFGHANISTAN

Visit of Special Afghan Envoy to India

The following Press Note was issued in New Delhi on September 24, 1973, on the visit to India of Mr. Mohammed Naim, Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Afghanistan:

At the invitation of the Government of India, Mr. Mohammed Naim, Special Envoy of Mr. Mohammed Daoud, President of the Republic of Afghanistan, accompanied by Mr. Waheed Abdullah, Deputy Foreign Minister paid a visit to India from September 20 to 24, 1973. During their stay, Mr. Naim also visited places of cultural interest in Delhi and Agra.

Mr. Mohammed Naim called on the Vice-

President of India and held discussions with the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Government of India. These talks were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality, characteristic of the close ties binding India and Afghanistan, and revealed a similarity of views on matters of importance to both countries.

Bilateral relations, including the economic and technical exchange between the two countries, were considered satisfactory and it was agreed that further measures should be taken to intensify and enlarge the areas of cooperation. Views were also exchanged on the overall situation in the region and discussions held on issues affecting the peace and stability of the area.

The visit of Mr. Mohammed Naim was considered a further step in the consolidation of the friendly relations between the two countries. Both sides reaffirmed their desire to maintain close contacts and welcomed further exchange of visits at all levels.

Mr. Naim expressed his gratitude to the Government of India for the courtesy and hospitality shown to him and his party.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

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ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

India's Contribution to ADB Technical Assistance Special Fund

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on September 27, 1973, on the increased contribution by India to the technical assistance special fund of the Asian Development Bank:

India has doubled its contribution to the Technical Assistance Special Fund of the Asian Development Bank.

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The new contribution of Rs. 8 lakhs (about US \$ 103,000), fourth in the series, became effective after exchange of letters between Shri N. C. Shrivastava, ADB Director representing India, and Shri Shiro Inoue, ADB President.

The third contribution of Rs. 4 lakhs made in September 1972 has been almost

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fully utilised. India contributed Rs. 3 lakhs in August 1971 and Rs. 2 lakhs in July 1970.

The fourth contribution, like the earlier ones, may be utilised for financing the cost of expert services and related facilities in the Bank's technical assistance operations. In the initial drawdown, the contribution is to be used for financing the cost of such services and facilities from India.

INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

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BELGIUM

Cultural Agreement between India and Belgium

Following is the text of the cultural agreement signed between India and Belgium in Brussels on September 21, 1973:

The Republic of India and the Kingdom of Belgium

INSPIRED by a common desire to establish and develop closer cultural relations and

DESIROUS Of promoting and developing in every possible manner such relations and understanding between India and Belgium, specially in the realm of culture, art, science, technology and education,

HAVE DECIDED to conclude an agreement for cultural, scientific and technical cooperation and for that purpose, have nominated their plenipotentiaries i.e.,

For the Government of the Republic of India : Ambassador of India

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium : Minister of Foreign Affairs

Who, after having exchanged their credentials and found them in good and due form have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate and encourage cooperation between universities and other institutions of higher education, technical, artistic, secondary and teachers training schools, scientific laboratories, scientific and artistic associations, academies, museums and libraries in the two countries.

ARTICLE 2

The Contracting Parties shall exchange university professors and teachers in higher educational institutions and members of scientific bodies.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties undertake to encourage the exchange of books, magazines and publications of literary, artistic, cultural, academic and scientific nature between universities, academies, libraries and other educational, scientific and cultural institutions.

ARTICLE 4

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to step up the exchange of scholarships to enable the nationals of either country to pursue their studies or research work and to complete their scientific, educational, technical and artistic training in the other country.

ARTICLE 5

Each Contracting Party shall examine on what conditions and to what extent the equivalence of diplomas and academic grades and other certificates obtained in the territory of the other Party can be recognized.

In addition, the Parties shall examine to what extent partial equivalence can be accorded to studies undertaken in the other Party's territory.

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ARTICLE 6

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the reciprocal visits of professors, educationists, writers, artists and other experts for study tours, delivering lectures and participation in conferences, congresses, seminars and important cultural and artistic events.

ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties shall afford in their respective countries all possible facilities to scientists, research workers and scientific and educational delegations from the other Contracting Party in order to help them in their studies and researches, particularly by giving them access to educational institutions, pedagogic institutes, laboratories, libraries, archives and museums.

ARTICLE 8

The Contracting Parties shall encourage dissemination of knowledge of each other's culture through radio, press, television, films and similar other mass media.

ARTICLE 9

The Contracting Parties shall grant each

other necessary assistance for the organisation in their respective countries of concerts, ballet, theatrical performances, art, scientific and technical exhibitions by the other Party.

ARTICLE 10

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation between their recognized youth organisations and the organisations for adult education. They will facilitate exchanges in the field of physical education and sports.

ARTICLE 11

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour through all means in their power and subject to the laws in each country to ensure that text-books do not contain any misrepresentation about the country of the other Party.

ARTICLE 12

The Contracting Parties shall encourage translation, publication and diffusion of scientific, technical, artistic and literary work of authors of the other Party. They shall facilitate the publication in their own specialised reviews of articles of scientific and cultural nature dealing with the other Party.

ARTICLE 13

Each Contracting Party shall welcome the creation of cultural institutes for educational and cultural purposes on its territory subject to the laws and regulations in force.

ARTICLE 14

The Contracting Parties shall encourage initiatives undertaken to develop tourism between the two countries with a view to promoting better understanding between them and strengthening their friendship.

ARTICLE 15

1. For the fulfilment of the objectives of the present Agreement, a permanent Indo-Belgian Commission consisting of ten mem-

bers shall be constituted.

2. The five Belgian members of the Permanent Commission shall be nominated by the Ministers incharge of National Education and Culture with the concurrence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The five Indian members shall be appointed by the Government of India.

3. The Permanent Commission shall meet at least once every two years, alternately in India and Belgium.

4. The objects of the Commission will be:

- a) To keep under periodical review the working of the Agreement;
- b) To advise the Governments concerned on the detailed manner of carrying out the Agreement;
- c) To formulate cultural, scientific and educational exchange programmes and review their progress;
- d) To recommend to the Party concerned any items of interest to either Party in the fields within the scope of this Agreement; and

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- e) Generally to advise the Government concerned as to the manner in which the working of the Agreement may be improved upon.

5. The Permanent Commission may invite experts to attend its meetings in an advisory capacity.

ARTICLE 16

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, to take place at New Delhi and shall remain in force until the expiry of six months from the date on which either of the Contracting Parties shall give notice in writing of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

In case of termination, the status en-

joyed by various beneficiaries shall continue till the end of the year then running, and in the case of scholars, till the end of the academic year then running.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Plenipotentiaries authorised, therefore, have signed the present Agreement and affixed their seals thereto.

Done at Brussels on the 30th day of Bhadra the Saka Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninetyfive corresponding to the 21st day of September One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventythree in eight originals, two each in Hindi, Dutch, French and English languages, each text being equally authentic.

BELGIUM INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Agreement on Canadian Assistance for Khetri Copper Project

The following press release on the agreement for Canadian assistance in the training of Indian personnel in sophisticated techniques of copper mining was issued in New Delhi on September 28, 1973:

Canada has agreed to assist in the training of Indian personnel in sophisticated techniques of copper mining at the Khetri copper project in Rajasthan.

Under an agreement signed here today, the Canadian International Development Agency will be sending nine mining experts from Canada to help train Indian personnel.

The Hindustan Copper Limited, a wholly owned Government of India undertaking, is setting up a smelter at Khetri with a production capacity of 31,000 tonnes copper metal per annum. The copper ore mines at Khetri and nearby Kolihan mines will feed the ore requirements of the smelter. The mining is being done by using the latest methods and modern sophisticated equipment requiring special techniques and trained personnel. Canadian assistance for training this personnel will be of considerable benefit to the Khetri copper project.

CANADA INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

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1995

COMMONWEALTH FINANCE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Deputy Finance Minister's Speech

Following is the text of the speech delivered by Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi, Deputy Minister of Finance and head of Indian delegation at the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference, Dar-es-Salaam, September 19, 1973:

Mr. Chairman, this is the first occasion I have of participating in a meeting of the

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Commonwealth Finance Ministers and my pleasure in doing so is all the greater, since we are meeting in the continent of Africa and in this beautiful city of Dar-es-Salaam. Ever since my arrival yesterday, I have been enjoying the warm hospitality of the Government and the people of Tanzania for which I should like to express my sincere gratitude.

The meeting of the Finance Ministers

this year is of particular significance coinciding, as it does, at the end of a year of intensive discussions on International Monetary Reform; also, Commonwealth Heads of Governments met earlier at Ottawa and have given us the requisite mandate for further action on many of the problems facing us today. Our officials have been meeting here during the past two days and have prepared a comprehensive agenda for us. Given the limitations of time, it may not be possible for us to discuss in depth all the aspects of the various items of the agenda; it is my hope, nevertheless, that on the most important issues facing the world community, the Commonwealth Ministers will be able to present an agreed assessment and a joint approach towards their solutions.

I propose to confine my remarks at this stage in the main to the first substantive item of our agenda although I shall also touch upon other items. After hearing my colleagues on the other items, I may have something further to say and in that event I shall crave your indulgence at the appropriate time.

The world economy has gone through a series of shocks in the past two years. We in the developing world have felt these tremors, caused mainly by events beyond our control. Instability and uncertainty have continued in exchange markets even while the world community has been groping towards the establishment of a new monetary order. Inflation in the developed world has been transmitted to developing countries in the form of dearer imports creating additional problems of adjustment for them. Despite the sharp increase in the prices of primary products, developing countries as a group have not benefitted because of a simultaneous rise in the prices of manufactured products which they have to import. There has thus been hardly any improvement in the terms of trade of developing countries. These trends are disquieting.

Equally disturbing, if not more so, is the fact that the net transfer of resources from the developed to developing countries has not measured up to the targets broadly

accepted by the United Nations in the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade. The net transfers have declined from 0.84 per cent in 1960-61 to 0.73 per cent in 1970-71 as against the target of one per cent of GNP. What is more important, the target of official development assistance which was placed at 0.70 per cent is farther than ever from being met, the actual ratio being not more than 0.34 per cent. I am constrained to state with some sorrow that the developed countries of the Commonwealth are among the countries that have not met the target of official development assistance. The progress in the matter of affording greater opportunities of trade to developing countries also continues to be slow and the monetary upheavals of the last two years have injected a new uncertainty in regard to the prospects for the future. Most developing countries thus continue to face serious balance of payments difficulties in the wake of progress of their own development plans.

Among the most important issues before us is that of monetary reform. Progress on this subject in the Committee of Twenty has been disappointing, especially on matters of most vital concern to developing countries. There is, of course, some agreement on a few aspects of reform. Most countries accept that the monetary role of gold should be phased out; and while some dissenting voices are heard, they are, happily, not from among those gathered here. There is also agreement that the SDR should become the principal reserve asset. Beyond this, doubts and disagreements persist - on questions of adjustment, convertibility, consolidation and, above all, the link between SDR and development finance. I am hopeful that after what is said here at this meeting which is among friends, it will be possible to resolve many of these doubts.

We have before us an excellent paper by Prof. Hirsch. My own Government has also presented a paper which deals primarily with the question of the link, and seeks to answer some technical objections raised in regard to the link. It is our firm belief that these objections are not well-founded and that the

issue is really one of political will rather than

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technical soundness. The international community we feel has to make the political effort necessary to ensure that the aspirations of the developing countries in a reformed monetary system are fully met.

It is said, Mr. Chairman, that the creation of a link will not result in any additional flow of finance to developing countries; that there is a danger that the normal flow will be curtailed if a link is established between the SDR and development finance. One would naturally hope that assistance provided through the link would be additional to normal flows of aid. But I accept it may not be so. This does not, however, provide a conclusive argument against the link. In the first place, the judgement whether the establishment of a link will or will not result in an increased flow of finance from developed to developing countries cannot be more than tentative at this stage. Secondly, even if the link does not result in a greater flow of funds, it certainly provides greater assurance of development finance and improves its quality. As I said before, even the modest targets of development finance accepted by the U.N. have not been fulfilled. It is our hope that the link, apart from other benefits, will spur the international community towards the fulfilment of these targets.

The Heads of Governments of Commonwealth countries at their recent conferences in Ottawa have stressed, and I quote, "the urgent need to work towards the achievement as quickly as possible of a new and stable international monetary order which would take into account the special concern of developing countries, particularly as regards the creation of a link between Special Drawing Rights and Development Finance". It would be fitting if the Commonwealth Finance Ministers who are directly concerned with international monetary reform could now move this a step further and pronounce positively in favour of the link and suggest endorsement of the principle of a link at the forthcoming meeting of the Committee of Twenty and at the Annual

Meeting of the International Monetary Fund.

We have generally accepted the view that issues relating to trade, money and development finance should not be considered in isolation from one another. One of the central purposes of international monetary co-operation is to help the expansion and balanced growth of international trade. A stable and just world monetary order must be such as to secure a rapid expansion and diversification of the exports of developing countries. It is a matter of concern, therefore, that despite agreement on broad objectives, the prospect of trade expansion for the developing countries, particularly of those within the Commonwealth, is far from bright. This may sound pessimistic but is perhaps not far from the truth. In the four decades of its existence, the Commonwealth trading system has offered considerable benefit to its members. This system is facing a threat of extinction because of the obligation of the U.K. to eliminate the preferences given by it as a result of its accession to the EEC. Commonwealth countries, therefore, now face a two-fold problem: they have to forge a new relationship with the enlarged European Community: they have also to review the situation within the Commonwealth to maintain its internal potential as a trading community.

The Commonwealth countries have taken the initiative to open a dialogue with the EEC; but the complex problems affecting many countries and commodities cannot be solved within the time constraint envisaged in the Treaty of Accession. It is, therefore, important for this Conference to urge that the special trading relationship of all Commonwealth countries with Britain be continued for another year at least, pending the working out of a new relationship with the enlarged Community. The United Kingdom, we feel, has a special responsibility to lend its support to this proposal, and to take steps with the Community to ensure an expeditious solution of the trading problems of the Commonwealth. It could be said that such an extension of time might slow down the pace of negotiations, which now face a deadline. We would hope this is not so. In any case we can see little prospect, no matter how fast

the negotiations are conducted, of concluding these by December this year.

Commonwealth countries themselves must work towards a joint approach on a few commodities of special interest to them. The experience in respect of sugar supports the view that such an approach will yield dividends.

Britain's accession to the EEC does not automatically involve the abrogation of preferential arrangements among other members of the Commonwealth and I would suggest

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that this Conference reiterates the need for preserving the existing preference system as a basis for further measures for trade expansion between other countries of the Commonwealth.

It has been a matter of satisfaction to us that some of the developed members of the Commonwealth have been the most progressive in regard to the generalised schemes of preferences offered by them. It would, however, be wrong to regard the current GSP offers as a substitute for Commonwealth preferences. This is for two reasons. Firstly in respect of some of the commodities, GSP offers are not an adequate substitute for loss of these preferences; secondly, the enlargement of the EEC has diminished the GSP benefits by extending the area of free trade among a group of highly industrialised countries and their associates. In the process of harmonisation with the EEC we would, therefore, urge that the salient features of the British scheme should be taken together to evolve a new pattern, which does not suffer by comparison with what was offered earlier.

While talking on matters relating to Commonwealth trade, I cannot help feeling that we, the Commonwealth Finance Ministers, are not as closely associated with the subject as our colleagues, the Trade Ministers of the Commonwealth. I understand that Commonwealth Trade Ministers have not met for quite a while. At a time like this when some of the most important issues that

face the Commonwealth relate to trade, I feel that there would be great utility in calling a meeting of Commonwealth Trade Ministers to discuss the issues in this field. I would be glad to hear the views of my colleagues around this table in regard to this suggestion.

While I have the floor, I would like to refer briefly to a few other items on the agenda. My friend and colleague from Sri Lanka has raised the question of shipping. This is a complex subject with many ramifications. I would suggest that the Secretariat should follow up the excellent suggestions made in the paper by Mr. Rajwar. In particular, there is need for greater access to aid funds for purchase of ships. Avenues of mutual cooperation among Commonwealth countries for this purpose and for provision of technical assistance in this field need to be explored further.

I would like to refer briefly to another potential area of cooperation between the developed and the developing countries. This is the area of provision of export credit finance facilities for developing countries. I can understand, though I do not agree with, the susceptibilities of some of my colleagues from the developed Commonwealth countries about helping to provide export credit finance to developing countries as this might be politically unacceptable to trading interests in their own countries. Provision of such a facility will, however, be of importance to a growing number of developing countries and I would like this Conference at least to lend support to the establishment of an international scheme, even if outside the Commonwealth, to assist in providing such re-financing facilities. What I would wish to emphasise is that co-ordinated assistance is urgently called for in the entire field of export promotion, whether it be for product identification, packaging, market surveys, creation of marketing channels access to markets and export credit re-financing. This is vital in the interest of creating self-reliant economies in the developing countries of the Commonwealth. In this context, we welcome the setting up of the Export Market Development Division in the Commonwealth Secretariat as

very much a stop in the right direction.

My friend and colleague from Fiji has raised the question of the untying of aid. This is a question of widespread general interest to all developing countries; it has been discussed in several international forums and had reached a climax in the deliberations of OECD a couple of years ago. But it turned out to be a false climax, and subsequently interest has receded. In the current world situation, chronically surplus countries should in fact, find it convenient to untie their aid, and thereby derive some relief from the pressure of unwanted funds, while at the same time greatly improving the quality of their aid. West Germany has given a welcome lead in this regard by completely untying its aid. Systematic multilateral action on general untying should be the next step which will not merely help developing countries, but also contribute towards a desirable reduction in the distortion of trade flows.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I should like to reiterate that on some of the questions which

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I have touched upon, we should try and evolve a common view which can be urged in Nairobi. It is precisely to achieve such an objective that we gather here immediately before the Fund-Bank meetings. Let us work to achieve that objective to the maximum extent feasible.

Before I conclude, let me express once again my warm thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Government and the people of Tanzania for ensuring that our deliberations in this beautiful city of Dar-es-Salaam are made all the more pleasant by the excellent arrangements made and the warm hospitality extended to us.

USA INDIA TANZANIA CANADA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE FIJI PERU GERMANY KENYA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CUBA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Dr. Fidel Castro Ruz

Following is the text of a short speech delivered by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at a dinner held by her in honour of H.E. Dr. Fidel Castro Ruz, Prime Minister of Cuba in New Delhi on September 11, 1973:

Ladies and Gentlemen, we have decided not to have any speeches. But, I think, it will not be proper not to drink to the health of our distinguished guest. I might inform you, Prime Minister, that when I told some of our guests tonight that you were not speaking, they were very angry with me and deeply disappointed. Most of them have heard and all of them have read some of your other speeches and especially your speech at Algiers and admired it greatly.

This is your first visit to India, but you are not a stranger to us. Your heroic leadership of the Cuban Revolution and your achievements in building up a new society and your active interest in the cause of the common people all over the world - all these have made you a legend and have captured the imagination of idealistic people, young and old, all over the world, and here in India also.

So may I ask you all to drink to the good health of the Prime Minister, and further success and prosperity of the Cuban people and friendship between India and Cuba.

CUBA INDIA ALGERIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

DENMARK

Indo-Danish Technical Assistance Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on September 29, 1973, regarding the agreement signed between India and Denmark for providing technical assistance in the establishment of a prototype development-cum-training centre for leather machinery at Madras:

A technical assistance agreement between Denmark and India was signed here

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today. It provides for assistance in the establishment of Prototype Development-cum-Training Centre for leather machinery at Madras.

The agreement was signed by His Excellency Mr. Henning Halck, Danish Ambassador in India, on behalf of the Government of Denmark, and by Shri Abid Hussain, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, on behalf of the Government of India.

The Madras Centre will be under the administrative control of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi. Besides developing prototype and producing leather machinery for commercial reproduction by the small scale sector, the proposed centre will also train personnel already engaged in leather and leather machinery industries, extend common service facilities and execute job orders.

The Centre, when in full swing, will turn out in a year 100 trainees, extend service facility to about 500 units and develop six to eight prototypes.

According to the agreement, Denmark

will make available to India machinery worth Rs. 19.19 lakhs and also make available services of Danish experts and consultants. India will provide necessary facilities such as building, indigenous equipment and Indian counter parts. The total project is estimated to cost about Rs. 47 lakhs.

DENMARK INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement in Security Council on Cuban Complaint

The following statement by Shri Samar Sen, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations was made in the Security Council, September 18, 1973, on the Cuban complaint:

Mr. President,

You and I have known each other for such a long time and have affectionately co-operated in so many fields that there is a hint of ceremony in my paying public tributes on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for this month. However, I gladly do so if only to mark the classic cooperation that exists between our two countries. I should also like to record our appreciation of the competent manner in which Ambassador Scali conducted the business of this Council last month.

We have listened with great care to the statements made by the Ambassador of Cuba and the Charge d'Affaires of Chile. Although we much regret the recent developments in Chile, we, in this Council, are neither competent nor obliged to pronounce on them.

What has profoundly disturbed the public and Governments all over the world is the timing and method of the coup d'etat in a country where the armed forces have traditionally been under the control of a civil Government. This coup d'etat, which took place only a year before the General Elections were due and which has already claimed the lives of so many people, must continue to cause grave concern all over the world.

We must particularly regret and deplore the death of that great patriot and the distinguished elected leader of Chile, President Allende. All the developments in Chile will, given their history and background, be subject of much controversy, speculation and suspicion for many months and years to come, and while all this might be going on, all of us who are financially poor or militarily weak, will have to be on our guard. This need to be on guard was repeatedly em-

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phasised in Algiers and was referred to again three days ago at a meeting of the Congress Party of India.

But after having said all this, the fact remains that what has taken place in Chile -- and we have, not unnaturally and in the conditions now prevailing in that country, most incomplete information - is essentially an internal matter for that country. We have heard of assertions, but not of any evidence of an immediate threat to international peace and security because of the happenings there, and the specific complaints before us relate to the treatment of the Cuban Embassy and the Cuban diplomatic personnel in Santiago and the bombardment and attack on a Cuban ship.

Whatever might be the real or imagined provocation, in our view, the Convention of Vienna, as also the accepted usage and norm of diplomatic conduct between nations, does not entitle the armed forces of any regime to take violent action against a diplomatic mission. The Chilean representative asserted that the attack first came from the Cuban mission which, he said, had been turned into

an arsenal or a fortress. Yet the swiftness of military action on the morning of 11th September and all the circumstantial evidence available now, would show that irrespective of who fired the first shot, the Cuban mission was put in a state of siege and that the building bear marks of shootings and two men were hurt.

Besides, there is no evidence that great stores of arms and armaments were found when the Embassy buildings were vacated and when the mission personnel left. We are gratified in this context that the initiative taken by the Secretary-General and the diplomatic corps in Santiago allowed the Cuban officials to leave Chile safely and speedily. With the departure of the officials, the immediate problem of the safety of their lives has been solved. Only two elements remain - the question of compensation and the question of assessment of guilt, if any, of the army having used force against a foreign mission.

In our view the problem of compensation should be subject to negotiations between the two Governments by whatever means and in whatever forum that both consider appropriate, and the question of assessment of culpability of the armed forces, if it can be firmly established, will require consultation and further information not only from the parties but from the members of the Council or from any other sources. We shall, therefore, need time to consider these aspects of the problem.

As regards the Cuban ship, Playa Larga, on which also force was used, the broad facts are clear but the details cannot be known, particularly in the circumstances now prevailing in Chile which make travel by independent authorities difficult. However, the Chilean representative, in justifying the action the military authorities in Chile took against this ship, has cited the doctrine of 'hot pursuit.' We do not think that this doctrine applies to a case of this kind but, are prepared to examine with legal experts the precise position. This again will require time.

So, Mr. President, given the nature of the complaint and the paucity of facts, we consider that the Council would be best advised to adjourn for a short time and return again, to this problem when we have had time to sift the facts and consider in detail the legal implications. That also will be the stage when the Council may consider some suitable action. We suggest this course because we feel that there is no immediate urgency but grave concern for a suitable decision by the Security Council on this matter.

Before I conclude, Mr. President, I should like to invite the attention of the Security Council to several newspaper reports this morning which cause further concern to many of us. Of course we cannot and should not act on the uncorroborated newspaper reports but should like to be assured that much of what appeared in the newspapers this morning is without foundation. We would hope that the internal affairs in Chile would be conducted in such a way that they do not conflict with the principles of international peace and friendly relations among states - principles to which we attach the greatest importance.

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INDIA CUBA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHILE ALGERIA AUSTRIA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Finance Minister's Address to Fund-Bank Meeting

Following is the text of the Finance Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan's address to the annual meeting of the World Bank and the

International Monetary Fund delivered at
Nairobi on September 25, 1973:

As so many speakers before me have pointed out, this is a historic occasion for many reasons, above all because it is the first time that we are meeting on the continent of Africa. The Government of Kenya have made superb arrangements for the conference and we are grateful to them for their warm hospitality. I would also like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, for your enlightened remarks at the beginning of the session and for the skill and patience with which you are conducting the meetings.

At the outset let me place on record our appreciation of the most valuable service rendered by Mr. Schweitzer as Managing Director of the Fund for a decade. A man of great dedication, he discharged his duties dispassionately and with a stern devotion to principles and their equitable application to all members of the Fund. His contribution to the work of the Fund will be remembered for a long time, especially by the developing countries whose cause was dear to his heart.

NEW IMF MEMBERS

It also gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to our new Managing Director, Mr. Wittoveen, who inherits a most difficult task. I am confident that the background of his varied experience and insight into economic matters will help him in this challenging task. We wish him all success.

Let me also warmly welcome on behalf of my Government, Rumania and the Commonwealth of Bahamas as new members of the Fund.

Mr. Chairman, the last one year has been eventful on the monetary front. The developments in the exchange markets earlier this year have further underlined the urgency of the task of reshaping the world monetary system. There have been intensive discussions in the Committee of Twenty, but an agreed outline of the new monetary order except in few small areas is still not in sight. Meanwhile, exchange rates con-

tinue to lack any firm foundation in an internationally agreed set of rules or a code of conduct. Although the dangers inherent in such a situation are widely recognised we have still to find the means to restore confidence and stability in the monetary arrangements.

VIRTUAL STANDSTILL

In this connection, I wish to express my deep disappointment that contrary to expectations aroused at the July meeting of the Committee of Twenty, it has not been possible for the Committee to submit to the Board of Governors an agreed outline of reform. Judging by the report of the Chairman of the Committee, and the proceedings of the Committee of Twenty held on the 23rd September, the resolution of outstanding issues since the second meeting of the Committee held in March 1973 is virtually at a standstill. At that meeting, the Committee had emphasized the need for a better working of the adjustment process. Although many months have passed and despite extensive technical discussions of this matter by the Deputies, there is no consensus on the basic features of the adjustment mechanism in the reformed system. At the same meeting, the Committee had agreed that the SDR should become the principal reserve asset of the reformed system and the role of reserve currencies should be reduced. Agreement is yet to evolve on how this is to be brought about. The Committee had further affirmed the desirability in the context of monetary reform of promoting economic development and the flow of real resources from developed countries to developing countries. When concrete proposals having the backing of all developing and a majority of developed countries were submitted to the Committee of Twenty, progress was stalled because of the opposition of a few powerful countries.

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I recognise that the issues before us in the Committee of Twenty are highly complex and difficult. Many of these issues no doubt require further technical examination. However, I am also convinced that a technical examination has to be supplemented by

political will to find practical and workable solutions if there is to be any worthwhile progress in reconstructing the world monetary system.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS

We, in the developing countries had welcomed the formation of the Committee of Twenty since it implied that for the first time in many years, crucial questions concerning the international monetary system would be extensively debated in a forum in which developing countries had full participation. Developing countries have a strong interest in a satisfactory resolution of all outstanding issues of reform, and it is in this spirit that they have participated in the deliberations of the Committee of Twenty. They have a right to expect that a reformed monetary system would, among other things, help to create a more favourable international environment for their economic development. They have submitted concrete proposals on issues of special concern to them. At the level of Deputies, the technical aspects of their proposals have been examined in great detail and it has become abundantly clear that on major issues which affect the developing countries, the solutions do not depend on technical considerations; they depend on the willingness of the industrial countries to accept the simple proposition that the problems facing the developing countries are as much a responsibility of the international community as a whole as are those encountered by the developed countries; that international monetary problems and their solution cannot be divorced from the larger problem of securing rapid development of the poorer countries of the world; that problems of equitable distribution of world output demand as urgent an attention as those of securing stability and rapid growth.

WILL AND VISION

I have had the privilege, Mr. Chairman, of attending the meetings of the Committee of Twenty and the one solid impression I am left with is that the aspirations of the developing countries can be fully met only

if there is adequate political will and vision on the part of the developed countries. Let us not take shelter behind the technical complexities of the monetary issues which have, in any case, been so thoroughly debated. These complexities can be resolved and a smooth transition to the new monetary system ensured, given, individually and collectively, the determination to do so.

On the issues themselves, I can only express the views which I have already expressed in the Committee of Twenty in the hope that I can carry conviction with my fellow Governors.

First, we subscribe in a broad measure to the idea that member countries should be ready to accept the need for timely adjustment action. We would like to re-emphasize, however, that adjustment cannot be viewed merely as a mechanical process of adjusting to whatever circumstances prevail. We believe that adjustment becomes meaningful only when governed by objectives outlined in Article I of the present Fund Agreement and remains consistent with the maintenance of a high level of economic activity, trade and employment and the acceleration of the growth of the economies particularly of countries that are weak and underdeveloped. This was the idea that inspired the acceptance of the Bretton Woods framework and we are certain that this ought still to guide and inform our tasks in the future as well.

OUTSTANDING BALANCES

Secondly, we accept the notion that convertibility and stable exchange rates have to be restored in the near future if the present uncertain monetary arrangements are not to distort international trade and investment programmes. In endeavouring to restore convertibility we recognise that the question of the large outstanding currency balances has to be first resolved. We believe, however, that it would be damaging to the interest of the monetary system if these balances were automatically transferred to the Fund and the SDR system via the substitution facility. To do so on so large a scale might damage the SDR as a reserve asset at the very outset of its career. It is

our view, as expressed in the past, that the problems of these outstanding balances should

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be dealt with mainly on a bilateral basis between those who issued these currencies and their recipients rather than having them burden the international monetary mechanism as a whole. However, after serious attempts at bilateral arrangements, any small outstandings might still be dealt with through a substitution facility in the IMF.

Third, we are strongly in favour of the establishment of SDR as the primary reserve unit and hope that the world will have the wisdom to delink its monetary system from the constraints set by the production and value of gold and also to move away from the inefficient system of meeting the world's requirements of reserves through a system of reserve currencies even though these have, no doubt, played a useful role in the past.

Fourth, I would hope that while pursuing the goals and objectives of an international monetary system, no step will be taken that would create a two-tier monetary society in which some currencies play the role of key currencies and others of satellites. We have had enough problems in the past with such a system. The new system, we believe, must be centred exclusively in the funds and will be built on the foundation of the SDR. This will help achieve stability, by enabling all the currencies of the members of the fund to play their appropriate role in a fund-centred system.

Fifthly, we believe it to be the cornerstone of the new monetary system that it must have a built-in mechanism for an adequate transfer of real resources to developing countries. This must constitute an integral element of international monetary reform. The proposal to establish a link between SDRs and development finance is not only technically sound and feasible but is also consistent with the requirements of the strategy underlying the Second United Nations Development Decade. In a world in which the flow of resources to developing countries falls grossly short of agreed international targets,

let us not miss the opportunity of reform of the monetary system to impart the necessary element of stability to these flows.

NEW IMF STRUCTURE

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the new Fund will be structured in a manner that will accord to the developing countries the role which they deserve by virtue of their numbers and size in the decision-making process of the Fund. Even though the number and size of developing countries in the Fund membership has expanded substantially, the weight of these countries in the decision-making process has remained stagnant, or has perhaps even declined significantly. If the Fund is to remain essentially a cooperative international economic organisation, the weight of the developing countries in decision-making in the Fund calls for considerable improvement. Any attempt at reform of the international monetary system must ensure that the organisation builds up its structure in the interest of the world community rather than in the interests of any limited group of members, however big or important these might be.

Let me now turn to the Annual Reports of the World Bank Group. The last fiscal year marked the completion of Mr. McNamara's first five-year term in office. This has been a period of great activity and innovation in the Bank Group under the enlightened and dynamic leadership of Mr. McNamara. Apart from surpassing the fiscal targets for lending, there have been many qualitative changes of a significant nature. It is a matter of satisfaction to us that in recent years there has been a considerable re-orientation in the lending activities of the Bank and the IDA in keeping with the evolving needs of developing countries with particular attention paid to the needs of the very low per capita income countries. The focus on agriculture, urban development, education, population control and nutrition is well-conceived and we are glad to find in the address of Mr. McNamara so much emphasis on rural development and on equity in the distribution of the products of growth. He has made an eloquent appeal for the removal of privilege and vested interests and for a fair

deal for the small man and the small farmer, and a concerted effort, to eradicate what he calls absolute and degrading poverty. This accords with our own objectives, policies and programme in India. It is not enough to think in terms of rich and poor nations. Meaningful development policies - national and international - have to focus attention on the poor in the poor countries.

It is my earnest hope that while the Bank group may appropriately devote its

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energies to the task of social uplift, it will continue to provide the much-needed support for the basic economic infrastructure and for industrial development. The development process has to be viewed in an integrated manner. The growth of agriculture cannot be sustained without supporting increase in industrial output, especially production of inputs required in agriculture. Each country has to set its own priorities in accordance with its resource endowment and its objectives, and it is but proper that the Bank Group should respect these priorities in the programme of lending it develops for individual countries. The inhibitions which sometimes govern the present lending practices of the Bank, especially when it comes to providing finance for basic industries, oil refining or shipping, comes in the way of a well-balanced lending programme. The stress on projects, as distinct from non-project lending, has also been growing and there is need to reiterate the need for a maintenance of adequate balance between the two. I believe it is in accord with Mr. McNamara's thinking that an excessive preoccupation with financial and economic rates of return can lead to a neglect of the wider objectives of development, including achievement of higher employment and greater equity in distribution of economic resources. The Bank groups procurement practices also need in our view to be increasingly oriented towards supporting the development of local capacities rather than sustaining a pattern of trade weighted in favour of the capital supplying countries. In view of the mounting burden of the external indebtedness of many developing countries, new concepts must be evol-

ved for rescheduling of these debts in an orderly manner ensuring that repayment does not disrupt the viability of development plans. I hope that these vital aspects of the Bank's lending policies will receive full attention and that the Executive Directors will seek in the course of the coming months to secure modification and amplification of the Bank policies in these desired directions.

We fully share the concern expressed by the President of the Bank about the prospect of delay in completing the fourth replenishment of the I.D.A. We hope and trust that executive agreement will be reached here in Nairobi, that action will be initiated to secure speedy ratification and that a contingency plan is kept ready to ensure continuity of I.D.A. lending at high levels beyond June 1974. Considering the discouraging trend of bilateral official assistance and the growing burden of indebtedness of developing countries, the highest priority attaches to the augmentation of the lending capacity of institutions like the I.D.A.

On a more general plane, despite the encouraging trend in the Bank groups lending the international environment for developing countries continues to be highly unfavourable. The gap between the developed and the developing countries is widening. The growth of developing countries, especially of countries other than petroleum producers and manufactures exporters, is way below the targets set for the Second Development Decade, and the growth rate in the least developed countries has been slower still. The fruits of world economic development are not being shared equitably. The rich are getting richer and are being increasingly burdened by their own affluence; the poor are in the process of becoming poorer still. If international cooperation is to have any real content and meaning, this process has to be reversed. The World Bank is making a effort in this direction. It must secure cooperation on more widespread scale than is perceivable from the rich countries if concrete results are to be achieved.

Unfortunately, recent trends in the flow of real resources to developing countries do

not restore one's confidence in the viability of a philosophy of shared responsibilities between developed and developing countries, in eradicating poverty, disease and ignorance from our planet. The aggregate net transfer of resources from the developed world continues to be stagnant. Last year it declined in real terms by 3 per cent; and as a percentage of GNP of developed countries, the flow of resources came down from 0.82 per cent in 1971 to 0.77 per cent in 1972. The targets of 0.70 per cent of GNP as official development assistance is nowhere near fulfilment and the percentage has declined from 0.35 in 1971 to 0.34 in 1972 - being less than half of the target. The fact that these are well-known statistics does not make them less depressing. While the boom in commodity prices has no doubt provided some relief to primary producing countries, the benefit is not widely shared, and a large part of the developing world may well have been adversely affected by the failure of adequate export expansion opportunities in the face of a sharp rise in import prices. Attempts by

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developed countries to remove tariff and non-tariff barriers restricting the export of developing countries have been feeble. Uncertainties caused by frequent monetary upheavals have only added to the balance of payments problems of developing countries.

It is clear, Mr. Chairman, that the task of formulating a smooth development programme, difficult in itself, is made all the more difficult by the existence of tendencies I have just referred to. Developing countries cannot be blamed for a certain inward-looking attitude which such an international environment encourages. It has always been clear that the burdens of development have to be borne primarily by the developing countries themselves. The stress on self-reliance acquires an added validity in the kind of world developing countries find themselves today.

International economic cooperation, if it is to be meaningful, has to recognise and appreciate the mood in developing countries, the political realities of development and the

crying need for social justice. It would be my hope that the continued growth of the Bank family will act as a catalytic agent in bringing about a more widespread recognition of these essential aspects.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my warm appreciation and thanks to the Government and the people of Kenya for their generous hospitality and excellent arrangements.

KENYA USA BAHAMAS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA RUSSIA
Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No
1995
LIBYA
Indo-Libyan Agreement Concerning Oil

The following agreement between the Governments of India and Libyan Arab Republic concerning cooperation in the field of oil was signed in Tripoli on September 29, 1973:

The Government of the Libyan Arab Republic and the Government of India

desirous of establishing technical co-operation between them in the fields of exploitation of oil wealth on fair and equitable basis and in order to promote their efforts aiming at strengthening cooperation between them for the welfare of their people, have agreed on the following:

CLAUSE 1

The Indian side will purchase amounts of crude oil from the Libyan side on condition that the quantities and prices of crude oil will be specified along with the terms per-

taining to its delivery and receipt, by an Agreement between the concerned corporations of both sides.

CLAUSE 2

Both sides agree to strengthen technical cooperation between them in various fields of exploitation of the oil wealth, its distribution, transport, planning the projects, participation in their implementation and establishing effective cooperation in the fields of petrochemical industries. Both sides express their preparedness to promote cooperation in all these fields and to strengthen and encourage their concerned corporations to increase the contacts between them and to exchange their best suitable data in this regard.

CLAUSE 3

The cooperation covers, in the fields of oil between both sides referred to in previous clauses of this Agreement, the following:

- a) making available experts and technicians in various fields for the exploitation of oil wealth for the purpose of working and of consultations,

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- b) facilitating theoretical and applied training for the nationals of both sides in each other's countries.

CLAUSE: 4

A joint Committee shall be formed from the representatives of both sides to supervise over the execution of this Agreement and to encourage and develop technical cooperation between the two countries in the field of oil on condition that this Committee will be formed before the end of 1973.

CLAUSE 5

This Agreement shall come into force from the date of its signature.

Done in Tripoli on the 29th day of September, 1973, in two original copies each

in Arabic and English languages. in the event of any difference in the interpretation of the two texts, the English text shall prevail.

LIBYA INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES

Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech at Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference

Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh, was requested to speak on behalf of the Asian Foreign Ministers at the non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference at Algiers on September 2, 1973, in response to the inaugural address of the Chairman, the Foreign Minister of Algeria. Following is the text of the speech:

I am sure that I voice the feeling of all our colleagues present here, when I say that we have heard a very inspiring and stimulating address. The sagacity, brilliance and dynamism of our distinguished colleague Mr. Abdel Aziz Bouteflika, Foreign Minister of Algeria, are well known to us. These qualities have been reflected most admirably in what he has told us. He has made a comprehensive analysis of the world situation and our attention has been drawn to the matters which require our urgent consideration in the political and economic fields. He has set a tone which is a very good augury for the success of our deliberations. It gives me great pleasure to extend to him on behalf of our distinguished colleagues from Asia, our profound thanks for his words.

We are very glad and happy to be here

in this beautiful friendly and historic city of Algiers. We are not unfamiliar with the warmth and sincerity of the hospitality of out, Algerian friends. The welcome that has been extended to us by the government and people of Algeria has already found a place in our hearts.

Algiers is a citadel of liberty and its people have written a golden chapter in the peoples' struggle for freedom, peace and progress. It is now the seat of this historic summit, and for the next week the eyes of the world, will be upon it. Your thought-provoking inaugural address will be a source of inspiration to all of us.

This conference - the 4th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned countries - is of crucial importance at this juncture in the evolution of the international scene. We are confident that under your able and wise guidance, this meeting of Foreign Ministers will be able to prepare the stage for the success of the summit commencing next week. We, the members of the Conference of Foreign Ministers assure you of our whole hearted cooperation in this joint endeavour.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not take this opportunity to place on record our profound appreciation for the devoted and

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sustained contribution which our outgoing President and Coordinator, the distinguished Foreign Minister of Zambia, Mr. Mudenda has made over the past three years, since the Lusaka Summit, to the fruitful work and continuing success of the Non-Aligned movement - both in New York within the U.N. Forum and elsewhere including the preparation for the conference we had at Georgetown last year and for the 4th Summit Conference this year. Our sincere thanks also go to the distinguished Foreign Minister of Guyana, Mr. Ramphul, who guided our deliberations at Georgetown last year with such skill and competence and who has so ably assisted our coordinator in all the preparatory work. We thank them and we wish to you, Mr. Chairman, the same success in the discharge of the responsibilities which the Non-Aligned

countries have now placed upon you and on Algeria.

Success, Mr. Chairman, is assured as we know of your wisdom and farsightedness, your great role in the freedom struggle, and your complete dedication to the objectives of independence, social justice and human brotherhood.

ALGERIA USA ZAMBIA GUYANA

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES

Sardar Swaran Singh's Proposal for Secretary-Generalship of Non-Aligned Summit Conference

While proposing Algerian candidature for the Secretary-Generalship of the Non-Aligned Summit Conference, Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh made the following speech at the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference on September 3, 1973:

It is customary practice in our conferences to have a Secretary-General to facilitate effective coordination and smooth functioning of the Conference. It has also been our tradition to request the host government to provide the Secretary-General. Therefore, following established practice we may request the Government of Algeria, which is already providing all the Secretarial facilities with such efficiency and competence, to accept this additional obligation which we seek to impose on them.

I have now great pleasure in proposing the name of Dr. Messaoud Ait Chalal for this high distinction and onerous responsibility. Dr. Ait Chalal is at present Algeria's Ambassador to Belgium. In his youth he was President of the Algerian Students'

Union and later assumed very high responsibilities in various foreign capitals during the Algerian liberation struggle. After independence he has held many high official positions of responsibility and was Ambassador to Italy before assuming his present office of Ambassador in Brussels. The brief mention I have made of Dr. Ait Chalal's career cannot do full justice to his high qualities and abilities. But, I am sure it is sufficient to give the members of the conference the satisfaction and confidence that we would indeed be fortunate if we could secure his services to guide the Secretariat and to serve our Fourth Summit Conference. I propose for consideration - and I hope, acceptance by acclamation - the nomination of Dr. Ait Chalal as Secretary General of our Conference.

ALGERIA USA BELGIUM ITALY CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Address to Non-Aligned Summit Conference

Following is the text of the address delivered by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to the Plenary Session of the Fourth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries at Algiers on September 6, 1973:

It is an honour to be in Algiers and to pay tribute to the indomitable spirit of the men and women of this land, whose epic fight for freedom evokes a sense of pride in all of us. Remembering India's own protracted struggle of nearly ten decades and true to our tradition of anti-imperialism, our sympathies were naturally with the people of Algeria to whom we gave full support. We had in

New Delhi a representative of the National Liberation Front from the very early days of the Algerian struggle. When after years of striving and sacrifice, independence came to this tortured land, my father hailed the event as "a tonic and a blessing".

We have watched with admiration Algeria's efforts to achieve social justice and its role in international affairs. The holding of this Conference is a tribute to that role and I bring to you, Mr. President, and to your people, the warm greetings of the Government and people of India.

Assembled in this Conference Hall are eminent leaders who have been rebels, architects of great revolutionary movements and creators of new nations. It gives me pleasure to see familiar faces; specially respected are two elder statesmen, His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie, and President Tito, one of the inspirers of the non-aligned movement. I am glad to make new friends and to welcome new countries - Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Malta, Oman, Peru and Qatar - to our ranks as also Cambodia and the P.R.G. of South Vietnam. I am glad that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is joining us. He brings the faith and strength of the freedom-loving people of Bangladesh. We miss President Allende of Chile, who is fighting a battle which is common to us. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking my good friend, President Kaunda of Zambia, for the high sense of dedication and conscientiousness with which he has looked after the affairs of the non-aligned movement for the last three years.

Why have we, the Heads of nearly eighty Governments, gathered here, travelling long distances in spite of urgent domestic preoccupations? Is it to perform a mere ritual or to renew a dying faith by an act of congregation? The answer is firmly in the negative.

We are here because of our convictions and in response to the inspiration which initially brought us together and which is

still valid in the contemporary world. We have a part to play in the re-making of the world. Non-alignment was born as an assertion of our will to be sovereign and not be mere objects of imperial history. It came into being after the travails of the Second World War when the world appeared to be rent asunder irrevocably. We said then that these divisions were inconsistent with the real interests of the masses who had just emerged from the long night of imperial exploitation. It was a deliberate, though difficult, attempt to lower tensions and tempers at a time when these were considered the accoutrements of strength. It was a principled contribution to peace. Non-alignment has not lost any of its relevance even though the rigid attitudes of the Cold War have softened,

We often hear the phrase "third world". Is this not a product of the unconscious desire of the small affluent section of humanity to continue as oases of prosperity in the midst of vast waste lands of want? Surely, our world is too small to be further fragmented. Mankind will survive together in hope and faith or give way to despair and destruction.

Three years ago I had suggested that we would direct our labourers to carry forward the Unfinished Revolution of our times. One aspect of this Revolution is the political liberation of the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin-America and the Caribbeans. Another is the endeavour to overcome the economic, technological and intellectual consequences of colonialism. But in reality and when seen in full historical perspective, the Revolution is much larger in its scope - ever unfolding new dimensions. The story of man is the story of his progressive emergence into freedom - in his social relationships, in his attitude to authority and in his economic dealings. If science is the means of acquiring power, the end should be the use of power for the good of man. The Unfinished Revolution must, therefore, continue until freedom is assured to all, until inequalities amongst nations and within them are narrowed and until the power at the disposal of nations is tamed through institutions in which all peoples can participate.

At present we are unsure of ourselves and groping our way. Economic difficulties, political tensions and the uncertainty of the future bring many problems to the surface. Some groups adopt aggressive and chauvinistic attitudes, seeing them as substitutes for strength. We can be strong and can assert our own personalities only by following the right policies and by a mature combination of the old wisdom with new insights in order to evolve distinctive patterns of social organisation notably in administration, legal processes and education in its widest sense.

Each of our countries has a surfeit of its own domestic problems, many of which

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have accumulated over the centuries and some of which have arisen from development itself. To these are added the problems created by external forces. Any one nation's interpretation of its legitimate interests or an economic decision taken in response to an internal situation has immediate and long-term consequences for many other countries. Some concepts and technological discoveries have a worldwide impact. The work of scientists and technologists in the advanced countries in fields such as communications, space science, metallurgy, fuel technology or medicine poses many complex challenges for us.

When we became free, it was with high hopes of bringing about immediate changes in our society. We thought that the process of transformation, once initiated and pursued with fervour, would gather momentum. But political and economic interests, domestic as well as international, have proved to be formidable obstacles. As the economic struggle becomes more acute, the long suppressed voices of people sharpen, but with every step forward, the resistance of entrenched groups, often aligned with foreign interests, especially the faceless multinational corporations, becomes more vehement, unscrupulous and, at the same time, more subtle and even insidious, for it is no longer overt but indirectly subversive and provocative. In India we see these constraints in operation every day. Perhaps this is also the experience of other developing countries. Hence, the removal of

poverty depends not merely on capital accumulation, important as it is, but on the generation of conscious political forces to overcome these constraints.

Colonialism has left deep scars of inferiority which become all the more sensitive in the face of the staggering advance of science and technology in the affluent countries. It is right that we acquire knowledge and profit from the experience of others. But in so doing, we should not lose sight of the actual needs of the majority of our people. Technology must not be mere transplantation or widen disparities and impose heavier burdens than our society is capable of bearing. Step by step we are being pushed in a particular direction, imitating patterns and methods which do not necessarily fit into or benefit our society. The time has come for a re-assessment, not only to avoid the problems created by industrialisation in other countries but more positively to clarify our own goals. For us the question of disparities and inequalities is not academic but one which affects our future, even our survival. The aim of our socioeconomic transformation is not merely to augment the Gross National Product or to build consumer societies but to balance growth, social justice and the inculcation of cultural values which are inspired by perception and compassion.

Economic and social development cannot just be a domestic effort for any of us. It has to be a major international concern. We the non-aligned do believe that the fight against poverty demands cooperation in which resources and technology are shared among nations. We are all familiar with the political fluctuations of "aid" - with unfulfilled expectations and aid-weariness. The hope expressed at the Lusaka Conference that the shortcomings of the First Development Decade would be remedied in the Second has been belied. Since then much has been written about aid for development. Perhaps one of the most interesting has been the Report of the Pearson Commission. It might be worthwhile to remind ourselves of the conclusion reached by the Commission: "A good deal of bilateral aid has indeed been dispensed in order to achieve short-term political favours, gain strategic advantages,

or promote exports from the donor. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that hopes of satisfactory development progress were disappointed." Subordinating aid policies to foreign policy aims has seldom been a successful exercise.

The rich today have become more pre-occupied with themselves and alarmed that the new phenomena of planetary pollution and the shrinking of mineral and fuel resources are shaking the very foundations of their affluence. Although the compulsions of international cooperation demand a revision of old ideas and policies, they cling on. Even at the Lusaka Conference we had noted signs of a weakening of will in the protagonists of the Cold War and their realisation that confrontation was not yielding the results they had expected. Now rigid attitudes have blurred, and a new era of polycentrism and detente has begun. This we warmly welcome.

However, side by side with these favourable developments, there continue to exist areas of instability and conflict, of repression and injustice, of domination and discrimination. Attempts to order the world in the in-

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terests of a few countries have not been wholly abandoned. Nuclear stockpiles are increasing. So is the acquisition of conventional armaments, although there is some limitation on strategic weapons because of economic compulsions. We read horrifying reports of experiments in chemical and biological warfare. External interference, coercion and the occupation of the lands of others continue. The deliberate induction of armaments in the name of promoting regional balances and the arming of small nations, beyond the limits that can be sustained by their own socioeconomic structure, all these threaten peace.

In South-East Asia, the situation remains still critical. The full implementation of the agreements in Vietnam and Laos and the cessation of all outside interference in Cambodia are essential for peace and stability in that region. The non-aligned nations must together ensure that Vietnam, Laos and

Cambodia are allowed to work out their future and that all must respect their sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and neutrality.

The persistence of colonialism and racialism in Africa is an outrage on humanity. This anachronistic colonialism could not have survived without the concealed or open support of their imperialist allies and the sub-imperialist system of South Africa and Rhodesia. The horrors reported from Mozambique and Angola are further tragic chapters in their grim history. We denounce these in the strongest terms. Ways must be found for giving more effective support to the liberation struggles of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau.

Indian tradition helps us to look at the world as one, and today science and technology open immense possibilities to transform this dream into reality. How much more necessary it becomes to ensure that various hues of racialism and other forms of narrow-mindedness do not come in the way of man's freedom.

We support the just cause of the Arab people for the return of their occupied lands and for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine. Israel should realise that it cannot purchase security by incurring the hostility of its neighbours. The short-term gain will be a long-term loss.

In our own area, we are striving ceaselessly to clear the old suspicions, to remove the barriers to understanding and to create conditions for an enduring friendship between Bangladesh, Pakistan and ourselves. Last year in Simla and again a few days ago in New Delhi we have signed agreements which incorporate solutions to complex issues. These agreements are important also because, through bilateral discussions, they hold out the hope of peace, on the basis of equality and trust, to 700 million people in the three countries of our sub-continent. We are determined to pursue this goal of reconciliation on our sub-continent.

Moves towards the limitation of nuclear armaments and other weapons of mass destruction are important to the relaxation of tensions. But they do not take us far enough. The total elimination of nuclear weapons and complete disarmament alone can lead to genuine peace. Such disarmament calls for far greater courage and conviction than is now in evidence. We have lent our support to the proposed World Disarmament Conference in the hope that it will be able to generate the will and find a way.

The tendency is to expect instant results from such conferences. We have not come here to negotiate or to settle disputes. The outcome is bound to be intangible but no less substantial: to take back with us a greater understanding and sense of comradeship, to return to our countries with renewed strength to work for our common ideals.

Once we were termed rebels. I invoke the spirit of rebellion against all assumptions of superiority, against all attempts to dominate or dictate. At the same time, I invoke the spirit of a wider responsibility. We must speak for those whose numbers are large but whose voice is muted. Their claim to a just share of worldly goods, their right to a life of dignity, is indisputable and cannot be resisted. The past will inspire us but it is the needs of the present and the challenge of the future which are the driving force for our united action. We are responsible not to our individual countries alone, but to the peace and prosperity of the whole world. Let this bind us anew to the ideal of active non-alignment. Let this be the message of Algiers. Like all enduring ideas it is old, yet ever timely and new.

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ALGERIA INDIA USA ARGENTINA BANGLADESH BHUTAN MALTA OMAN PERU CAMBODIA
QATAR VIETNAM CHILE ZAMBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LAOS ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE
NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU ISRAEL PAKISTAN

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Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Indo-Afghan Agreement on Archaeological Collaboration

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on October 30, 1973, concerning the agreement between India and Afghanistan on archaeological collaboration which was signed in Kabul on October 24, 1973:

The Ambassador of India and the Minister for Information and Culture of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan signed on the 24th of October 1973, an agreement in the field of archaeology. India will carry out excavation and exploration in Bagram and the Afghan Sistan area. India would also train Afghanistan students and scholars in archaeology.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister of Information and Culture, Dr. Nevin, said that this was the first agreement signed under the new cultural policy declared by the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan on the 23rd October 1970. It was also significant that the agreement was signed on the 24th October, which was the U.N. Day. The Minister hoped that the traditional friendship between India and Afghanistan would grow stronger with the signing of this agreement.

Ambassador K. L. Mehta reciprocated the very warm sentiments expressed by the Minister. He said that it was significant that the first ever agreement signed between the

new Government of Afghanistan and India should have been in the field of culture and added that it would always be India's endeavour to widen the scope of co-operation between the two countries in all fields.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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BELGIUM

Agreement for Belgian Credit to India

The following press release on the agreement for a Belgian loan, signed in Brussels on October 19, 1973, was issued in New Delhi on October 20, 1973:

An agreement for a Belgian non project loan of Belgian francs 250 million was signed in Brussels on the 19th October 1973.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Belgian Government by Mr. Willy de Clercq, Belgian Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and Mr. Kampinaire, Secretary of State for Foreign Trade, and on behalf of the Government of India by Dr. K. B. Lall, Ambassador of India to Belgium and to the European Economic Community.

The agreement is in fulfilment of Belgium's commitment under the Aid India Consortium for the year 1973-74. Of the total non project loan of Belgian francs 250 million, 195 million is for purchase of Belgian goods and services by India and 75 million is for debt relief in the form of outright cash.

The loan is repayable over a period of thirty years, with a grace period of ten years, and carries an interest rate of two per cent

per annum.

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BELGIUM INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1973

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CANADA

Canadian Loan to India

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on October 4, 1973, on an agreement concerning a Canadian loan worth Rs. 4.2 crores for oil and gas exploration and development in India:

An agreement was signed here today for a Canadian loan of C \$ 6 million (Rs. 4.2 crores) to help finance the purchase from Canada of equipment and materials for oil and gas exploration and development.

The loan is meant for use by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited. With this Canada has made available to these two organisations a total of C \$ 12 million (Rs. 8.4 crores) during the last two and a half years.

The agreement for the loan was signed for India by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and on behalf of Canada by its High Commissioner, Mr. Bruce M. Williams.

The loan is on the usual soft terms applicable to Canadian assistance. It is repayable in 50 years with a grace period of 10 years and carries no interest, commitment or service charges.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

President Shri V. V. Giri's Address at Special Convocation of Bratislava University

The President, Shri V. V. Giri, delivered the following address at the special Convocation held at Comenius University, Bratislava on October 8, 1978, while receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa):

I deem it a great honour to be here today to receive the Degree of Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) which the University of Bratislava has been pleased to confer on me. I look at it as a measure of the esteem in which my country is held by the Government and peoples of Czechoslovakia. Yours is a renowned institution, a seat of learning in a country which was one of the first in this part of the world to foster education at the university level. An occasion of this kind represents a meaningful trend towards the promotion of goodwill among nations. It is indeed one more instance of several measures undertaken to spread international understanding.

As I stand before you here today, I cannot help dwelling, at the very outset, upon the close and friendly relations which have existed between Your country and mine during the past two decades and more. The similarity in our approach to many matters affecting national and international life has brought both our countries closer to each other and resulted in fruitful mutual collaboration in several areas of activity. It is a piece of good fortune that as between our two countries there have been no problems and, as a result, our relations have witnessed

a natural and unencumbered growth.

We in India have, through the years, watched with admiration the patriotic spirit of the people of your country and your outstanding achievements in several fields of human endeavour. Addressing as I do today a distinguished gathering of academicians, I would refer to the climate of liberal culture that pervades your land, a climate which has been admirably captured by your writers and musicians whose productions have a universal appeal. The works of your men of letters vividly portray the romantic background

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with which nature has endowed your landscape. Your music, has added an extra dimension to this colourful setting. It is no wonder then that the early forms of theatre arose from your clime. Popular forms of art like the puppet theatre have also flourished and like the lyrical works and patriotic songs in your musical tradition, they have won the approbation of the world. With a tradition such as this, it is inevitable that your national effort has been directed to the pursuit of excellence and beauty and achieving impressive strides in fields as diverse as architecture and cinematography, science and painting, art and photography. The progress you have registered in the realm of science has been fortified by your mastery in the crafts. Your advances in glass technology are an illustration in point. The headway you have made in industry is no less significant.

In the field of Oriental Studies too, your country has played a leading role. The first Indian treatise, the Buddhacharita, was translated into the Czech language as early as in the 14th Century. Since then the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, which are the major and central epics of our land, as well as numerous plays, novels and poems have been translated and interpreted by Czech and Slovak scholars, including the complete works of Rabindranath Tagore. Professor Lesny, a leading Indologist, had rightly commented on the affinity between the souls of the Czechoslovak and Indian peoples which he said constitutes a very special link.

This premier university, now more than half a century old, which is honouring me today, itself has been enshrined in legend, story and song. From small beginnings, I am delighted to know, the university has grown and expanded, and today prides itself on several faculties to which many prominent scholars from all over the globe are drawn. It has taken its name after the reputed educationist, Jan Amos Comenius. An idealist of the finest vintage, Comenius dreamt of ushering in a juster society through the medium of education.

It is but a truism to say that Universities can make a significant contribution to world peace. As their very name implies, universities are suited for fostering an active appreciation and understanding of diverse cultures. In the world of letters, science, art and music, there cannot exist any effective national boundaries. Through the work of universities we can widen the citizenship in this world republic of arts and science. The programme of education for world citizenship should be made a part of every person's general education. Universities must make provision for the study of the different aspects of international affairs, such as the nature and development of other civilizations and cultures, nationalism in its relation to internationalism. Each nation will have to contribute its own genius to the cultural riches of the world. Here there is a field of free give and take, uninhibited by any prejudices or bias.

One of the main purposes of university education is, without doubt, the pursuit of excellence in the attainment of knowledge. Dissemination of learning, incessant search for new knowledge, unceasing effort to plumb the meaning of life, provision for professional education to satisfy the occupational needs of society are the vital tasks of higher education. Institutions of higher learning should promote the spirit of free, unfettered, intellectual inquiry and act as the generator and the proving ground of ideas, and as the agent which ensures that valuable ideas gain currency. In the modern context where horizons are widening and knowledge is expand-

ing at a rapid pace, those who teach at the universities have to bear in mind that their task is not merely to communicate knowledge, but to create it and provide environment in which the quest for more knowledge flourishes. The teachers must enable their students to use their creative imagination and facilitate the diffusion of their ideas so that these ideas may be open to challenge and be either accepted or rejected.

In addition to the pursuit of learning and serving as the vanguard of the march of knowledge, institutions of higher education have a further important function in the present day world, which is of particular relevance to developing countries. Intellectual activity which should be the dominant factor in university life would be self-defeating if it is divorced from the troubles and tribulations to which the community outside its portals is exposed. The blessings of enlightenment received by the educated few, to have enduring value, should embrace the welfare of the society around and lift it to

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"an ampler ether, a diviner air". This is true within the compass of a developing society and it is equally applicable to life at the international level, where the earlier barriers are fast breaking down and educational and cultural exchange between various countries is becoming the order of the day.

At this point, it is with considerable gratification that I take note of the cultural and scientific exchange programmes between our two countries. We have freely drawn from the resources of your country and in return, we have been trying to make available to you something of what we consider as valuable from our side. The Indo-Czechoslovak exchanges cover many crucial sectors, but I shall, on this occasion, confine myself to those which apply to the fields of science and culture. Since 1966, we have collaborated in science and technology, following an Agreement signed between the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. There has been a continuous exchange of scientists and information and mutual co-

operation in the organisation of scientific research and participation in scientific gatherings. Culture is another sphere where both our countries have happily collaborated in an easy and natural partnership.

Ever since India attained independence in 1947, it has been the consistent aim of our Government to increase and diversify opportunities for education, including higher education, so that they may come within the reach of the masses. We are determined to create facilities in which every person can, according to his needs and ability, legitimately aspire to specialise in the field of his choice. In 1950 we had over 231 thousand schools, 27 universities and 595 colleges in the entire country. Today, we have over 532 thousand schools, 86 universities and 3,635 colleges. However, despite all this, keeping in view the size of our country and her growing population, there still remains a great deal more to be done.

As a Trade Unionist myself and as a political worker familiar with the appalling conditions of ignorance and poverty in which a sizeable number of our people live, it has always been my earnest hope that each and every worker and peasant is ensured the possibility of a full education, so that they will in their turn be enabled to play their due role in the political, economic and social life of the country.

We in India are inheritors of a civilization and culture which have a message for all humanity. The Buddha and more recently Mahatma Gandhi preached and Practised the religion of humanism. I myself have tried in my humble way to adhere to this religion, because I believe that this is the light that never fails. If the world of today has to survive the tensions, the jealousies and conflicts and to evolve a new order in which there will be no exploitation of any kind of man by man, we have to insist on a strict adherence to the two cardinal principles of truth and love of humanity. It is no use merely talking of peace; we must work for conditions which make for peace. Mahatma Gandhi has given us a matchless talisman to dispel our doubts. Advising poli-

tical and social workers, he said: "Whenever you are in doubt, or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test: Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen, and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to Swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions? Then you will find your doubts and self melting away".

I once again wish to express my appreciation for the signal honour you have done me. I hope this University will grow still further in stature in the years ahead and reach out to new vistas and horizons of achievement. May it always contribute its rightful share in kindling ever new sparks to light the path of Man in his march into the future!

Let me conclude with a prayer from the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, which sums up the aspirations of mankind in the search for knowledge through the ages:

ASATO MA SATHGAMAYA
TAMASO MA JYOTIRGAMAYA
MRITYOR MA AMRITAM GAMAYA.

FROM THE UNTRUTH LEAD US TO THE TRUTH
FROM DARKNESS LEAD US TO LIGHT
FROM DEATH LEAD US TO IMMORTALITY.

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NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA PERU OMAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Joint India-Czechoslovakia Communique

The following is the text of the joint communique issued in Prague on October 9, 1973 on the visit by the President, Shri V. V. Giri:

At the invitation of the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, H.E. Army General Ludvik Svoboda, the President of the Republic of India, H.E. Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri paid a state visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic from October 6 to 10, 1973.

The President of India and his party received a warm and cordial reception in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic which was symbolic of the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries.

In the course of his visit, the President of India, Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri met Dr. Gustav Husak, Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

During his sojourn in Czechoslovakia, the President of India Shri V. V. Giri visited the capital of the Slovak Socialist Republic, Bratislava, where he met Dr. Jozef Lenart, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia, Mr. Ondrej Klokoc, Chairman of the Slovak National Council and Professor Dr. Peter Colotka, Prime Minister of the Slovak Socialist Republic. The degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, was conferred on the President of India by the Comenius University of Bratislava.

The President of India also met Ing. Karel Hoffman, Chairman of the Central Council of the Trade Union.

The President of the Republic of India laid a wreath at the memorial of the unknown warrior at Zizkov in Prague.

The talks conducted by the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the

President of the Republic of India were marked by mutual understanding and cordiality corresponding to the amicable relations between the two friendly countries.

Participating in the talks were:

On the Czechoslovak side:

Dr. Lubomir Strougal, Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Ing. Jan Gregor, Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Jan Pudlak, Chief of the President's office, Ing. Miloslav Hruza, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Dr. Zdenek Trhlik, Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the Republic of India.

On the Indian side:

Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Shri V. Shankar Giri, Member of Parliament, Shri Ashok Mitra, Secretary to the President, Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, and Shri Venkata Siddharthachary, Ambassador of the Republic of India in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The two Presidents recalled with great satisfaction that the relations of friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation existing between the two countries had received a further stimulus during the visit of the Prime Minister of India to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in June 1972 and are developing favourably in all fields. They reaffirmed their determination to promote and strengthen further this all-round cooperation and expressed the conviction that such cooperation not only meets the bilateral interests of both countries but also serves the cause of international peace and security. They also noted that there is considerable scope for further expansion and diversification of Czechoslovak-Indian economic relations on a long-term basis.

Identity or closeness of views were manifested in the discussions on international political issues.

Both Presidents stressed the importance of the relaxation of international tension and of the positive changes in international

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relations resulting from purposeful actions and initiatives of the peace-loving forces all over the world. They expressed the determination of their Governments to spare no effort in contributing to the elimination of the remaining hotbeds of war the existence of which is contrary to the efforts of safeguarding international security, world peace and mutually beneficial cooperation among all nations. Both Presidents underlined the importance of the United Nations in promoting the efforts to attain these objectives in harmony with the United Nations Charter.

The two Presidents stressed the need to strive for general and complete disarmament under strict international control. In this context, they expressed themselves in favour of an early convening of a world conference on disarmament with the participation of all states so as to achieve a realistic and generally acceptable solution of the problems of disarmament. They stressed in particular the desirability of early achievement of nuclear disarmament. The prohibition of chemical weapons and a ban on the tests of nuclear weapons in all environments are regarded by both parties as urgent.

The two Presidents reaffirmed the importance of the adherence to the principle that all nations decide freely their own destinies and dispose freely of their natural resources while upholding the principles of peaceful co-existence.

The Czechoslovak party expressed its conviction that the policy of non-alignment pursued by India and an increasing number of independent developing countries continued to play a significant role in strengthening the independence and sovereignty of states and in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism; in advancing the cause of freedom; in lessening international tensions; in the consolidation of international peace and security and in the promotion of friendly relations and social

progress of all nations. In this context both Presidents highly appreciated the importance and positive results of the fourth non-aligned summit conference held in Algiers in September, 1973.

The Czechoslovak party outlined the initiatives aimed at the relaxation of tensions, securing peace and promotion of equal and mutually advantageous relations among states with different social systems in Europe. Both Presidents welcomed the convening of the second stage of the conference on security and cooperation in Europe and are convinced that its successful conclusion would represent a valuable contribution to the safeguarding of security and cooperation not only in Europe but also throughout the world.

The two Presidents welcomed the treaties concluded by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic with the Federal Republic of Germany as well as the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin which have greatly contributed towards strengthening of peace and the promotion of cooperation in Europe.

The two Presidents expressed their hope that the treaty on mutual relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany will be concluded very soon.

Both Presidents attached great importance to the attainment of durable peace in Asia and expressed the hope that the efforts of all Asian countries will be directed towards achieving this objective.

The President of India outlined the recent developments on the Indian sub-continent and the initiatives and untiring efforts made by India towards the achievement of durable peace and normalisation of relations between the states of the Indian sub-continent. The President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic expressed his appreciation and support of the efforts made by India in this regard and welcomed the Indo-Pakistan agreement concluded in Delhi on August 28, 1973, the implementation of which, he hoped, will lead to the development of friendly and

cooperative relations among the countries of the region. Proceeding from the principle of universality of UN membership, they support the application of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for admission in that organisation.

Both Presidents paid great attention to the events in the Middle East. They condemned the expansionist policies of Israel which climaxed in a revival of hostilities. They expressed full solidarity with the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Arab Republic of Syria

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and all the Arab peoples in their just fight against Israeli aggression for the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and for the safeguarding of the inalienable rights of the Arab Palestinian people. They held the view that a satisfactory settlement of the conflict and a lasting peace in the Middle East can be achieved through full implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council and the United Nations General Assembly concerning that question.

The two Presidents welcomed the agreement, on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam and the agreement on the re-establishment of peace and national concord in Laos as well as the recently concluded protocol to the agreement on Laos. They emphasised the importance of the strict implementation of all provisions of these agreements, and expressed the hope that a just settlement will also soon be achieved in Cambodia. They stressed the need for the speedy creation of conditions which will permit the peoples of Indo-China to settle their problems in harmony with their righteous demands and interests.

Both Presidents noted with complete satisfaction the results of their discussions and expressed their conviction that the visit of the President of the Republic of India to Czechoslovakia has contributed to the further strengthening and deepening of the ties of friendly cooperation existing between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Republic of India.

The President of the Republic of India expressed his sincere appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him and members of his delegation during their stay in Czechoslovakia. He has invited the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, His Excellency Army General Ludvik Svoboda, to visit India at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC USA ALGERIA GERMANY MALI PAKISTAN
BANGLADESH ISRAEL PERU EGYPT SYRIA VIETNAM LAOS CHINA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

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FRANCE

Indo-French Cooperation Programme

The following press release on the signing of a programme of Indo-French cooperation in culture, science and technology for the years 1974 and 1975, was issued in New Delhi on October 8, 1973:

Within the framework of the Indo-French Cooperation Agreement of 1966, a programme for the years 1974 and 1975 for Indo-French Cooperation in Culture, Science and Technology has been agreed upon and signed on October 5th by the leader of the Indian delegation Mr. Mohan Mukerji, Additional Secretary, Department of Culture and the leader of the French delegation Mr. Yves Delahaye, Joint Director General of Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The programme envisages cooperation and exchanges in Education, Culture, Art, Youth Activities, Sports and Science and Technology.

In Science and Technology, the following fields receive particular attention: Physics, Astro-Physics, Oceanography, Atomic Energy, Computers and Electronics, Agriculture, Geology, Public Administration and Social and Economic Sciences.

The new programme, while following up on the previous programme, is considerably larger in size and scope than earlier Indo-French programmes, and both delegations agreed that it promises to lay the foundations of continuing fruitful cooperation and collaboration between the two countries.

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Date : Oct 01, 1973

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Communique on Economic and Technical Cooperation

Following is the text of the Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on October 17, 1973, after the talks between India and the visiting German Democratic Republic delegation on Indo-GDR economic and technical cooperation:

H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer, Candidate of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of SED, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the GDR paid an official visit to India from October 7 to October 17, 1973 at the invitation of Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning of India.

H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer's visit to India is a further manifestation of the grow-

ing friendly relations between the GDR and India. Proceeding from the joint position on the importance of strengthening peace and securing social progress of the two countries and their identical or very similar views on different topical international questions, the discussions were guided by the desire to further develop and strengthen the comprehensive relations existing between the GDR and India to the benefit of their peoples and to especially intensify economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the GDR and India.

H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer was accompanied by H.E. Mr. Friedmar Clausnitzer, Deputy Minister for External Economic Relations, H.E. Mr. Herbert Fischer, Ambassador of the GDR in India, Mr. Roland Lindner, Deputy Head of Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Fritz Weser, Mr. Klaus Thomas, Dr. Friedrich Goetz, Mr. Herbert Schulz, Mr. Otto Mayer and Mr. Henry Klemens, experts of the State Planning Commission of the GDR, Dr. Bernhard Kahn, Director of the Institute of Energetics, Leipzig, Mr. Wolfgang Bruckner, Commercial Counsellor, and Mr. Horst Marx, Commercial Attache of the Embassy of the GDR in India.

Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning was assisted by Shri Mohan Dharia, Minister of State for Planning, Prof. B. S. Minhas, Shri M. S. Pathak, Members, Planning Commission, Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Chairman, Electronics Commission, Shri Y. T. Shah, Commerce Secretary, Shri P. K. Dave, Secretary, Petroleum & Chemicals, Shri A. N. Banerjee, Special Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, Shri R. K. Trivedi, Additional Secretary, Planning Commission, Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri N. J. Kamath, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industry, and other officers from the different Ministries and the Planning Commission.

During his stay in India the Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the GDR, H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer, was received by the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

In the course of the friendly and cordial meeting an exchange of views on questions of mutual interest took place. H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer conveyed to Shrimati Indira Gandhi cordial greetings of the leading personalities of the GDR, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the SED, Erich Honecker, the Chairman of the Council of State, Willi Stoph, and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Horst Sindermann. The greetings were most warmly reciprocated. H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer also met the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh.

In the course of these meetings the broad identity of views of the Governments of the GDR and India on international questions of mutual interest was again emphasised.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the GDR met the Minister of Industrial Development, Science and Technology, Shri C. Subramaniam, the Minister of Heavy Industry, Shri T. A. Pai, the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals, Shri D. K. Borooah, the Minister of Commerce, Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya and other members of the Government of India, for friendly talks. H.E. Mr. Herbert Fischer, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the GDR in India, participated in the talks. The talks and

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meetings were held in an atmosphere of friendship, frankness and full understanding and were guided by the mutual desire and determination to extend the relations in all fields.

During his visit to the Union States of Mysore, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Kashmir the Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the GDR, H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer, was received for a friendly exchange of views by the Governors, Chief Ministers and other Ministers of these States. During their stay H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer and the experts accompanying him had excellent opportunities to visit industrial and agricultural enter-

prises and research institutions to acquaint themselves with the impressive results of the economic and social development of India.

Following the Plenary Session in New Delhi on October 8, 1973 detailed discussions were held between the experts of both sides in six working groups for Trade; Machine Building Industry; Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Products; Mines; Petroleum and Chemicals and Electrical and Electronics Industry. These discussions helped in concretising the proposals and areas of cooperation broadly identified during the visit of the GDR delegation of experts in April May, 1973. The results of the work of these expert groups were approved at the concluding session on October 17, 1973. The discussions between the two delegations were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. At the conclusion of the discussions an agreed protocol was drawn up and signed.

The Protocol envisages continued co operation between the GDR and India in various fields and lays down guidelines for further intensification of cooperation and collaboration between the two countries on a long term basis. Both sides expressed their earnest desire to continue the efforts to extend and diversify trade between the two countries and agreed that the strengthening of cooperation in industry, agriculture and other economic and technical fields between the two countries will lead to further extension of trade for the mutual benefit and development of their national economies.

The main fields of cooperation envisaged in the Protocol are Machine Tools, Machines and Equipment for food processing, Textile Machinery, Agricultural Machinery, Hand tools, Enamelware, Sanitary fittings, Electronic Data Processing, Peripherals Magnetic tapes, Electrical Equipment, Instruments and Electrical fittings, Technology for the Mining and Processing of Lignite, Pesticides, Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, selected Petrochemical Products, Films, Chemical Plants, Veterinary Medicines, Cattle breeding and Production of Baby Foods.

Both sides are confident that as a result of the visit of the Candidate of the Polit-

bureau of the Central Committee of SED, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the GDR, H.E. Mr. Gerhard Schuerer, fresh dynamic potential had been introduced in the relations between the GDR and India in all fields of economic, scientific and technical cooperation and trade exchange. Continuous and regular exchange of views and information between the Planning Commissions of the two countries will facilitate the fulfilment of these objectives.

INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

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GUINEA BISSAU

Prime Minister's Message

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on October 7, 1973, Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, has sent the following telegram to Mr. Luiz Cabral, President of Guinea Bissau:

I have received the telegram from the Secretary-General of the PAIGC announcing the establishment of the sovereign State of Guinea Bissau. On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf I am happy to convey greetings and felicitations to the Government and people of Guinea Bissau and to Your Excellency on this historic achievement. Your sacrifices and success in the liberation struggle have set

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an inspiring example to peoples in Africa Still struggling under colonialism, racialism and oppression, in whose cause, on this solemn occasion, we pledge our continued

support.

We look forward to close, friendly and fruitful cooperation between our two Governments in all fields and wish you every success in your tasks of national reconstruction and development for the prosperity and happiness of your people.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

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GUINEA BISSAU

Message from Secretary General of PAIGC

Following is the text of a telegram, received by Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, from Mr. Pereira, Secretary General of Party African for the Independence of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde:

Have the honour to communicate to Your Excellency to the Government and to the people of India that the Popular National Assembly of our country met at its first session on the 23rd and 24th of September in expression of the sovereign will of our people and has proclaimed the state of Guinea Bissau and adopted a constitution. In accordance with this constitution, the Assembly has elected a Council of State consisting of 15 members under the Presidentship of Luiz Cabral, Assistant Secretary-General of our party. The new born state of Guinea Bissau is the legal expression of the sovereignty of our people acquired after ten years of victorious struggle and immense sacrifices and is an integral part of Africa fighting for the

liberation and unity of the African people, and upholds the principles of Non-Alignment; we feel sure to receive Your Excellency's fraternal support which has always been given to our national liberation struggle and your recognition of our state in accordance with the resolution at the 4th Non-Aligned Summit at Algiers.

Most fraternal brotherly greetings.

GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU CAPE VERDE INDIA USA ALGERIA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

President Giri's U.N. Day Message

The President, Shri V. V. Giri, made the following statement on October 23, 1973, eve of the U.N. Day:

The world prepares to celebrate the United Nations Day tomorrow. On the eve of the celebration this year, we have just witnessed how through instrumentality of the U.N. a positive step has been taken to halt the fighting in West Asia which had threatened to endanger world peace. We welcome this and express the hope that this will lead to lasting peace in this region based on justice and honour.

The United Nations can be only as effective as its member nations make it. One aspect of the progress towards success is the necessity, constantly espoused by us, of the realisation of the principle of universality of membership. To a very large extent, especially in the past two years, we have seen this principle gain significant momentum with the restoration, firstly of the lawful

rights of the People's Republic of China in the world body, and, secondly, of the admission of several new members in the same period, including the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. We are happy to note that the U.N., starting with 52 members in 1945 now has a membership of 135. However, the process is not yet complete. A notable omission is that of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, a nation of 75 million people, recognised by well over 100 States in the world, and yet prevented from taking its rightful place in the world body. It is our hope that Bangladesh will soon join the Organisation as a full-fledged member. The world body, in taking this major step towards universal membership, will no doubt benefit from the skills and energies of a vibrant and peace-loving nation of 75 million people.

We in India have cherished universal peace and brotherhood not merely for the sake of political or other benefits, but also as a necessary feature of orderly life on our planet. We have been conditioned by our historical and cultural traditions to believe in the incontrovertible truth that peace and harmony are imperatives for man's endeavour to achieve prosperity. Tangible evidence of this is our efforts and initiatives to secure durable peace, stability and progress in our sub-continent - a process to which my Government is committed. The latest instance of this process is provided by the New Delhi Agreement of August this year. My Government continues to make special efforts in this direction - efforts that we are happy to consider as being guided by the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. To the extent countries abide by them, the worth and effectiveness of the United Nations is reinforced.

In keeping with the vision that engendered the United Nations, we have stressed the dignity of man, the uplift of the poor, through collective and cooperative effort, and the eradication of fear and prejudice from man's mind. We have always struggled, and shall continue to struggle, against the in-

human concepts and practices of racialism and colonialism and we reiterate our steadfast support to the noble principles of the U.N. Charter.

On the eve of United Nations Day, when we pause to consider the Organisation's work and our contribution to it, we take pride in our association with it from its inception. We also rededicate ourselves to the United Nations and its ideals, which are our own ideals. In so re-dedicating ourselves, we join like-minded nations and reaffirm our collective determination to strengthen the world Organisation so that it serves as an efficient body working to assure full freedom, fundamental rights, peace and prosperity to peoples everywhere.

INDIA USA CHINA GERMANY BANGLADESH

Date : Oct 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement at U.N. General Assembly

Following is the text of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh in the United Nations General Assembly on October 2, 1973:

Mr. President,

I bring to you and to all our colleagues assembled here the greetings and good wishes of the Government and the people of India. I extend to you our warmest congratulations on your accession to the high office of President of the General Assembly. In selecting you as its candidate for President, the continent of Latin America has shown its appreciation of your ability and experience, and has helped

the Assembly in choosing a man whose faith, competence and devoted services to the United Nations can assure us of a successful session. You can always depend on the full cooperation of my delegation in carrying out your tasks as President.

I should like to record our appreciation of the outgoing President, Mr. Trepczynski of Poland, for the skill and patience with which he discharged his responsibilities. With his leadership we accomplished much that was valuable in the work of the United Nations.

Our distinguished Secretary General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, has now been in office

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for nearly two years. We have admired his dynamism and the sense of purpose he has brought to his work. We look forward to his wise counsel and assessment on many of the issues we shall deal with during the current session.

We deeply mourn the death of Dr. Allende in such violent and tragic circumstances. I do not intend to comment on internal developments of a sovereign State. In the wider context, however, I must express profound regret and concern over the setback that the democratic tradition of the people of Chile has suffered as a result of his overthrow, and over the violence, bloodshed and deprivation of human rights and infringement of diplomatic obligations which have recently been reported from that country. We earnestly hope that peace and harmony will be restored soon so that the people of Chile can resume their work of national reconstruction and reconciliation without any, outside intervention and without further violence.

The Secretary General, in his introduction to his report on the work of the organization, has indicated the value of the United Nations in the present-day world, and has emphasised once again that the United Nations can only be what its member states wish it to be. Few delegations will disagree with that assessment; the universal desire to render the United Nations a more effective

instrument for promoting international peace and cooperation will depend on the willingness and ability of the States represented here to appreciate and reconcile different points of view and to arrive at decisions which serve those interests which are shared by most of us. Surely, our effort should be to extend the area of cooperation through identification of those interests. At the same time, in discussing any, problems we must look at them in their totality and apply the Charter provisions in all their aspects and not selectively or in a piecemeal fashion.

The year that has just passed since we last met has been important, though uneven, developments, but, on the whole, the world has moved forward, however haltingly and however slightly, towards our goal of peace, justice and progress. The gradual reduction of tension between rival blocs, which many of us had long been urging, is now clearly noticeable. The recent improvement of relations between the Great Powers and the increase in contacts between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A., and the U.S.A. and China, are important in themselves, and also as an indication that the trend that developed last year has maintained its momentum. The agreement concluded between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. in June of this year for preventing nuclear war and the understanding between them in several other fields are welcome. We are also gratified that this steady search for international peace and security has led to important developments in Europe: in the Four-Power Agreement on Berlin, in the treaties between the two German States and between the Federal Republic of Germany and other countries in Eastern Europe, and in the convening of the conference on European security and cooperation.

OLD VALUES TO BE DISCARDED

We join others in welcoming the process of mutual accommodation and cooperation and the consequent reduction of tension. However, this spirit of detente has yet to extend to all parts of the world and should not be limited to mere coexistence among the major powers. Regrettably, such concepts as the balance of power, spheres of influence

and power vacuum are yet to be discarded. Unfortunately also, the Great Power rivalry continues to show itself in many ways and in many areas; this brings severe stress and strain in international relations. The power of the strong is still to be placed at the common service of mankind. Only through genuine cooperation can the peoples of the world move forward towards a better future, in accordance with their own wishes and without any feeling of subordination and dependence, or of imposition or pressure from outside.

NON-ALIGNMENT

I was privileged to take part in the conference of non-aligned countries in Algiers where these problems received the most careful and comprehensive examination from the largest ever gathering of Heads of State or Government. The most significant feature of that great conference was the confidence it created and the will it generated to work together for realising our common objectives. Those states are determined to achieve, together with all nations of the world and with a spirit constructive cooperation, equality among all nations and an equitable exploitation of resources of the world. We shall thus encourage the march forward of man for

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peace and for a better life. Political understanding and economic cooperation among major powers are therefore to be so arranged and channelled that they do not become, even unintentionally, instruments of new forms of domination and dependence.

The maintenance of world peace and security will depend to a large extent on the speedy removal of economic and social disparities, both nationally and internationally. The non-aligned countries wish to build, together with other developing states a collective self-reliance within the framework of international understanding. They are determined to remove all forms and manifestations of injustice and inequality, discrimination and oppression wherever they may exist. Their dedication to this cause should not be mistaken as a confrontation with any

particular country or group of countries. They have reaffirmed their firm resolve to strengthen the United Nations which remains the best available machinery for world wide cooperation. The world has changed a great deal since our Charter was signed in San Francisco nearly 30 years ago. The Charter must evolve with the times in order to remain an effective and dynamic force for peace and progress.

Thus, there is an understandable desire for a comprehensive review of it. We believe, however, that in the prevailing climate of international politics, it would be premature to do more than examine the Charter in certain fields.

We welcome this year three New Members - The German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. We have excellent relations with those states and look forward to working with them in the United Nations. The Bahamas joins us as the newest member state from the Caribbean within a few weeks of attaining freedom. We can not forget in this connection that there are still a number of countries which are to be freed from colonial rule.

The simultaneous admission of the two German States to the United Nations may well signal the disappearance of tensions and hostilities of the past and the beginning of a new era of understanding and cooperation in Central Europe. We welcome the new pattern of relationship. The two German States, as members of this organization, could indeed make a significant contribution to world peace and development.

The admission of these states marks an important step in achieving the goal of universality of membership of the United Nations. This makes it all the more regrettable that Bangladesh, a sovereign state recognised by over 100 members of the United Nations and with a population of over 75 million people, has not yet been able to take its rightful place among us. I should like to emphasise the call made by the Algiers conference for the admission of Bangladesh

into the United Nations. The member states will no doubt recognise that the continuing denial of Bangladesh's right to be in the United Nations injures, if not defeats, the purposes and principles of this organization.

India seeks friendship and cooperation with all nations on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual respect. With over 75 states of the different continents of the world, we share the common ideals of non-alignment. Together with these and many other developing countries we face the common problems of economic development and are working for a better world order.

With Western Europe, our links go back for centuries and the future holds bright prospects for greater exchanges in various fields. Our political and economic relations with the countries of Eastern Europe have shown steady and fruitful development. With the Soviet Union, we have achieved a close and cooperative friendship based on mutual trust and understanding which we greatly cherish. Both USA and India have a strong faith in democratic systems and we share many common values. Our contacts and associations with Britain have lasted for hundreds of years and now continue to develop on a basis of mutual respect and equality. Our common cultural values and liberal traditions provide a strong base for our growing friendship with France. As close neighbours, India and China have to live in peace and amity and we hope that our relations will soon move in that direction.

Japan's rapid industrial advance is a lesson for us and we welcome that country's cooperation in various fields. We are glad that Australia, Canada and New Zealand are sharing more and more our values and attitudes and are showing greater awareness of Asian and African aspirations. In Ottawa,

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we had a successful meeting of the Commonwealth countries about six weeks ago.

INDO-PAK AGREEMENT

With our most immediate neighbours -

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Nepal, and Sri Lanka - we maintain and seek closest friendship and wide ranging co-operation. We are making all possible efforts to end the era of confrontation with Pakistan. The most significant development in our sub-continent has been the search through direct negotiations for normalisation of relations. The Delhi Agreement of August 28, 1973 provides for the settlement of the humanitarian problems left over from the conflict of 1971. It represents yet another step in the fulfilment of the Simla Agreement of July 2, 1972 which had set out the framework for the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent. Ever since independence, India has tried its utmost to live in peace and friendship with Pakistan. In spite of many setbacks and frustrations this has remained, and will remain, a fundamental objective of our foreign policy.

The tragic events in the subcontinent in 1971 were a direct consequence of the shortsighted policies and adventurist actions of the Pakistani military rulers to which the President (now Prime Minister) Mr. Bhutto himself has made repeated references. The military oligarchy having failed to crush the determination of 75 million Bangalees, involved India in a war by suddenly bombing, from the air several places in Western India on December 3, 1971. I state these simple facts only to give a proper perspective, and not with any desire to dwell on the past. Our purpose is to look forward. The war lasted about two weeks and the fighting stopped in Bangladesh on December 16, 1971. From that moment onwards, we took a series of steps to restore normalcy and achieve durable peace in the Indian subcontinent.

In the Eastern sector, all Indian troops were withdrawn from Bangladesh within a period of 90 days by agreement between the two Governments; all the prisoners taken in Bangladesh were transferred to India as a result of a decision by the joint Indo-Bangladesh Command; and all the refugees - nearly 10 millions of them - returned from India to Bangladesh in three months' time, by the end of March 1972. In the Western sector, the unilateral ceasefire declared by India came

into effect on December 17, 1971.

Soon after the ceasefire, we sought negotiations with Pakistan. As a result of the initiative taken by Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, a summit meeting was held in Simla. An Agreement was arrived at on July 2, 1972 which, among other things, provided for (i) a line of control in Jammu and Kashmir, (ii) evacuation of territories occupied during the conflict, and (iii) troop withdrawals. All these decisions were implemented in less than six months. An area of over 5000 square miles occupied during the conflict was vacated and restored to Pakistan. In addition, all the prisoners of war taken by either side in the Western Sector returned home.

Our next initiative was to make a Joint Declaration with Bangladesh on April 17, 1973, for solving the major humanitarian problems which arose as a result of the 1971 conflict. Three groups of people were affected: (a) hundreds of thousands of Bangalees stranded in Pakistan and prevented from returning to Bangladesh; (b) hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis in Bangladesh whom Pakistan was refusing to receive; and (c) about 90,000 prisoners of war and civilian internees held in India. Bangladesh showed a spirit of accommodation and statesmanship in delinking the humanitarian problems from the unresolved political issues between Bangladesh and Pakistan. Following negotiations with Pakistan on the basis of this Joint Declaration, an agreement between India and Pakistan, with the full concurrence of Bangladesh, was arrived at and signed in Delhi on August 28, 1973. This agreement provides for simultaneous repatriation of all the three groups I have just mentioned.

As regards the 195 prisoners of war, all the three Governments agreed that they should be kept in India pending a final settlement. The Delhi Agreement further provides, "on completion of the repatriation of the Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees in India, Bangalees in Pakistan and Pakistanis in Bangladesh referred to in clause 5 above, or earlier, if they so agree, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan will discuss

and settle the question of 195 prisoners of war. Bangladesh has made it clear that it can participate in such a meeting only on a basis of sovereign equality". We hope that the Delhi Agreement will be fully, speedily and smoothly implemented with goodwill on all sides. The first steps in this direction have

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already been taken. Simultaneous repatriation of Bangalees from Pakistan, Pakistanis from Bangladesh and POWs and civilian internees from India has started.

I doubt if there is any comparable instance in modern history where a ceasefire, demarcation, troop withdrawal, evacuation of occupied territories and repatriation of persons detained or stranded, following an international armed conflict of significant character, has been brought about within such a short period. All this has been achieved through direct negotiations and as a result of the understanding shown on all sides, after taking into account all aspects of the problems. Therefore, to discuss now piecemeal and in isolation any of these problems from the point of view of any single party would be, to say the least, of little profit. These concrete facts clearly show that our search for normalisation of relations and the establishment of a durable peace in the subcontinent has continued and has produced significant results. Our commitment to this goal is unequivocal. If we succeed in making the subcontinent an area of peace and cooperation, it not only will lead to a better life for over 700 millions of its people, but also will have a salutary impact on other areas as well.

The agreement on Vietnam was signed in Paris this year. For many years, we had repeatedly expressed our conviction that a military solution in this area was not feasible. Therefore the massive and what seemed to be avoidable destruction of life and prosperity in Indo-China shocked and pained us. The final terms of settlement, including provisions for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Indo-China and for bringing about a workable ceasefire in that area, are not much different from what we have been advocating all these

years. The tragic sufferings of the people of Vietnam must come to an end and the full implementation of the Paris Agreement offers a challenge as well as an opportunity; every effort should be made to ensure lasting peace and to promote full and speedy reconstruction.

As with the people of Vietnam, so with the people of Laos and Cambodia, India has always had close historical, cultural and emotional links. They can always depend on our sympathy, understanding and support. In this context, we welcome the recently concluded agreement among the parties in Laos. We hope that the people of Laos will soon be able to set up a national coalition government in accordance with their legitimate aspirations without any outside interference. The peace in Indo-China will not be complete until the war in Cambodia has also been brought to an end. We are deeply distressed at the suffering which the people of Cambodia are still undergoing and the heavy toll of lives that is still taking place. We would urge that the people of Cambodia should be enabled to determine freely, and without any outside interference, their own future, so that peace can return to that unhappy and tortured land. The international community can best assist this process by respecting fully the legitimate right to freedom, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all the states of Indo-China.

MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS

The comprehensive debate on the situation in the Middle East in the Security Council this summer showed once more and, most convincingly, that there can be no solution to this problem until Israel withdraws from the territories it has occupied by force as a consequence of the 1967 war. Israel's persistent refusal to vacate the occupied Arab lands and its violation of the rights of the inhabitants of the territories occupied by force are the direct causes of tension and conflict in this area. A just solution based on the implementation of Security Council resolution 242 (1967) of November 1967 and the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinians can lead to an enduring peace in this

region. The Secretary General's visit to the Middle East must have brought into clearer focus the views of the contestants. His analysis may well help the parties and the Security Council to continue the search for a just and speedy solution to this explosive situation. We, on our part, will be guided by the principles we have always followed in regard to the problem of the Middle East, namely, non-acquisition of territories by force of arms, the right of all states in the area to exist, and the inalienable rights of the Palestinians.

We have noted with satisfaction the direct dialogue established between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea for intensification of contacts to solve humanitarian problems and the eventual reunification of the Korean

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people. In these talks, as indeed in the whole of Korea, the less outside interference there is the better will be the chances of the parties reaching agreement. Any proposal before the United Nations on this subject will be examined by us with these considerations in mind.

BURDEN ON WORLD CONSCIENCE

The twin phenomena of colonial domination and racial bigotry in Africa are the greatest burden on the conscience of the contemporary world. The situation of the people under Portuguese domination was tragically highlighted by the disclosures in the international press of the gruesome massacres in Mozambique. We must continue to expose the criminal character of Portuguese colonialism.

We welcome the declaration of independence by the people of Guinea (Bissau) and extend our support to P.A.I.G.C. in its work of national integration and consolidation. We have no doubt that the peoples of Angola and Mozambique will soon succeed in their struggle for independence.

The will to be independent must be sustained by the United Nations not only in the areas I have specifically mentioned, but in

many others which we shall consider during these three months. We were disappointed, therefore, that when the question of terrorism was discussed in the Ad Hoc Committee, the refusal by some to admit the possibility of freedom fighters using all means to achieve their objectives prevented the committee from coming to any conclusion.

In Zimbabwe, the racist regime continues to maintain its illegal administration in defiance of world opinion. We regret that the Security Council has been prevented from taking any decisive action for applying the existing sanctions. In addition to improving the effectiveness of sanctions, their extension and strengthening is necessary. The breach of sanctions by some countries and trading interests is most regrettable, particularly when we recall that the sanctions were imposed by a unanimous decision of the Security Council.

Nowhere are the obligations of trust vested in the United Nations more binding than in Namibia. The people of Namibia have demonstrated the greatest courage in asserting their own rights by boycotting the recent so called elections in Ovamboland. Clearly, the South African Government is not willing to work with the United Nations in bringing about Namibian independence and unity. The efforts made through the Council for Namibia, its High Commissioner, and the United Nations Educational and Training programme could, if their activities are planned and coordinated in a well thought out manner, contribute effectively to the political independence of the Namibian people as a whole.

In this session, the General Assembly will consider the adoption of the draft convention for supersession and punishment of the crime of apartheid. We shall support all measures to intensify and widen action for outlawing this intolerable and inhuman doctrine which has brought so much suffering to millions of human beings in South Africa. Only recently, the world was shocked with the brutal killing in Carletonville.

Today is the birth anniversary of

Mahatma Gandhi and I recall that he was the first man to rise and revolt against the cruel practices of the Government of South Africa. He led a movement for improving the lot of the coloured people in that country, even before he launched the civil disobedience movement in India for obtaining our freedom and independence. Since India raised this question in the United Nations in 1946, practically every member of this organization, including South Africa's allies, has denounced apartheid. We shall continue to cooperate with all other member states until South Africa gives up its intolerable policies of racial discrimination.

DISARMAMENT

While recent developments on the limitation of nuclear armaments and prohibition of certain categories of weapons of mass destruction are important, enduring world peace and security can be based only on total disarmament. However, the goal of general and complete disarmament, including, in particular, nuclear disarmament, remains as distant as ever. We have long urged the convening of a world conference on disarmament with the participation of all countries

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so as to focus attention on this urgent problem. Unfortunately, the Special Committee, set up after the last General Assembly session, could not proceed with any substantive work. Given goodwill on all sides, the difficulties which arose can be removed by the present session of the Assembly so that a world conference on disarmament can be prepared for and convened as early as possible.

SOVIET PROPOSAL

My delegation has noted with interest the new item proposed by the delegation of the U.S.S.R. for a reduction in the military budgets. The intention seems to be that the permanent members of the Security Council and other militarily significant states should use a part of the savings for providing assistance to developing countries. We have been stressing that savings from disarmament should be diverted to development assistance.

We shall, therefore, cooperate with other delegations in a constructive effort to consider how this proposal, which will no doubt be elaborated in course of discussion, could serve the interest of disarmament and also enhance development assistance.

The declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace was a significant step in our efforts to reduce Great Power rivalries and tensions in the different regions of the world and forms a part of our desire to eliminate military alliances and bases. I should take this opportunity to pay a tribute to the statesmanship of Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka in mobilising international opinion for this purpose. Useful work has been initiated by the Ad Hoc Committee of Fifteen established by the last session of the Assembly for considering measures for implementing the declaration. This declaration cannot be effective unless the Great Powers and other major maritime Powers cooperate fully with the littoral and hinterland state

LAW OF THE SEA

We look forward with utmost interest to the forthcoming plenipotentiary conference on the law of the sea. The meetings of the Committee on the Sea Bed this year have brought out certain difficulties none of which need prove insurmountable. By working together with all other countries we could achieve a just and equitable law of the sea and seabed which would provide for, and ensure, an orderly exploration and exploitation of the seabed beyond the limits of national Jurisdiction and a rational management of its resources, bearing in mind the special needs and interests of the developing countries, whether coastal or land locked. A fair and viable law of the sea should also provide a framework of regulations for other uses of the sea, including those relating to the exploitation of its living and other resources by establishing an exclusive fishery and economic zone for the coastal states.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The concept of world wide partnership

in economic and social development has been accepted. However, the progress towards full implementation of the International Development Strategy for 1970's has been extremely disappointing. Some developed countries, particularly the smaller among them, have responded well, but little success has been achieved in even its most publicised goals. The dismal fact is that the Second Development Decade is going the way of the first, and with far less excuse. The growth of most developing countries is well below the targets set. The growth in the least developed countries has been slower still. The benefits of world economic growth are not being shared equitably and the rich societies are becoming richer and the poor poorer. Full recognition of the inter-dependence of the world community and adoption of measures conducive to the attainment of a more balanced growth in the world economy is still lacking.

Many developing countries have already spoken of a real and imminent danger that owing to the preoccupation of developed countries with readjustment of their mutual relations, the urgent need to implement policy measures in favour of developing countries may not receive the attention it deserves. The first biennial review and appraisal of the strategy has so far been inconclusive. If agreed conclusions could be reached during this session, remedial measures to improve performance in the remaining years of the decade would be easier to take. In the developing countries the struggle for greater equality and justice must continue. Equally, we have to seek wider economic cooperation among the developing countries themselves. The important mea-

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asures outlined recently at Algiers for this purpose should prove most useful.

Contrary to earlier expectations, agreement on international monetary reform has not been reached. Stability in international monetary arrangements is not yet within our grasp. The issues are undoubtedly complex. Non-aligned countries have reiterated that the new international monetary

system, in the establishment and working of which the developing countries should participate as equals, should be universal. The system should guarantee the stability of international trade flows and conditions of financing; it has to recognize the specific situation and needs of the developing countries for preferential treatment.

The growth of world trade and the rightful share of the developing countries in it will be facilitated by the establishment of Special Drawing Rights as the principal reserve asset, for the phasing out of, the monetary role of gold, for an adjustment mechanism which is both efficient and equitable and, above all, for the establishment of a link between the SDRs and development finance, in order to provide for the adequate transfer of additional real resources to the developing countries. All these measures will create an orderly arrangement for adequate liquidity.

The declaration adopted a few days ago at Tokyo will soon be followed by a round of multilateral trade negotiations. The trend towards liberalisation of world trade is to be welcomed, but the developing countries should not emerge from these negotiations as net losers. Specific measures must be taken to secure additional benefits for the international trade of developing countries. This has indeed been agreed to in Tokyo. To achieve this, the concept of preferential treatment for developing countries in all sectors of the negotiations has to be accepted. Moreover, we must ensure that the enlargement of the preferential arrangements among the developed countries, as well as the reduction of industrial tariffs following the multilateral trade negotiations, do not erode the meagre benefits which the developing countries have secured under the Generalised Scheme of Preferences. In order to make this scheme fully operational it will require implementation by those who have not yet done so and substantial improvements in the arrangements already in operation.

FOOD SECURITY

The delicate and precarious balance bet-

ween world food supply and demand during the last few years has emphasised the urgent need for a global strategy for food security. Widespread drought in several countries has brought to the forefront the problem of matching world resources and technology for production of food with global needs, in normal as also in abnormal years. We support the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organisation to work out an effective solution to this problem. In stressing the essential link between economic development and environmental improvement, we have consistently underlined that there is no contradiction between the solution of ecological problems and the interests of developing countries. We have, therefore, spoken against ecological considerations being used to curtail aid, erect trade barriers and prevent the transfer of technology. This could be the result of a shortsighted desire to protect economic advantages: restraints on economic growth must not be adopted to the detriment of the developing world.

We are confident, therefore, that the United Nations Environment Programme under Mr. Maurice Strong will keep all these aspects in mind in working out a plan of action for the betterment of mankind as a whole. In this context, the development of human settlements is of particular importance to developing countries.

Mr. President, I have followed with great interest the many important views expressed by distinguished Ministers and leaders of delegations gathered here. Today, I have taken the time of the Assembly to set forth our ideas on some of the important issues before us. We must ponder over the many valuable ideas presented to us by men of thought, and we must bend our energies to collective efforts as men of action. The Charter provides the mechanism for translating these ideas into action. Let us, if we can, gather enough courage and wisdom and seize this opportunity to serve our fellow men.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC POLAND CHILE CHINA GERMANY ALGERIA PERU
BAHAMAS BANGLADESH FRANCE JAPAN AUSTRALIA CANADA NEW ZEALAND AFGHANISTAN
BHUTAN BURMA NEPAL SRI LANKA PAKISTAN MALI VIETNAM CAMBODIA LAOS ISRAEL KOREA
MOZAMBIQUE GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU ANGOLA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Subramaniam's Statement on World Development Information Day

The following is the text of the statement delivered by Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister of Industrial Development, on the occasion of the U.N. World Development Information Day, in New York on October 24, 1973:

Mr. Secretary-General and Friends,

I am honoured by this opportunity to participate in the first World Development Information Day and I am grateful to the Secretary-General for inviting me to do so. I have for many years regularly participated in functions related to UN Day in my own country and I am particularly happy to take part in the discussions this year at the Headquarters of the United Nations. It is appropriate that on the occasion of the UN Day we should also take time to recognise the pervasiveness of the development problem and to secure a wider appreciation of the issues and problems related to economic development.

The international development strategy for the Second Development Decade recognised the crucial role of public opinion by devoting its concluding paragraph to what is needed to be done in this respect. Three years later we find that such a need is even more obvious. In the Second Development Decade we have envisaged a growth rate of about

6 per cent and an increase in export earnings at more than seven per cent for the developing countries. In order to facilitate the achievement of these targets the international community had also considered it necessary and appropriate that official development assistance should reach 0.7 per cent of GNP of developed countries by 1975, and overall assistance should be one per cent of GNP. If the performance of the developing countries in the last few years is revised objectively and dispassionately it will be noticed that there is a greater awareness and a greater will for doing more for themselves. Even so the growth rate in general has been below our earlier expectations.

Watching this, we also find that official development assistance as a percentage of GNP has, in the last decade, fallen from about 0.5 per cent to less than 0.35 per cent, which is about half the target that we expected to achieve in 1975. The recent report of the Secretary-General (E/5358) concludes therefore that "in spite of Governmental effort and similar progress by non-Governmental organisations, the state of public opinion on matters of development, particularly in the industrialised countries, is generally less favourable today than it has been in the past." It is therefore appropriate that we are meeting here today to look closely at the meaning of development, the problems of development, the stakes involved, and the urgency for international action over a wide front.

Our experience of planned economic development in India for nearly two decades has provided valuable lessons. There has been growth in many directions. We have had significant success with our agricultural strategy in the form of what is called the "Green Revolution" which has enabled us to more than double the production of food-grains. We have a large and diversified industrial base. Institutions have been built over the years for carrying agricultural and industrial extension services to various parts of the country. Substantial gains have been made in building up the necessary infrastructure for further growth. But with all this we have come to realise that economic growth in statistical terms and genuine deve-

lopment are not often synonymous. In India today we are asking hard questions which go beyond growth, as an aggregate measure of income increases to the composition of growth, the sources of growth, the pattern of income distribution, and the sharing of the fruits of socioeconomic growth. There is the realisation that the mere process of growth does not lead to a wide-spread increase in the well-being of the people and that, at least, growth tends to trickle down to the masses at a pace that cannot be justified or tolerated in today's world. A conscious and deliberate effort to tackle the problems of what is called absolute poverty is therefore urgently essential and this theme forms the centrepiece of India's Fifth Five-Year Plan which begins next year.

As part of this effort we seek to increase the income and employment opportunities of the poorest sections of our population by

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bringing about major structural and institutional reform in the pattern of land holding credit for small farmers, minimum wages for landless labour, and industrial workers, and a minimum needs programme aimed at providing drinking water, rural house sites, better nutrition, health and family planning, and education. We believe that in the process of providing these minimum needs we will also be maximising employment opportunities related to agricultural and industrial development.

A few years ago, when we began to discuss seriously the objective of growth with social justice, many eyebrows were raised to question the wisdom and feasibility of such a goal. It was the conventional wisdom that the main objective of development was to maximise the Gross National Product and any efforts to bring about better social justice would only tend to hold back the process of growth. We are happy to see that current economic thinking, at least in some quarters, is beginning to recognise the validity of our approach. I must clarify that we did not, at any stage, forsake the objective of growth for that of social justice. On the other hand, we found from our expe-

rience that genuine and sustained growth take place only by the broad participation of the mass of the people and such a commitment to development can come about only in a system which seeks to eliminate gross inequalities and injustice and which holds out the promise of an equitable sharing of the fruits of economic development. We have therefore found that economic growth and social justice are mutually reinforcing objectives. Growth needs social justice in order to be sustained and durable, and social justice needs growth in order to be meaningful.

Many of the programmes for the abolition of absolute poverty will, when we work them out in all their ramifications, involve large investments in infrastructure agriculture, irrigation and some of the priority sectors of industry. In this effort, the modalities and emphasis on different sectors of the economy will naturally have to be determined in the context of the individual social, economic and political conditions past and present in the various developing countries.

The commitment of the international community to an improvement in the standards of living of the vast majority of the world's population has been clearly enunciated in the resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly on the First and Second Development Decades. The content of international cooperation has to take into account the needs, aspirations and experience of the developing countries. In his recent address to the annual meeting of the World Bank in Nairobi Mr. McNamara pointed out three inter-related difficulties which the developing countries face - insufficiency of foreign exchange earnings from trade, an increasing severe burden of external debt, and an inadequate flow of official development assistance. It seems to me that another equally important area in which the developing countries need help is the transfer of science and technology relevant to the individual needs of each country. I shall have occasion to deal with this matter later today and I shall now confine my observations to the three broad areas referred to above.

I have already referred to the gross in-

adequacy of official development assistance through bilateral and multilateral channels. We hear a great deal of talk about aid weariness both in developed and in developing countries. It must be remembered that international experience of the process of economic development has been relatively recent and therefore meagre.

The pattern of growth of the industrialised countries, in the early years of the industrial revolution, has little relevance to the developing countries today. Economists have therefore come to accept increasingly that earlier expectations of rapid transformation of ancient and economically backward societies was based on an inadequate knowledge and appreciation of the difficult problems of development and was therefore not realistic. The developing countries themselves realise that the injection of outside capital in modest proportions for a few years is not a sufficient condition for genuine development. These attitudes may appear to explain the feeling of frustration and weariness with the whole process of development assistance. It is also relevant to recognise that international co-operation, over a much broader field, is perhaps more urgently needed today than before. We have seen that the gap between the rich and the poor countries has been steadily widening. We have also seen that

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the various problems of world peace and stability, environment, food and energy, will have to be looked at in global terms.

It is no longer possible to seek solutions to these problems within the narrow confines of national borders or in terms of regions or groups. It is in this context that we have to understand the widening scope of international cooperation. We must also take note of the fact that the contribution in various ways expected of the relatively small group of affluent countries need be only of marginal proportions, which would not significantly affect their own standard of living, but which could substantially improve the quality of life for the majority of earth's people. Mr. McNamara has pointed out the poignant fact that the Gross National Pro-

duct of the affluent countries will rise from dollars two trillion in 1970 to about dollars three point five trillion by 1980 and what is needed to reach the target of official development assistance in the Second Development Decade will be less than two per cent of the increment by which the developed countries will grow richer during the decade.

Similarly in the area of international trade, the share of the developing countries which has fallen from 32 per cent of world exports in 1950, to 17 per cent in 1970, an effort which is of marginal consequence to the affluent countries, will go a long way in enabling the poorer countries to step up their export earnings. The generalised system of preferences which was intended to promote the export of manufactures and semi-manufactures of the developing countries has, at best, been implemented in a tardy and half-hearted manner. There still exist formidable tariff and non-tariff, barriers to the expansion of trade of the developing countries. A more open world trading system will not only benefit the poorer countries but also provide gains to the richer countries by offering them better markets for their products, in addition to more economically produced goods from the poorer countries. How to bring about such a realisation in the richer countries is another direction in which our efforts to mobilise world public opinion should be directed.

Serious efforts are being made to reform the International monetary system. It was with a great deal of effort that the developing countries have at last been given a small voice in these deliberations. We would like to see a greater involvement of these countries in the decision-making process, in order to make the reformed monetary system better attuned to the present day world. Over a quarter of a century ago, when the monetary system was fashioned after the Second World War, it was recognised that one of the primary objectives of the system should be the promotion and maintenance of high levels of employment and real income, and the development of the productive resources of all countries. The system has not obviously achieved this objective during the

last twentyfive years. The need for reform has been recognised now, mainly because of its inadequacies in relation to the needs of the affluent countries. The developing countries would like to see the reform at least now taking note of the original objectives and providing for their fulfilment. It is in this context that the developing countries have been asking for the establishment of a link between the creation of additional international liquidity and an equitable sharing of such liquidity for the promotion of development assistance. We hope that the wisdom and self-interest of the international community will make such a link possible.

The U.N. is above all dedicated to world peace. Durable peace is not possible unless and until a tolerable living standard is assured to every individual throughout the world. We cannot afford to allow the Second Development Decade also to end as a decade of disappointment, if this social transformation is to take place through persuasion and consent in a framework of international goodwill and cooperation. In this task the mobilisation of world public opinion plays a central role. I wish the agencies of the U.N. under the leadership of the Secretary-General, all success in this task of tackling the massive and urgent problems of world development.

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Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Subramaniam's Statement on Science and Technology at U.N. Panel

The following is the text of Shri C.

Subramaniam's statement on Science and Technology at the UN panel on World Development Information Day, in New YOM on October 24, 1973:

Mr. Chairman,

We discussed this morning certain aspects of international cooperation for development. I would at this time like to address myself to the role of modern science and technology in the development efforts of nations and the scope for international action.

It is not difficult to appreciate the role of science and technology in economic development. One of the main problems of development is how to maximise the contribution of available factors of production - a nation's labour force, its natural resources and its built-up production capacity: how to combine these factor endowments to provide the largest possible output of goods and services. A growing output involves not only the fullest possible use of all available factors of production but also the use of more productive techniques so that they result in a larger output than would otherwise be possible. The search for newer techniques, better techniques, more efficient techniques is thus at the heart of a determined attack on world poverty.

We in developing countries have recognised this key role of scientific knowledge and modern technology. We have made, and continue to make, strenuous efforts to build up domestic capability in these fields. The need for international action in this field has been recognised in the international development strategy for the Second Development Decade which has attempted to describe and define a science and technology component for the decade.

It was recognised even at the time of drafting of the strategy, however, that it would be necessary to review and revise sections of the strategy dealing with this question and I want to address myself today to what we see after three years as the desirable content of international cooperation

in the field of science and technology.

The most striking fact about the geographical distribution of activity in these fields is that the overwhelming bulk of activity is centred in the two dozen developed countries. The developing countries which contain two-thirds of the world's population have a negligible share in the world's stock of scientific research. Moreover, this gap is growing at an extremely rapid rate so that the situation will worsen greatly even in the ten years of the decade. Such a state of affairs would be undesirable given the key role of this sector in promoting economic development, even if an adequate transfer of scientific knowledge and technology to the developing countries existed.

A further fact is that the transfer of technology to developing countries has been grossly inadequate. Moreover the terms and conditions under which such transfer has taken place are also onerous and seriously limit the effectiveness and utility of the progress. For, while "public" transfer of knowledge and technology has taken place in some cases on concessional terms, the bulk of such transfer has continued to occur through traditional private channels on market terms and conditions. It is in this context we find our relationship with socialist countries more beneficial and desirable.

But what is even more disquieting, apart from the inadequacy of the flow in quantitative terms, is in many cases its inappropriateness in qualitative terms.

The transfer of technology developed in advanced countries reflects the factor endowments and general conditions obtaining in those economies. Such technology is not without adaptation, and in some cases significant adaptation appropriate to the very different factor endowments like labour and raw material which occur in typical developing countries has taken place. Instead of the elaboration of appropriate technology which would save on capital, the scarcest factor of production in developing countries, all too often we have the phenomenon of a wholesale transplant of technology and processes de-

signed and developed for the advanced countries.

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Perhaps such a phenomenon is inherent in the nature of the transfer process, for most of such transfer takes place as part and parcel of the activities of private foreign enterprise through collaboration arrangements and or investments in developing countries. Such enterprises naturally transplant known techniques and processes as part of their over-all efforts to maximise their profitability. In order to maximise the benefits of the transfer of technology to the developing countries it would be helpful if arrangements are made for some kind of pooling under international auspices of the available technology for the more common areas of production.

Such an arrangement would not only enable the necessary adaptation to be made to suit the developing countries but would also hopefully provide for transfer on less onerous terms. This is not to minimise the importance of the developing countries themselves building up their capabilities for adaptive research. For unless there is a domestic science and technology base, neither can the import of technology be adapted to changing conditions nor can it have the maximum "spread" effects and disseminate throughout the economy of the recipient country. Moreover, when the bulk scientific activity and research is in developed countries, it cannot be assumed that anything like adequate attention can be given to the problems of adapting such technology for recipients in developing countries.

For all these reasons, it is necessary not only to provide for an international, mechanism for the transfer of technology but also for assistance in strengthening the research base within the developing countries themselves. We in India have given considerable thought to this question and have elaborated a comprehensive science and technology plan for India. This provides for action on a broad front involving the creation of effective demand for scientific and technological research and the facilities for meeting the de-

mand in a number of fields.

Another area where cooperative action would be of help is in management, in all its aspects. It is not sufficient merely to transfer technology. An efficient application of such technology would require the use of modern management practices. A whole cadre of trained professional managers would be essential. A climate conducive to the growth of a management culture in industry has to be created. A great deal can be accomplished in all these matters by imaginative arrangements on a regional and global basis. We are glad that the ECAFE has made a beginning by appointing an adviser on Science and Technology.

We hope that the concept of international cooperation for development will be broadened by providing for these desirable innovation.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement in Security Council on West Asia Situation

The following is the text of Shri Samar Sen's statement in the Security Council on the situation in West Asia made on October 9, 1973:

We are glad, Sir, that your presidency of the Council this month brings with it a wealth of experience and wisdom, of skill and dedication, which we so badly need when we are about to discuss one of the most difficult and dangerous problems before us. In your task you have the full co-operation of

my delegation, as did indeed the Ambassador of Yugoslavia, Mr. Lazar Mojsov, when he conducted the affairs of this Council so successfully last month.

In the preliminary discussions, before a Council meeting was called to discuss the present hostilities in the Middle East, we had indicated to you that, while we had no objection to such a meeting, if requested, we were not at all certain that in the event of a likely failure by the Council to come to a satisfactory decision, public opinion in the world would not be more disappointed than if the Council had not debated the problem formally and openly.

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It has been rightly pointed out that the Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of International peace and security and that people all over the world would expect the Council to discharge it. We are also aware that in the Middle East today, much death and destruction is taking place and, if at all possible, we should try to stop the fighting. I cannot, however, fail to recall with regret many instances in the past, sometimes involving great Powers, when massive death and destruction took place and, for whatever reasons, they went unheeded by the Council. In the Middle East, several such incidents have occurred during the last seven years. However, we shall always gladly adhere to the homely saying, "Better late than never". Today Arab and Israeli lives are being sacrificed in a totally unnecessary conflict. Yet, significantly, neither the Arab Governments nor the Israeli Government have requested any action by the Council. We cannot overlook their possible reasons for not asking for the Council's help. Nor can I claim that I care more for Arab and Israeli lives than they themselves do.

For seven years the Arab countries have waited for a peaceful solution. For seven years Egypt has done everything in its power to bring about a correct implementation of resolution 242 (1967). As late as July of this year, the Council decided to find a solution to the problem, but its efforts came

to nought because they were obstructed by a veto. Subsequent developments have shown that that veto was not only against the expressed will of 14 out of the 15 members of the Council, but was also in conflict with the views of the non-aligned countries from four continents, and many other States besides. At that stage the message given by the Council to the Foreign Minister of Egypt was clear. It was simply that since all solutions could be prevented arbitrarily, the only way Egypt could assert its legitimate rights was therefore by force alone. The present hostilities in the Middle East are a mere translation of that message which the Foreign Minister of Egypt carried home. He has made no secret of it. Indeed, today's message also should not be lost on us, when he spoke about what Egyptian authorities wish to do should bombardment and aerial bombardment of civilian centres continue.

Some delegations have indicated that if the present hostilities come to an end, some unknown and unexpected avenues to peace would be open to us. At the same time, all delegations have been anxious to reaffirm in most solemn terms that there has been no change in their Government's position. We do not, therefore, see why the cessation of hostilities can bring about a greater prospect of a peaceful solution than what has happened in the past. A cease-fire was established at least four or five times during the last seven years, always as a first step. There have been no significant second or third steps, and all attempts at political settlement have proved abortive.

What Egypt and Syria are doing now is nothing more than upholding the provisions of the Charter in asserting their right to self-defence and to territorial integrity. This right is inherent to every sovereign State. and if Egypt and Syria have desisted from exercising this right it was because they had hoped that the Council would find a peaceful solution. It is no wonder, therefore, that the representative of the United Kingdom said:

"The ultimate verdict may well be that the basic factor was the frustration of

the international community in its efforts to bring about the just and lasting peace in the Middle East of which the promise was held out by Security Council resolution 242 (1967) nearly six years ago". (1743rd meeting, pp. 32 and 33-35)

While Egypt and Syria are exercising their right - a right which can never be and has never been extinguished - Israel has extended the area of conflict and given it a true and tragic international dimension by attacking and bombing such places outside the area of occupation as Damascus and Port Said. A report has just now been given by the Foreign Minister of Egypt that Cairo too has been attacked.

In the attack on Damascus several diplomats, including United Nations officials and the Indian and Pakistani Ambassadors' families are reported to have been either killed or severely injured. The Soviet Government suffered a particularly heavy loss with the death of more than 30 persons. We deplore these deaths and condemn these attacks.

So, on the one hand, Egypt and Syria can be considered to have upheld the Charter,

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while, on the other hand, Israel is open to the charge of having renewed an international war by attacking several places in Egyptian and Syrian territories. This is a fact we have to keep in mind in coming to any decision.

Without the necessity of repeating the discussion that took place in the Council in June and July of this year, it should be clear to all objective and responsible persons that if peace is to return to the Middle East Israel must withdraw from the territories occupied by force as a result of the June 1967 war. Unless this basic principle is accepted by the Council as a whole, it will be both unfair and unjust for the Council to ask for a cease fire that will leave vast territories of Egypt, Jordan and Syria in the illegal occupation of Israel.

We, like all other delegations, would like to see the present hostilities cease, but they can cease only when withdrawal of Israeli forces has been accepted by Israel and begun in practice. We agree with the statement made by the representative of the United States of America that the least damaging way to bring this about is to have the parties concerned return to the positions before hostilities broke out" (1743rd meeting, p. 7). Since the hostilities broke out on 6 June 1967, the parties concerned should return to the line that separated them on that date.

Some eloquent statements have been made that all methods have been tried except negotiations. This is simply not true. Withdrawal from occupied territories has not been tried, and unless this takes place Egypt has made it clear that there can be no negotiations. We support this view of Egypt and other Arab States and will indicate our support in any action that the Council may take.

Only yesterday the Government of India expressed its official policy in a statement which reads as follows:

"The Government of India is deeply concerned at the eruption of fighting in West Asia. The Government has consistently declared that the cause of tension in the area is Israeli aggression and refusal to vacate the territories occupied by armed forces. This intransigence on the part of Israel is clearly the basic cause leading to the present outbreak of hostilities. Our sympathies are entirely with the Arabs, whose sufferings have reached the point of explosion. Their cause is based on justice and demands forthwith the attention of the international community. Immediate implementation by Israel of United Nations resolution 242 (1967) constitutes a solution which can arrest the tragic march of events, settling the peace of the region and of the world at large."

We and many others have learnt to our cost that there cannot be any peace unless political problems are examined as a

whole, and not simply with a view to stopping the bloodshed without taking into account the causes which lead to such bloodshed. There can be no peace without justice. The denial of justice in the circumstances of the Middle East is nothing but a direct encouragement to war and conflict. Those of us who would like to see a just and durable peace return to the Middle East must bend our efforts to ensure that Arab territories are no longer occupied by the Israelis. The rest of the problems - including the rights of the Palestinians - can then be solved, and some of them will lead to negotiations, direct or indirect, and in an atmosphere of equality in which no party will bring to these negotiations the weight of victory or the humiliation of defeat and occupation.

INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC EGYPT SYRIA PAKISTAN
JORDAN

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement on West Asia U.N. Resolution

The following is the text of the statement made by Shri Samar Sen in the Security Council on the draft resolution on West Asia situation on October 21, 1973:

By all standard I should be happy that fighting and bloodshed could end by the adoption of the draft resolution before us but I am not and this for two weighty reasons first, for years now we have maintained that justice must be combined with peace. The justice we have repeatedly emphasized is that the Arab lands occupied by Israel must be evacuated before serious and fruitful

negotiations could start. Secondly, we have always been cautious if not obstreperous about any solution arrived at by the Great Powers without full consultation with the general membership of the U.N. One may argue that this is exactly what we have been doing tonight but let us examine briefly what has happened.

At 8.30 we made a formal call to find out if the Council was meeting tonight having been told at 7 P.M. that such a meeting was planned and that a resolution had been worked out. The next two or three hours we spent in intensive consultations but of course without instructions or guidance from our own Governments.

Two matters are quite clear. First, that the military situation in the field is difficult to assess and that the USA and USSR have come to an agreement the details of which are not fully known and perhaps cannot and should not be known to us - now or in the foreseeable future. So given this lack of knowledge - a lack illustrated by the US reference to POWs which is not in the draft resolution - we are indeed in great difficulty which I do not have to elaborate.

Our second difficulty is that the two Powers - however great and however powerful - have come to an agreement and we have to underwrite it quickly. The non-aligned countries can not welcome this turn of events not merely for this specific case but as a general rule to which we have drawn repeated attention.

No CHOICE LEFT

Nonetheless the general conclusion is clear. For whatever reason the principal parties to the fighting seem to have accepted the joint resolution and we have very little choice left to us except to support the joint resolution. But in doing so, we should make it clear that the implementation of Resolution 242 means, first, that the Arab territories must be vacated subject to minor adjustments agreed to by the parties and, secondly, Israel has a right to exist as a

sovereign state and, thirdly a proper settlement of the rights of the Palestinian people.

So while we shall support the resolution we cannot be unaware that it is vague - a vagueness compounded by its reference to Resolution 242 which bedevilled our discussions for six years because of this characteristic and with the hope that this vagueness will not come in the way of a just solution. It is on this understanding that we are prepared to support the draft joint resolution with many hesitations and several reservations not the least of which is the reference to "appropriate auspices" under which negotiations are to be held, we can only hope that our hesitations and reservations are unjustified.

INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement on West Asia Situation

The following is the text of a statement made by Shri Sen, on October 25, 1973, in the Security Council on the situation in West Asia:

Little doubt exists inside or outside the Council, of what has happened in the last three days since we adopted resolution 338: Israel has occupied still more territories of Egypt, ominous and frightful war clouds have gathered in many continents and no effective measures have been taken to implement what we understood to have been an understanding between the USA and the USSR.

In these circumstances the Council met to discuss, at the initiative of Egypt, measures it could take to restore peace in the area and simultaneously begin negotiations in terms of the resolutions we voted for and adopted during the last three days. In attempting to achieve these objectives, we also wished to ensure that no party, taking advantage of the cease-fire, simply declared or actually carried out, should increase its territorial gains, its negotiating positions or its publicity campaign - either in what is described as enlightened media of information or in any other way.

We, the non-aligned countries of the Security Council, could easily assess the degree of blame of those who went against the Council resolution, but our supreme con-

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sideration was that, at this critical moment, we should concentrate on measures which would bring about less tension which has dangerously been generated.

Our resolution, presented in most moderate language, seeks first and foremost to serve this immediate aim without in any way detracting from the essential need to find a just, peaceful and durable solution with utmost speed. We are glad, therefore, that the draft resolution moved by the eight-powers and so convincingly introduced by the distinguished Ambassador of Kenya was unanimously adopted.

My delegation would like to make two comments on the operative parts of this draft resolution. It is our understanding - although it hardly requires repeated emphasis - that the U.N. military observers and the U.N. emergency force will be operating in the sovereign territories of Egypt and of Syria and nothing that the Council may do will detract, except with their consent, from the exercise of their sovereignty. We are glad that by implication at least such consent is forthcoming.

We do not however accept the introduction of these foreign military personnel in the sovereign territories of Egypt and

Syria as a prelude and necessary condition for negotiations which would and must lead to the relinquishment of all territories occupied by force and the establishment of a durable peace in the area enabling all the states in the area to live in security inside their own states. Any final solution must of course respect the rights of the Palestinian people.

We trust these U.N. forces in the area are a temporary measure which should be terminated as soon as possible and in any event as soon as durable peace is in sight.

My second comment relates to the financing and other practical arrangements for the U.N. observers and forces. We are confident that money will be forthcoming. Those who initiated the move in the Council to bring about a ceasefire in the present conflict, in conditions and circumstances we discussed only a few days ago, have some special responsibility on this and several other aspects of the Middle East problems.

The last paragraph of the draft resolution while calling on all states to cooperate with the United Nations in this urgent and delicate task, the co-sponsors had this aspect (of financial assistance) of our decision very much in mind.

We are also hopeful that the Secretary-General will give us concrete and practical proposals for the implementation of the Council's decision.

We regret that we have given the Secretary-General only 24 hours for his recommendation but we are confident that, with his usual sensitivity and promptitude he will fulfil his mandate.

We look forward to the Secretary-General's initial proposals in a matter of hours, so that the Council can continue to keep this difficult and dangerous problem under close and constant examination and supervision and take action as the ever-changing situation requires.

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Secretary Shri Kewal Singh's Statement in U.N. General Assembly

The following is the text of the statement made by Foreign Secretary, Shri Kewal Singh, in the General Assembly, October 31, 1973, on item 107, i.e., "Illegal occupation by Portuguese military forces of certain sectors of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and acts of aggression committed by them against the people of the Republic":

Mr. President,

One more nation of Africa has won its freedom from colonial rule after a long, arduous and heroic struggle. Only a year ago the late Dr. Amilcar Cabral spoke at the United Nations of the determination of his people to bring to a speedy end the liberation struggle. His words, and I quote: "There is no force capable of preventing the complete liberation of my people and attainment of national independence by my country" are ringing in our ears today when Guinea (Bissau) has emerged as a sovereign nation and has been recognised by nearly 70 countries from all parts of the world including my

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own. The Foreign Minister of India, speaking in the General debate early this month-welcomed the proclamation of the independent state of Guinea (Bissau).

With the liberation of Guinea (Bissau) the colonial occupation and repression of yesterday has now taken the form of even more military aggression and violence and

impermissible use of force against a sovereign independent state. The Portuguese Government have refused to move with the times and are still clinging desperately to outmoded and decadent colonialism.

Two decades back, Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India, speaking of Portuguese possessions in India, once said:

"Moved by the fear characteristic of those whose strength is based on force, they have sought to amass their military strength on their possessions in India to terrorise the people. They are well aware that they constitute no terror for us."

As we see today, what Mr. Nehru said then, applies equally to Portuguese colonies in Africa even now. The brave people of Africa, fighting for their freedom, cannot be terrorized by the Portuguese military atrocities. The Portuguese have failed to learn the lessons of history and still show no understanding of the fundamental changes that have taken place in the world situation.

I was in Lisbon 20 years ago. I recall many occasions when under instructions of my Prime Minister, the late Jawaharlal Nehru, we offered to start negotiations with the Government of Portugal to bring about the peaceful withdrawal of their authority from India. Curiously enough, the reply I used to get from the leaders of Portugal was that the Portuguese enclaves in India were not colonies but a part of their metropolitan territory.

Situated 6,000 miles away, with no Portuguese population in these territories, excepting their military force and colonial administrators, they had the audacity to call these Indian territories as a Portuguese metropolitan area.

It was at that stage when the Portuguese refused to negotiate that Mr. Nehru said, "when it comes to dealing with the Portuguese, it is not possible for the 20th century to speak to the 17th century. The Portuguese

are still living three centuries behind time." We were thus left with no option but to break our relations with Portugal, ultimately leading to the overthrow of Portuguese colonialism from their enclaves in India.

We therefore share the joy of the people of Guinea (Bissau) with a special feeling of warmth and understanding, having ourselves suffered at the hands of Portuguese imperialism. Our hearts go out to the newly independent state of Guinea (Bissau) and its valiant people at the suffering which they are still undergoing as a result of the widespread and indiscriminate destruction of life and property by the Portuguese in a last-ditch effort to resist the death blow being given to their colonial occupation of Guinea (Bissau).

A number of speakers who have preceded me have given a graphic description of the horrors still being perpetrated by the Portuguese. We have been told of resort by them to saturation bombing as a result of which 40 villages are in complete ruins. Large planes and helicopters are engaged in wholesale destruction of human life. Even on the eve of their final expulsion, the Portuguese are bent upon committing genocide.

We are confident that despite the all-out war waged against the people of Guinea (Bissau) by the Portuguese armed forces, the new Government of the Republic of Guinea (Bissau), which already controls two thirds of the territory would soon be able to achieve the objective of complete liberation from colonialism and, to quote Article 3 of the Constitution of the new Republic, "their unification into one state, in accordance with the will of the people and the building of a society that shall create the political, economic and cultural conditions needed to eliminate the exploitation of man by man and all forms of subordination of the human being, degrading interests for the benefit of any individual, group or class." In this noble cause of defending, completing and consolidating their independence, the people of Guinea (Bissau) have the support of the world community.

Mr. President even before the procla-

mation of Guinea (Bissau) as an independent

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Republic, we had proposed that the United Nations should declare Portugal as an aggressor in all its African territories and should deal with it accordingly. Since September 24 - the day the new Republic of Guinea (Bissau) was proclaimed, there can be no shadow of doubt that Portugal has no legal locus standi in Guinea (Bissau) and her aggressive barbaric acts clearly attract, in our view, Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter.

It is very sad to see that Portugal, in her arrogance and intransigence, refused to accept the proposal which the late Dr. Cabral made to Portugal in October last year, during the fourth committee debate. He had then suggested a negotiated withdrawal by Portugal from Guinea (Bissau). The offer was spurned by Portugal in the same way as Portugal had spurned 20 years back the offer made by India to negotiate the peaceful liberation of Portuguese enclaves in India.

Dr. Cabral brought to bear on the liberation struggle a constructive and a positive approach. His fight against colonialism was not through slogans, but through hard struggle and sacrifices, and through progress and reconstruction achieved in the liberated territories. He tried till the last minute to avoid bloodshed, but his life was sacrificed in the struggle. The reply of the Portuguese to the peaceful overtures of Cabral was intensified terror and oppression. This shows, once more, how Portugal has always missed the opportunities of peaceful negotiation in her desire to retain colonial domination.

Amilcar Cabral had often said that he was only an anonymous soldier in the cause of the United Nations. The most befitting epitaph to his life-long service to the cause of freedom is in his own words, and I quote:

"When a fighter had succumbed in his country to police torture, or had been murdered in prison, or burnt alive, or machine-gunned by the Portuguese troops, for what causes had he given his

life?

He had given his life for the liberation of his people from the colonial yoke and hence for the cause of the United Nations. In fighting and dying for the country's liberation, he had given his life, in a context of international legality, for the ideal set forth in the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations. . . "

On this occasion, therefore, I once, again pay a warm tribute to the memory of this great man who worked unceasingly for the cause of his country's independence from colonial rule as well as for the cause of restoring human dignity and freedom. Had he been alive today, he would have been glad to see that his country is independent and has been recognised by more than half of the total membership of the United Nations.

India is privileged to be the co-sponsor of the draft resolution contained in Document No. A L 702 of 22nd October 1973. We are confident that the result of the current debate on illegal occupation and aggression by Portuguese military forces of certain sectors of Guinea (Bissau) would constitute a resounding vindication of the just struggle of the Government and people of Guinea (Bissau) to throw off the last vestiges of Portuguese colonial rule.

INDIA GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PORTUGAL

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Buta Singh's Statement in U.N. on Territories under Portuguese Administration

The following is the text of a statement

made on October 8, 1973 by Shri Buta Singh, M.P., in the fourth committee on the question of territories under Portuguese administration:

I should like to convey my felicitations to you as well as those of the Indian delegation on your election as chairman of this committee. I am sure that under your able chairmanship, the committee will be able to have useful and constructive discussions. Your long experience in the United Nations will undoubtedly assist us in our work. I should also like to congratulate the two vice-chairmen and the rapporteur on their election.

I consider it a privilege to inform this committee that the Government of India have welcomed the new Republic of Guinea (Bissau) whose achievement of independence

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is regarded by us as an inspiration to other peoples in Africa struggling against colonialism, racialism and oppression. The Government of India have recognised the new state of Guinea (Bissau) and will be glad to establish relations with the new republic and we look forward to close and friendly co-operation between our two countries.

In their official communications to the Indian Prime Minister, the Government of Guinea (Bissau) referred to the support and friendship which had been extended by India during the freedom struggle. In April this year, India announced that it would be willing to help train administrative and technical personnel from territories which are illegally occupied by the Portuguese, so that when these countries throw out the aggressor, the necessary trained personnel would be available for effectively administering the countries. I should like to reiterate that our commitment stands and we would indeed be glad to cooperate with the new state of Guinea (Bissau) in this and other fields.

The P.A.I.G.C.'s victory in achieving Guinea (Bissau)'s independence will, we are sure, give further encouragement to the brave freedom fighters in Angola and Mozam-

bique and in the Cape Verde islands. When they see that victory has been achieved in one area, they are bound to feel more confident that soon their countries will also be free.

Mr. Chairman, a few weeks ago I happened to come across a book called "The Lusiads," written by Luis Vas de Camoens. The cover described it as the "National Epic" of Portugal and went on to say that the Portuguese found strength in this poem during times of difficulties or of uncertainties. The theme of this epic is the voyage of Vasco da Gama which discovered for the Europeans, a new sea route to India and interwoven into the poem is the history of the Portuguese nation. "The Lusiads" may be a great poem, but to consider that the Portuguese can genuinely believe that this epic reflects the national aspirations of their country and that it provides them with the guiding light in their attitude towards the people of Asia and Africa is to accept that evil will rule the world.

The statement made by the Foreign Minister of Portugal in the General Assembly the other day confirms the worst in Portuguese policy. He gave us a harangue about the nature of the "historic mission" of the Portuguese and what they had set out to do in the world. Their "historic mission" seems to consist of dominating other peoples, repressing them and keeping them in bondage just as they have kept their own population terrified and demoralised. They have failed to raise the standard of living of their people simply because they are diverting resources for the suppression of people elsewhere.

Also Portugal's "historic mission" seems to consist of the indiscriminate throwing of napalm bombs on civilian population, brutal massacres and unnecessary blood baths. We are fully confident that the populations of the territories which are still under Portuguese domination never sought to participate in the so-called "historic mission" of the Lusiads. They certainly do not wish to be a part of it now and our firm belief is that Portugal should pursue its "historic mission," if it has one, within its own boundaries in

Western Europe. They are certainly welcome to have their beliefs about the symbolic content of the voyage undertaken by Vasco da Gama and they can certainly gloat over the greatness of their national epic. But if they believe that just because their greatest poet wrote that Portugal is fulfilling her destiny by subjugating other peoples, the rest of the world can only be on its guard. The author of the *Lusiads* is said to have lost one eye during his military career in North Africa. But the Portuguese seem to have lost either both of their eyes or they are going about blindfolded.

Mr. Chairman, in the sixteenth century it was possible for Portugal to colonise other peoples but Portugal must realise that that was the beginning of their aggression against all these territories and this aggression continues. The sixteenth century aggression must go and must be defeated by all means at our disposal. The obvious question is whether Portugal can be made to give up this aggression and its fruits by peaceful means.

Mr. Chairman, India has always stood for the settlement of problems through negotiations. However, our experience with Portugal has been such that we know that Portugal does not believe in peaceful negotiations and, in fact, it will not listen to any

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argument save that of force. Portugal has clearly shown that it has no intention to implement General Assembly resolution No. 1514 (XV) of 14th December 1960 which relates to independence to colonial countries and peoples. Similarly, it has no intention of implementing the other resolutions which have been adopted by the General Assembly, by the Security Council and by the special committee on this subject. Certainly, Portugal does not wish to adhere to chapter II of the Charter. If Portugal had been agreeable to implement the resolutions of the United Nations to which I have just referred it would have avoided the suffering and the bloodshed and the horrors that have been needlessly perpetrated on civilian populations that are only seeking to obtain their right

to self-determination and independence.

However, given the Portuguese policy, we must ensure that these Portuguese aggressions are thrown out as soon as possible. We, therefore, welcome and fully support the freedom fighters who have resorted to arms to secure their independence and so end the aggressive colonialism in their areas. We shall do all we can for furthering the liberation struggle of people everywhere.

Because of her alliance with the NATO powers, Portugal is able to continue its colonial wars. Even if we assume - a difficult assumption - that NATO arms are not being used in Africa by Portugal, no one can deny that the assistance that NATO gives to Portugal allows and enables it to increase its oppression of the people in these countries and to continue the aggression by more and more violent means. The allies of Portugal who are helping it by supplying war material could ensure that Portugal cannot pursue its policies which have resulted in senseless killings and wars in its colonies by simply denying this help.

The Indian delegation would also like to support the programme of action which was adopted at the international conference of experts for the support of victims of colonialism and apartheid in Southern Africa which was held at Oslo in April 1973 and whose record is contained in document A/9061. In particular, we believe that the member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation which do not supply arms to Portugal should take joint action within the Council of Ministers so as to bring to an end the organisation's support for Portugal's colonial wars.

Mr. Chairman, we were shocked at the massacres that Portugal had recently perpetrated in different areas in Mozambique. This was a plain and simple genocide. India joined the other non-aligned countries at the United Nations in issuing a statement condemning Portugal for these massacres and this statement was circulated as General Assembly document No. A/9113.

My delegation wishes to thank the United

Nations secretariat for the study which they have prepared on Portugal and its colonial policy as given in Annex I of the report of the special committee. We were of course pleased but not surprised that opposition within Portugal to its colonial policies is growing. We should deliberate on the steps that we can take to strengthen those sane and realistic elements in Portugal and should extend our support to them.

Mr. Chairman, before I end my statement, I should like to pay a tribute to the memory of the late Dr. Amilcar Cabral, former Secretary-General of the P.A.I.G.C. who was cruelly assassinated by the Portuguese. Had he been alive today, he would have seen that the fight which he had carried on against Portugal has culminated in independence of his country. Let us hope that we shall soon hear the good news that the Portuguese armies have suffered total defeat in all its colonies and that Portugal has withdrawn to its national frontiers which lie only within the Iberian peninsula.

INDIA USA GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU ANGOLA CAPE VERDE PORTUGAL CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC NORWAY MOZAMBIQUE

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Buta Singh's Statement in U.N. on Situation in Zimbabwe

The following is the text of a statement made by Shri Buta Singh, M.P., in the fourth committee on October 19, 1973, on the unilateral declaration of independence by Ian Smith:

I should like, first of all to welcome to this committee the representative of the

liberation movements - Mr. Edward Ndlovu of Zapu, Mr. Mukudzei Mudzi of Zandu, as well as Rev. Canaan Banana from the African National Council. We have listened to their statements with close interest and found them very informative and useful.

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It is now eight years since we started discussing, in the United Nations, the consequence of the unilateral declaration of independence by Ian Smith and ways and means of exerting international pressure to help the people of Zimbabwe achieve their freedom. The various measures of boycott and economic sanctions adopted by the Security Council look rather impressive on paper. Yet from the spate of news on sanctions-breaking carried by the news media in recent months, it appears that in many parts of the world these measures are either totally ignored or, at best looked upon as an irksome bureaucratic formality requiring merely an adjustment of procedures.

The sale of three Boeing aircraft to Southern Rhodesia through various intermediaries in Europe was one such example. The Sunday Times of August 26 carries an astonishing report on a regular DC-7 and DC-8 airfreight service operated by Southern Rhodesia via an African country for exporting beef to a destination in Europe. The aircraft involved in this operation, which is reported to be still continuing, apparently make stops at a number of European countries to pick up cargo for Southern Rhodesia. We are not aware of any action being taken by the Governments concerned to put a stop to this.

The German paper Der Spiegel of July 16, 1973 also carried a detailed article on how sanctions are being circumvented on a large scale.

The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in a well-documented report brought out on August 26, has stated that, apart from the open importation of chrome and other mineral ores from Southern Rhodesia into the United States, a number of airline companies, travel and car-rental firms,

credit-card organisations and others are doing "business as usual" with Southern Rhodesia. The Journal of Commerce of New York published a special 16-page supplement on Southern Rhodesia containing advertisements for Rhodesian industries, banks, hotels, travel companies and other commercial enterprises in the fields of sports. A contingent from Southern Rhodesia participated in the 9th Maccabiah games held recently in Israel. Southern Rhodesian participation was also reported in ploughing and sailing competitions in Europe. Do these incidents and transactions not portray an astonishing insensitivity about the fate of Zimbabwe and the sufferings of its five and a half million Africans? Is anything being done through the news media and the official policy of Governments to bring to the attention of their public the tragedy of Zimbabwe and the need to make everyone conscious that any help, encouragement or recognition, direct or indirect, to the Ian Smith regime adds to the length and bitterness of the struggle of the people for freedom and human dignity?

While the lack of respect with which sanctions are treated must be deplored by all of us, the fact that these breaches are receiving increased publicity through the news media and other interested non-official organisations is a welcome development. Conscious of the valuable assistance which such bodies could extend to its work, the Security Council committee on Southern Rhodesia has recently sought their cooperation through an appeal for information. A number of innovative recommendations for improving the effectiveness of sanctions appear in the second special report of this committee to the Security Council (S/10920). Some improvement would certainly result if these recommendations were sincerely implemented by Governments. But the major problem has largely been left untouched. It is clear that sanctions will remain ineffective as long as South Africa and Portugal are allowed, not only to openly violate sanctions, but to help the Ian Smith regime in every way to circumvent them. \$ 240 million worth of clandestine Southern Rhodesian exports reached world markets last year through these gap-

ing holes in the sanctions. It is not as if solutions to this problem are difficult to find or that efforts to have the Security Council adopt such measures have been lacking. It is quite clear that only two or three countries prevent the application of measures which the vast majority of the United Nations membership consider essential to make the policy of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia effective. In the circumstances, while we continue to hope that sanctions will be more scrupulously applied, and perhaps even strengthened and extended, we do not believe that sanctions will be a prime determinant in bringing about change in Southern Rhodesia.

Till about a year ago, the Ian Smith regime, like the hydra-headed monster, appear-

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ed to thrive and gather strength from all efforts to bring about its destruction. This situation now seems to be changing. From the newspapers of Rhodesia and of South Africa, it is becoming increasingly clear that the strains and cracks in the White economy and in settler morale, which have so far remained dormant, have now started surfacing. As an example, I shall read some extracts from a report on Southern Rhodesia in the weekly edition of the Star of Johannesburg of July 14, 1973:

"I received persistent reports of the drift out of the country of young people who were politically disenchanted with (word mutilated), of others who felt insecure because of terrorist activity, of young technicians who see no future in an isolated society, and of families and firms whose lives are (word mutilated) by two months of army service each year. Increasingly, the signs of a seige economy are getting stronger. Confidence is wilting because growth is too slow and the Government appears to have lost its grip of the priorities". The net white immigration for the first 7 months of 1973 was some 70% less than during the same period in 1972, with the monthly emigration rate standing at an all time high. Growth in industry during the first half of 1973 showed a noticeable slow-down for the first time

since 1966, with the regime itself predicting much worse to come. I could mention other examples. It is always a temptation, Mr. Chairman, to over-emphasise these and other setbacks to the illegal regime. All of us know, however, that there is still a lot of fight left in Mr. Ian Smith and his followers. It seems clear, nevertheless, that there has been a qualitative change in the situation.

This change has been brought about largely through the struggle of the people themselves. To what extent the freedom struggle has gathered strength in recent times is reflected by the new draconian measures which the Ian Smith regime has adopted. Giving up its pretence that the 5 1/2 million blacks of Southern Rhodesia were "loyal and happy" under white rule, collective fines and other punishments have been imposed on whole communities merely on suspicion that any of them are harbouring or otherwise aiding freedom fighters. In the application of these punitive measures no notice need be given and no representations are to be allowed. Spreading "rumours likely to cause alarm and despondency" can lead to 7 years' jail. In one area in the north, all economic activity was prohibited for some time and even essential services such as hospitals, schools, stores and African businesses were closed down. Wholesale deportations were announced in May 1973, together with a 'scorched-earth" policy for the northeast and the seizure of property which might be of use to the freedom fighters. The use of whips and electric shock treatment on political detainees are now reported to be commonplace. These methods of the Ian Smith regime will not succeed any more in Zimbabwe than similar methods succeeded elsewhere in suppressing the peoples' desire for freedom of human dignity. They can only strengthen the determination of the people to fight and to win and this, precisely, is what they seem to be doing.

The liberation movements of Zimbabwe know, as we heard from their representatives, that it is their own courage and dedication which will ultimately decide when and in what circumstances freedom will be

won. Since the middle of 1972, the white settlers have been shaken by the effective and sustained operations of the liberation forces. Starting from the northern districts, in collaboration with Frolimo in neighbouring Mozambique, these operations are steadily spreading to the rest of the country. South African papers report that the freedom fighters have infiltrated the Salisbury region which has produced great alarm among many whites there, as reported in the Star weekly of April 1973. We are convinced they will win and we wish them every success.

It is in the context of this struggle which the people of Zimbabwe are waging for their freedom and independence that we view the role of the United Kingdom. We have had the occasion to commend that government for its acceptance of the honest opinion of Lord Pearce on the attitude of the Zimbabwe Africans towards the 1971 settlement proposals.

These proposals must now be considered dead. We are therefore disturbed at reports of continuing contacts which appear to have encouraged Mr. Ian Smith to hope that these proposals can be resuscitated. The Government of the United Kingdom has itself con-

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fessed on a number of occasions that it does not have the power to make Mr. Ian Smith do anything against his wishes.

In such circumstances, a negotiated settlement with Ian Smith can have no other result except to leave the 5 1/2 million blacks of Zimbabwe as unwilling wards of a regime they do not trust and which has made amply clear its determination to keep them in servitude. The responsibilities accepted by the United Kingdom Government as the administering power under United Nations resolutions have for some time had an air of fiction and unreality about them. As long as Britain continues to claim this role, however, we are entitled to hold her to her responsibilities. At the very least we can expect that she will refrain from any action which weakens the position of the Zimbabwe

Africans in their struggle against the tyranny of the white minority.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we see little in the situation in Zimbabwe which justifies optimism regarding a peaceful solution. The illegal regime's disastrous record in its treatment of the Africans, its attitude towards Bishop Muzorewa's African National Council, and the flagrant cynicism with which sanctions have so far been violated, all these make such an outcome all but impossible. The liberation movements are fighting, not because struggle is an end in itself, but because they realise that it is better to fight and make sacrifices now than to accept compromises which will make eventual justice even more remote and elusive in the future. India fully supports their struggle and we are giving them what help we can. We shall, as we have done in the past, apply sanctions scrupulously and we hope others will do the same. If, through our efforts, we can make the struggle a little shorter and a little less costly in human terms, we would have done something worthwhile.

INDIA ZIMBABWE UNITED KINGDOM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI ITALY ISRAEL
PORTUGAL SOUTH AFRICA MOZAMBIQUE

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

IRAN

India-Iran Cultural Exchange Agreement

The following press release on cultural exchange agreement signed between India and Iran was issued in New Delhi on October 8, 1973:

An agreement has been signed on

October 7th 1973 for the expansion of cultural ties between India and Iran.

Following discussions between Her Excellency Madam Farrokhru Parsay, Minister of Education and Training in the Imperial Government of Iran and His Excellency Professor Nurul Hasan, India's Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture the agreement was signed by Mr. Ameli, Deputy Minister for Culture in the Iranian Imperial Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Sahi, Secretary in the Indian Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture.

The agreement which covers the period 1974-75 provides for cooperation between the two countries in the fields of Science, Culture, Exchange of Teachers and Students and Sports.

Keeping in view their rich cultural heritage the agreement provides for collaborative programmes for archaeological field work, cooperation between their respective libraries and museums in respect of exchange of manuscripts, and seminars of scholars and senior teachers to evaluate human values.

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IRAN INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

MALDIVES

Indo-Maldives Talks

The following Press Note on Indo-Maldives talks was issued in New Delhi on October 10, 1973:

His Excellency Mr. Ali Maniku, representative of the Government of Maldives, visited New Delhi from October 7 to October 9, 1973, as the guest of the Government of India.

During the visit, he held discussions with a team of senior Indian officials led by Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary (Economic Division), Ministry of External Affairs.

The talks covered economic, commercial and technical cooperation, and included subjects like the operation of the Maldives Shipping Limited in Bombay, training facilities for Maldives students in India and cooperation in tourism, civil aviation, education, and fisheries.

Both sides were satisfied that substantial economic and technical exchanges had taken place recently and expressed confidence that these would be stepped up in future.

The decision of the Maldives Government to shortly open a Consulate in Bombay was welcomed by the Indian Government.

His Excellency Mr. Ali Maniku expressed appreciation for the arrangements made for his stay in Delhi.

MALDIVES INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

President Giri's Welcome Speech

Welcoming His Majesty King Birendra
Bir Bikram Shah Dev and Her Majesty

Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah of Nepal, who arrived in New Delhi on October 12, 1973 on a State visit, the President, Shri V. V. Giri, made the following speech at Palam airport:

May I extend to Your Majesties a very warm welcome on your first State visit to India? We are indeed very happy to have Your Majesties amidst us and hope that you shall have a pleasant and enjoyable stay in our country.

Your Majesty is, of course, no stranger to India. Even before you ascended the throne, you had visited our country and travelled to different parts of it. Our people particularly rejoice in the fact that they are welcoming the Head of a friendly and neighbouring state with whom we have ancient ties of culture, religion and philosophy.

We in this country have also a great admiration for your deep interest in the economic advancement of your people and for your determination to pursue the well-being of your people with sincerity, dynamism and imagination. We are also extremely gratified at the presence of Her Majesty the Queen by your side, whose deep involvement in various activities of national importance for Nepal have impressed us and elicited our unqualified admiration.

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Personally, your visit has provided me a welcome opportunity to revive my own acquaintance with your country. I had the privilege of being present at the wedding of Your Majesties. During this visit, Your Majesty will have ample opportunity to discuss questions of bilateral and international importance with us. Together, we can perhaps renew our faith in the common destiny of India and Nepal which is not only decreed by geography and history, but also by the facts of contemporary political life. The spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding which our countries have demonstrated in the past, and will do so in the future, can indeed set an example of how neighbours should live in peace and harmony. I am

sure that you are conscious of this historic opportunity and are attached to those ideals as much as we are. This visit, Your Majesties, will serve as yet another reaffirmation of our resolve to work together to the mutual benefit of our peoples.

We welcome Your Majesties once again to this country and wish you a comfortable and fruitful stay.

NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Reply by King of Nepal

Replying to the President's welcome, the King made the following speech:

Mr. President, thank You for your kind words of welcome.

My wife and I are happy to be in New Delhi and we look forward to friendly exchange of views on matters of mutual interest with you, with Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and other distinguished representatives of the Government of India. We hope thus to deepen understanding between our two Governments.

Your Government has kindly arranged our visit in such a way as to afford us opportunities to meet with Indian friends from different walks of life. We sincerely expect that this visit will further strengthen the ties of historical friendship so happily existing between our two peoples.

Nepal and India have a cultural and

religious heritage with many features in common. Coming from a Hindu Kingdom, we shall cherish our pilgrimage to the sacred Hindu temples and shrines for which India is justly famous.

We hope also to acquaint ourselves with the progress India has made since her independence. In the spirit of good neighbourliness, Nepal rejoices in India's achievements. We believe that this feeling is mutual and is manifest in the assistance which India has provided for Nepal's economic advancement.

Permit me, Your Excellency, to convey the feelings of goodwill and deep sentiments of friendship of the people of the Kingdom of Nepal to the friendly people of India.

NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

President Giri's Speech at Banquet in Honour of King of Nepal

The following speech was delivered by the President, Shri V. V. Giri, at a banquet held by him in honour of Their Majesties, the King and Queen of Nepal, in New Delhi on October 12, 1973:

It gives us great pleasure to have Your Majesties with us this evening. Even though you have been here only for a short while, Your Majesty must have noticed the feelings of affection and friendship which our people have for the people of Nepal. I have no doubt in my mind that the opportunity which Your Majesties have given us to discuss matters of bilateral and international importance, and of seeing our country in the

next few days will further strengthen the tradition of understanding and cooperation which has always characterised our relations.

Our common borders across which our peoples have traversed from times immemorial in search of spiritual solace, peace and understanding are open borders of friendship.

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It is, therefore, in the fitness of things that the leaders of the two countries should have frequent opportunities to meet each other and discuss questions of mutual interest.

Since Your Majesty has been at the helm of affairs of Nepal, you have given a new strength and a new clan to harnessing the developmental potential of Nepal. The vigour, dynamism and idealism which you have brought to the task of developing your country has elicited the widest admiration. We in India are proud and happy that we, as friends, have been given an opportunity to be involved in the great task of Nepal's economic development. In a sense, this is precisely the task to which we have addressed ourselves in our country. This is all the more reason for our two countries to benefit from each other's experience and come together to harness our energies in this common endeavour.

May I also take this opportunity to reiterate to Your Majesty our determined resolve to respect the urges and the aspirations of Nepal in the spirit of the time honoured principles of peaceful co-existence. A healthy relationship between two countries, more particularly between neighbours, cannot be developed except when they respect each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and refrain from interfering in each other's domestic affairs. We have followed these principles scrupulously in our relations with all countries and I would, in particular, like once again to reassure Your Majesty that we would earnestly strive for a future of peace, prosperity and progress of our two nations based on the principles of sovereign equality and mutual respect.

I am gratified to note that our countries

have cooperated not only bilaterally but in many international forums, like the UN, its specialised agencies and the Non-Aligned movement. I believe that this cooperation has advanced the interest of world peace and we on our part look forward to continuing this cooperation.

Our views on various matters of international importance are very similar. Both our countries are playing a useful role in the comity of nations and have an identical approach to such international problems as racialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, the problems of developing countries, and the reduction of international tensions. Equally, we are disturbed when threats to international peace are generated in any part of the world. We view with grave anxiety the war that is raging in West Asia. My Government is firmly of the view that no nation has the right to retain the fruit of its aggression. Our sympathy and support are fully with the Arab people who have been victims of Israeli aggression. I am sure, Your Majesty will agree that peace can endure only if its foundations are laid on equality and justice. That is the solution towards which all of us have to work, for without it, a patchwork solution will remain precarious, liable to breakdown under the slightest stress.

Closer home, we should not remain content with peace in the sub-continent, but should attempt to invest it with a cooperative effort, to the mutual benefit of all the peoples which inhabit this sub-continent. We hope that all the countries of the region will develop a structure of friendly co-operation in the sub-continent and in this process, our two countries could set both the tone and the pace.

The history of our two nations, Your Majesty, illustrates how, over thousands of years, our peoples have lived in peace and amity, and have shared common values. This is perhaps a unique example in history. Even if at times there have been some differences of perspectives, the fundamental friendship and respect between our two nations have withstood the test of time. This is the relationship that we hope to nurture and

strengthen as partners in the challenging task of promoting economic development and social justice. In the attainment of these ideals, we feel deeply grateful to have the fullest support of Your Majesty.

May I now request Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in proposing a toast to the health of Their Majesties, to the well being of the people of Nepal and to the strengthening of friendship between India and Nepal?

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NEPAL INDIA USA ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Reply by King of Nepal

Replying, His Excellency the King of Nepal made the following speech:

Mr. President, Madame Prime Minister Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it give us much pleasure to be in the midst of so many friends of Nepal at this banquet. Allow me, Mr. President, to express our grateful thanks to you for extending such a pleasant hospitality this evening.

I bring with me the Nepalese people's feelings of affection and goodwill towards you and the people of India. Profound friendship between our two countries has been the basis of these sentiments and our endeavour should be to strengthen them further.

With unwavering faith in the principles of peaceful co-existence, our countries have

adopted political systems suited to the genius of our respective peoples. India's historical background has led her to adopt a system in accordance with the aspirations of her people and in response to the requirements of the country - a system of democratic socialism within the framework of a federal republic.

India's political structure is founded on the vastness of her geography, the rich variety of her culture and the characteristics of her people. Likewise, Nepal's history and tradition combined with her geographical features has led us to develop a polity based on the principles of partyless Panchayat democracy. Nevertheless, the basic principles underlying both our systems are founded on democracy.

Preoccupied as you are with your own development, the magnanimity which your country has exhibited is much appreciated. Nepal, on her part, despite limited resources, has not held back in extending her contribution in the interests of deep friendship with India. The inherent goodwill reflected in the friendly relations between our two countries has always inspired us to cooperate with each other in fruitful reciprocity,

In countries with contiguous borders such as ours, it is natural that differences arise from time to time. Rather than getting entangled in such matters, we should constantly endeavour to resolve our problems in a spirit of peace and amity, keeping the friendship between our two countries in perspective. Mature and sober appreciation of each other's point of view, we believe, should leave no room for any misunderstanding.

At a time when the issue of economic advancement is posing ever more acute problems to developing countries the world over, trouble in any part of the world compounds on the difficulties besetting countries like ours. In this regard, it is our sincere belief that the Delhi Agreement signed recently between India and Pakistan has contributed not only to the solution of certain humanitarian problems but also to the prospects for the pursuit of peaceful economic development of this region. The recent hostilities

in the Middle East give us cause for concern. We believe that all differences can be resolved through peaceful means. We hope reason will prevail and the situation will return to normal.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in proposing a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency the President of India and to the further development of friendly relations between Nepal and India.

Thank You.

NEPAL USA INDIA PAKISTAN

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

President Giri's Speech at Send Off Ceremony

Following is the text of president V. V. Giri's speech at the time of the departure from New Delhi of Their Majesties, the King and Queen of Nepal, on October 14, 1973:

Your Majesties leave today on a short tour of our country. Your stay in Delhi has been all too brief, but I hope that even in this short time you have seen some of the warmth and affection that we have for Nepal. I believe I am justified in saying that our discussions have been extremely fruitful, and once again proved the close similarity of our views on matters of mutual concern

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to our two countries. We have achieved some concrete results in our discussions whose impact on the well-being of our peoples would be evident shortly. We have also reached a greater awareness and understand-

ing of each other's views and have reaffirmed our faith in close cooperation.

As you go round our country in the next few days, Your Majesties will have some impression of the processes of change and continuity operating in India. Your Majesties will see some places of cultural interest to which we owe the variety and refinement of our traditions and which link us to a glorious past. Your Majesties will also see centres of scientific, industrial and technological activities which carry the benefits of economic growth to all our people, and eliminate such injustice and inequities which history may have bequeathed to us. Together, they give us a distinct identity and renew our faith in the future which is in harmony with this age. Your Majesties will also notice that to whichever corner of India you visit the vast multitude of our people will welcome you with warmth, affection and genuine friendship.

I thank Your Majesties for giving us this opportunity to receive you and to show you a little of our country, and I wish you a happy journey through India and back to your country our great friendly neighbour Nepal.

NEPAL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

Indo-Nepal Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued in New Delhi on October 14, 1973, on the State visit of Their Majesties, the King and Queen of Nepal:

At the invitation of the President of India, Their Majesties the King and the Queen of Nepal are paying a State visit to India from the 12th to 19th October, 1973. Their Majesties are accompanied by H.E. Mr. Gyanendra Bahadur Karki, Minister for Foreign Affairs and other officials and dignitaries from Nepal.

2. Their Majesties; were greeted with great warmth and affection which underline the close and friendly relations existing between the two countries. This is Their Majesties' first State visit to India after His Majesty ascended the throne. The President and the Prime Minister welcomed this opportunity to renew personal contacts and friendship with Their Majesties and expressed the sincere hope that this visit will further strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between India and Nepal. In Delhi a civic reception was organised in honour of Their Majesties. The Delhi University conferred the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws on His Majesty at a special convocation. The distinguished guests will also visit places of cultural, religious and industrial interest which includes Agra, Bangalore, Madurai, Rameshwaram, Madras, Lucknow and Pantnagar.

3. While in Delhi His Majesty had friendly and informal exchange of views with the President, the Prime Minister and the Minister for External Affairs. The talks, which covered a wide range of subjects of bilateral and international importance and were held in an atmosphere of extreme cordiality and mutual understanding, highlighted the community of interests and similarity of approach of the two countries. Both sides agreed that the two Governments should constantly endeavour to strengthen the friendship and deepen understanding between the two countries and work towards these ends. Both sides reaffirmed their faith in the policies and principles of peaceful co-existence, respect for territorial integrity of States, non-interference in their internal affairs and non-use of force or threat of force in international relations.

4. Evincing keen interest in the rapid economic and social progress of Nepal, the Prime Minister conveyed to His Majesty India's continued desire to be associated with the developmental efforts being so earnestly made by Nepal under the dynamic leadership of His Majesty. His Majesty conveyed his appreciation of India's abiding interest and cooperation in the development of Nepal.

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His Majesty also acquainted the Prime Minister with the all-round development of Nepal under the present political system.

5. His Majesty had talks on matters of economic and technical cooperation with the Minister for Planning, Minister for Irrigation and Power, Minister of Commerce and the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

6. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the process of detente and reduction of tension in various parts of the world. His Majesty appreciated India's efforts to achieve a durable peace and good-neighbourly relations in the sub-continent and welcomed the India-Pakistan Agreement reached in Delhi in August, 1973. Both sides expressed the hope that in keeping with the spirit of the Simla and Delhi Agreements, the situation in the sub-continent would further improve in the future. In this context both sides expressed the need for mutual trust and acceptance and recognition of the realities of the situation.

7. Both sides expressed grave anxiety over the current outbreak of hostilities in West Asia. They called for an early restoration of peace and for a just and enduring solution to the problem in accordance with the principles of the Security Council resolutions on the subject.

8. Both sides re-affirmed the validity and value of the policy of non-alignment in contributing to the strengthening of peace and security and to the economic progress of the developing countries. These were reinforced at the recent Conference of Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries held in Algiers.

9. Both sides agreed that the friendly exchange of views had helped in promoting fuller understanding and in further strengthening the already close relations existing between the two countries. They further agreed to maintain contacts at a high level.

10. His Majesty extended a cordial invitation to the President to pay a State visit to Nepal. The President accepted the invitation with pleasure.

NEPAL INDIA USA LATVIA PAKISTAN ALGERIA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued on the conclusion of the State visit to Romania of Shri V. V. Giri, President of India:

At the invitation of the President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu, and Madame Elena Ceausescu, the President of the Republic of India, Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri, accompanied by Shrimati Saravathi Giri, paid a State visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania from October 3 to 6, 1973.

The President of the Republic of India and his party visited economic, social and cultural centres in Bucharest and Suceava and received a warm and cordial welcome everywhere, testifying to the feelings of friendship and esteem which the Romanian and Indian peoples cherish for each other.

The two Presidents held official talks in which they reviewed Indo-Romanian relations and exchanged views on international questions of mutual interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality.

Participating in the talks were.

On the Indian side: Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of

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External Affairs, Shri Sanker Giri, Member of Parliament, Shri Asok Mitra, Secretary of the President, Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Vishnu K. Ahuja, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the Socialist Republic of Romania.

On the Romanian side: Mr. Miron Constantinescu, Vice-President of the State Council, Mr. Mihai Dales, Chairman of the Central Council of the General Union of Trade Unions, Mr. Ion Patan, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Constantin Stasescu, Secretary of the State Council, Mr. George Macovescu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Constantin Mitea and Mr. Vasil E. Pungan, Advisers to the President of the State Council, Mr. Petre Tanasie, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Romania to the Republic of India.

The two Presidents noted with satisfaction that the bilateral Indo-Romanian relations of cooperation and friendship were developing continuously in various fields to the benefit of both peoples. They observed that there are greater possibilities for intensifying bilateral cooperation and reaffirmed their determination to strengthen further the ties between the two countries which not only serve the interests of both sides, but also the interests of international peace and security.

The two Presidents welcomed the increase in the volume of Indo-Romanian trade on the basis of the long-term Trade and Payments Agreement and noted that there is

considerable further scope for widening and diversifying the length of economic and technical collaboration. In this context, they agreed on the setting up of a Joint Indo-Romanian Economic, Technical and Scientific Commission at an early date.

The two Presidents reaffirmed that cultural, scientific and technical cooperation occupies an important place in their relations. They agreed to encourage the adoption of measures which would expand to the maximum possible extent the reciprocal knowledge by the two peoples of each other's cultural heritage achievements and values.

The exchange of views on international questions revealed that the positions of the two sides on all issues discussed either coincided or were very close. The two Presidents welcome the trend towards detente and settlement of international problems by means of negotiations as also the ever wider acceptance of the policy of peaceful coexistence and cooperation. They expressed confidence that this process would spread all over the world.

At the same time, the two Presidents noted the persistence of areas of tension in some regions of the world and stressed the need for making every effort to liquidate all traces of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and policy of apartheid.

In order to strengthen the climate of peace, detente, security and cooperation, both sides reiterated their support for the principles of respect for national sovereignty and independence, equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs, mutual advantages, renunciation of threat or use of force, the inalienable right of each people to be master of its own destiny, solution of all disputes among states exclusively by peaceful means - principles which constitute the basis of relations among states.

The two Presidents supported the right of every state, irrespective of size and potential, to participate actively in the settlement of international problems which affect its

interest and those which concern the safeguarding of peace and security, so as to promote the development of relations of friendship and cooperation in the world. They strongly favoured the expansion of international cooperation in the areas of economy, science, technology and culture as well as in regard to the protection of the natural human environment as beneficial to all states and peoples.

The two Presidents reasserted their support for, and solidarity with, the struggle of states and people for the defence and consolidation of their economic and social independence. They emphasized the urgency of taking concrete steps to reduce and bridge the growing gap between the developing and the developed countries. They agreed that this was a problem of major importance whose solution was an essential element in the strengthening of international peace and security and the progress of mankind.

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The two Presidents called for broad international cooperation which would eliminate the barriers in inter-state economic relations which adversely affect the economies of developing countries. They also stressed the sovereign right of every state to utilise its own natural resources and to have free access to the achievement of modern science and technology at the international level. They expressed the determination of their Governments to continue to exert all efforts for the full and equitable participation of all countries and, in particular, the developing countries in resolving international trade, monetary and other problems of common concern.

The two Presidents declared their support for the United Nations and agreed on the need for strengthening of the role of this Organisation with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of cooperation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between states.

The President of India outlined the steps

taken by the Government of India to achieve durable peace and to develop cooperative and friendly relations among all states of the Indian sub-continent.

The two Presidents expressed their satisfaction that the bilateral negotiations between India and Pakistan are contributing to the achievement of good results towards normalisation of the situation in the sub-continent. They also expressed their hope that durable peace would be established as well as cooperation among the peoples of the sub-continent on the basis of full equality and mutual respect for the independence and sovereignty of all states.

The two Presidents welcomed the conclusion of the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam and of the agreement on the re-establishing of peace and national concord in Laos as well as the recently concluded protocol to the agreement on Laos. They expressed the hope that the necessary conditions would be created for lasting peace in this area, so that the peoples of Indo-China may freely decide their own destiny without outside interference.

The two Presidents expressed their profound concern at the continuance of the grave situation in the Middle East, which is a serious threat to international Peace and security. They re-asserted their support for Security Council Resolution 242 of November 22, 1967. They emphasized the Importance and urgency of a settlement on the basis of the implementation of the Security Council's Resolution with a view to achieving a fair and durable peace in the region.

The two Presidents thought it imperative that negotiations for disarmament with the participation of all states concerned should intensify and that concrete steps should be taken for the achievement of general and, particularly, nuclear disarmament. They underlined the negative economic and social consequences of the heavy expenditure on arms race. They also reasserted the support of their countries for the adoption of concrete measures aiming at military disengagement, the liquidation of military bases and the withdrawal of troops from foreign

territories.

The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania outlined the efforts made by Romania towards the relaxation of tension and promotion of detente in the European Continent.

The two Presidents expressed their satisfaction at the process of detente which is taking place in this continent and agreed that consolidation of peace and security in Europe would have a beneficial influence on world peace and security and would contribute to the promotion of fruitful international co-operation.

The two Presidents underlined the positive results of the Summit Conference of non-aligned countries held in Algiers in September 1973. They emphasized the important contribution which developing countries are making to the consolidation of international peace and the strengthening of cooperation amongst states as well as in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism.

The two Presidents agreed that the mutually advantageous political cooperation between India and the Socialist Republic of Romania should be further expanded and strengthened and that with this end in view, both Governments may hold regular consul-

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tations to exchange views on bilateral questions and international problems of common interest.

The two Presidents expressed their determinations to cooperate actively in international forums, the United Nations and its specialised agencies, as well as other international organisations.

The two Presidents agreed on the importance of exchange of visits at different levels between the two countries and noted with satisfaction that the visit to Romania by the President of the Republic of India and his delegation has further strengthened mutual understanding and cooperation bet-

ween India and Romania.

The President of the Republic of India conveyed his thanks for the warm hospitality shown to him and members of his party and extended a cordial invitation to the President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania and Madame Elena Ceausescu to visit India. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

OMAN ROMANIA USA INDIA PERU PAKISTAN MALI VIETNAM LAOS CHINA ALGERIA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on October 24, 1973, on the trade agreement which was signed between India and Romania in Bucharest on October 22, 1973:

An Indo-Romanian trade agreement for 1974 was signed in Bucharest on October 22. According to the protocol, India will export iron ore, ferro manganese, leather and processed hides, machine tools and manufactured goods, coffee and pepper. Romania will export fertilizers, steel and alloy steel, oil prospecting equipment, lubricating oil, machine tools, drugs and pharmaceutical products.

During their stay in Bucharest, the Indian delegation led by Shri A. S. Gill, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, was received by Mr. Nicolae Nicolae, Minister and Secretary of State in the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Trade. During the cordial discussions between the Indian and

Romanian delegations present trade relations between the two countries were assessed and prospects of its growth examined.

OMAN ROMANIA INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

SWITZERLAND

Agreements on Swiss Loan to India

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on October 9, 1973, on the agreements for two new Swiss loans to India amounting to about Rs. 22.5 crores concluded on the same day:

Agreements for two new Swiss loans to India of 90 million francs (approximately Rs. 22.5 crores at the current market rate of exchange) were concluded here today. One is a Development Loan of SF 35 million and the other is a Transfer Credit of SF 55 million.

The agreements were signed for India by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and on behalf of Switzerland by its Ambassador, Mr. Fritz Real.

The Development Loan of SF 35 million (approximately Rs. 8.75 crores) will be utilised to meet the foreign exchange requirements of Obra-Sultanpur-Lucknow 400 KV transmission scheme. The loan carries an interest of only 1 per cent and is to be repaid within 50 years with a 10-year grace period. This aid is untied and is to be utilised for the import of goods on the basis of global tenders.

The Transfer Credit of SF 55 million

(approximately Rs. 13.75 crores) is to

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finance the import of capital goods of Swiss origin. Ten per cent of the cost of total imports will be borne by the Government of India from out of its free foreign exchange resources while the balance of 90 per cent will be financed by the Swiss Government and a consortium of Swiss Banks, each providing SF 24.75 million (approximately Rs. 6.19 crores). So far as the Swiss Government's share in this loan is concerned, it will carry an interest of 1 per cent and is to be repaid within 18 years with an initial grace period of 12 years.

The agreements are expected to become effective after their ratification by the Swiss Parliament by June-July 1974.

BACKGROUNDER

The Government of Switzerland had extended two loans to India earlier - one in the value of Swiss Francs 140 million in three tranches extended in the years 1960-63. This loan carried an interest rate of 3.75 per cent above the official discount rate and was repayable over 10 years with an Initial grace period of 3 years. The entire amount was advanced by the Swiss Consortium of Banks. The second loan for S.Frs. 70 million extended in 1966 was jointly by the Swiss Confederation and the Swiss Consortium of Banks, both sharing equally. The interest rate in respect of Swiss Government contribution was 3 per cent per annum and repayment extended over a period of 15 years with a grace period of 5 years. The interest rate for the Bank portion was 3.75 per cent above the official discount rate and was repayable over ten years inclusive of a grace period of 5 years.

SWITZERLAND INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

TURKEY

President Giri's Greetings to Turkish President

Following is President Giri's message to Turkish President on 50th National Day Anniversary (press release issued in New Delhi on October 28, 1973):

It gives me great pleasure to send to Your Excellency and through you to the Government and people of Turkey warm felicitations and cordial greetings on the happy occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the National Day of your country. To these I add my good wishes for your Excellency's personal health and happiness and for the prosperity of the people of Turkey.

TURKEY

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement on Soviet Foodgrains Loan to India

The following press release on the agreement concerning Soviet foodgrains loan to India was issued in New Delhi on October 15, 1973:

Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, signed on the 12th October in Moscow on behalf of the Government of India an agreement with Mr. M. R. Kuzmin, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade, on behalf of the Soviet Union, in

terms of which the Soviet Union will supply to India two million tonnes of wheat on a

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basis of replacement over a period of seven years.

The agreement follows a round of discussions held this week in Moscow to give effect to the Soviet offer made by Party General Secretary Brezhnev to the Prime Minister of India of a loan of two million tonnes of foodgrains which the Government of India accepted with appreciation.

At the signing ceremony, which took place in the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade, Shri Dhar reiterated the appreciation of the Government and people of India not only for the offer of foodgrains but also for the manner in which it was being implemented.

Deliveries of wheat to India have in fact already commenced. Both Shri Dhar and Mr. Kuzmin emphasised that the agreement was fully in keeping with the traditional friendship between the two countries and would serve to take a step further the expanding trade and economic relations between them.

INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Exchange of TV and Radio Programmes

The following press release on the Protocol on exchange of television and radio programme between India and the USSR was released in New Delhi on October 23,

1973:

A Protocol on cooperation in the sphere of television and radio between the Government of India and the USSR Council of Ministers, State Committee for Television and Broadcasting was signed here today by Shri Dharam Bir Sinha, Union Deputy Minister of Information and Broadcasting on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Mamedov Enver Nazimovich on behalf of the USSR.

Under the Protocol, which will remain in force for a period of two years, the two countries will exchange television and radio programmes concerning social, economic, cultural, athletic, popular science and literary subjects. In addition, educational programmes for children, youth and adults, musical programmes, concerts, full text of scenarios of plays will also be made available by both the countries. The two countries have also agreed to exchange professional personnel on short-term assignments to prepare features, jointly shoot films and share knowhow.

At the end of the signing of the Protocol, Shri Dharam Bir Sinha observed that this agreement would further strengthen the cultural and friendly relations between the two countries. Similar views were expressed by Mr. Nazimovich.

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INDIA USA

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Date : Nov 01, 1973

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1995

AFGHANISTAN

Joint Statement on Sardar Swaran Singh's Visit

Following is the text of the joint statement issued at the end of Shri Swaran Singh's visit to Afghanistan:

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, Shri Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India paid an official visit to the Republic of Afghanistan from October 29 to November 1, 1973. Shri Swaran Singh was received by President Mohd. Daoud and called on Mr. Mohd. Naim and Dr. Mohd. Hassan Sharq, the Deputy Prime Minister. He also held discussions with other leaders of the Afghan Government. Participating in these talks from the Afghan side were Mr. Waheed Abdullah, the Deputy Foreign Minister and the Ambassador-designate to India Mr. Abdul Rahman Pazhwak; and from the Indian side, the Ambassador of India Shri K. L. Mehta, Shri M. A. Rahman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Shri K. Srinivasan, Director,

Economic Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs. These talks were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere reflecting the close and historic ties between India and Afghanistan and the mutual desire for strengthening cooperation in all fields for the benefit of the peoples of both countries.

The two sides reviewed current Indo-Afghan cooperation programmes in the economic, technical, cultural and other fields. Proposals for further cooperation in these fields were also discussed and measures to be taken to implement them were agreed upon.

The two sides exchanged views on important international issues and in particular developments in the region. They expressed their satisfaction at the ceasefire in West Asia and hoped for its earliest stabilisation. Due to the urgency of the restoration of peace in this area, they reiterated their view that the vacation of territory occupied by Israeli aggression must be implemented without delay in accordance with U.N. resolution 242 of 1967 and the rights of the Palestinians restored in order to ensure a just and durable peace in the region.

Both sides agreed to continue close contacts at all levels between the leaders and officials of the two countries in order to develop their cooperation in all fields and for exchanging views of matters affecting the peace and stability of the area. The Afghan leaders thanked the Indian Foreign Minister whose visit had made a significant contribution to strengthening Indo-Afghan relations.

On behalf of the President and the Prime Minister of India, Shri Swaran Singh conveyed a cordial Invitation to President Mohd. Daoud to pay a visit to India. President, Mohd. Daoud accepted the invitation with pleasure.

Shri Swaran Singh expressed his gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan for the warm hospitality extended to him and to the members of his delegation during his visit.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol

The following press release on the trade protocol for 1974 between India and Bulgaria was issued in New Delhi on November 15, 1973:

A Trade Protocol for 1974 envisaging trade turnover of Rs. 74 crores between India and Bulgaria has been signed here today.

The Protocol was signed by Km. Roma Mazumdar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and H.E. Mr. Vladimir Grancharov, Bulgarian Dy. Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of their respective Governments.

Besides exports of traditional commodities like jute manufactures, deoiled cakes, iron ore, tea, coffee, etc. from India to Bulgaria, there are a number of engineering and non-traditional items including consumer goods such as leather footwear and leather goods, aluminium cables, steel ropes, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, sports-goods, etc. in the Trade Protocol.

Principal items of import from Bulgaria to India during 1974 will be fertilisers, rolled steel and steel products, organic and inorganic chemicals, pharmaceutical products, drugs, and certain engineering goods.

The Bulgarian Delegation had also exchanged views with the Indian Delegation on matters relating to expansion and diversification of trade between the two countries.

BULGARIA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on November 30, 1973, on the Indo-Bulgarian joint commission set up through the exchange of letters in Sofia on November 29, 1973:

A Joint commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between India and, Bulgaria was set up by exchange of letters in Sofia on November 29. The commission Will consist of representatives at the minister level nominated by the two Governments and will meet once a year alternatively in the capitals of the two countries.

The commission's tasks will include a review of programmes of economic and trade cooperation, Joint studies of developmental Programmes of the two economies to explore forms of cooperation, formulation of specific programmes for reinforcing mutual economic growth and expansion of mutual trade.

In the field of scientific and technical cooperation, the commission will consider plans for exchange of scientists and specialists, technical information, arrange scientific and technical seminars, Identify joint research Programmes and generally promote

scientific and technical cooperation.

The letters were signed by the Bulgarian Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nenko Chendov, and the Indian Ambassador, Shri Poonen Lukose. Stressing the importance of the occasion, the Bulgarian Government arranged the signing ceremony so as to coincide with the inauguration of their newly commissioned Treaties Room in the Foreign Ministry.

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BULGARIA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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1995

CANADA

Statement on Indo-Canadian Economic Consultation

The following statement was issued in New Delhi on November 9, 1973, on the conclusion of the Indo-Canadian economic consultation held from November 5, to 9, 1973:

In pursuance of the decision of the Prime Ministers of Canada and India to initiate a review and renewal of bilateral relations between the two countries in economic, cultural, scientific, technical and commercial exchanges, senior officials of the two Governments held a detailed and fruitful consultation from November 5 to 9, 1973. The Canadian Delegation was led by Mr. R. E. Collins, Assistant Under Secretary of State, Department of External Affairs and included Mr. Jacques Gerin, Vice-President, Canadian International Development Agency and Mr. C. T. Charland, Assistant Deputy Minister (Export Development), Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. The Indian

Delegation was led by Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary (Economic Division), Ministry of External Affairs and included among others Shri S. Krishnaswamy and Shri K. S. Narang, Joint Secretaries.

During their stay in Delhi the Leader and senior members of the Canadian Delegation called on the Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh and on Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning. They also discussed the aims and approach of India's Fifth Five Year Plan with Professor S. Chakravarty, Member, Planning Commission. They also held discussions with the Commerce Secretary, Shri Y. T. Shah and Economic Affairs Secretary, Shri M. G. Kaul.

The detailed talks covered the fields of Canadian development assistance to India, trade between the two countries, joint ventures in India, Canada and third countries, food, civil aviation and tourism, cultural relations and cooperation in the fields of science and technology. The discussions were full and friendly and led to a still better understanding of the respective points of view. These will help in the identification of new areas of trade and economic relations between the two countries.

The First Plenary Session of the consultation was inaugurated by the Foreign Secretary, Shri Kewal Singh. He paid a tribute to Canada for generosity of its aid which had been given with the fullest understanding of Indian problems. In this context, he pointed out that self-reliance does not mean exclusion of cooperation and assistance from friendly countries. Mr. Collins, Assistant Under Secretary of State, stated that Canada would continue to offer assistance to India in her strides towards development of domestic capabilities and alleviation of poverty. Both the Foreign Secretary and the Assistant Under Secretary of State underlined the importance of increasing trade between the two countries and expressed the hope that trade will continue to grow and will ultimately replace aid.

The final preliminary session took place in a very cordial atmosphere at 3.30 p.m.

on November 9, 1973 in the Conference Room of the Department of Economic Affairs.

The present consultation has proved very useful. It was agreed that the two Governments would remain in touch with each other to ensure appropriate follow-up action. They would also consider further consultation when necessary and appropriate.

CANADA USA INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Canadian Loan to India

The following press release on a new Canadian loan to India of C \$ 10 million (Rs. 7 crores) was issued in New Delhi on November 27, 1973:

An agreement for a Canadian loan of C \$ 10 million (Rs. 7 crores) was signed here today. The loan is meant to finance the import of potash from Canada during 1973-74 including, for the first time, its freight costs.

An amount of C\$ 7 million is already available for the import of potash under an

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agreement signed last July for a loan of C\$ 50 million. With the new loan agreement signed today, the total assistance from Canada so far for the purchase of fertilisers works out to C\$ 112 million (approximately Rs. 78 crores).

The agreement for the new loan was signed on behalf of India by Shri M. G. Kaul,

Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs,
Ministry of Finance, and for Canada by its
High Commissioner, Mr. Bruce M. Williams.

The loan is on the usual soft terms applicable to Canadian assistance; it is repayable in 50 years with a grace period of 10 years and carries no interest, commitment or service charges.

CANADA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

COLOMBO PLAN

India's Contribution in Training Awards Under Colombo Plan

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on November 19, 1973, on the leading position of India among the regional donors of training awards under the Colombo Plan:

With the provision of 414 training and student places under Colombo Plan for 1972, India was the leading regional donor, its contribution representing 60 per cent of the regional total.

Included in the Indian awards were 192 training and student places to Nepal and 39 each to Malaysia and Philippines. These training places were provided mainly in the fields of education (88), industry and commerce (88), agriculture (63), works and communications (54) and health (42).

These facts are contained in the annual Report of the Colombo Plan Council for Technical Co-operation in South and in South-East Asia (1972/73), released today.

During the year, India received from other member countries of the Plan, 302 training and student places, 54 Colombo Plan experts and \$ 1,285,100 worth of equipment. The main fields of training were agriculture (92), works and communications (44), industry and commerce (36) and public administration (32). The largest number of trainees and students went to Britain (150), Australia (63), Japan (51), Korea (16) and New Zealand (11).

Of the 54 Colombo Plan experts that came to India during 1972, 20 were from Japan, 16 from Britain, 10 from United States and 5 from Australia, mainly in the fields of agriculture (26), education (10) and health (9).

Of the total of \$ 9,407,900 provided during 1972 as technical assistance to India, United States' contribution was \$4,519,000, Britain's \$ 2,876,000, Japan's \$ 935,500, Canada's \$ 715,900, Australia's \$ 319,000 and New Zealand's \$ 39,500.

Out of 7,340 training and student places provided within that region since the inception of the Plan, 5,305 awards were given by India: the largest being secured by Nepal (2,599) followed by Sri Lanka (576), Malaysia (483), Thailand (402) and Philippines (370).

The annual report of the Colombo Plan Council has stressed the technical assistance will be needed in even greater measure during the current decade if developing countries in the region are to reach the threshold of self-sustained growth. The report will be considered by the 23rd Consultative Committee Meeting of the Colombo Plan to be held in Wellington, New Zealand from November 26 to December 6, 1973.

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SRI LANKA INDIA NEPAL MALAYSIA PHILIPPINES USA AUSTRALIA JAPAN KOREA NEW ZEALAND CANADA THAILAND

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Joint Indo-FRG Statement

The following joint statement was issued in New Delhi on November 18, 1973 at the end of the official visit of Dr. Erhard Eppler, Minister for Economic Cooperation, Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

Dr. Erhard Eppler, Minister for Economic Cooperation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, visited India from November 11 to November 19, 1973 at the invitation of the Indian Government. During his stay, Dr. Eppler was received by the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri, and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Dr. Eppler had meetings with the Minister of Finance, Shri Y. B. Chavan, the Minister of Industrial Development, Science and Technology, Shri C. Subramaniam, and the Minister of Planning, Shri D. P. Dhar.

During the meetings, questions of Indo-German economic cooperation were discussed. Dr. Eppler expressed his great interest in India's preparations for the fifth Five Year Plan and particularly in the role of development assistance; he indicated his Government's appreciation for the priorities laid down in the Plan, in the fields of agriculture, energy, public transportation and important agricultural inputs, such as irrigation facilities, fertilisers and pesticides. With regard to future German assistance policy, Dr. Eppler emphasised that the Federal Republic of Germany was eager to find the most adequate means for meeting the needs of her partner countries and making her instruments as flexible as possible. German credits to India had already been untied completely this year. He further suggested that a new

approach could be considered by financing - fully or partly - development programmes of the Indian Government over several years apart from the present concept of Project Aid. Dr. Eppler expressed that a rural development programme would be particularly suitable for this purpose. He indicated that under the new scheme of programme financing, equipment and services of experts could be procured for the agreed programme from any country in the world; local costs might also be covered.

Both sides informed each other about their ideas on developing and transferring technical know-how, and on establishing special research institutes for this purpose. They expressed their willingness to cooperate in this field and to exchange the results of their research.

Besides questions of development, Dr. Eppler also discussed bilateral trade between the two countries and German investments in India. Both sides stated that it was their common goal to increase India's exports to the Federal Republic of Germany, as there was considerable scope for expansion. It was stated that the bilateral export promotion Project was expected to be successful in diversifying and promoting India's exports, thereby helping in the reduction of the trade gap and that the Generalised Scheme of Preferences, introduced by the European Community on July 1, 1971, was also a step for increasing India's exports to the member countries.

With regard to future German investments, the Indian side referred to the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973. The new Act was primarily meant to correct the lacunae which had come to notice in the previous Act in respect of foreign exchange transactions. It also provided that foreign branches operating in India and Indian companies with more than 40 per cent foreign holdings, will require approval for carrying on business activities in India. The Indian side also drew Dr. Eppler's attention to the new steps taken to streamline industrial approval procedures by setting time targets. On his part, Dr. Eppler pointed out that there was an increasing readiness in the German business

community for investing abroad. In this context both sides agreed that the Indian Investment Centre, in cooperation with the German Association for Economic Cooperation, should bring out a comprehensive publication clearly setting out the procedures and policies of the Government of India to-

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wards foreign investment and the investment opportunities available for German investors.

While in India, Dr. Eppler travelled extensively in the States of Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Orissa. He had meetings with the Chief Ministers and other Ministers of the first three States. In the course of his travels he visited the Indo-German Agricultural Projects in Mandi and Kangra (Himachal Pradesh), the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority and the Rourkela Steel Plant, which has been built with German economic cooperation. At the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, which is an outstanding example of Indo-German technical collaboration, the Minister of Science and Technology, Shri C. Subramaniam and Dr. Eppler inaugurated the new Computer Centre.

The meetings and talks during Dr. Eppler's stay in India were characterised by the traditional spirit of friendship between India and the Federal Republic of Germany. New ways and approaches for achieving an even closer cooperation in trade, technology and development were discussed and mutually agreed.

GERMANY INDIA USA LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

FOREIGN AID

Foreign Aid Agreements Signed by India

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi On November 25, 1973 on the foreign aid agreements signed by India during the first half of current financial year:

Foreign aid for which agreements were signed by India in the first six months of the current financial year amounted to Rs. 582.92 crores (\$ 800.71 million).

The assistance included Rs. 332.20 crores as project aid, Rs. 173.27 crores as non-Project aid, Rs. 52.79 crores as debt relief and Rs. 24.65 crores as grant-in-aid.

With \$ 434 million, IDA's Contribution was the largest, followed by IBRD which gave \$ 70 million.

Details of the aid agreements signed are as follows:

Name of the Country Institution	Project Project	Non- Relief	Debt in-	Grant- aid
1. Canada	-	53.97	0.86	16.20
2. France	-	-	9.43	-
3. West Germany	27.94	24.84	43.48	-
4. Italy	-	-	18.75	-
5. Netherlands	24.38	10.50	-	-
6. Sweden	14.55	-	17.66	-
7. U.K.	34.15	-	-	-
8. IBRD	70.00	-	-	-
9. IDA	334.00	100.00	-	-
Total US \$ m	456.32	238.01	72.52	33.86
Rs. crores	332.20	173.27	52.79	24.65

INDIA CANADA FRANCE GERMANY ITALY SWEDEN UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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GUINEA

Visit of Delegation from Guinea

The following Press Note on the visit of a delegation from the Republic of Guinea was issued in New Delhi On November 22, 1973:

A delegation from the Republic of Guinea led by His Excellency Mr. Mohd. Lamine Toure, Minister of Mines and Geology, and His Excellency Mr. Mamady Lamine Conde, Ambassador-designate to India and Ambassador of Guinea to Japan and Indonesia, and Mr. Al Haj Mamadou Saliou Sylla, Joint Director-General of the Guinean Bank

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of Foreign Trade, paid a goodwill visit to India from November 15 to 21, 1973.

During their stay in India the delegation called on Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and conveyed good wishes and greetings from President Ahmed Sekou Toure to the Prime Minister. The delegation also called on the Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh.

The delegation held discussions with the Indian Minister of Steel & Mines, Shri T. A. Pai, and the Minister of Commerce, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya. In the course of the discussions, the Minister of Mines and Geology, H.E. Mr. Mohd. Lamine Toure, indicated that there was wide scope for bilateral collaboration between India and Guinea in the field of exploitation of minerals and the establishment of industries, particularly in the small scale industries field with the raw material available in Guinea. The Indian Minister of Steel & Mines and the Indian Minister of Commerce responded by saying that India was willing to share her experience in economic development with Guinea with which India had very friendly relations.

The Guinean delegation invited Indian experts delegation to visit Guinea in pursuance of this objective.

The delegation from the Republic of Guinea during the course of their stay in India visited a number of small scale industries and also inspected housing and urban development projects in the Delhi Development Authority, in addition to visiting places of historical and cultural interests. His Excellency the Minister of Mines and Geology expressed on behalf of the delegation the satisfaction at the opportunities given to the delegation for friendly discussions and thanked the Government of India for the hospitality extended to them.

GUINEA INDIA JAPAN USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Greetings from Minister of External Affairs

According to a press release issued in New Delhi on November 16, 1973, the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, sent the following message of greetings to the Minister of External Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic on the occasion of 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries:

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Hungary I have great pleasure in sending my greetings and good wishes to Your Excellency and through you to the Government and people of Hungary. It is with satisfaction that we note the development of close and friendly cooperation and

understanding between our two countries in all fields of mutual interest. On important international questions, both our countries have a broad identity of views. In particular, we in India have appreciated the principled support extended by Hungary to our efforts to achieve just and durable peace in the Indian sub-continent.

I have no doubt that the strong bonds of friendship and understanding which have existed between us and which have been tested by time will be further strengthened in the future to our mutual advantage as well as in the interest of international peace and progress.

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HUNGARY INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Vice President Shri Pathak's Address at Conference on Population Growth and Human Development

Following is the inaugural address by the Vice President, Shri G. S. Pathak, at the Conference on Population Growth and Human Development at New Delhi on November 19, 1973:

I am glad to be present here today to inaugurate this Conference on Population Growth and Human Development, which has been organised by the Indian Social Institute in association with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and International Educational Development. I thank the Director of the Indian Social Institute for this opportunity. It is a matter for special gratification that this Conference has brought

together delegates from South Asian countries and representatives of international organisations such as UNESCO, FAO and UNICEF. I am confident that during this Conference the participants will be able to clarify their ideas on the many and complex issues of the population problem; to share and pool together their rich and varied experiences; to formulate action programmes that will be realistic, purposive and more acceptable to the people; and finally through collective reflection and study of the basic themes of world population, to continue the international effort to understand more deeply and, if possible, to solve the problems posed by population growth. I offer my warm greetings to the delegates from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka as well as to the representatives of international organisations here present, and I congratulate the Indian Social Institute and its Director, Fr. Anthony D'Souza, for making it possible to hold this important Conference in Delhi.

It is common knowledge that the rapid growth of population throughout the world has become the focus of international concern. The increase of population has been registered more dramatically in the developing countries of Asia and, despite wide divergence in approaches to the ethical issues raised by population growth and in the interpretation of such factual information as is available, there is a growing consensus that population is one of the major problems facing mankind today. As you are aware, in most of the developing countries of Asia, population is growing at an annual rate of approximately 2.5 per cent which implies that there will be a doubling of population in these countries in the next 27 years. The reason for this increase in the population of the developing countries of Asia is well-known, namely, the sharp decline in mortality rates through the application of technology in the entire field of medicine and public health, while birth rates, though they have also shown some decline continue to be maintained at relatively high levels. In India, for instance, the mortality rate declined from 43 in 1901 to 14 in 1971 and the birth rate from 50 in 1901 to 39 in 1971. It has been estimated that if there is no further decline

in the birth rate, our population will exceed one billion in the year 2001.

I would recommend that this Conference, which is focussed on the theme of "Population Growth and Human Development" should seek to understand and analyse population issues in a three-fold perspective: First, we must seek and find human solutions to the population problems which are essentially the problems of ordinary men and women who have their own private histories and recognizable identity as members of a family group and are situated in a particular cultural environment. While planning to solve the population problems it is necessary to remember that we are not dealing with things but with men and women, and we must never forget this crucial fact even though we may be tempted to do so when population data are presented as impersonal statistics. Preservation of the human dimension of population programmes has been the central objective of the Government of India which has always insisted that the cooperation of the people and their decision regarding family limitation should always be on a voluntary basis.

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Second, no population policy can be effectively formulated and implemented in isolation but always as an Integral part of the total socioeconomic development strategy of the country. Indeed, social growth and economic growth are so Interlaced that they cannot be dissociated from each other. In most of the developing countries, population programmes have been linked to programmes of economic development; but perhaps, not infrequently, there has been a failure to perceive the more complex and deeper inter-relationships between social and economic factors and demographic variables.

Third, this Conference, which has been organised by a voluntary organisation with assistance from the United Nations and other international organisations, is a sign of the increasing realisation that population problems cannot be solved except through international cooperation. There has already been considerable international cooperation in the

field of family planning; but the tendency so far has been to think of population assistance in a rather restricted fashion. The problem of population has to be considered in the much broader perspective of social and economic development and, hence, assistance which is given must not be restricted to the narrow field of family planning but must have a much larger scope - trade, transfer of technology, growth of industrialisation - so that the countries of Asia will be assisted to create more educational, social, economic, employment and political opportunities for the human growth and development.

A basic concern of the developing countries of Asia is to bring about a decline in fertility rates. To achieve this objective, governments and voluntary organisations have collaborated in various action programmes designed to promote the kind of "social atmosphere" that is required for responsible decision-making in voluntary family limitation. If couples, particularly in the underprivileged strata of the rural population, are to achieve the small family norm, it will be necessary to raise their standard of living and nutritional levels as well as to bring about socio-cultural changes that are necessary. Indeed, the basic thrust of the Five Year Plans has been socio-economic development with social justice, so that with the emergence of a socialistic pattern of society, there might be greater equalisation of educational and employment opportunities and a more equitable distribution of Income. These social objectives of planning in India, which have been well-summarised in the Fourth Five Year Plan are "to raise the standard of living... especially of the less privileged sections of society. Our planning should result not only in an integrated process of increased production but in rational distribution of added wealth. The over-riding inspiration must be a burning sense of social justice... The benefits of development should accrue in increasing measures to the common man and to the weaker sections of society by reducing disparities of income and wealth."

It is an acknowledged fact that the experience of most of the developing countries

of Asia with respect to the socio-cultural changes which are thought to be conducive to the small family norm has not been encouraging. This is perhaps because the small family norm appeared to be imposed from the top and so was not perceived by the common people, who are often illiterate and influenced by the customs of the traditional forms of social Organisation, as beneficial to social and economic survival. The interaction between social, economic and demographic variables is of such a complex nature that simplistic generalisations regarding the impact of population on economic development have to be avoided. However, it does appear that in the short run high population growth rates tend to retard social and economic development because they alter the age structure of the population, place a very heavy burden on education, employment, health services, food and natural resources, and prevent the raising of what may be called the "quality of life".

I am particularly appreciative of what the Family Life Centre of the Indian Social Institute is doing. In the pursuance of its broad objectives of promoting happiness in marriage and family life and training parents, teachers, social workers and youth leaders to understand and guide young people, the Centre has been conducting several courses in family life education in schools and colleges, organising seminars and offering variety of counselling services. If, as I have suggested earlier, the population problems are viewed in a broad socio-economic perspective, then it is necessary that the efforts by Government in population control must be supplemented by voluntary organisations which have a very important role to play

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in the implementation of the population policy of the country. The dissemination of accurate information on the changing patterns of family organisation, the changing status of women, the raising of age at marriage, and the opening of employment opportunities for women outside the home, is needed in order to create a greater understanding of the implications of the changing socio-cultural norms. Programmes of this kind,

I am sure, will inevitably create a greater awareness of the relationship between the happy family life and the small family norm.

Before concluding I would like to emphasise again that we are concerned not only with economic development but also, basically, with human growth and development. In the developing countries we have the situation in which high population growth has not brought about an increase in respect for human life but rather an indifference to human dignity and a tolerance of sub-human standards of life. An important task to which all of us will have to apply our minds, is to find ways by which we can rediscover the great legacy of Mahatma Gandhi to the world - a belief in the wisdom of the common man and an abiding reverence for the human dignity and personal worth of the individual.

Through social education, public opinion and legislation, we can, no doubt, remedy the problems of excessive population. Experience in several countries, however, has shown that legislation is no substitute for the motivation which the individual derives from his own social and economic situation. I would in fact go so far as to suggest that the motivation for population control must come from the people themselves. I have no doubt that this Conference will make an important contribution to the drafting of the World Population Policy Action by emphasising that the policy statement should take into consideration the diversity of cultural traditions and socio-economic norms prevailing in the developing countries of Asia. I have now great pleasure in inaugurating this international Conference on Population Growth and Human Development.

INDIA AFGHANISTAN BANGLADESH SRI LANKA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed's Address at FAO Conference

Following is the text of the address by Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Union Minister of Agriculture and leader of Indian delegation, delivered at the seventeenth general conference of FAO, which began on November 10, 1973 in Rome:

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

First of all, may I congratulate you on Your election as Chairman of this Session? I am glad to have once again the opportunity of attending the FAO Conference. When we met last in 1971 in the full glow of optimism generated by the upward trend of production, particularly in the developing countries, thanks largely to new high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice, there was an atmosphere of easiness. Since then there has been severe setbacks on account of repeated and widespread drought. Critical shortages in respect of chemical input compounded the effect of the drought and delayed recovery even when the spell of drought was broken. This period also made evident serious deficiency in the international management of food production and the disastrous consequences of an almost total absence of international food aid programmes. Food surpluses have disappeared and there is now all around scarcity. International prices have risen to levels not witnessed before. Frequent currency changes and inflation have exercised a disruptive influence on trade, especially of the developing countries because their capacity to finance the expansion of their production has been impaired. While individual countries have been struggling to deal with their respective food situation, the FAO on its part, has to identify the main problem and find solutions. Indeed the Conference session has to grapple with a challenging situation so that mankind is not brought to the verge of disaster in the matter of food supply. In this context I consider the present

Conference to be of special significance.

The experience of India in regard to food production in recent years has been

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similar to that of many other countries which have gone for more irrigation and for the high-yielding varieties programmes. We had an upsurge in food production almost for five years up to 1971. Our wheat production in this period more than double to the level exceeding 26 million tonnes. Rice and some millets also registered very substantial growth. When we were hoping that we would no longer have to import food, we were severely affected by partial failure of rain in 1971 followed by a widespread failure in 1972. As three-fourth of our cropped areas is rainfed the widespread failure of 80 percent of annual rainfall during the major crop season, May to October, produced several adverse repercussions. In several of the dry farming regions, crop loss was practically total. In irrigated areas services by tubewells hydro-electric power supply having greatly diminished, there was difficulty in utilising the full waterpotential. Fertilizer production too was affected by power shortage. Consequently, foodgrain output suffered a severe setback. The global trend of rising prices also had its impact on price levels in my country. We have thus just passed through a period of great stress and strain on our economy. I am equally concerned that many other developing countries, particularly those in Sahelian Zone of Africa and Ethiopia also underwent a similar gruelling experience. We extend to them our appreciation and compliments in dealing with the situation in a calm and courageous manner.

In our view the events of the last year have several important lessons for future international action. We greatly appreciate the constant vigilance exercised by the Director-General of FAO, Dr. A. H. Boerma, and the initiative taken by him in awakening the consciousness and attention of member countries to the impending world food crisis and in suggesting a food security programme based on a cooperative and

mutually complementary undertaking to maintain minimum levels of stock, globally, as also countrywise. Based on our own experience in India, I might mention that the buffer stock built up over the past few years has enabled us to substantially absorb the shock of 1972. To the extent we had our own buffer stocks which we could use we did not enter the world market as large buyers thereby contributing in our own way to a reduction in the pressure on the world supplies. We therefore strongly support Dr. Boerma's proposal for world food security and suggest that if it is to be implemented effectively the advisory and consultative role of the FAO should be supplemented by an appropriate action programme. For an immediate action it is important that developing countries are assisted in acquiring and maintaining the minimum levels of stocks which would provide the necessary stability in their food economy.

While an international minimum food security programme and steps to facilitate supply of foodgrains from surplus countries to the needy once are all important, the more urgent task is to help developing countries to build up their agricultural capability in a manner that the adverse effects of aberrant weather can be minimised. A significant step in this direction would be not only to increase the irrigated areas but also to optimise production in the available irrigated areas which offer scope for fuller application of modern technology. To meet the shortfall in food output in rainfed areas due to failure of rains, production in the irrigated areas can be stepped up provided adequate supplies of fertilizers are available and their application significantly increased on irrigated lands. This would be possible only if developing countries are enabled to set up fertilizer plants and to produce much larger quantities of fertilizers.

A short term step which could and should be taken is the setting up of an international fertilizer buffer, particularly for nitrogenous fertilizers, operated by FAO with funding from the World Bank Group. This would be of great benefit to the developing countries particularly in the tropics

and subtropics. On an average the response to 1 kg. of nitrogen is about 10 kgs of grains and in a way the operation of fertilizer buffer would reduce the quantity of food-grains that may have to be held in stock.

I would like to take this opportunity to indicate some of the other important measures we are taking in India to increase food output and particularly to reduce instability in production. Irrigation programme supplemented by high-yielding varieties programme have already helped to improve the

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cropping pattern and Increase the cropping intensity in a number of states. The integrated area development approach and not a project-based approach, has been adopted not only for all round agricultural development, which go hand-in-hand in the command areas of major irrigation system as also in the clusters of minor irrigation facilities; the semi-arid areas are being subjected to the same approach for finding solutions of their soil and water management and utilisation questions, and the evolution of subsidiary but agro-based activities for increasing employment and incomes.

We are also trying to identify in each agro-ecological area the reasons for instability in production and develop methods by which the instability could be minimised. For example, in the part of India from where I come, namely, Assam, floods cause lot of damage to crops between May and September. From October to April the season is favourable for crop growth and there is no risk of crop loss by floods. However, due to lack of irrigation facilities, usually, no crop is taken during these risk-free months. There are opportunities for ground water exploitation and for lift irrigation in these areas. We have therefore initiated efforts to get the cropping system re-patterned in these areas by creating facilities for providing water during the winter months. Similarly, in drought prone areas, we are trying to evolve and propagate appropriate dry farming techniques. Steps are also proposed to be taken to develop animal husbandry which has large scope in these areas. Alter-

native cropping pattern are being developed to suit different weather models. Fortunately quick maturing varieties of crop like millets, sorghum, some pulses and oilseeds like sun flower, are now available. In this connection I would like to convey my appreciation to the FAO in taking the Initiative along with the UNDP and the World Bank, in starting an International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics in Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh. I am confident that the results from this Institute as well as from our own extensive research Programmes on dry land farming would help us to develop the Drought Code which would provide alternative agricultural packages for adoption under different climate conditions. I am of the view that FAO can play an important role in stabilising agricultural output in the developing countries. It can assist the preparation of crop-weather models suitably for use in crop planning. It can also help in developing a wheat disease warning system all over the Middle and Near East and South East Asia because due to changes in the races of wheat rusts, wheat varieties of region are getting susceptible. I appeal for the highest priority to be accorded in eliminating possible dangers to the wheat crop from disease epidemics, since this is a crop which has become a buffer against the adverse consequences of a fall in the production of crops like sorghum and rice.

Another field which requires concerted attention is that of power supply for agriculture. Our recent experience shows that power supply based on hydroelectricity suffers a setback whenever rains fail. Therefore it is becoming necessary to plan on the establishment of a large number of thermal power plants in areas with a good agricultural growth potential. To feed such power plants, quick yielding fuel trees could be raised. FAO can play valuable role by helping the breeding of quick-yielding fuel trees and the organisation of power generation on the basis of energy farming principles to support agricultural needs. This will be an approach based on the recycling procedure.

Mr. Chairman, I need hardly remind you that unlike rich nations in the agriculture of

the poor world, the average farm size is going down, the number of farmers per unit area is going up, productivity is not increasing at a level sufficient to make a marked impact on the standards of living of peasants and there is not that intimate relationship between agriculture and industry. What we need now is a pattern of agricultural growth, where productivity can be continuously improved without any harm to the longterm production potential of the soil, largely on the basis of the use of renewable resources of energy. This need attention of FAO.

The Government of India consider that the proposal for International Agricultural Adjustment put forward by the Director-General is opportune. We strongly support the guidelines indicated by the Director-General for adoption by the developed countries. We expect that the requisite will be forthcoming from these countries. In relation to Agricultural adjustment for developing countries, the FAO's document on the

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subject has rightly states that the central task is to develop and modernise agriculture and accelerate the rate of growth of agricultural output in these countries. Mr. Chairman, you know very well that the growth of developing countries is today way below the targets set for the second Development Decade. It is disappointing that the aggregate net transfer of resources to developing countries continues to be stagnant. According to the latest information, it has marked a decline in real terms. On the other hand, in developing countries due to rise in prices the requirements of funds for development have gone up. Slow rates of growth in the developing countries despite their best efforts should be matter of concern for the United Nations Organisation and its Specialised Agencies.

The nature of the problem of food security for the over-populated countries is really a part of the much larger problem of poverty and under-development. Recently, Mr. McNamara, President of the World Bank, has clearly indicated the extent of poverty prevailing among the poor nations and its

implications in terms of malnutrition, impeded living and illiteracy. We welcome the new orientation that the World Bank has recently given to its strategy and policies in assisting developing countries to attack the problem of absolute poverty. In my own country also major initiatives have been taken to raise productive potential of the small farmers and to enable the weaker sections of the rural population to participate in the benefits of economic growth. A number of special programmes such as those of Small Farmers Development Agencies, Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers' Agencies, Development of Drought Prone Areas and Rural Employment have been taken up in this regard. In the Fifth Five Year Plan which will commence in April 1974, we propose not only to reorient and accelerate the implementation of the programmes for depressed poorer sections of the society and for backward areas but also to make distinct operational improvements.

Mr. Chairman, I have touched upon some of the global issues having bearing on the long-term perspective of development. These require attention here and now. Even though the alarming situation that we faced during the past one year is fortunately easing because of the good crops in sight over large parts of the World, there is no room for complacency. In my own country, we are at present harvesting bumper crops of rice and millets. The cotton, jute and sugarcane crops have also fared well. We hope this would considerably help in improving the supply situation but our efforts to increase and stabilise production are still as intense as ever.

I would prefer not to go into the details of the programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium. In my opinion, the Programme and the Finance Committees, and the 61st Council have done a good job, and their conclusions should have the support of the Conference. It is unfortunate that along with other international organisations, and most countries, the FAO is, quite naturally a victim of inflation and instability of currency exchange rates. I compliment the Director-General on having been able to

make the Organisation survive without substantial cut back in the real Programme content. The inability of the FAO to play its role more effectively, in removing hunger from the world, due to paucity of funds or factors such as general inflation and currency upsets, is however, a great tragedy and should be a matter of serious concern.

Before concluding I might reiterate that the peace and happiness of mankind are indivisible. Backminister Fuller appropriately compared our earth to a space ship. The space ship is unfortunately divided into two compartments and those living in the first class compartment are consuming a disproportionate part of the available resources of food and energy. For the vast majority squeezed in the small second class compartment, life is becoming increasingly miserable and hard. I would therefore make an earnest appeal to those occupying the first class compartment to take note of the growing suffering of their less fortunate passengers and come forward in a big way by helping in the setting up of fertilizer and power plants and in developing water resources in the poor countries. This they would be well advised to do in their own self-interest since it is obvious that if the compartment of the poor collapses due to excessive pressure, the whole space ship will crash.

Thank you.

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INDIA ITALY USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement at Security Council on Situation in West Asia

Following is the text of the statement by Shri Samar Sen, Permanent Representative of India at the Security Council on the situation in West Asia, on November 2, 1973:

Mr. President, I did not particularly wish to speak tonight because, as I have said before and say now, the greatest need is to take action. However, since most of the members of the Council have spoken, and since we have taken a decision, I think we can relax and perhaps make a few comments.

My first comment, of course, is to offer you, Mr. President, our congratulations and our good wishes for your Presidency during the month of November.

Secondly, I should like also to offer our thanks and appreciation to Sir Laurence McIntyre for his tireless devotion to our work last month.

My third comment would be one of apology. I apologize most sincerely to all members of the Council, to all members of the various delegations represented around this table and many others besides, to the public and to the press, for the incredible hardships and difficulties we have imposed on them. Sometimes without food, without drink, without sleep, we have worked, but I should like to think that all this has been worth while. But in trying to achieve the kind of decision we adopted today, our main purpose was not to worry about comforts, not to worry about compliments and apologies, but to strengthen the hands of the Secretary-General to establish a Force which could easily be sent to the Middle East for the task we have already entrusted to him by our resolutions 340 (1973), 339 (1973) and 338 (1973).

We all realize that this is the second phase of our task. Our greatest ambition, if you want to put it that way, is not only that peace should prevail in the Middle East but that it should be brought about on principles of justice and equity, on principles of

fair play and practical sense, on principles of the equality of the nations in the area. We hope that this particular measure that we have adopted today will help attain all these various objectives.

As far as the geographical distribution of the Force is concerned, as has been pointed out by Sir Laurence McIntyre and by the representative of Yugoslavia, we are proceeding very slowly but very surely, and I am quite sure that, given goodwill on all sides, we shall succeed in making UNEF a really practical, effective international force. In this, of course there are many hesitations, many difficulties, many reservations, but none the less the fact that the great Powers are for a change co-operating in a way which we consider healthy is to be welcomed. Whether or not the Soviet Union did co-operate in some other peace-keeping operations is, to my mind, irrelevant. The fact is that on this specific problem it is prepared to co-operate with the United States and many others to establish this Force. So we should not do anything that would come in the way of this co-operation. This is an important point. So let us not be slaves to our past but look forward to the future, and any reasonable, fair solution which could be brought about by our efforts should be welcome not only to the non-aligned countries but, I believe, to all Members of the United Nations.

Moreover, I should say that, in the practical application in the field of the United Nations Force and machinery, the Secretary-General has enough discretion to arrange the disposition of men and material in such a way that many of the difficulties which arose in 48 hours of continuous discussion will be eliminated. I am sure that, with military help and military advice, the Secretary-General will avoid such complications as may arise because of the long history of the Middle East and the various attitudes of the countries and States in relation to that problem.

Lastly, I hope that gradually the African countries, which are, after all, the nearest neighbours of Egypt and Israel, will contri-

bute in large measure to the success of this Force.

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INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA EGYPT ISRAEL

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Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Buta Singh's Statement on Namibia

The following is the text of a statement made by Sardar Buta Singh in the UN Fourth Committee on the question of Namibia on November 5, 1978:

Mr. President:

With one exception, all the territories which have been under the League of Nations mandate have either become independent states or have been placed under the international trusteeship system. The exception is Namibia - the former German colony of South West Africa over which the Union of South Africa was awarded a mandate after the first world war.

The history of United Nations efforts to find a solution to the question of Namibia dates from 1946, when the General Assembly, in a resolution which India had the honour to co-sponsor, rejected the claim of the South African representative that the majority of the inhabitants of the territory desired its incorporation into South Africa. One is sometimes given the impression - and this is especially true in recent months - that the process of contacts and discussions with the Government of South Africa with a view to achieving a peaceful solution is a novel innovation, one which has not been

tried before.

In fact, of course, it is by this method that the General Assembly sought, for over twelve years, through various committees, to find a basis for agreement with South Africa which would fulfil the obligations of trust and responsibility of the United Nations towards the inhabitants of Namibia.

At its 1950 session, the General Assembly established an ad hoc committee to confer with the Union Government on means of implementing the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of July 11, 1950. The ad hoc committee met with the representatives of the Union Government from 1951 to 1953. The South African Government refused to accept the opinion of the International Court and rejected any form of United Nations supervision over the territories' administration.

In 1953, the General Assembly established a committee on South West Africa, which, together with its main function of examining and reporting on conditions in the territory, was authorised to continue negotiations with the South African Government with a view to finding a solution. The South African Government refused to meet or co-operate with the committee.

In 1957, the General Assembly made a further attempt to reach solution through negotiations. It established a good offices committee to "discuss with the Government of the Union of South Africa a basis for an agreement which would continue to accord to the territory of South West Africa an international status." The good offices committee met with representatives of the South African Government in Pretoria in 1958.

South Africa rejected the committee's proposals involving United Nations supervision over the whole territory, either under a modified mandate system or under the trusteeship system. During the discussions with the good offices committees, however, South Africa's intentions came out clearly.

The committee reported that, if the

General Assembly were willing to consider a solution based on the partition of the territory, with the northern portion to be placed under trusteeship and the balance of the territory to be annexed to South Africa the latter would be "willing to investigate the practicability of such a scheme." Naturally, the Assembly rejected this suggestion.

It is this total intransigence of South Africa which made these long years of patient search for an agreement barren of any result.

In 1961 the General Assembly proclaimed, and has since regularly reaffirmed, the inalienable right of the people of Namibia to independence and national sovereignty. The establishment of the United Nations Council for Namibia was a logical step towards the achievement of these objectives.

For us: the latest attempts at seeking a peaceful solution - the contacts of the Secretary-General with the South African

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Government pursuant to Security Council resolution 309 (1972) and as extended by resolution 319 (1972) and 323 (1972) - did not mark, in any sense, a departure from the totality of the United Nations position on Namibia.

Briefly, this position is that the United Nations decided, supported by the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, that South Africa is in illegal occupation of Namibia and that consequently they should withdraw so that the people of Namibia as a whole can exercise their full rights to self-determination and national independence.

The processes initiated under resolution 309 (1972) were directed towards the realisation of these principles in the hope that South Africa, even at this late stage, would mend its ways and make possible a peaceful solution on this basis. The texts of the resolutions and the debates preceeding their adoption allow no scope for making any concessions or adjustments to accommodate any other point of view.

The Secretary-General has carried out the tasks entrusted to him by the Security Council with patience and dedication. In spite of his efforts, there is no indication that South Africa is prepared for anything except semantic gymnastics. The purpose of the last extension of the contacts was to obtain an unequivocal clarification of South Africa's policy in regard to self-determination and Independence for Namibia. As the Secretary-General has informed us in his report (S/10921, Para 18), no such clarification was forthcoming.

More disturbing, however, have been the actions of the South African Government even while these contacts were proceeding. The erosion of the territorial integrity of Namibia through the so-called "homelands" policy and the establishment of tribal "legislative councils" in these "homelands," has been accelerated: The "influx control" laws have been institutionalised and cause an intolerable disruption of Namibian family life: groups and tribes have continued to be forcibly removed from their established areas to make room for whites.

Added to this is the so-called "advisory council" whose proceedings are being solemnly reported to us by South Africa, the latest account of this force being contained in document S/10992 of September 10, 1973. It is not hard to understand, therefore, the overwhelming sentiment among the African delegations against further contacts. In the absence of any evidence of South Africa's willingness to accept the United Nations position on Namibia, it is indeed difficult to see what purpose further contacts could serve.

The visit of the Secretary-General and his representatives to Namibia, however, appears to have had the welcome effect of giving an impetus to the mobilisation of political consciousness among Namibians by this demonstration of international interest in their cause.

We are hearted at the successful boycott organised by Swapo against the sham elections to the so-called "legislative assembly"

of Ovamboland. We admire the courage of the youth wing of Swapo in organising mass meetings in defiance of the repressive police state measures imposed by the South African regime.

The increasingly united and vocal criticism of the South African regime and its apartheid and Bantustan policies in Namibia are also part of this process. We are equally happy that Swapo's operations in the Caprivi strip are gathering momentum and we wish them every success.

The people of Namibia have a long and bitter struggle ahead of them. Their foe is rich and well-entrenched, with a strong and well-equipped military and the backing of powerful foreign economic interests. The liberation movement in Namibia must ultimately depend on its own resources and sacrifices to achieve their freedom, but the obligations of trust vested in the United Nations, which are nowhere more binding than in Namibia, require us to make a special effort to assist them in whatever way we can.

The efforts of the United Nations Council for Namibia, its High Commissioner and the United Nations Education and Training Programme could effectively contribute to the achievement of political independence by the Namibian people as a whole. The Council for Namibia has had a busy year

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and appears to be entering a phase of vigorous and imaginative expansion in its activities. As a member of the Council, India will make her contribution to the strengthening of this process.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, while on the subject of United Nations action, I should like to reiterate my delegation's feeling that the time has come to take a more careful look at the various organisations which are now concerned with the problem of Namibia. The diffused arrangements now in force could result in wasteful overlapping in certain areas and insufficient attention being paid to other facts of the problem. This feeling,

which we know is shared by some other delegations, found expression in an operative paragraph of resolution 3031 (XXVII) which we adopted last year. We hope that in the near future and with the full cooperation of the Secretary-General some better and more effective arrangements can be worked out.

INDIA NAMIBIA USA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement on Southern Rhodesia

The Security Council committee established in pursuance of resolution K253 (1968) concerning the Question of Southern Rhodesia (the committee dealing with sanctions) held its first open meeting on November 9, 1973. The following is the text of Shri Sen's statement at the meeting:

At this first public meeting of the committee, I should like to say publicly how much my delegation has admired and appreciated the way you led the committee. You, as well as Ambassador Abdullah, have proved that the decision to give more continuity to the chairmanship of this committee was both sound and helpful. We do not need any credentials to speak on this subject - we have taken all steps, I repeat all steps, to cut off all diplomatic and commercial contacts not only with the illegal regime of Ian Smith but also with South Africa and Portugal.

We cannot pretend that the sanctions have worked. At most they have made the white economic life in Zimbabwe a little more complicated and perhaps have even slowed down the economic progress which

otherwise could have been achieved but for the sanctions. Our chief purpose of making the sanctions effective to a point when the white illegal regime in Zimbabwe would feel compelled to negotiate with the blacks for full and proper exercise of the right to self-determination, has not been achieved. But the lessons we have learnt over the last eight years have been worth while.

First, the sanctions cannot be effective so long as the Governments, the powerful and the weak alike, non-African and African as well, are not prepared to take measures to change the habits of their people or to adjust their economic life. The more economically strong a country is, the more we can expect it to undertake these measures. When a black country, particularly in Africa, violates the sanctions, its economic effect may not be significant, but its political and psychological effect cannot be negligible.

Secondly, unless the sanctions are extended to South Africa and Portugal, they will never be effective. Unfortunately, the major trading partners of South Africa and Portugal have made clear their refusal to take any such steps, and some of them have the veto power.

Thirdly, we welcome British cooperation with the committee. The administering power has rejected any proposals to put effective pressure on the Ian Smith regime, as also to undergo greater financial losses through extension of sanctions and through blockade.

Fourthly, some Governments have shown a most remarkable aptitude in protecting and explaining the most undesirable practices of their traders.

Lastly, some countries have openly and officially violated the sanctions with the most specious reasoning.

All these factors can lead to one conclusion - the fight for self-determination in Zimbabwe will be long and bitter and will be undertaken by the people themselves,

with such help as they can obtain from outside.

These are matters for the Security Council, but I thought it necessary to give this broad framework in order to discuss more usefully the activities of the committee. We have profited much by many reports of violation of sanctions in the news media and by the studies prepared by universities and foundations.

Thus, the Sunday Times of August 26 carried an extraordinary report on a regular air freight service operated by Southern Rhodesia via an African country for exporting beef to a destination in Europe.

The German paper Der Spiegel of July 16, 1973 also published a detailed article on how sanctions are being circumvented on a large scale.

The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in a well-documented report brought out on August 26, states that a number of airlines companies, travel and car-renting firms, credit-card organisations and others are doing "business as usual" with Southern Rhodesia.

These reports are being naturally investigated by this committee and we are informed that some of the Governments concerned are also examining them. \$ 240 million worth of clandestine Southern Rhodesia exports reached world markets last year through gaping holes in the sanctions.

The solutions to this problem are not difficult to find but the Security Council could not adopt the necessary measures, because only two or three countries were opposed to them. More distressingly, the committee was prevented from acting effectively against activities which were clearly covered by sanctions and the provisions of unanimously-adopted Security Council resolutions.

For example, the operative paragraph 4 of resolution 253 (1968), the resolution which gave this committee its mandate,

states: "Decides that all states, members of the United Nations, shall not make available to the illegal regime in Southern Rhodesia or to any commercial, industrial or public utility undertaking, including tourist enterprises in Southern Rhodesia any funds for investment, or any other financial or economic resources, and shall prevent their nationals and any persons within their territories from making available to the regime or to any such undertaking, any such funds or resources, and from remitting any other funds to persons or bodies within Southern Rhodesia. . . "

Any visitor who spends any money in Southern Rhodesia, either to stay at a hotel or for the purchase of any goods or services, would be covered by this provision, and Governments therefore have the responsibility to prevent their nationals from visiting Southern Rhodesia.

Through narrow and rigid interpretations, however tourism - a lucrative source of foreign currency for the illegal regime - has been kept outside the purview of the committee.

Similar interpretations have been used in attempts to exclude Southern Rhodesian participation in sporting events abroad from the purview of sanctions. Thus, teams from Southern Rhodesia have participated in games held recently in Israel and Europe. The committee, because of the working rule of unanimity, could not properly remind all the Governments concerned of their responsibilities in this regard.

Nevertheless the committee's work has become increasingly effective. Before the adoption of resolution 333 (1973) in the Security Council on May 22, 1973, I had made a few suggestions for better implementation of this resolution. We are glad that the committee is taking some of the steps we have recommended. The committee is now seeking greater cooperation of non-Governmental organisations and of news media in obtaining information and establishing sanctions violations.

The Sunday Times for example, recently sent its reporter, Mr. Paul Eddy, to New York. An intelligent analysis of the trade figures of South Africa and the Portuguese territories has been carried out in respect of commodities which form the major exports of Southern Rhodesia. Striking discrepancies have emerged, indicating where violations and leakages are taking place. These discrepancies have been brought to the notice of the Governments concerned and the committee intends to give them wide publicity. Publicity is one of the major weapons of the

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United Nations in the field of sanctions and could be used more effectively.

We much appreciated that the committee has been making more frequent use of Press releases and that there has been some relaxation in the rigid legalistic approach, which would demand unshakable evidence to establish violations. We believe that reliable reports from out-side sources should be given wide publicity, provided the sources are indicated. Recommendations in the second special report are in the process of implementation by the committee and this should give a sharper focus and a better direction to its work.

We hear of shortages in Zimbabwe of consumer goods and of investment capital, of aging and inefficient industrial plants and infrastructure in need of replacement, of foreign exchange crises and of slowdowns in growth. However, these can have only a marginal effect on a white minority which can pass on the costs to the 51/2 million exploited Africans.

But the new phase of guerilla activity and the closing of the Zimbabwe border have had its effects on white settler morale. Newspapers of Southern Africa speak increasingly of a wilting of confidence, of growing insecurity, of the drift out of the country of young people who see no future in an isolated society. The new white immigration into Southern Rhodesia stands today at an all time low.

In these circumstances, international sanctions against the illegal regime over the last seven or eight years, at whatever levels of intensity and efficiency, remain the symbol of the determination of the international community to defeat Ian Smith's regime. The holding of this public meeting of the committee is an appropriate occasion to reaffirm this determination.

INDIA PORTUGAL SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri B. R., Patel's Statement at GATT Meeting

The following is the text of the statement made by Ambassador B. R. Patel at the close of the 29th session of the contracting parties of GATT held in Geneva on November 14, 1973:

On a number of occasions during the past year, apprehensions have been expressed about the derogation of the MFN (Most Favoured Nation) principle on which the whole structure of GATT is supposed to be based. I would like to share my thoughts with you today on this very important matter, since this would be the very last occasion on which I would have the opportunity of stating my views.

I believe that the MFN principle is not the basis of GATT: It is the expression, indeed a very important expression, of the real spirit of GATT, which is equity. GATT is an agreement among Governments who wish to regularise the growth of international trade and to ensure equity. The most important manner in which this would be

achieved is, of course, by all contracting parties accepting the MFN principle and it is on this account that the very first article enunciates this principle. However, equity does not mean equality of benefits and responsibilities in all circumstances and for all time. This has been clearly recognised by the contracting parties themselves. A major departure from the MFN principle, or rather a major exception from the rigidity of the MFN principle, took place, when the contracting parties agreed to the system of non-reciprocal generalised preferences in favour of developing countries. This was a technical derogation of article one, but if article one is looked upon, and I submit it should be, as an expression of the real spirit of GATT which is equity, then it is not a derogation but an extension necessitated by requirements of equitable growth of international trade of countries with dissimilar capabilities. A similar concept underlines the special treatment for the least developed among developing countries.

I think it is essential to make a distinction between the spirit and letter of non-discrimination. Equal treatment to the strong and the weak, the rich and the poor, the deve-

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loped and the developing, will not be equitable, and will in fact be discriminatory in substance though not in form.

An attempt was made by developing countries to include in the Tokyo declaration a provision to the effect that they would receive preferential treatment in all areas of negotiations where this was feasible, but this attempt failed because of the apprehension that this phrase would mean a direct derogation of article one. The actual language that our ministers have used and the objectives which have been accepted in the declaration cannot, however, be implemented without such preferential treatment for developing countries. I believe that the sanctity of article one is not impeached, and indeed the spirit of article one is strengthened, when departures and not derogations are made from it in a worthy cause by general consent. Whenever substantial gains can accrue to

the less developed contracting parties at no cost, or no significant cost, to the advanced industrialised partners, the concept of preservation of MFN principle should not stand in the way.

When Common Market was being formed, contracting parties agreed to lay aside legal quibblings based on article 24 and decided to look at the picture in terms of overall objectives of GATT. I suggest that they do the same during the multilateral trade negotiations in the context of the Second Development Decade.

INDIA SWITZERLAND JAPAN USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri D. P. Singh's Speech on Question of Defining Aggression

India's delegate, Shri D. P. Singh, M.P., made the following speech at the Sixth Committee of the UN on November 20, 1973, on the report of the Special Committee on the question of defining aggression:

Though my delegation regrets that the Special Committee was unable to arrive at a draft definition of aggression, we are happy to note that it had taken at its last session a few steps forward in the direction of reaching an agreed definition of aggression. The different contact groups and informal negotiating groups established by the working group of the Special Committee obviously led to a better framework for conducting meaningful negotiations and arriving at compromise solutions on a number of outstanding questions. It was noted in the Special Committee, as the report indicates,

that in the course of its last session, the positions of the delegations had become clearer and many gaps were narrowed. My delegation sincerely hopes that this constructive atmosphere would be maintained and that the Special Committee would be able to complete the task assigned to that body and submit a draft definition of aggression to the next session of the General Assembly. My delegation, therefore, fully supports the recommendation made by the Special Committee to resume its work in 1974. Distinguished members of the Committee may recall that the non-aligned countries have consistently emphasised, through the declarations that they adopted at their summit meetings, the need and the urgency for achieving the definition of aggression as soon as possible.

My delegation is happy to note that the drafting group appointed by the working group was able to prepare a set of preambular paragraphs on the basis of the three main proposals submitted to the Special Committee at its 1969 session. It appears that these preambular paragraphs with the exception of paragraphs 6 and 7, have received general approval in the Special Committee. Paragraph 6 contains a reaffirmation of the duty of states not to use armed force to deprive peoples of their right to self-determination, freedom and independence. We believe that the duty referred to in this paragraph should not be confined to the non-use of armed force. It should cover all forms of force. Further, it is also essential that this preambular paragraph also contains a reference to the principle of territorial integrity. My delegation, therefore, suggests that the paragraph be amended to read as follows: "Reaffirming the duty of states not to use force to deprive peoples of their right to self-determination, freedom and independence, or against the territorial integrity of any other state".

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With regard to the general definition of aggression, my delegation had consistently expressed the view that aggression should be comprehensively defined. Having regard to the many sided character of aggression, it

is essential that any definition of aggression, if it should remain relevant to the realities of the contemporary world, should cover not only direct but also indirect aggression. Article 1 which deals with the general definition of aggression should not, in our opinion, be delimited. to the use of armed force alone but should embrace all kinds of force that may be used against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of a country. Accordingly, my delegation would support the deletion of the word "armed" before the word "force" in article 1. We would also support the deletion of the square brackets around the words "however exerted". . . .

The report of the Special Committee indicates that there was no general agreement within the relevant contact group on the text of article 2 dealing with the question of priority and aggressive intent. My delegation would support the principle of priority. Article 2 should also refer to the principle of proportionality. It is also essential that aggression should be defined as objectively as possible. My delegation would support the formulation of article 2 which leaves the elements of motive and intention to be taken into account by the Security Council while making a determination as to which state out of those involved committed aggression...

We notice that there was no agreement on sub para (G) of article 3. My delegation agrees with the view that the formulation contained in this sub-paragraph is too narrow and omits certain acts which should be covered. It is necessary in the opinion of my delegation that acts of aggression as contemplated in this sub-paragraph can be committed not only by organising or encouraging the organization of the irregular forces or armed bands, including mercenaries for incursions in the territory of another state, but also by the organization or encouragement of acts of civil strife or terrorist acts in the territory of another state.

INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri D. P. Singh's Statement on Colonialism

The following statement on the question of colonialism was made by the Indian delegate, Shri D. P. Singh, at the General Assembly on November 20, 1973:

The proclamation of the independent state of Guinea Bissau has relieved the generally disappointing picture of the last 12 months, during which there has been little progress of the colonial and non-self-governing territories towards independence. It is with a special feeling of warmth and understanding that we share the joy of the people of Guinea-Bissau at their victory. The manner of accession of Guinea-Bissau to independence and the long, arduous and bloody struggle which preceded it, were quite different from what was envisaged when resolution 1514(XV) was adopted. But the buttressed walls of the white fortress south of the Zambesi river - where we witness the throttling domination of a white minority over a large black majority, the latter controlled by pass laws, jailings and beatings - have proved impervious to any other form of change...

The unspeakable savagery at Wiriyamu aroused the disgust and horror of the whole world - but for each Wiriyamu which reaches the international press, there are numerous others which constitute the daily experience of the unfortunate people in these territories. Despite this, and the aid from South Africa and Ian Smith to spur the Portuguese Government to continue its wars, the freedom fighters have been able to liberate vast areas of their countries and

have set up their own administration in these areas. In our views, Portuguese aggression in Africa started the day the Portuguese colonised the very first inch of African territory and will not end until the Portuguese leave Africa completely. Even on legal considerations, Portugal, with its fatuous doctrine of "overseas provinces", by its refusal to accept that the territories under its domination are colonies within the meaning of

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article 73 of the Charter, has left itself with no status in Africa except that of an aggressor. We would suggest a formal recognition of this position by a declaration by the United Nations that Portugal is an aggressor in all its African territories. All activities, therefore, from any quarter, which are directed towards the removal of this aggression are both legitimate and normal.

Namibia is a direct responsibility of the United Nations, but so far we have been prevented from taking effective action to meet that responsibility. South Africa continues to extend its shameful system of apartheid to Namibia and to divide its people into so-called Bantustans. The Secretary General, in spite of every effort on his part, has not been able to extract from South Africa an unequivocal definition of their understanding of self-determination. We have often been counselled by Western countries that the method of negotiation is the best means to bring justice to the oppressed peoples of Namibia and to soften the immoral policy of apartheid. Most of South Africa's trade is confined to five or six countries. Let these countries, acting in concert, persuade the South African regime to change some of its policies. The General Assembly has done nothing to inhibit those powers from using their persuasive logic and diplomatic skill in deflecting South Africa from its degrading course. The actions of the major trading partners of South Africa, quite to the contrary, have encouraged that regime in its intransigence and constitute a direct affront to the people of Southern Africa. We have been encouraged, however, that some of these countries, at least in the United Nations, have been more forthright recently in expres-

sing their disapproval of south Africa's criminal policies. We hope this trend continues and is reflected in their actions. Sooner or later we shall have to decide whether sanctions should not be imposed against South Africa. We should like it to be sooner. As you know, Mr. President, India unilaterally cut off trade with South Africa in 1946 not without significant financial loss to us. But we did so gladly and we think that if the members of the United Nations are Prepared to take similar steps, South Africa could be coerced into changing its insane and disastrous course.

ZIMBABWE

In Zimbabwe the foreign colonialist has become the entrenched native expatriate, jealously guarding his privileges and brutally securing his domination. The illegal regime has not only increased its oppression of the African people, but has sent its armed forces to fight in Mozambique and has threatened Zambia. Sanctions have shown little result and recent reports of widespread and flagrant violations do not suggest that their effectiveness is likely to increase substantially in the future. Nevertheless, as the one symbol of the determination of the international community to deny victory to Ian Smith, we shall continue to make every effort towards full and scrupulous observance of sanctions and support their extension. However, as with other territories in Southern Africa, it is the struggle and sacrifices of the freedom fighters of Zimbabwe which will finally decide the pace and circumstances in which freedom will be won. The mobilization of political and material support for the liberation movement, therefore, is the area where the international community should concentrate its attention...

SMALLER COLONIAL TERRITORIES

The problems of some of the smaller territories under colonial rule were the subject of useful discussion by the Committee of 24. In many of these territories, economic exploitation by the administering powers

concerned, or by outside economic interests, continues. In most areas, participation and control by the peoples of the territories concerned in economic ventures in their own lands is far from adequate. Political developments in most of the smaller territories have also been very slow. We are told that the major reasons for the colonial powers retaining those possessions are the isolation, small size population and resources of these territories. We accept that some of the small colonial territories have special features, but the difficulties have often been exaggerated to continue colonial domination in the economic and strategic interests of the administering powers.

The solution to many of those problems would be facilitated if the administering powers Cooperated with the special committee. Such cooperation, with the notable exceptions of Australia and New Zealand,

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has regrettably been lacking. Suggestions for visiting missions have been turned down by the administering powers on various pleas, none of which carry conviction. The function of the United Nations in the process of decolonisation is to determine the wishes of the inhabitants of it particular colonial territory about their political future and to give effect to those wishes. In order to determine what the inhabitants of colonial territories want, the United Nations must have free access to them. Visiting missions can be effectively used to study closely the problems of the colonial peoples and ascertain their wishes concerning their political futures. Such missions have been used with success on a continuing basis by the Trusteeship Council, but the same powers which themselves participate in visiting missions of the Trusteeship Council refuse to allow visiting missions of the Committee of 24 on grounds of principle. We find no explanation for this attitude and such refusals can only invite suspicion of the intention of the administering powers concerned. Further, Mr. President, on the same point we do not believe that an administering power should be permitted to decide unilaterally that a

certain colonial territory has achieved self-government and to inform the United Nations that its obligation to transmit information to the United Nations under Article 73 of the Charter has ceased. My delegation is convinced that the General Assembly alone, in consultation with the administering power, can determine whether the provisions of General Assembly Resolutions 1514(XV) and 1541(XV) have been carried out or not.

Apart from what the administering powers can do to bring about self-determination and independence in their colonial territories, other countries can also help in the process, mainly through assistance for education and training. In the past, scholarships have been provided by different countries bilaterally as well as through the United Nations. India will continue to offer these scholarships and we hope that such assistance, either direct or through the United Nations, will increase substantially. Similarly, the specialised agencies and other international organizations can be of help. The Committee of 24 has been studying this problem and gave particularly close attention to it this year. We look forward to an active programme of assistance by the specialised agencies to colonial peoples. The need for this is particularly great in Africa.

Before I conclude, Mr. President, I should like to express our satisfaction at Bahama's accession to independence and its admission to the United Nations. We look forward to working in close cooperation with its delegation.

INDIA GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU GUINEA!!USA SOUTH AFRICA PORTUGAL NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE ZAMBIA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

The following statement by India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Shri Samar Sen, was made at the First Committee on November 21, 1973:

Yesterday afternoon when I was preparing a full statement on the important problem of Korea which is before us, I received information that the negotiations which had started a day or so earlier, had resulted in a solution which would, on the one hand, make it unnecessary to give any comprehensive analysis of the issues confronting us, and on the other hand, avoid voting on the various resolutions moved by a number of delegations. We are indeed glad of this development, for it is clear to us, that none of the resolutions could be adopted by necessary majority without much bitter debate, and that further efforts would be needed if any solution, commanding wide and varied adherence, were to be found. We are further pleased that a realistic formula has been found and we are now confident that it does indeed reflect the consensus of the Committee.

Meanwhile, we have benefitted from the views which the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have presented to us through their Ministers. We welcome the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in our debate for the first time, and appreciate the many gestures of kindness and courtesy which both the delegations have made towards all of us.

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We have always held that no satisfactory discussion, much less a viable resolution of the problem, could be expected if both sides were not given a hearing on the basis of equality and with fullest freedom of expression of opinion. Indeed, the approach of the United Nations towards the Korean question has been marked regrettably, by its tendency to take decisions on the views of one party alone. This unbalanced approach

was to some extent put right when China took its rightful place among us after nearly 22 years, and today, with the participation of both North and South Korea we are in a position to discuss the Issues after all the interested parties have given their views on them. These considerations made us advocate last year, and mainly privately, that we should at least hear the parties, without debating the question, before they could proceed with their negotiation.

However, many members felt that the presentation of views by the parties would unavoidably lead to acrimonious debate which might come in the way of satisfactory progress in the negotiations - a progress to which we, all of us, attach the greatest importance. In the light of events, however, there is little doubt that if we had heard the parties last year, we could have saved some time and perhaps made the parties more conscious, at an earlier date, of the climate of international opinion. Nonetheless, the joint communique of the 4th July, 1972, enunciating the principles on which further progress, particularly on the re-unification of Korea, can be made, is a most useful document. We hope that after the present debate in the United Nations, the parties would re-double their efforts to pursue the negotiations in all fields and come to agreement on various matters with utmost speed and mutual goodwill.

The General Assembly decision to dissolve the United Nations Commission for the re-unification and rehabilitation of Korea is also appropriate. It should be our effort to ensure that the people of Korea, who have lived together for untold centuries, be able to build a common future for the peninsula without interference of any kind from outside. Obviously, we have not heard the last of this and other connected problems but we look forward to a better future for the Korean peninsula in spite of all the difficulties that the ahead.

INDIA KOREA USA CHINA PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri N. P. Jain's Statement on Human Environment

The following is the text of a statement made on November 23, 1973, by Shri N. P. Jain, Deputy Permanent Representative of India to the U.N., on the item of "Human Environment" in the Second Committee:

Mr. Chairman, my delegation has already had occasion to take part in the work of the Governing Council of the U.N. Environment Programme and thus we will not repeat what we set out in detail at that time. Nevertheless, in view of the need for an overall perspective in the Second Committee on this important item we shall offer some general observations.

Listening to the distinguished executive director of U.N.E.P.'s introductory remarks we gained two impressions. The first was that 1973 marked a period of careful preparation in the historic progress from Stockholm to Nairobi. For within this short period the task of translating the recommendations of the Stockholm conference into a practical and effective programme of work for submission to the forthcoming session of the Governing Council in Nairobi has been satisfactorily undertaken. We would like to pay our tribute in this respect to the role of Mr. Strong, to his dynamism, vision and effectiveness in translating these goals into living realities. Right from preparatory stage of Stockholm conference to date my delegation has actively cooperated in the task of evolving an agreed and well balanced international programme of action to preserve human environments and assure our full cooperation to the U.N.E.P. both on organisational as well as substantive matters

in the coming months.

Our second general reaction is that this transitional period of institution building has been accompanied with the kind of judiciously balanced attention to the claims of the

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environment that was the essence of the work of Stockholm and the subsequent decisions of the General Assembly last year. As my Prime Minister observed at Stockholm, it is clear to us that the human environment cannot be improved in conditions of poverty at large, nor can poverty be eradicated without recourse to modern science and technology. This thrust has not been diluted and indeed this explains his observation that developing countries are now displaying interest and indeed enthusiasm with relation to the possibilities offered by this new U.N. Programme.

QUALITY CENTRAL CONCERN

We are constrained, however, to once more reiterate some of our concerns on this matter. We subscribe to the conclusion of the first session of the Governing Council that "the quality of human life must constitute the central concern of this programme and that therefore the enhancement of the total human habitat and the study of the environmental problems having an immediate impact on man should be given the highest priority in the overall programme. But we also agree with Mr. Strong that in the pursuit of this proposition and in accordance with the spirit of Resolution 3002 (XXVII) the Governing Council gave special consideration to such environmental measures and programmes as constitute a necessary part of the process of accelerating the economic development of developing countries. Accordingly, in formulating guidelines for the implementation of the programme the council also adopted certain general policy objectives and decided upon priorities. On the top of the list of these priorities were the questions of human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being. The stark fact that for literally hundreds of millions of inhabitants of the developing countries,

which contain two-thirds of the world's population, "human settlements", meaning the totality of the physical circumstances in which they are housed and maintained, are shameful and sub-human, suggests that this was indeed a correct priority.

The distinguished Executive Director in his statement emphasised that at the current session of the General Assembly we are required to deal with this question in terms of the implications of Resolution 3001 convening the U.N. Conference -- exposition on human settlements, encouraging progress has been made in respect to the proposal and we are now required to take a decision on this issue, to give to the preparatory process the necessary guidelines and impetus.

I am, Mr. Chairman, happy to be able to confirm that my Government attaches great importance to this problem and endorses the proposal for the conference - exposition on human settlements to be held in Vancouver in 1976. We, therefore, would be prepared to support the various steps which are necessary in this regard. We intend to participate at this important event and in particular would be prepared to present selected projects in India to reflect the attempts being made in my country to improve human settlements. The Indian national committee on environmental planning and coordination is examining various aspects of this question and we expect to be able to present some idea of what we are attempting to do in areas such as the settlement of landless workers by the grant of ownership rights, community efforts at house construction as well as the formidable challenge of urban renewal through slum clearance and resettlement.

On this subject the committee has before it a draft resolution (1312). We have suggested a few changes to the co-sponsors. If these are accepted, my delegation would be happy to co-sponsor it.

Of course, we do not in any way wish to slight the other priority areas decided upon by the Governing Council. such as land, water, desert encroachment, the marine en-

vironment, the conservation of wild life and genetic resources, the questions of education, training and information, and last but not least, energy. I need not detain the committee at this late stage by repeating our views at this forum. We shall in any case have opportunity to express ourselves on this subject at another time, particularly at the forthcoming Nairobi session.

ENVIRONMENT FUND

As regards the environment fund, we must express our concern at the fact that this question which is fundamental to the establishment of an effective and viable programme is still conflicted by the slowness with which the money pledged has been paid up. We hope that this situation resulting in full commitment of presently available

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resources will be resolved expeditiously. My delegation is glad to announce that it will cosponsor draft resolution contained in document A/C Z/L 1316.

In Mr. Strong's words, we can agree that there is a "web of environmental interdependence which makes it imperative that nations cooperate in caring for the environment." This is the basis on which developing countries have also taken interest in the subject. But we are constrained to guard ourselves against certain plausible propositions which have been and are being propounded in the name of "the quality of life," for the net result of such propositions is the general climate for development cooperation has been even bleaker. As an instance, we are increasingly confronted by exhortations from some of the richer countries who, citing their own experience, caution us against making a "fetish" of growth. We are told about the need to conserve the quality of life and admonished against a mechanical imitation of past patterns of industrialisation which, it is suggested, will leave us far poorer in human and spiritual terms. The culmination of such propositions is the view advanced in some developed countries favouring a "zero" growth rate so that the degradation of the environment and the

destruction of the simpler joys and satisfaction of earlier times can be avoided. The prevalence of pollution is, of course, a matter of concern to the entire human race. It is, however, revealing that it is the handful of two dozen developed countries which command two-thirds of the world's wealth, who are responsible for the pollution of our mother earth. The other hundred odd countries, who comprise two-thirds of the world's population, are more the victims of global pollution than its villains.

We are also confronted by another parallel trend cautioning us not to be dozzled by a mere pursuit of the G.N.P. in our quest for prosperity. We are told that global indicators such as G.N.P. or the per capita income do not take adequate account of important human and social factors such as the distribution of income or the degree of leisure which are the ultimate constituents of the quality of life. This alleged conflict between physical growth and development in this wider sense of the quality of life is ultimately a false one. For while development in this sense is our ultimate objective and while a mere increase in the physical output of goods and services does not suffice to ensure development, such an increase, however, is a necessary condition, since you cannot redistribute poverty.

Thus, the sad experience of the richer countries with affluence by itself provides no particular insight into the situation of the hundreds of millions of people living in the poorer parts of the world, for even if it were true that the more you have, the less you relish more, just as for an individual, so for nations, arguments valid for the rich are not relevant for the poor. Countries at the low end of the income scale accordingly have a very long and hard way to go before they come up against the so-called diminishing marginal utility of consumption. These doctrines are thus, however plausible, false and pernicious in their applicability to the situation of two-thirds of mankind. How to make this clearer to public opinion at large, and in developed countries in particular, is a formidable challenge to our imagination and energy. Forums such as the current one as

well as the Governing Council sessions of the U.N.E.P. themselves are, if nothing else, occasions where we can attempt to articulate our concerns.

I have commented on some draft resolutions only in my statement. There are other important draft resolutions before the committee and my delegation reserves the right to comment on them before they are put to vote.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC KENYA SWEDEN PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Samar Sen's Statement on Reduction of Military Budgets

Following is the text of the statement made by India's Permanent Representative to the U.N., Shri S. Sen in the General Assembly on November 26, 1973, on the "Reduction of the military budgets of permanent members of the Security Council by 10% and the utilization of part of the fund thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries":

Mr. President, the idea of reducing military budgets and of channelling the funds thus released to developing countries, has been

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propounded and to some extent debated, since the early fifties. However, there has been no Implementation nor any serious consideration given to the various proposals which have been put forward from time to time. We consider it appropriate that the proposal should be presented to the United Nations this year by one of the powers who

are engaged in the welcome process of detente. The climate is therefore one in which such a proposal should make more headway, and in which the realization of the importance of linking disarmament and development should be more easy.

On several occasions the General Assembly has called upon its members to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security and has linked disarmament With development. Thus by Resolution 380(V) adopted on 17 November, 1950, the Assembly determined that "for the realisation of lasting peace and security it is indispensable to reduce to a minimum, the divergence for armaments its human and economic resources and strive towards the development of such resources for the general welfare with due regard to the needs of the under-developed areas of the world."

It is noteworthy that the proposals made through the years have come from many members of the United Nations including those of the permanent members of the Security Council. The United Kingdom suggested in a memorandum to the sub-committee of the Disarmament Commission that a freeze or stand-still agreement in regard to military expenditure might be considered among the first steps of a disarmament programme. On the 11th May, 1954, the Soviet Union submitted a proposal providing a reduction of military expenditure within one year by no less than one-third of the 1953-54 level of expenditure. A similar proposal was made by the Soviet Union in 1955. At the Geneva summit conference of July 1955, the heads of Government of France, the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom considered a French memorandum on disarmament, proposing that the resources made available by reductions in military budgets should be used, in whole or in part to assist under-developed countries.

The General Assembly, at its tenth session in 1955, included in its Resolution 914(X) a suggestion that account should be taken of the proposals of France for the allocation of funds resulting from disarmament

for improving the standards of living throughout the world and in particular in the less developed countries. In 1957, again in the sub-committee, the United States said that while reductions in armed forces and conventional armaments would affect different governments and different developments financially, a target for a cut in military expenditures in the range of 10% might be envisaged as the first stage of a disarmament agreement. At the 13th session of the General Assembly the Soviet Union submitted a draft resolution recommending that France, the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom reduce their military budgets by 10 to 15% and a part of savings be allocated to funds for assistance to under-developed countries.

In 1964, we were informed of the unilateral reductions that had recently been carried out by the Soviet Union and the United States. In 1964, Brazil submitted a working paper calling for an agreement on the use of savings on military budgets for assisting developing countries. It recommended that, (a) all governments should reduce their military budgets along the lines of reduction effected by the Soviet Union and the United States; (b) a sum of not less than 20% of the reductions so effected by all countries should be credited to an international conversion and economic development fund; and (c) a working group should be established immediately to study the problem and to make recommendations about the proposed conversion and development fund. In 1965, the Disarmament Commission recommended that the E.N.D.C. keep in mind the principle embodied in the Brazilian document in subsequent years. However, the subject was not actively pursued either in the General Assembly or in the E.N.D.C.

Mr. President, I will not go into detail in listing all the proposals made and the fate suffered by them. The only reason why I refer to them at all, is that for some time now, all countries have been sharing a common anxiety about the arms race and its social and economic consequences. The mere fact that the proposal this year has been made by the Soviet Union should not there-

fore produce any political inhibitions. Indeed, it should encourage us to consider the pro-

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posal in an objective manner, strictly on merit and without Imputing motives. However, military expenditure has not decreased - and last year, more money than ever before, during peace time, was spent by developed countries on arms: and military equipment. There is, and can be no objection to the principle of the reduction of military budgets of those countries whose level and quality of armament controls the military balance of the world. The distinguished representative of France in his speech said in fact that he found, the principle acceptable, but it is obvious that the terror balance is equalled by the balance of distrust among these countries. The item before us is not a pure disarmament measure, it is a measure of economic importance as well. As a developing country, India is therefore vitally interested. The lessening of tension in the world by a certain measure of disarmament and the diversion of the released funds for development assistance is a step which should be strongly supported by all concerned countries of the world.

GROWING DISPARITY

I have already referred to the climate of detente which should gradually engender a feeling of trust between the countries who are considered militarily significant. There is one other factor which adds to the relevance of the proposal we are considering. This is the growing disparity between the developed and developing countries and the efforts being made in various forums around the world to try to reduce this gap. According to figures available with us, it is apparent that total official development assistance has declined during the last three years and the prospect is not likely to improve unless additional resources are made available. The administrator of U.N.D.P., Mr. Petersen, in his statement a few weeks ago, said in this context, "Last year the developed countries spent more than two hundred billion dollars for arms and military equipment. And only

six of the developed countries accounted for more than four-fifths of this total. The military expenditures of these - who are also major aid donors - are approximately twentyfive times greater than the official development assistance they provide. If these countries accepted the injunction to beat their swords into ploughshares, less than five per cent of their current military expenditures could more than double the total amount available for development assistance. There is, of course, no certainty that there will be a disarmament dividend for development. But given the Increasing convergence of industrialized societies and the growth In military budgets - with no proportionate increase in security - the prospect for such a financial spin-off is more than the fanciful wish that existed only a few years ago."

We do not think it necessary at present to go into the acceptability of the figures of military budgets as published by the various governments. This would mean years of negotiations and in our view would not be relevant to the subject. What we are talking of is a reduction by 10% of the military budgets of the militarily significant countries. The budget figures as published by the governments should be acceptable as the reduction would be a proportionate decrease. We are aware of the complexity of the matter but 'would urge all states concerned to give more serious consideration to the suggestion. We hope that a substantial portion of this amount diverted to development assistance will be in convertible currency. I should like, however, to point out that the funds so released for development assistance should be made available as an additional amount, without prejudice to the fulfilment of accepted assistance targets as wen as other existing or already agreed to contributions to multilateral and bilateral programmes. The targets of 0.7% of G.N.P. as official development assistance stated in the International Development Strategy have by and large not been achieved. We would expect that the "disarmament dividend" we are considering now would be in addition to the targets specified in the strategy. If the extra money made available comes to nearly \$ 2 billion, it would certainly be of significant help.

As Mr. Petersen says in his statement, U.N.D.P. is only one of the several development agencies that might benefit from such a transfer of resources. The ECOSOC or a committee of ECOSOC or any other suitable committee could be requested to give attention to the question of allocation of this money for development assistance and in particular the institutional modalities, having in mind both the pre-eminent role at present played by the U.N.D.P. within the system, as well as the extent of separate special purpose funds for other worthy activities, connected with the international development decade.

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In conclusion, I should like to support the proposal for the reduction of the military budgets of militarily significant countries and the utilisation of the funds thus released for development assistance. The details of the proposal would, of course, have to be worked out before concrete results can be expected. However, this should not delay the consideration of this suggestion nor should it lead to the jettisoning of the idea, as has been done in the past.

Action on this difficult yet necessary matter might begin with the Governments concerned informing the Secretary General of their considered views on the subject, so that he may in turn inform the XXIXth session of the General Assembly of these views. Subsequently, a committee could perhaps examine the allocation of the funds likely to be thus released, keeping in mind the fact that these funds would be additional to whatever development assistance is being given today. The proposal before us is one that requires wide support on the one hand and a careful, step by step, approach on the other. No hasty action would solve the basic questions. It is imperative that all members of the United Nations realize the importance of this proposal and give it their general support now and serious consideration as soon as possible.

INDIA USA PERU SWITZERLAND FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BRAZIL

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri N. P. Jain's Statement on UNHCR's Report

The Third Committee discussed on November 27, 1973, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year 1972. With reference to the current role of UNHCR in the repatriation of personnel between Pakistan and Bangladesh, the Indian delegate, Shri N. P. Jain, made the following statement:

In the past two years my delegation has had occasions in this committee as well as in the ECOSOC to recall the contribution made by the UNHCR in organising relief and assistance for the refugees from Bangladesh. In recent months in the period to be covered in its next report, the UNHCR has been entrusted with the task of helping in the repatriation of Pakistani nationals from Bangladesh to Pakistan and of Bengalees from Pakistan to Bangladesh both in terms of consultations with the two Governments for working out details as well as in arranging logistic support to facilitate transportation with the assistance in cash and kind from various Governments. We naturally welcome whatever help UNHCR has extended and can extend in the expeditious solution of outstanding humanitarian issues by assisting towards smooth and full implementation of the terms of the Delhi Agreement concerning repatriation of stranded nationals to the countries of their origin.

We have heard the UNHCR and other delegations talking about numbers already repatriated. Since this question has been brought up my delegation would like to stress that what is important is that even larger

numbers could be repatriated expeditiously by making full use of the airlift arranged by the UNHCR placed at the disposal of the Governments concerned. The speed with which the two-way exchange between Bangladesh and Pakistan is carried out indeed sets the pace of the simultaneous three-way exchange of personnel as envisaged in the Delhi Agreement. In so far as repatriation of POWs and other civilian personnel from India is concerned, India has so far fully and consistently adhered to the principle of simultaneity and will continue to do so.

INDIA USA PAKISTAN BANGLADESH CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri D. P. Singh's Statement on U.N. Peace-Keeping Operations

Following is the text of a statement by the Indian delegate, Shri D. P. Singh, M.P., during the Special Committee discussions on peace-keeping operations held on November 28, 1973:

The report before us of the Special Committee on peace-keeping operations contained in document A/ 9236 is especially welcome as an important landmark in the history of debate on this subject. However, discussions on this important subject have in the past involved bitter yet fruitless debate. Even the report before us does not point to any substantive agreement. However, the fact

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that there was any agreement at all in spite of the difficulties inherent in this delicate and complex task which the Special Committee has been tackling is a hopeful sign. The

report conveys the regret of the Special Committee that little progress has so far been achieved. It had been and continues to be our hope that these discussions will take concrete shape and that all states, especially the major powers, will cooperate in bringing some of the urgency required to bear on the important issues that still remain to be discussed.

Occasions when the U.N. will be required to undertake peace-keeping operations will not wait for the Special Committee to arrive at decisions regarding the defining of issues. Only a few months ago the world was confronted with a situation in which urgent and ad hoc steps had to be taken for the constitution and deployment of the U.N. Emergency Force in the Middle East. The decisions in the Security Council were taken in an atmosphere when the situation in the Middle East was rapidly , deteriorating. Under those circumstances the Council left to the discretion of the Secretary General the steps necessary to be taken for the organisation and despatch of the Force.

Several delegations in the Security Council and later in the working group have stressed the fact that the decisions taken in the formation of the U.N. Emergency Force would not constitute a precedent of any sort in subsequent discussions on peace-keeping operations. However, there is much to be learnt from the exercise which we have all experienced and one of the cardinal points of the lesson is that if the discussions in the Special Committee are to have any meaning we would have to accept a sense of urgency in arriving at agreed definitions of issues. Otherwise, while indecisive debate in the Special Committee will continue and the Security Council will repeatedly be faced with situations in which it acts under pressure of events, ad hoc decisions will have to be taken.

It is our view that primary responsibility for peace-keeping operation rests with the Security Council as stated in chapter VII of the Charter. It is the Security Council which is to determine the existence of any threat to peace and which is to decide what

measures are to be taken to maintain or restore international peace and security. According to article 43, "All members of the United Nations in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security undertake to make available to the Security Council on its call and in accordance with a special agreement or agreements armed forces assistance and facilities. . .". Para 3 of article 43 also states that these agreements are not only to be initiated by the Security Council but also to be concluded between the Security Council and the members concerned. The role of the Security Council is, therefore, according to the Charter, paramount.

The question of the composition of peace-keeping forces as a responsibility to be exercised directly by the Security Council has still to be agreed upon. This question gave rise to many doubts and much debate during the formation of the UNEF. In how far the formula worked out for UNEF could serve as a generally acceptable guideline for the future would depend upon views of member states. However, we feel that the principle of equitable geographical representation will have to be borne in mind in future discussions.

One other point that needs to be decided on urgently is the financing of the U.N. peace-keeping forces. It is the feeling of my delegation that the examination of the question of financing of peace-keeping operations should be kept in the forefront of the discussions of the Special Committee. Peace-keeping is an important function of the United Nations and all countries have responsibility towards meeting expenses. Instead of occupying ourselves repeatedly in the exercise of debate and formula hunting, it would be necessary if a formula could be outlined which would act as a guide for the future. Obviously the method of financing future peace-keeping operations should be related to the decisions as to which authority initiated such operations. If the cost of such operations has to be shared by the general membership of the organization, the General Assembly should make the assessments keeping in view the capacity of member states

to pay and the special circumstances of the case. Equally obvious is the fact that the

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cost of any peace-keeping operations should be borne by the states voting for it.

Mr. Chairman, I have only briefly touched on one or two points regarding my delegation's thinking on peace-keeping operations. It is the earnest hope of my delegation that the Special Committee on peace-keeping operations and its working group will intensify their efforts and reach agreement on at least basic issues so that the security Council is not suddenly faced again with the situation with which it was earlier this year. My delegation is ready to co-operate in any way we can in the Special Committee and in the working group to enable us to arrive at some concrete results as early as possible.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri N. P. Jain's Statement on India's Contribution to Palestine Refugee Relief

At the meeting on November 30, 1973, of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the announcement of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Shri N. P. Jain, Deputy Permanent Representative of India, announced India's contribution:

My delegation is glad to announce a contribution of Rs. 100,000 in kind. In addition India has been awarding scholarships direct-

ly to the Palestinians and we shall continue them in the coming year. I should like to point out that despite our economic difficulties and burdens, we have decided to maintain our contribution at the last year's level. This should reflect our concern for and firm principled support to the unfortunate Palestinian refugees whose suffering remains unabated and who continue to need not only our moral sympathy but also material support. The extent of tragedy can be realised if it is recalled that a whole new generation has been born in refugee camps with no future in sight.

Resources available with UNRWA could never be enough, limited as they have been in the context of essential numerous requirements of the refugees. We, therefore, hope that affluent countries would be more generous with their contributions till a just and honourable solution is reached to the problem.

The Commissioner General, Sir John Rennie and his able staff continue to do valuable work in rendering constructive service and solace to the Palestinian refugees. They deserve not only our warm compliments and appreciation but also continued support which my delegation is glad to extend.

INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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POLAND

Indo-Polish Protocol

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on November 9, 1973, on the protocol signed between India and Poland at the conclusion of the first meeting of the

joint Commission in Warsaw:

A protocol was signed on November 8, in Warsaw by the Indian Minister of Heavy Industry, Shri T. A. Pai and the Polish Deputy Prime Minister Mr. J. Mitrega at the conclusion of the first meeting of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for commercial, economic and scientific technical collaboration.

It was agreed to co-operate in agreed fields. The next meeting of the Commission will be held in New Delhi in 1974.

Shri Pai left November 8 after-noon for India and he was seen off at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister Mr. J. Mitrega and a number of other high-ranking Polish Ministers and officials.

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POLAND INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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SWITZERLAND

Credit Agreement with Swiss Bank

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on November 9, 1973, on an agreement for credit signed with a consortium Of four leading Swiss Banks.

An agreement to provide a credit of S.F. 24.75 million was signed on November 7 in Berne by India's Ambassador, Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh, with a consortium of four leading Swiss Banks viz. the Swiss Credit Bank, the Swiss Bank Corporation, the Union Bank of Switzerland and the Swiss

Volkshank. The agreement is part of two agreements signed earlier in New Delhi between the Swiss Ambassador and the Economic Secretary, Ministry of Finance. At the brief signing ceremony were present the Managers of all the leading Swiss banks as well as Ambassador Dr. Jacobi, Head of Development Aid in the Division of Public Economy.

The new line of credit provided by the consortium of Swiss banks will facilitate purchases of capital goods, spare parts and components from Switzerland and will also go a long way in meeting demands of India's growing industries for specialised machine tools, sophisticated machinery, electrical appliances, technical knowhow, engineering services, etc.

SWITZERLAND INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Welcome Speech by Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi

Following is the free rendering of the welcome speech, delivered in Hindi, by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on arrival of H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, at Palam Airport, New Delhi, on November 26, 1973:

On behalf of the Government and people of India, it is my privilege to extend to you, General Secretary Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, pre-eminent leader of a great and friendly nation, a most cordial and warm welcome

on your arrival in our country.

Much has changed in India and in the world since your last visit to us 12 years ago. But one thing has stood firm and has flourished and that is our friendship. It is difficult to set a date for Its origin, but It became official even before the day of our independence. And it has grown steadily. Every important exchange of visits has progressively strengthened and consolidated a relationship to which, in 1971, we gave a juridical basis in our historic Treaty of peace, Friendship and Cooperation. The friendship of our two Peoples springs from a deep yearning for justice and equality. This shared vision of a better world and similarity of approach to the problems of colonialism and racialism have inspired us to work together in international forums for the enlargement of the area of peace.

Mr. General Secretary, we regard your visit to us at this time, when there is a perceptible improvement in the international atmosphere, to which you have yourself made a significant contribution, as an event of the utmost importance. I am sure that it will be of benefit to us and will serve the larger purposes we hold in common. It is with this confidence and with respect that our people receive you.

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Reply by Mr. Leonid Brezhnev

Following is the reply by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev to the welcome speech by the Prime Minister:

Stepping on to the soil of the great Indira, I am happy to convey to you, esteemed Madame Indira Gandhi, to your colleagues in the Government and to the entire friendly Indian people, cordial greetings from the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet State and millions of Soviet People.

I am sincerely grateful to you, Madame Prime Minister, for the invitation to visit your country. It offers me a happy opportunity, after twelve years, to meet India, its people and its leaders, once again. Friendship and co-operation between our two countries have made great strides forward in that period.

Today the peoples of the world are expecting statesmen and political leaders to take concrete actions that would contribute to the development of peaceful co-operation between countries. I feel I will not be wrong in saying that our forthcoming talks will promote that goal. After all, friendship between the great peoples of the Soviet Union and India is of no small importance today for peace and security in Asia and throughout the world. The further consolidation of this friendship and the expansion of co-operation between the two countries are in fact the principal aim of our visit.

May friendship and close co-operation between the Soviet Union and India strengthen and develop.

INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The following is a free rendering of the speech, delivered in Hindi, by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the banquet hosted by her in honour of H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, on November 26, 1973:

We are glad that General Secretary Brezhnev has accepted my invitation and has found it convenient to visit us. I welcome him warmly, and his distinguished colleagues, to this ancient and, a near neighbour of the Soviet Union with which we have had many and varied links in the course of the centuries. These links today constitute a solid and salutary factor on the international scene and they will surely be further strengthened as a result of this visit.

In the years that have passed since His Excellency's last visit, his name and his personality have become increasingly familiar to our people. We know of his great personal qualities, and the outstanding role he has played in building up his country in all fields, from agriculture to space exploration. More recently, his tireless efforts to promote understanding has aroused worldwide attention. For our part, we welcome his initiatives for peace, which have helped to resolve some of the acute problems left over by the Second World War, and bring about a more hopeful international climate. We know, moreover that he has been personally associated with, and has inspired, the many important Soviet decisions which have promoted the growth of Indo-Soviet relations during the past decade. Thus he comes to us not as a stranger, but a highly esteemed friend.

The Soviet Union has commanded our respect and admiration from the early days. The Great October Revolution, and the mass struggles which preceded it, had a profound impact on national liberation movements all over the world. We saw in it a historic burning point on the road towards brighter

future for all mankind. Our Indian Revolution followed its own distinctive path. But from the beginning Soviet Union's understanding and sympathy towards the struggles of colonial and newly freed peoples was evident. There has been a similarity of outlook between our two countries regarding such questions and other international issues

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and the area of mutual understanding has steadily enlarged. This association was consecrated in the Treaty we concluded in 1971, providing a comprehensive framework for our relationship. Like our friendship, the Treaty is not aimed at any other country; its intention and its effect is to strengthen the forces of peace and stability in the world.

We, in India, are in the midst of what could be a long transition period between our feudal and colonial past and the new, socialist society which is our goal, ending exploitation of man by man, and assuring justice and equal opportunity and well-being to all our people. To carry through a radical transformation of this magnitude is a gigantic task. It is all the more challenging in that the experience of other countries is necessarily of limited advantage to us. We neither wish nor would it be possible in practice, to travel the same road. The complexity of the conditions we have inherited, and the scale on which every problem presents itself, are such as to leave us no choice but to innovate, improvise and experiment, and make our way forward, guided only by the realities of the situation, the values we cherish, and the goal we have set ourselves.

The crucial feature of the social transformation of which I have spoken is our effort to reduce, and eventually eradicate, poverty. This naturally calls for a vast expansion of our productive capacity and the modernisation of our economy. We have known from the beginning that this objective could not be reached by sole reliance on the free play of market forces. It has, therefore, always been our view that the nation as a whole, through the organs of State power, should have decisive responsibility for economic development. Planning was adopted as

the main instrument for this purpose, since we knew how effectively it had been used in the Soviet Union and other countries. The basic industries, financial institutions, and quite recently the wholesale wheat trade also, have been brought under public control so as to ensure fair distribution and the right allocation of resources. Working on these lines, we have completely changed the colonial structure of our economy. Agriculture is still our predominant sector, but since Independence we have made considerable progress towards industrialisation and the mastering of contemporary technology. Industrial production has increased more than three times, and agricultural production has more than doubled.

I should like to express our deep appreciation of the invaluable help that Indo-Soviet cooperation has brought to us in our advance towards a self-reliant, modern industrial economy. A special feature of this help is that it flows into our State sector - to which we have assigned a vital role in our planning - and more particularly into key branches of industry such as metallurgy, machine building, oil, and power generation - on which the future growth of the economy so largely depends. Bhilai, Bokaro, Mathura, are among the names which have become symbols of our cooperation. Taking it as a whole, it has made a significant contribution to the much-needed reshaping of our economy and the heightening of our production potential. And because of this, we have now new possibilities for the further development of our cooperation, and the expansion of trade that should accompany it.

Inevitably, conditions in the world at large affect the speed and success with which we can fulfil the aspirations of our people. This awareness and our traditional rejection of violence, and our concept of mankind as one family, have determined the broad outlines of our foreign policy. Indian nationalism, which has never been tainted by self-seeking or chauvinistic ambition, has, consistently worked for international peace and cooperation, and since there can be no true peace or cooperation without independence, we have always supported the liberation strug-

gles of colonial peoples, and against imperialism, oppression and racial discrimination. Non-alignment is essentially a declaration not of indifference or neutrality but of independence in judgment. The five principles of co-existence, to which we have long adhered, must surely be the basis of any stable and sane world order.

The international situation has changed in some important respects. The tensions of the cold war have been reduced, and we may hope that the long drawn-out conflicts in South East Asia and West Asia are also moving, however haltingly, towards a just settlement. The recent Non-aligned Nations Conference in Algiers reminded us once again, that two-third of mankind still exist

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in a state of intolerable poverty. Year after year, the gulf between them and the more affluent regions of the world is widening. This harsh reality must enter into any objective assessment of the problems of our time. The preservation of peace is essential but no less so is effective international co-operation to remove the poverty and disparity which so plainly hold the seeds of future conflict.

We are ourselves conscious of the need to safeguard peace and to foster international Cooperation, in our own region in Asia and especially with our immediate neighbours. Such cooperation is a valuable means of safeguarding peace. Our policy pursues this aim. We have sought to establish friendly relations, on the basis of sovereign equality, with all the countries adjacent to us, as with other countries in Asia. We believe also that cooperation between all our nations, in as many forms as are freely agreed upon, will strengthen our economies, raise our standards of life and reinforce our independence.

Mr. General Secretary. I have touched briefly on several themes which are uppermost in my mind. During the next few days we shall have other occasions to a further exchange of views. Our friendship is built on mutual understanding and trust. Above all, it rests on a common interest in peace,

and in the development of wide-ranging co-operation for peaceful purposes. This is no small matter, when it is the common interest of two peoples who, between them, represent nearly a quarter of the human race. It is of major significance not only to them, but to all peoples. I am confident that your visit will serve to proclaim, once again, the spirit and purpose of our friendship.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of our distinguished guests, His Excellency Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, to friendship and cooperation between the great peoples of India and the Soviet Union, and to world peace.

USA PERU INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ALGERIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Brezhnev's Reply

The following is a free rendering of the speech by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev at the banquet:

May I first of all, on behalf of the comrades who have arrived with me and on my own behalf, express our gratitude to the Prime Minister, Madame Indira Gandhi, and to the Government of India for the invitation to visit your country. We accepted the invitation with satisfaction for we regard the leaders of India and the Indian people with deep respect, and we highly value the path of friendship and co-operation in all spheres which we have travelled together, a path which vividly attests to the vitality of the principles of peaceful co-existence. These

principles form the most important component of the foreign policies of both the Soviet Union and the Republic of India.

Thank you for the kind words uttered here about the Soviet Union, the Soviet people and their representatives, as well as, for the high assessment of the successes scored by our country in its peaceful labour and in its peace-loving foreign policy.

I can tell you that the attitude of the Soviet people to India, our close neighbour and friend, is no less cordial. We in our country are well aware of the magnitude of the Indian people's contribution over the centuries to the treasure-house of world culture, and of the significance of modern India's achievements in the field of economic and social progress. The Soviet people appreciate as well the great contribution which India is making, as a sovereign power and an active participant in the peace and anti-imperialist movement of the non-aligned countries, to the cause of defending the freedom and independence of nations, to the establishment on our planet of peaceful and truly civilized relations between states.

We in the Soviet Union also duly appreciate the role played in formulating and implementing India's progressive policy by her outstanding leader, the head of the Indian

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Government and our respected friend,
Madame Indira Gandhi.

Frankly, I am happy to have this opportunity of revisiting India and holding comprehensive talks with you and other Indian statesmen on many questions of interest to our two countries. We regard the present invitation not only as a manifestation of friendly hospitality but also as evidence of the significance which your Government attaches to Indo-Soviet co-operation for the benefit of our two states, for the benefit of lasting peace in Asia and throughout the world.

This year I had an opportunity to participate in meetings and talks with leading

statesmen of many countries. Each of these meetings was highly valuable in itself from the point of view of developing the Soviet Union's relations with other states, upholding the rights of peoples and strengthening universal peace. And now, with the year drawing to its end, it gives me a feeling of great satisfaction to be on a visit in friendly India.

We attach very great importance to this visit. We see its purpose above all in discussing with you, Madame Prime Minister, and with the members of your Government, measures for further expanding and deepening our ties in the political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields, which are of major significance for our states and peoples.

We also expect to exchange views on important international problems, and there is, of course, no small number of such problems of mutual interest to our countries.

It is often said that in our times the achievements of science and technology have, as it were, reduced distances between countries and continents, and have brought them closer. This is, indeed, true. However, it is also true that scientific and technological achievements alone, however great they might be, are not enough to actually bring peoples closer together. That goal also requires an appropriate political climate in the world, and an international detente, and such relations between states as would permit utilizing the best achievements of human genius for the benefit of peoples.

In this sense, too, the experience of Soviet-Indian relations over the quarter of a century of independent India's existence is, in our view, of fundamental importance. It convincingly demonstrates how close and how many-faceted can be the friendly ties linking states with different social systems, when the policies of these states are inspired by the ideals of the struggle for the peace and security of nations, and against aggression and all forms of colonialism. This good example is exerting and, we are convinced, will exert an ever greater influence on inter-

national affairs.

At present, Soviet-Indian relations have reached such a degree of stability and mutual confidence as to permit us to look into the future for many years ahead and, to a certain extent, to plan that future in various fields of our co-operation.

A solid basis for this has been provided by the Soviet-Indian Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation, a treaty between the first country of victorious socialism and a major peace-loving state in Asia. Its effect on the development of our bilateral relations can hardly be overestimated. But the Treaty is also of outstanding international importance. Its beneficial effect on the entire situation in Asia is becoming increasingly obvious.

Esteemed friends, co-operation between nations is a vital and dynamic process, and it needs to be constantly developed and perfected. In this respect, I believe the peoples of the Soviet Union and India are expecting a lot from our meeting, they are expecting constructive steps which will promote still greater mutual understanding and still closer friendship between our countries. May I express confidence that the expectations of the Indian and Soviet peoples will be justified. It can be noted with gratification that our very first discussions have been keynoted from the start by a spirit of good-will, mutual understanding and good-neighbourly co-operation.

May I propose a toast to the health of our hospitable hosts, the President of the Republic of India, Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri, the Prime Minister, Madame Indira Gandhi, to the success and prosperity of the great Indian people, to the unbreakable friendship between the Soviet Union and India.

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INDIA USA PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister's Speech at Civic Reception to W. Brezhnev

The following is the free rendering of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the civic reception accorded to H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, at Red Fort grounds on November 27, 1973:

Since your arrival here you have seen the vast affection and high esteem in which the Indian people hold you and your great country. We respect you not only as a great leader, not only as the representative of a very big and worthy nation but as one whose entire life has been dedicated to the service of his motherland and who helped the poor and the downtrodden by giving them a new direction. Today we also welcome you as one who extended his helpful hand towards all the poor people of the world struggling for their freedom. My father, Jawaharlal Nehru, once described friendship as the best gift that can be given, and this gift you have given us. We have many friends and it is our effort to have more of friends and friendship. What is the true measure of friendship? Heeding the voice of a friend in distress or danger and sympathising with and helping him on such an occasion is the measure of friendship. You have done this not once but many a time.

Before we gained Independence you were sympathetic to our freedom movement. After the dawn of freedom you were the first to help us in establishing gigantic industrial ventures in the public sector and thus began the strengthening of our relationship at another level. And that is how the meek, mute, down-trodden India of yesteryear is

marching ahead today on the path of progress, on the path of socialism.

Admittedly we are facing many problems and difficulties but we also know that the determination of the Indian people will not falter and we will overcome these difficulties and continue to forge ahead so long as we have sincere friends with us.

Even in the pre-Independence period we were not out of touch with other peoples. Just as you have extended the hand of friendship towards us, we too similarly have raised our voice, maybe small but ever unrelenting, in favour of all freedom movements whether in Asia or Africa or anywhere else. Attempts were made to scare us, to stifle this voice, but it could never be suppressed and India always has rendered whatever assistance it could to these countries and their freedom movements.

You have, of course, helped us before also but the sympathy and help we received from you during the last two or three years are most fresh in our memory.

The people who are present here are not from Delhi alone; they hail from many states, and you are perhaps aware that not only all of you but thousands of miles away the people of the Soviet Republic too are at this moment watching and hearing us.

The crisis that overtook us with the sudden influx of ten million refugees and the war that followed is well-known. To many it seemed that India stood alone with no one willing to join her. You will remember that I visited many countries of the world to explain the situation and how it was likely not only to affect us or Bangladesh but have worldwide consequences. Then also it was you who heard our voice, who heeded the realities, and consistently stood by us and Bangladesh on the international scene. Though we had been earlier also thinking along these lines, it was undoubtedly your standing by us during such an hour which gave us new encouragement and we could further cement our long standing friendship by a formal treaty.

As I have said before, our friendship is not aimed against any other country. There is no reason for our friendship with the USSR to exclude friendship with other countries. You have friendship with almost all the countries of the world. Likewise we too wish to expand the area of friendship. Our Treaty, thus, is not directed against anyone. In fact, the idea underlying the Treaty was to make it an instrument of peace, justice and of increasing cooperation among nations. Not only did this thought inspire us but, we are inclined to believe, it also proved to be a major factor for peace and justice in the world.

You all know how painful the last year was - it was indeed a difficult and dark period for India. We faced the drought. Our people,

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a hard-working people not afraid of difficulties, braved it all though occasionally even they appeared to be feeling unsure. Today I wish to thank these people who gladly faced all difficulties and continued to follow our path despite attempts to lead them astray.

When we felt the scarcity of foodgrains -- because this was the time when external aid to us had been stopped, this was the time when foodgrains, etc., whatever we were importing were stopped and the prices rose so high that it became difficult to purchase foodgrains - at such a critical juncture you once again extended your hand of friendship, and, as the Congress President mentioned, sent us 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains.

For all this help we are grateful to you. The revolution which took place in your country was of one kind, and the Indian revolution was of another kind. Our paths are somewhat dissimilar, but our views are identical in many fields, e.g., maintenance of peace in the world and lessening of tension. Today we especially welcome you as one who has made a significant contribution to lessening world tension.

We do not know whether there will be a genuine peace, but we know that you and

others have made and will continue to make efforts to maintain peace in the world. Because you know that the countries like ours, which still have a long way to go, will be able to achieve their goal and objectives only when peace exists. Only then shall we be able to fulfil the promises made to our peoples.

We thank you for having accepted our invitation and spared a few days out of your extremely busy schedule to come to India. You have seen that It is not the Indian Government alone welcoming you. I am happy that almost all political parties have joined us in this. I am also happy that people have come here in large numbers and wherever you have gone, on the roads or at the airport, a sea of humanity has shown in their faces the warm welcome which India wants to extend to you.

Today we wish to congratulate you and all your people on the exceptional progress, that Soviet Union has made in so short a time. Those of us who have gone to the Soviet Union have seen the great changes taking place there every year and the tremendous progress made in all spheres. We are glad to see this because we understand, as Congress President quoted Panditji, that it is progress alone which can spread everywhere. A laggard makes everyone else lag behind a little; those who advance can help others advance too.

I thank you again and hope that during the period of your brief stay here you will know a little more about India. In your addresses you have enlightened us considerably about the Soviet Union, and its policies at national and international levels. We also wish you to know more of us and acquaint yourself in somewhat greater detail with our difficulties, our progress and our future goals.

You would have seen that just as our climate and sunshine are warm, ours is a country of warm friendship. Our people do not make friends lightly but once they do so, they do it with an open heart and with full understanding. The friendship between the Soviet Union and India is not a super-

ficial one. There are certain basic principles which unite us. There is, however, one thing in particular which I feel I must mention here. There are some people who try to confuse and misrepresent things. But the fact is that the Soviet Union has not, during so many years of friendship, ever put pressure on us or told us what to do and what not to do.

This is indeed very significant, for India is trying to carve out a path of her own. Perhaps some people may not like or appreciate it; yet we feel that it is only this path which will meet the needs of our people. We shall continue to adhere to it in pursuit of our goals, however difficult and arduous the struggle may be.

As you have yourself pointed out, Mr. General Secretary, as we move forward, problems also grow, but the vista also grows more enchanting. Thus we too continue to move forward - facing dangers, invasions, natural calamities - and we are trying to pull our country out of poverty. I once again heartily thank you for the help you have extended us in this endeavour and also for the current talks for assistance.

May I convey to you and through you to the people of your great country, my good wishes.

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INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BANGLADESH PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Leonid Brezhnev's Speech at Civic Reception

The following is the free rendering of the speech by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev at the civic reception accorded to him:

It is a pleasure for us, representatives of the Soviet Union, to meet with you, the population of the Indian Capital and citizens of the great and free India. I cordially thank you for the warm words addressed here to us and to the Soviet people. The Soviet people reciprocate in equal measure these sincere and profound sentiments and extend to the friendly Indian people their warm fraternal greetings.

I am fortunate enough to have been in India before. Though this was 12 years ago, the vivid and inimitable scenes of the life of the free Indian people are still fresh in my memory.

It was at the very time when the remaining pockets of colonialism disappeared from your country's map and the national flag of India was hoisted over Goa, Daman and Diu. Unforgettable are those days of nation-wide rejoicing on Indian soil.

One remembers also the stirring atmosphere of thousands strong public rallies in Madras, Delhi and Calcutta, and the faces of the young Indian men and women who filled the class-rooms of the Technological Institute in Bombay. One remembers too the derricks of Ankleshwar, the rising structures of the Neiveli electric power plant, and the monuments of ancient Indian architecture in Agra and Jaipur.

My memory has retained deep impressions of the meetings and long conversations with the outstanding statesman, Jawaharlal Nehru, a man who epitomised, as it were, the wisdom, the big heart and the great soul of the Indian people, and their aspiration to independence and progress.

A first acquaintance with a country is always exciting. A new meeting with it adds new feelings and allows of perceiving positive changes in the life of the country and its

people. our present visit is devoted mainly to negotiations with your country's leaders and does not envisage a tour of the country- However, with a clear conscience I say that my ties with India have never been interrupted. During all these years my colleagues and I have closely followed India's development, rejoiced in your successes and taken your problems close to heart. And all we know about today's India allows us to say in all conviction that India is on the move, India is heading for the future.

Our talks with the Prime Minister, Madame Indira Gandhi started yesterday. We agreed to examine jointly everything new that life has posed before our countries, to map out further steps which would help deepen and expand Soviet-Indian co-operation, to identify the areas of further joint efforts for the benefit of our people, for the benefit of peace. I can inform you, dear friends, that our talks with Madame Indira Gandhi and other representatives of the Indian Government are proceeding, as always, successfully and fruitfully.

In defining the nature of the relations that have taken shape between our two countries, representatives of the Soviet Union and of India have over a number of years cited them as an example of peaceful co-existence. This is perfectly true. This is the peaceful co-existence of two neighbour states with different social systems, a co-existence which is honest, loyal, imbued with peace and useful to both countries.

The Soviet-Indian relations that emerged on this basis yield with every passing year a growing volume of concrete material gains of co-operation, and at the same time some valuable spiritual fruits. The good seeds sown in the minds of hundreds of millions of Indian and Soviet people are yielding a bumper crop and deep-rooted traditions of Soviet-Indian friendship are taking form. Our friendship has been tempered in the flames of the blast-furnaces of Bhilai, it has been filled with a new content as a result of the joint efforts by the Soviet Union and India in the world arena - efforts aimed at the triumph of peace, justice and the freedom of peoples. It is building new bridges into

the future. I have in mind the increasing exchanges of young students between the two countries, the contacts between our children in the realm of the arts, as well as many other things.

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The durability of the bonds of good-will linking the Peoples of the two great countries, their mutual respect, sympathy and affection have been put to the test in various situations - in fine weather and in severe storms in the ocean of international relations. And today, I believe, we may state with confidence that our friendship has withstood this test with honour. It has convincingly proved its value for our peoples, in ensuring our common interests and, one may say, the security of our countries. It has proved its value for the cause of world peace as well.

In short, our friendship and our co-operation have been well tested in practice. From this the leaders of India and the Soviet Union drew a logical conclusion which was warmly approved by the peoples: they formalized the relations which had achieved a high degree of maturity by concluding the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation. Thus began a new stage in the development of Soviet-Indian relations: Peaceful co-existence in a spirit of goodwill was enriched, with profound and close friendship, with active and diversified co-operation.

The Treaty concluded by us is like a compass indicating the course of the future. We are convinced that this is the right course. It meets the vital interests of the peoples of our countries. And our present exchange of views with Madame Indira Gandhi and other Indian leaders has confirmed with a new force that the leaders of the two countries are determined to work resolutely so that our relations continue to evolve upward.

It is gratifying to note that not only Political but also economic relations between India and the USSR are strengthening.

When the young Republic of India came up against the most urgent task of creating a modern economy and industrializing the

country, the Soviet Union rendered it every possible support by deliveries of equipment on credit, by sending experts and by providing assistance in training local personnel.

Dear friends, esteemed participants in this meeting, the Soviet people are pleased that our experience, our knowledge, and our labour help you to solve great problems connected with the industrialization of the country.

Remember how we rejoiced together when the Bhilai plant, the first offspring of Soviet-Indian economic co-operation, was commissioned! And the day is not far off when the largest metallurgical giant in South-East Asia, the Bokaro plant, starts operating at full capacity. The 10 million tons of steel, which it will produce annually, in addition to the steel produced at your other plants will help to solve the problem of supplying new projects and factories in India with your own metal and will serve as a basis for a higher rate of the country's industrialization.

Comparatively recently, through joint efforts by Indian and Soviet experts, oil was discovered in Gujarat. Today over 3 million tons of this valuable product is extracted there. A new large oil refinery in Mathura, now under construction, is also to a certain degree the result of joint efforts by Indian and Soviet people.

It is in such concrete common endeavours, as nowhere else, that real friendship between Soviet and Indian people is forged - the friendship of working people - and there is nothing more solid and unselfish than this friendship.

Our two countries make active use of the advantages of equal and mutually advantageous trade. Over the last decade the Soviet-Indian trade turnover has increased more than fourfold. The USSR has become one of India's principal trade partners, and the share of this country in the foreign trade of the Soviet Union has become significant. Indeed, the very pattern of our trade is no longer the same; more than a half of what

the Soviet Union now purchases from India is produced by your young industry. Those who would like India to remain dependent are probably not very pleased with this. But we, Soviet people, sincerely rejoice in these changes and in the strengthening of India's economic independence.

Trade between our two countries should, naturally, be further expanded. There are still many untapped opportunities. However, the question, perhaps concerns not only trade. It seems to us, for instance, that consideration could be given to establishing a mutually beneficial co-operation in production between the Soviet Union and India, a collaboration which would be based on co-

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operative activities and a division of labour between our two countries, and on a mutual complementing of our economic potentials.

I can say that this idea is being discussed in the course of the Soviet-Indian talks which have just started. We are thinking of imparting a stable and long-term nature to our co-operation in the field of economy, science and technology, and defining the main directions of its development for the next fifteen years at least. We are convinced that this will be useful for both our countries, useful for both Soviet and Indian people. The purposeful, well considered development of our economic co-operation can become one of the factors contributing to the upsurge of India's economy and thus to the improvement of the life of its people.

Dear friends, many of you will recall that Yuri Gagarin, who blazed man's trail into outer space, made one of his "earth" travels to India. Here, on your soil, twelve years ago, he spoke of his dreams about the co-operation of our two countries in exploring the infinite expanses of the Universe. And now this dream is being translated into reality; the Governments of our two countries have agreed to launch an Indian satellite with the help of a Soviet rocket. This agreement is symbolic in many ways. It shows first of all the great distance covered by India in its development over a quarter of a

century. It also shows how great are the prospects for our relations. They involve not only outer space, but also atomic power production, electronics and many other fields as well.

Our relations are one of the most convincing manifestations of the great union between the world of socialism and the world that was born out of the national liberation movement.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet State have always sided with fighters for national freedom and independence and continue to do so. This political line is prompted by our entire world outlook which rejects both the exploitation of man by man and the oppression of one nation by another. This political line is rooted in the very nature of our socialist society, where over 100 nations and nationalities live as a close-knit family. This line was confirmed in the Programme of our party which states that the CPSU views the fraternal union with peoples which, have shaken off the colonial and semi-colonial yoke as one of the cornerstones of its foreign policy.

Last year India solemnly observed the 25th anniversary of its independence. Without any exaggeration one can say that this quarter of a century was a great period not only in the life of your country. It was a period of the victorious march of the forces of national liberation throughout the world. They have won State power in more than 70 countries.

Different countries took different roads. But life itself shows that genuine national revival is impossible without social renewal, that with the growth of revolutions of national liberation their anti-imperialist democratic trend gains in strength.

Naturally, the springs of the national liberation movement gush from the soil of each individual country. These movements, however, after turning into wide streams, have become a truly international force. And now we have every reason to speak not only

of transformations in the national liberation movement, but also of transformations occurring under its influence in the world. The newly liberated countries have started tackling their problems, such as the elimination of mass poverty, hunger and backwardness. And if one takes into account the fact- that we deal here with regions where the greater part of the world's population lives, it will become obvious that the problem is of tremendous, worldwide importance. Mankind as a whole is interested in its solution.

The geographic map of the world is now painted in new colours. Its socio-political pattern has acquired new features. A new powerful impetus has been given to world social progress. The young states have introduced the ardour of their struggle for freedom and independence into international affairs.

But frankly speaking, there still exist forces of no little significance which refuse to reconcile themselves with this and which attempt to check the mighty wave of the national liberation movement. Has this not been proved by the fact that the Vietnamese people had for decades to wage a heroic

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struggle for freedom and independence, against foreign imperialist aggression? Foreign interference in the affairs of other peoples of Indo-China has not yet ceased. Arab territories are still being trampled on by the invaders. Attempts to drown in blood the struggle waged by the peoples of the Portuguese colonies are still continuing. The map of the world is still disfigured by the racist regimes in Rhodesia, South Africa and Namibia. Reactionary military dictatorships are still rampant in a number of countries of Latin America, dictatorships so hateful to the peoples of those countries and so dear to the hearts of foreign monopolists. What is more, in some places the reactionaries are embarking on an offensive, depriving the peoples of their democratic freedoms and gains achieved in the struggle for independence and social progress. The events in Chile are one example.

However, we live in an era when the ideals of freedom and independence not merely give birth to fighters but also turn them into victors. And the reason is that today these ideals are upheld not by scores, or hundreds, or even thousands of people, but by millions upon millions. The reason is that these ideals find powerful support in the countries of socialism and in the young national states.

We cannot - we simply have no right to - forget that co-operation among these forces is the greatest asset of all mankind, and one of the most dramatic proofs of the change in the whole system of relationships in the international arena.

Under the influence of the constructive peaceful policies of the socialist states and the newly independent countries, a turn is now being taken in the international detente, which is wholeheartedly welcomed by all peace-loving peoples.

Detente has not yet finally eliminated the threat of a world nuclear catastrophe, but it has made it recede. And this we consider to be a great achievement of all mankind. Is it only the European or American civilizations that run the risk of being drawn into the orbit of nuclear war? Will its incinerating touch spare a single continent? All nations without exception breathe the same air, and the atmosphere of our planet, like peace on it, is indivisible.

Our country comes out in favour of broadening the zone of detente so that it embraces the whole world. And we are well aware of the fact that, by its very essence, such a task simply defies solution unless the will, the reason, the responsibility and the energy of the peoples and states of Asia, Africa and Latin America are placed in full measure on the scales of world politics.

The substance of our position is this: We propose to all countries - let us respect the independence and sovereignty of every state, let us not resort to any military actions against each other and not threaten one another with the use of force. Let us not only coexist peacefully but also develop all-

round co-operation. We address this appeal to all governments. We address the same appeal to the social forces which, we are convinced, can also make a big contribution to the reshaping of international relations.

A month ago the World Congress of Peace Forces took place in Moscow. It was attended by delegates from over 140 countries of the world. The delegation of the social forces of India was one of the most representative, and we were happy to greet it wholeheartedly in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. Over a thousand speakers addressed plenary sessions and the commissions of the Congress. Never before have people of such different views, beliefs and social affiliations been united by a single cause - the lofty and noble cause of the struggle for peace. Everyone who, like myself, took part in the deliberations of the Congress could not fail to feel the beating pulse of the peoples of the world and their invincible desire for peace.

The striving of the peoples for peace is fully expressed by socialism. This is natural. It is natural because our goal, the goal of the Soviet people and all the peoples of the socialist countries, is to build a communist society, a society where the growing material and spiritual needs of every individual will be fully met, where each individual would be given every opportunity for development. It stands to reason that to attain these goals we need peace and reliable security.

On the road to these goals, we have already achieved much. We have built socialism. Exploitation of man by man, all forms of oppression, inequality and discrimination have been eliminated from the life of our society forever. Plants and factories, and agricultural enterprises all belong in our country to the people and cannot be used

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against their interests. An end has been put to such social disasters as unemployment and poverty which befall the working man under a system of exploitation. National strife and mistrust have given way to friendship and fraternity. Education and culture have be-

come accessible to every Soviet citizen.

Our major achievement we believe to be the evolvement of new social moral standards. Their characteristic features are equality, collectivism and comradely mutual assistance of people regardless of their social group or nationality, a new attitude to work, genuine democratism and, finally, profound humanism and respect for the rights and personality of every man.

Speaking of our economic development, I would cite only one figure: This year's industrial output in the Soviet Union is already 113 times greater than that of pre-revolutionary Russia.

I should like to say in all frankness that all we achieved we did not get easily. Tsarist Russia was a backward and poor country. The young Soviet state was dragged into the hardest of wars. Unlike colonial powers, we did not build our welfare by exploiting other peoples. Everything we have done is the result of the selfless efforts of the Soviet people themselves.

Soviet people had to work hard and strenuously in order to create an economy of developed socialism, to build a modern industry and an advanced mechanized agriculture. Not infrequently our people had to live in those years under different conditions and to deny themselves many things. But they accepted this, they worked with inspiration and enthusiasm because they were well aware of their goal and of what they were fighting for. The Communist Party which unites millions of the most conscious and selfless sons and daughters of the people, has armed the Soviet people with a clear understanding of the ways of building the new society, it has inspired them to exploit and rallied them into a single powerful working team.

Dear friends, every country has its starting point, a watershed from which achievements are measured. There is such a starting point or watershed in India as well. This was the day in August of 1947 when after long decades of the hard and heroic liberation

struggle of the Indian people the country attained independence. The path covered by independent India is marked with truly historic accomplishments.

Knowing by our own experience the difficulty of putting an economically backward country on the track of progress, we, Soviet people, are able to duly appreciate eloquent and impressive facts; in two decades India's industrial output increased threefold; the production of grain more than double; the smoking whicks and oil lamps in more than one hundred thousand Indian towns and villages were replaced by electricity. Nearly a hundred million Indian children received the opportunity to study; highly skilled national personnel in various fields of science, technology and culture were trained in the country.

We are also aware of the fact that you are still faced with many complex and unresolved problems. One cannot but feel respect for the builders of a new India, for the tremendous historic work they are carrying out with so much persistence, confidence in their strength and selflessness.

The ruling party, the Indian National Congress, has put forward an important democratic programme of broad socio-economic transformations designed to improve the life of the people. It has proclaimed socialism as its goal. Broad political and social circles in India are known to come out in favour of socialism.

We have always believed and continue to believe that the choice of the road of social development is an internal affair of each nation, that this choice is determined by that nation's own motives, needs, socio-political traditions and the alignment of class forces. And if today in India mention is made of the development towards socialism this, in our view, stems from your historical experience as well. World capitalism endowed India with chains of colonial oppression. It is not surprising that your people do not want to pin their hopes for the future on that particular social system.

Our views on that score are well-known; as I have said, we know from our own experience that socialism releases immense creative energy in the masses.

This same experience both of our country and of other countries that are carrying out socialist transformations also shows another thing. To build socialism it is necessary not only to change social relations in a

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radical fashion but also to provide for an appropriate level of the development of industry, agriculture, public education and training of personnel. All this, as they say, requires double effort; all this is created by the people's persistent labour. At the same time we know quite well that when there is a clear-cut goal and a firm will to pursue a political course, and when this course is understood and supported by the people, socialism becomes a feasible objective.

The development of India along the road of economic and social progress is facilitated, in our view, by the fact that your country has many good friends in the world and among them the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, your close and faithful friend.

On behalf of the Soviet people I would like, from this high rostrum, to express to you, dear Indian brothers and sisters, our feelings of deep respect and solidarity, our heartfelt wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the great free and independent India.

Dear friends, now that our meeting is coming to a close, my thoughts carry me back to the main theme with which we were involved these days. By this I mean co-operation and friendship between the Soviet Union and India.

The cherished aspiration of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, our teacher and founder of the Soviet state, is coming true: the peoples of the Soviet Union and India are bound by truly friendly relations. This friendship is becoming an increasingly important political factor in Asia and the whole world. We are

proud that India is among our close friends.

We highly appreciate the efforts of the Indian Government led by Madame Indira Gandhi, and the efforts of all democratic, progressive forces of your country, which have for several years been consistently advocating the strengthening of all-round Soviet-Indian co-operation.

Friendship and co-operation with India form an integral part of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union. We were together with you when India was still under the heel of colonialism. We were together with you when India's new statehood was in the process of formation. We were together with you in times difficult and critical for India. We were together with you when various external forces tried to bring pressure to bear on India when it defended its vital interests. And again, the Soviet Union is together with India in the struggle for international detente, for peace and the security of nations.

We will stay together with you in days of joy and in days of trials.

Our relations are developing along a correct path and they rest on a firm basis. Friendship between our two countries has become a concern not only of the Governments and political leaders, but also of the peoples. The very spirit of today's meeting graphically proves how deep have gone the roots of friendship between our peoples.

The progress of our friendship is like climbing to the top of a mountain: The higher we ascend, the broader the horizons that open up before us. And one feels the urge to go higher and higher to see ever new and alluring vistas.

May the inviolable friendship between the Indian and Soviet peoples continue and prosper for ages to come for the benefit of our two countries and for the benefit of all peoples of the world!

Let us work jointly and together in the name of our noble goals.

USA INDIA MALI VIETNAM CHINA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA CHILE RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at ISCUS Reception

Following is the text of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society reception in honour of H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, on November 28, 1973:

I am not a member of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society; in fact, my name was not in the list of speakers. However, I gladly take this opportunity to testify to my regard for the Society and for its active members. I am as much a supporter of Indo-Soviet friendship as you are; otherwise, I would not have come here to participate in this meeting.

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You know that India and the USSR are connected by close ties of friendship. This friendship in no way impinges on our independence. In fact, it is a rare friendship which helps us to strengthen our independence. We can safeguard our independence only if we are economically strong. In this respect, the USSR has given us all-round aid. And personally General Secretary L. I. Brezhnev has done a lot to nourish Indo-Soviet friendship.

In my childhood I heard a good deal from my father about the October Revolution and about Lenin. But it was Mr. K. P. S. Menon who really introduced me to the

Soviet Union. I spent a month in 1963, travelling all over the Soviet Union with Mr. and Mrs. Menon. And I saw as much of the life of the Soviet people as I could. Unfortunately, we could not stretch the day beyond 24 hours. Nevertheless, we visited many places in the USSR and I came to know the Soviet Union a little more.

The visit of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mr. Brezhnev, constitutes another strong link in the chain of Indo-Soviet friendship, and I am sure this visit will further strengthen our friendship.

I hope the men here will not feel jealous if I say that while we are friendly with the entire Soviet people, we are especially friendly with the Soviet women, and I should like to convey to them our greetings and good wishes. The Soviet Union was the first country in the world to give women their due place in society. Their example inspires the Indian women to take an active part in the construction of a new society in India.

I wish all the best to the members of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society.

USA INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Brezhnev's Speech at ISCUS Reception

Following is the free rendering of the speech of H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev at the ISCUS reception:

I am very glad to have this meeting with you, leaders and activists of the Indo-Soviet

Cultural Society, with all representatives of the vast army of friends of the Soviet Union in India.

Our visit to India, to be brief, is a visit of friendship. And here, in your hospitable land, in the atmosphere of warmth and benevolence, one is very deeply aware of the vast content of that pithy word - friendship.

To have a real friend means a lot for every person. This is what enriches entire life. But there exists something that is greater. I mean friendship between peoples. Such a friendship is shared by millions and when our countries are concerned, by many hundred million people. This friendship largely determines not only the present but also the future of entire peoples and leaves an indelible imprint on their destinies.

Regarding Soviet-Indian relations from this viewpoint, one can say that they are developing in a particularly favourable climate; I would say, they are developing very happily. And the relations between our states and the relations between the peoples of our countries have from the very beginning developed along a single path, mutually supplementing and stimulating each other.

The circumstances that friendship between the great peoples of the Soviet Union and India was established by great men is extremely important.

One recalls now the words of the founder of our state, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, who, half a century ago, stressed that "the working masses of Russia are following with unflagging attention the awakening of the Indian workers and peasants." When he said this, India was under the rule of colonialists. The leader of the first victorious socialist revolution believed deeply in the inexhaustible creative resources of the Indian people, in their victory in the struggle for freedom and independence. Using Lenin's expression, I can say that the Soviet working masses followed with unflagging attention the emergence of independent India, follow

with unflagging attention the advance of the Indian people along the road of economic independence and social progress.

I recall now meetings with the great patriot of India, Jawaharlal Nehru - the meetings we had in Moscow, in Kazakhstan, and here, in Delhi. Nehru always paid great attention to Indo-Soviet relations and had a far-sighted vision of their perspective. He said in 1961 that relations between the people of India and the people of the Soviet Union were becoming ever closer and warmer. Today, there is no need to prove to anyone how perfectly right Nehru was.

Soviet-Indian friendship has now become a factor of great importance in the lives of the peoples of both countries and its role, we are confident, will increase with every passing year.

This trend in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and India is confirmed by our talks these days with the head of the Indian Government, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, whose contribution to enriching the heritage left to India by Jawaharlal Nehru is well known throughout the world.

It was pleasing to learn that Mrs. Indira Gandhi highly assesses the activity of your Society. I, on my part, associate myself with this appraisal fully and completely.

Friendship between the peoples is not an abstract notion. It is created by living people, who give their minds, their energy and their hearts to this noble cause. Allow me to greet through you all these people, hundreds of thousands of citizens of your country, representatives of different circles of Indian society - workers, peasants, teachers, doctors, engineers, workers in science and culture. I would like to shake hands with everyone of them to thank them for their warm feelings for our country. It is a pity that this cannot be done, but I cannot deny myself the right to mention the names of those who devoted many years of their life to activities in the field of Indo-Soviet friendship, and, especially, who spared no efforts to serve this cause. The people in

the Soviet Union know and remember Dr. Baliga, Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew, General Sahib Singh Sokhey and other active leaders who did so much to consolidate relations between the Indian and Soviet public. I should like to make a special mention of the fruitful work of the President of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society, Mr. Menon, a veteran of Indo-Soviet friendship, who has been heading the Society for nearly ten years.

I have spoken a lot about Soviet-Indian friendship these days. I mentioned it in my speeches at the airport, upon arriving in Delhi, at the banquet that, the Indian Prime Minister gave in honour of the Soviet guests, at a meeting with the citizens of your beautiful Capital. But I would like to emphasise one circumstance now.

We live at a time when the peoples themselves begin to play an ever greater role in the creation of a favourable climate in the relations between states, in the development of cooperation between different countries. In this light, the activity of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society, as a public organisation reflecting the thoughts and feelings of the Indian people, assumes a special importance. A noble mission devolved on your Society. Using the words of the great Russian poet, you are sowing knowledge, kindness and permanent values, you are helping to instil in the masses the feelings of friendship and brotherhood among the peoples. In this sense, the importance of what is being done by everyone of you and the Society, as a whole, can hardly be overestimated.

Your work consolidates and cements what is being done by statesmen and politicians who champion Indo-Soviet friendship. No one will deny that the more the people are acquainted with the history, traditions and culture of other peoples, the better can they understand the goals of today, the aspirations and concerns of one another. And this creates the atmosphere of trust, mutual understanding and benevolence. In this atmosphere, the tree of friendship grows richer and fuller.

We know how great is your country's interest in the Soviet Union, in the life and

work of the Soviet people. We highly appreciate the fact that the Indians treasure the name of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, that in Calcutta, for instance, a monument has been erected to this great fighter for the freedom and rights of the peoples. We are also moved by the respect and sympathy which the

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Indian people have for the Soviet Union, for its peaceful policy.

I can tell you, dear friends, that the Soviet people, too, work hard to strengthen friendly relations with India. They show a great interest in India, not only in its history of many centuries and in its ancient culture, but also in its present-day life, in its contemporary reality. This is shown by the publication of books by Indian authors in millions of copies, by productions on themes of Indian literature and folk epos that run in the theatres of Moscow and many other cities of the Soviet Union. Soviet scholars have written many works devoted to the history, economy, philosophy and art of India. The problems of the national-liberation struggle of the Indian people are studied in our country in great depth.

In the Soviet Union, collectives of enterprises and institutions in cities and villages join the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society as its collective members. But, actually, the entire Soviet people are a collective member of the Society of Friendship with India. The entire Soviet people are your friends, your loyal, disinterested and reliable friends!

Your Society and your colleagues in the Soviet Union have important tasks ahead. For, the opportunities of the mutual study of the life and experience of our peoples are, indeed, unlimited.

Cultural exchange is the main direction of your work. This is reflected in the very name of your Society. But contacts in the field of culture, that we have today, though quite vast, cannot be regarded as sufficient. The reciprocal study of two great cultures is still at the initial stage. There are vast opportunities for this, and the use of these op-

portunities can bring considerable benefit to the peoples of both our countries.

No doubt, we, in the Soviet Union, know far from all that is interesting and useful in the development of various branches of science, industry and agriculture of India. We also believe that a wider acquaintance with the Soviet Union's experience in different fields will be not without interest for India.

Naturally, we would welcome the all-round widening of various contacts between the working people of the Soviet Union and India, collectives of enterprises, trade unions, women's and youth organisations, and a broad development of tourism.

Esteemed friends, 40 years ago, the great Indian writer and thinker Rabindranath Tagore visited the Soviet Union. At that time, the socialist construction in the Soviet Union was just gaining momentum. By that time we had already lived through a great deal and had accomplished a great deal.

But the Soviet Union was still a poor and backward country that was surrounded by capitalist states, and at that time there was a threat of a new attack by them. To put it in nutshell, life was difficult then; it was necessary to accomplish gigantic tasks and we did not then have sufficient knowledge and experience. But the will of the people, their selflessness, their boundless loyalty to the cause, to which they devoted their lives, greatly impressed Tagore at that time. In his Letters from Russia, he wrote that the Soviet people had rolled up their sleeves and set to work to build on a vast scale of new world.

Several decades have already passed since then. We have built this new world.

From time immemorial, peoples have dreamt about a legendary hero who has great strength and can work wonders in the name of justice in the name of happiness of the working people. Our experience shows that the people themselves are the legendary hero and that socialism imparts to them a mira-

culous strength.

And today, dear friends, we continue to work with rolled-up sleeves, for we want to advance further. We wish to combine the advantages of socialism with the latest achievements of the scientific and technical revolution. We intend to achieve a new great upsurge of the productive forces of the country and to raise the material and spiritual level of the Soviet people. We have set ourselves the goal of further developing social relations and socialist democracy.

The successful advance of the Soviet Union and other socialist states is largely promoted by their fraternal co-operation that

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now embraces actually all the fields of life and activity of our peoples.

Joint actions in the political field, coordination of the plans and division of labour in the economic sphere, exchange of experience in the sphere of social life, exchange of cultural values - all this enriches every participant in this cooperation.

Our cooperation with countries that have liberated themselves from colonial oppression is growing stronger. In this respect, it would not be an exaggeration to say that the results of our present visit to India, the results of our talks with Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi will be very fruitful. We are confident of this. I would also like to express the conviction that these results will serve well the cause of the future development of Soviet-Indian relations to the benefit of both our peoples.

Much remains to be done to turn into reality what is planned. So let us work together in the name of Soviet-Indian friendship!

Let us work together in the name of peace all over the world!

Thank you very much, my friends, for your noble activity in the name of Soviet-Indian friendship, in the name of peace.

USA INDIA PERU RUSSIA KAZAKHSTAN

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Vice-President Shri G. S. Pathak's Speech in Parliament

Following is the speech of Shri G. S. Pathak, Vice-President and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, welcoming H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, at the Central Hall of Parliament on November 29, 1973:

It is a privilege for me to welcome you, Mr. General Secretary, in our midst, on behalf of the Members of Parliament assembled here as also of the people of India. We extend to you our warm and cordial greetings as a sincere friend of India and as a great and respected leader of a country with which India is happy and proud to have such strong ties of friendship. Your visit to our country will have made a historic contribution to further deepening and consolidating the links already uniting the 800 million people of our two nations.

You, Mr. General Secretary, are a child of the Great October Revolution, which our respected leader, Jawaharlal Nehru, had described as early as in 1927, as "one of the great events of world history, the greatest since the French Revolution and the story of which is more absorbing, from the human and dramatic point of view, than any tale of fantasy". Jawaharlal Nehru had, at the same time, added the following prophetic words. He said: "The dynamic forces released by the Revolution of 1917 have not played themselves out. They have made history, and they will continue to make history

and no man can afford to ignore them".

I well remember my own visit to Moscow for the celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the USSR. It was a memorable occasion and demonstrated the unity of the Soviet people and their determination to build a better and fuller life for themselves. It also brought to my mind the great sacrifices made by your country during World War II to stem the tide of fascism. We have admired your own personal role during that hour of trial and crisis for your country, as a soldier and warrior on active duty, all through the war.

The Soviet Union today is a mighty force in world affairs. It is therefore all the more important that the foreign policy of the Soviet Union, like the foreign policy of India, is aimed at consolidating international peace, strengthening peaceful cooperation amongst States, and rendering support to peoples struggling against imperialism, colonialism, and neocolonialism and the strengthening of the political and economic independence of their countries.

The cooperation between our two countries has extended to many fields. This country is deeply conscious of and grateful for the principled support extended by the

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Soviet Union in almost every crisis that we have faced. The sympathy and support which were spontaneously extended to us by the people and the Government of the Soviet Union during 1971 are still fresh in our minds. In the economic field the Soviet Union has made a significant contribution to India's own efforts at achieving industrial progress and self reliance. There are today many concrete expressions of this cooperation in the industries that have been set up in various fields - metallurgy, machine building, power, coal, oil exploration and refining, among others.

The cooperation between our two countries has always been on the basis of equality, sovereignty and mutual benefit. Indo-Soviet friendship is no passing phenomenon, in-

fluenced by considerations of the moment. It is because it is rooted in the long term interests of our peoples and States that the two countries have been together, even in times of hardship.

Over two years ago, India and the Soviet Union concluded a Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation. This Treaty was a logical expression of several decades of close and friendly relations between the two countries. It lays stress on the development of friendship and co-operation between the two States while reiterating the principles that have always guided their foreign policies - respect for each other's territorial independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

India has, since independence, followed a foreign policy based on non-alignment and the principles of peaceful co-existence which had been enunciated many years ago by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. We are unshakable in our determination to spare no effort in implementing these principles in regard to our relations with other States. We greatly value the importance that the Soviet Union itself attached to non-alignment as a policy that could contribute to the maintenance of international peace and stability and lessening of tensions in the world.

Mr. General Secretary, we have been privileged to welcome many statesmen of the world in this Central Hall of Parliament. But today we are welcoming not only a great and farsighted world leader - for we have followed with keen interest and admiration the untiring efforts made by you personally to promote friendship and peace in the world, - but also a great and sincere friend of India. For this reason, this day will long be etched in our memory.

I have great pleasure in requesting you now to address Members of our Parliament.

INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Brezhnev's Address to Parliament

Following is the free rendering of the address by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, delivered to the Members of the two Houses of Parliament:

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for the privilege of addressing the supreme legislative body of your country, the Parliament of the Republic of India. I am well aware of the important role played by the Parliament in the political life of India.

I take this opportunity to convey to you cordial greetings and good wishes from my colleagues, Members of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and from all Soviet parliamentarians.

Friends, we have arrived in your country at the kind invitation of the Prime Minister of your Republic, esteemed Madame Indira Gandhi. I must say that it was an invitation which we accepted with satisfaction.

The Soviet Union attaches great importance to the strengthening of friendship and to the all-round development of its relations with India.

Of no small importance in this context are the long-standing historical traditions of peaceful good-neighbourly relations between our two countries. These relations have never been marred by wars or conflicts. Throughout the history of Soviet-Indian re-

lations feelings of mutual respect and sympathy between our peoples have been growing and strengthening.

Soviet people have always sided with the Indian people's struggle for their freedom and independence, sincerely supported it and rejoiced in its successes. Far back at the turn of the century the founder of the Soviet state, V. I. Lenin, passionately condemned the arbitrary rule of the colonialists in India; he deeply believed in the vitality of the Indian people and predicted the inevitable collapse of colonial domination.

We know that, on their part, the Indian people and their outstanding leaders took an intense interest in our revolution and in the building of a new society in the land of Soviets. Jawaharlal Nehru remarked that following the behests of the great Lenin, Russia had looked into the future.

The successful development of political, economic and cultural ties between our two countries over the last decades has made these feelings of mutual respect and sympathy still stronger.

Our countries are also drawn together by the profoundly peace-loving nature of their foreign policies. The consolidation of Soviet-Indian friendship is today acquiring primary importance both from the standpoint of the national interests of the two countries and from the standpoint of strengthening peace and invigorating the international situation on the whole of our planet.

Esteemed friends, addressing such experienced politicians, I probably do not have to go into the details of all the concrete foreign policy steps taken by the Soviet Union in recent years. you are well aware of them; you know, for sure, that we consider it to be our task to do the utmost to promote a radical improvement of the world situation which would permit of establishing solid guarantees of peace and of ensuring genuine peaceful co-existence, detente and a broad development of international co-operation. This is the goal of the Peace Programme formulated by the 24th Congress of the Communist

Party of the Soviet Union which has become the platform of the foreign policy activities of our state.

Why do we attach such great significance to the fulfilment of these tasks, and to the implementation of the Peace Programme?

It is clear that to give effect to the gigantic plans for building a new society the Soviet people need peace, and a tranquil international situation, and the expansion of mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technological ties with other states. And this is something that other peoples, indeed all peoples on earth need as well. In a wider and historical perspective, this is a question of the road to be taken by the entire development of international relations, and to a great extent by the development of the history of human society.

The experience of the last quarter of a century has shown one possible road. I mean the "cold war". Where has it led? It has led to the splitting up of the world into hostile military-political blocs and to a disruption of normal ties between many states, and it has disfigured the internal life of many countries. Its sinister offspring was the fantastic growth of the means of mass annihilation. It has revealed a remarkable ability to convert the most wonderful achievements of human genius from a boon into a bane. It is surely appropriate to recall in this connection the words of Karl Marx who likened progress under capitalism to a cruel deity that would drink nectar only from the skull of the killed!

Moreover, the "cold war" was not all that "cold". It was punctuated from time to time by real wars unleashed by the imperialists and colonialists under the motto of a struggle against communism. By providing fertile soil for the most rabid reaction, it impeded the social progress of peoples and hampered the pursuit of independent policies by many countries that had freed themselves from colonialism.

Like a vicious tornado, it drew into its

orbit even those who would have liked to stand aside, and it cast a gloomy shadow upon the entire situation on our planet.

More than once the world was on the brink of nuclear war. Only at the price of great efforts was it possible to stop short at the brink - sometimes at the very last moment. But it needs only one mistake to bring upon mankind a great and irremediable disaster.

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We do not want ourselves to follow that road, nor do we want mankind to go on following it. We see another road, a road of building up normal relations between countries, of eliminating the hotbeds of war and tensions created by imperialist policies, and of developing broad and equal co-operation among all states irrespective of their social systems. Lasting peace and peaceful co-operation among states will also create more favourable conditions for the solution of many other important problems, such as those of national liberation, social progress, overcoming the glaring economic inequality of various countries. This is, we are sure, the only alternative to a nuclear catastrophe which, in one way or another, would result from continued and aggravated tensions in relations between states.

Today we can say with great satisfaction that this alternative is gradually becoming a reality. In recent years the relations between many states - relations which were previously extremely acute and tense - have been registering ever more clearly a turn towards peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous co-operation.

What is the reason for this?

The reason lies, above all, in the fact that in our times the real might and political influence of the socialist states and of the countries that freed themselves from colonialism has increased immensely, and that the influence of these profoundly peace-loving states upon the entire system of international relations has grown.

To cut the very roots of the "cold war" it was necessary to provide its initiators with tangible proof of the futility of their hopes to topple socialism and to strangle the national liberation revolutions of the peoples by relying on the use or threat of force. And there was only one thing which could prove the futility of their hopes, and that was the transformation of socialism and the national liberation movement into an invincible force. And they did become such an invincible force - a force bringing mankind progress, freedom and peace!

The more far-sighted leaders of the Western states, who realistically assess the situation in the world, are coming to the conclusion that the continuation of the policy of pressure, threats and building up tension, holds out no prospects and is fraught with danger. The idea of peaceful coexistence which has been invariably and consistently upheld by the socialist countries has come to enjoy increasing support in the capitalist world as well. And all of us, esteemed Members of Parliament, can justly take pride in the fact that this is a historic achievement of the peace-loving policy to which both our states, the Soviet Union and India, are making a significant contribution - each in its own way.

The positive process presently underway in international relations are most graphically expressed, I Would say, in the European continent. It is for this reason that I would venture to give you our assessment of some topical European problems.

Through the bloody experience of the two World Wars, which taught both nations and politicians a good deal, and due to the persistent efforts of the peace-loving policy of the socialist countries, which met with response and understanding among the realistically-minded circles of bourgeois Europe, the European states have in fact finally come to a common understanding that war, and especially a nuclear war, should be absolutely excluded as a means of solving European problems.

That conviction underlies the treaties and other important documents signed in

recent years by socialist states and France, the Federal Republic of Germany and other countries of Western Europe.

And now, for the first time in the age-long history of Europe, collective efforts are being made by European states (with the participation of the United States and Canada), which at the All-European Conference have set themselves the task of jointly laying a solid foundation for new relationships in Europe relations of peaceful coexistence and active mutually advantageous co-operation.

To elaborate a kind of a code for such peaceful relations and co-operation, which would be binding upon states and, which would inspire the peoples, is certainly not a simple thing, if account is taken both of the disparity in the social systems of European states and of differences as to what they regard as their national interests in one sphere or another. That is why there are

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debates and discussions, and a diplomatic struggle, at the All-European Conference. This is not at all surprising; it could be foreseen.

In the long run, we believe the edifice of European peace and co-operation built by joint efforts will gradually replace the present division of that continent into opposing politico-military blocs.

About a month ago negotiations were started in Vienna whose purpose is to work out, for the first time in European history, an accord on the agreed multilateral reduction of forces and armaments in the centre of the continent, at the junction of the zones of the activity of the two opposing military blocs. As we understand it, this should be a reduction from which neither side would gain unilateral advantages, while at the same time general security and mutual trust would be strengthened. The Soviet Union lays no claims to any military advantages from the contemplated reduction and it certainly cannot agree to the other side gaining them. This should be absolutely clear.

International detente provides favourable conditions to move ahead on the whole front of the struggle for an end to the arms race and for disarmament. The Soviet Union has been waging this struggle for many decades. Our efforts, and the efforts of other socialist states and of all peace-loving countries have already begun to yield tangible results. But the main task is still ahead. The arms race still continues and is fraught with no small hazards for mankind. And this is increasingly contradicting the general trend in the development of international relations towards detente and the strengthening of peaceful coexistence.

The implementation of partial steps in the sphere of disarmament such as prohibition of certain types of weapons, complete discontinuance of nuclear tests everywhere and by all, reduction of military budgets together with further measures to limit the strategic arms of the militarily strongest Powers, will bring the world closer to the ultimate goal in this field, that is, to general and complete disarmament. The Soviet state has been fighting for this great goal since the very first years of its existence. It has already contributed significantly to this cause. And I want to assure the Parliament of friendly India that the land of Soviets will do its utmost to bring closer the day when the centuries-old dream of the best minds of mankind about destroying the means of mutual annihilation becomes a reality.

Distinguished Members of Parliament, for a stable change in the whole world situation towards a more enduring peace and security of unquestionably great importance are the changes for the better which have occurred in the last two years in relations between the Soviet Union and the United States of America. The essence of these changes - in terms of what is primarily important for other countries - is that the two strongest powers, a socialist one and a capitalist one, have mutually recognized, in a binding state-law form, the principle of peaceful coexistence as the basis for relations between them. What is more, they have undertaken to conduct their foreign policies

in such a way as to prevent the outbreak of nuclear war.

I believe there is no need to argue that such an understanding benefits all the peoples of the world interested in the prevention of a new world war. In taking these steps to improve relations with the United States, the Soviet Union acted in accordance with the well-known principles of its peaceful socialist foreign policy. We duly appreciate the fact that the leadership of the United States of America in this instance displayed political realism, foresight and an awareness of the demands of the times.

Like all significant turning points in historical development, this turn in relations between the USSR and the USA is not being made simply; it is being made under conditions of a struggle between various forces, and with certain zigzagging and hitches. We clearly see that certain quarters in the politico-military bloc of Western powers, and in the United States itself, regard as undesirable for themselves the establishment of relations of lasting peace and mutually advantageous co-operation between the Soviet Union and the United States, and they are trying to oppose it in every possible way. It is also known how active such circles are in the United States though these activities, we are deeply convinced, have nothing in common with the interests of the American people.

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However, what has been achieved as a result of the Soviet-American summit talks in 1972 and 1973 in terms of directing relations between the Soviet Union and the United States onto a normal and healthy track undoubtedly meets the fundamental long-term interests both of the Soviet and American peoples and of universal peace. And permit me, dear friends, to say outright that we in the Soviet Union are convinced that nobody will succeed in obliterating this peaceful gain of a constructive policy!

The Soviet Union is fully determined to go further along the charted path of detente and peaceful co-operation. Of course,

we proceed from the assumption that the American side will act likewise.

Distinguished Members of Parliament, it is with great satisfaction that we note the fact that the great Asian continent has not remained aloof from the positive changes in international affairs. In Asia, too, the locomotive of detente and of the normalization of international relations has already started to move and is beginning to pick up speed.

Indisputably, the situation in Asia remains complicated. Guns are still firing here and the blood of patriots is being shed. There are still quite a few acute contradictions, major outstanding problems and disputes between states and hotbeds of grave tensions. Yet, there are changes - and substantial ones at that.

A prominent part in this respect was played by the ending of the Vietnam war achieved as a result of the great victories of the Vietnamese people resting on the support of the Soviet Union and all peace forces, including India, in the struggle against imperialist aggression. With the passing of time it is becoming increasingly clear that this was the necessary prerequisite for the amelioration of the situation in the Asian continent.

Other important elements of that positive process are a significant improvement of the situation in South Asia and the emergence of the independent state of Bangladesh as a rightful member of the family of Asian nations, and the broadening co-operation between Asian states. The well-known proposals of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea on the peaceful democratic unification of Korea have made a useful contribution to enlivening the situation in the continent.

In Asian countries confidence is growing in the feasibility of achieving a lasting peace and creating a stable situation here, favourable for concentrating the efforts of these countries on topical tasks of their internal development. The search is being intensified for practical ways and concrete measures, both partial and general, which would be

conducive to promoting and strengthening the security of Asian states. It is on these problems that the thinking of the Asian public is concentrated, and we believe this to be a major achievement.

No small number of interesting initiatives are emerging, inspired by a concern for Asia's peaceful future, such as the idea of the neutralization of South-East Asia, the search for a formula for relationships between South Asian states which would ensure good-neighbourly co-operation between them, the proposal to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and plans for regional co-operation.

There is also a growing interest in the idea of safeguarding security in Asia through collective efforts. The Soviet Union is known to be a determined advocate of this idea. This is not only because the greater part of the territory of our state lies in Asia. We believe that the establishment of relations of peace, security and co-operation in Asia, a continent populated by over a half of mankind, would be a step of world-historic importance in ensuring the peace and security of nations on a world-wide scale.

In this connection we take into account not only the political but also the economic aspects of the matter. Given lasting peace, the Asian countries will be able, for the first time, to concentrate on solving the economic and social problems they face and on developing their culture. In these circumstances it will be easier for them to consolidate their economic independence.

As early as in the 1950's the Asian countries formulated the principles which envisaged the development of their relations towards peaceful coexistence and co-operation. These were the principles of Bandung

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as well as the policy of Panch Shila which is especially dear to India. But afterwards, for reasons which there is apparently no need to recall, this process was, so to say, frozen. We believe the time has now come to resume the movement that was interrupted.

This is why it seems opportune to hold a thorough and comprehensive discussion of the idea of collective security in Asia which would help trace a common approach, acceptable to all states concerned, to the problems of peace and security in the continent. In a word, we are calling for an active, broad and constructive discussion which would help to bring about a deeper understanding of the urgent tasks. The opportunity has arrived and the present situation in Asia has created adequate prerequisites. Asia can and must become a continent of peace, friendship and co-operation. This great goal is worth the efforts and the struggle.

Indeed, a struggle for the cause of peace and detente still has numerous and quite influential opponents. These are, primarily, the forces in the capitalist world which are directly involved in military preparations, which are interested in the widest possible arms race and in boosting military expenditures. These are also the forces of extreme reaction, racialism, overt or covert colonialism and various forms of modern fascism which exist in various parts of our planet, on different continents. Together, they form a sort of united front to oppose the turn towards peaceful coexistence which has now become discernible in international relations. These are the same forces which are fighting against social progress, freedom, independence, and the equality of peoples.

All this creates no small obstacles in the way of mankind's progress towards lasting peace and good-neighbourly co-operation among nations. The achievement of the goals, which seem self-evident and so desirable for the peoples, proves to be no simple and easy matter. It requires persistence, energy, dedication and skill in overcoming the resistance of the opponents of detente. It requires the effective solidarity of all those who stand for peace and progress. The contribution of every peace-loving state is important, and indeed, the contribution of countries such as India and the Soviet Union playing as they do a tremendous role in international affairs,

A striking example of the complexity of

present-day international relations was provided by the events of the recent weeks in the Middle East which became a focal point of the inter-action of many of the opposing forces in the world today.

Now, after some relatively brief but violent fighting, calm has set in there. The hostilities have been stopped. But the ruins are still smouldering, the graves of thousands of victims are still fresh, the hostile armies are confronting each other with their arms at the ready. It is clear that urgent measures, must be taken to prevent new bloodshed and to establish a stable peace. But for this to be done, the lessons of the past should be learned.

What conclusions can be drawn from the recent events in the Middle East and around it?

First of all, the new war has shown with all clarity the inadmissibility of a further continuation of the explosive situation in the Middle East, the inadmissibility of the further presence of the aggressor on the lands he seized by force. Unless an early peace settlement is reached, unless all the consequences of Israeli aggression are eliminated, a new and even more dangerous military explosion may occur in the Middle East at any moment.

The hostilities have made it crystal clear that the Arab world today is not what it was six years ago. They have shown the increased strength of the Arab states, the victims of aggression, and they have dispelled the myth of the invincibility of Israel's armed forces. At the same time the world has witnessed the effective solidarity of the states of the Arab world, which was evident both in the military sphere and in the implementation of political and economic measures to defend common interests in the international arena.

Practical proof was also provided of the high effectiveness of the solidarity and friendly assistance given to the Arab peoples in their just struggle by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and by many states

in Asia, Africa and other continents. The political and diplomatic isolation of Israel resulting from its aggressive policies has become especially obvious these days.

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At the same time the events of the past weeks have given us yet another proof of the usefulness for universal peace of the work already done in recent years to normalize international relations and to ease international tensions, in the first place, in relations between the biggest states with different social systems.

I trust that the distinguished Members of Parliament will agree with me that without this factor of detente in the world which emerged in the last 2 or 3 years, the state of affairs would have been quite different. Were the present conflict to break out in an atmosphere of general international tension and of exacerbated relations, say, between the United States and the Soviet Union, the clash in the Middle East could have been considerably more dangerous; it could have acquired dimensions threatening to universal peace.

And it can be said for sure that in such a case there would have been no possibility for a joint initiative by the USSR and the USA which was supported by other states and has led to the well-known decisions of the Security Council on the Middle East and has made the cease-fire possible.

At present the main task is to secure, at long last, a stable peace settlement in the Middle East in the course of the forthcoming negotiations. This requires that the lands seized by Israel be returned to their legitimate owners, that justice with regard to the Arab people of Palestine be ensured and that a foundation be laid on this basis for durable peaceful coexistence and good-neighbourly relations between the Arab states and the state of Israel. Otherwise there will be neither peace, nor tranquillity in the area.

Historic responsibility rests on the participants in the forthcoming negotiations.

As regards the Soviet Union, it has no selfish interests in the Middle East whatsoever. Our only profound desire is to see that a genuinely stable peace, a just peace, is finally established in that part of the world, situated in proximity to the borders of the Soviet Union. And the Soviet Union, for its part, will do everything to actively facilitate this.

We highly appreciate the position taken with regard to the Middle East events by the Republic of India which resolutely and unambiguously backed the just cause of the Arab peoples. The stand taken by India is not fortuitous. On the contrary, it is indicative of its general role in modern international relations as a peace-loving state actively fighting for the cause of peace and for the peoples' rights.

After liberation, India can be said to have played the role, of an innovator paving the way for the independent foreign policies of young states. It was one of the sponsors of the historic Bandung Conference, the first big anti-imperialist forum of Afro-Asian states. India was at the source of the movement of non-alignment and contributed to the formulation of its progressive principles. Anti-colonialist and anti-racialist pronouncements, opposition to imperialist military blocs, support for peoples fighting for their national liberation and dedication to the principles of peace and peaceful coexistence have all justly won high prestige for India's policy.

The great contribution which India is making to the normalization of the situation in South Asia is generally known. With its active participation, important agreements have been worked out which laid the foundations for good-neighbourly relations between all states of the region. Today, for the first time, conditions are taking shape in the Subcontinent for a crucial turn to good-neighbourliness and mutually beneficial co-operation. AU sincere friends of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan and all truly peace-loving states can only rejoice in this development.

It is no secret that India's new role and the enhancement of her prestige and influence in the world are not to everyone's liking. Some even try to impede this. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, we welcome this historic change. In India's growing international role we see a convincing manifestation of the current process of deep democratization of international relations and the transformation of the peoples who for centuries were the object of policies pursued by others into equal participants in and creators of international life. Another reason why we welcome India's new role is because its policy is aimed at achieving objectives which

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are also the objectives of Soviet policy, that is, the struggle against colonialism, against aggressive imperialist wars, and for strengthening peace and invigorating the International situation.

The years of the consolidation of independent India were at the same the years of strengthening Soviet-Indian friendship. We started from a few contacts and arrived at a broad and close co-operation in the most varied fields, which is based on the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation.

We state with great satisfaction that the task of the further development of co-operation between our countries is met with full understanding and active support on the part of the Government of India, led by the outstanding stateswoman and ardent patriot, Madame Indira Gandhi.

The idea that Soviet-Indian friendship is indispensable and beneficial has seized the minds of millions both in India and in the Soviet Union. This constitutes the most solid foundation for the further successful growth of our relations.

Permit me to express the hope that the Indian Parliament will continue to promote Soviet-Indian co-operation. We in the Soviet Union as well, I can assure you, will be working in this direction. Our policy of strengthening friendship between the Soviet Union and India in every possible way is a policy

which is firm and invariable.

In conclusion, may I ask the permission of the distinguished Members of Parliament to extend through you once again greetings to the great people of India and to wish them happiness and prosperity.

Thank you.

USA INDIA RUSSIA FRANCE GERMANY CANADA AUSTRIA MALI VIETNAM BANGLADESH
KOREA INDONESIA ISRAEL PAKISTAN OMAN

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Speaker Shri G. S. Dhillon's Speech

Following is the speech of Shri G. S. Dhillon, Speaker, Lok Sabha, on the occasion of the address by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, to the members of the parliament:

It is a matter of proud privilege and genuine pleasure for me to express, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Members of Parliament and the 547 million people of this land whom they represent, our feelings of Spontaneous joy at your visit. I extend to Your Excellency our heartfelt gratitude and warm appreciation for your very inspiring and endearing address this evening. All of us will cherish the memory of this occasion for long.

You are here, Your Excellency, not only as an important leader from a country with whom India has particularly close relations; you are to us specially welcome as a sincere friend, a genuine well-wisher who, we know, has been taking keen interest in the shaping and nurturing of a policy of close cooperation and friendship which our peoples have come

to value greatly. The warm and affectionate welcome accorded to you on arrival and the scenes of spontaneous rejoicing that greeted you wherever you went in the last four days truly reflect the great esteem in which your country is held by our people.

The friendship between India and the Soviet Union is one rooted in the hearts of our peoples. And it is not a sapling of yesterday. Long before India became free, our peoples were drawn together in ever so many ways. As the world knows, Mahatma Gandhi was profoundly influenced by the great thinker Tolstoy. Our freedom movement itself derived encouragement and hope from the Russian Revolution.. Our leaders -- notably the then Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru - drew inspiration from the Soviet example, your great struggle and your greater accomplishments. It is this affinity in our backgrounds that has bound our peoples in their deep-seated faith in the ideals of human equality, freedom, development, eradication of poverty and stout opposition to colonialism and racism. What is more natural than that, with our independence the relations between our two countries deepened and matured to put forth foliage should have steadily grown - broadened, and fruit with the years.

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Thanks to the unprecedented march of science, we are living in a very compact world today. More than ever before, mankind has now to think and act in overall universal interest. There can be no true happiness in this little habitation of ours when sections of its peoples are held in bondage or deprived of their basic human needs. It is a tribute to your wisdom and farsightedness, Your Excellency, that you were among the very first world statesmen to recognise the five basic principles of peaceful coexistence. It was one of the foundational principles of your great nation - and a principle which you have adhered to with a sense of commitment and determination - that the peoples of the world must come together and develop and grow through mutual cooperation and sharing of knowledge, skills and resources. The relations between our two

countries, as is well known, are based on such ideals of constructive cooperation between our two peoples.

Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation indeed follow the path of reason which should govern relations among nations. Through our record of friendship and cooperation over the years we have demonstrated to the world how two progressive peace-loving peoples can constructively cooperate in various fields. Events over the last few years have amply shown how much cooperation, besides being mutually beneficial and enriching, can and does serve the cause of peace and stability. May I say, Your Excellency, that a visit by a leader of your eminence has greatly strengthened the ties of Indo-Soviet friendship and besought our peoples closer.

May I once again thank Your Excellency on behalf of all assembled here and say how happy we are at your coming and request you to convey - the sincere and warm-hearted greetings of our Parliament and the people to the great people of the Soviet Union.

USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Brezhnev's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi

Following is the free rendering of the speech by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev at the banquet given by him in honour of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on November 29, 1973:

All of us, Soviet people present here, are happy to welcome you, Madame Prime

Minister, and your colleagues, at the Soviet Embassy. Our visit to India is coming to an end, and first of all I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to express heartfelt thanks, for the cordial hospitality we enjoyed, to you, Madame Prime Minister, to the Government of India and to all Indian people. The sincere sympathy and friendship towards the Soviet Union and the Soviet people, which were manifested during our stay on Indian soil, seem to have surpassed even the generous warmth of your climate.

An old Indian parable was told to me once. "What is the shortest route to friendship with one's neighbour?", a wise man was asked. The wise man replied: "The one along which people come towards each other." I can say that is the route - a route of mutual goodwill - that is taken by our peoples. The Soviet people reciprocate this friendship, in full measure. They reciprocate friendship with friendship, kindness with kindness and trust with trust. We value our relations with India and will do all we can to make these relations ever more close and cordial.

I feel I have the right to speak about the special nature of Soviet-Indian relations. This specific character is based on old traditions of friendship and developed forms of cooperation. It is also based - and I want to underline this - on the fact that the ties of friendship between our countries do not fence us off from the rest of mankind, but help to multiply our positive contributions to the common efforts of improving the world situation.

During the five days that were full of joint work, we gave our attention to a rather wide range of problems, naturally including the problems of Asia. These discussions confirmed our mutual desire to continue to make every effort in order to establish, on this great continent, stability and peaceful cooperation based on equality and respect for sovereignty and to guarantee the security of all countries.

ment of the situation in South Asia as given by the Indian side. The Soviet Union shares India's deep interest in establishing a lasting peace on the South Asian sub-continent. As is generally known, we have always strived to assist the development of events in this particular direction. That was why we welcomed the Indo-Pakistani Agreement, which was signed in Simla by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Prime Minister Z. A. Bhutto. We heartily hoped for the establishment of genuinely good-neighbourly relations between the countries of this region - India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

We are deeply gratified that - as reaffirmed by the entire course of our talks - the Soviet Union and India have a similar approach to peace and the world detente. Only a democratic peace, a just peace, can be a genuinely lasting peace. Such a peace must be based on respect for the rights, sovereignty, and legitimate interests of all countries without exception, be they big or small, members or non-members of political groupings - not on some poles of strength and confrontation, about which it has become fashionable to speak. It is not a matter of learning subtle methods of manipulating the so-called balance of forces, but a matter of excluding the use of force from international relations. This requires the pooling of the constructive efforts of all countries.

We find it natural that our talks with the Prime Minister and other Indian statesmen were marked by great understanding. Mutual understanding is fostered by trust, which has become the flesh and blood of Soviet-Indian relations. The importance of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, and the firm resolve of the two sides to make use of all the opportunities in it, have been reaffirmed to us. The principles of our relationship, proclaimed in the Treaty, are being translated ever more in practice.

We feel that a lot has been done during these days. Several important and useful agreements have been signed, defining the basic trends of our cooperation in various fields.

Great opportunities are opening for the economic, scientific and technical cooperation of our countries. Not only have we discussed the state of affairs in this field and mapped concrete decisions on the more urgent problems. We have also determined the trends for cooperation in the future - between 1975 and 1980 and for a longer period. It was very important that we discovered a unanimous wish to raise economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and India to a qualitatively higher level. What I have in mind is the improvement and broadening of economic cooperation between our countries and the implementation of several large-scale and long-term projects. We feel this could greatly benefit the peoples of both our countries.

The representatives of our countries have also signed an agreement on cooperation between the planning bodies of the Soviet Union and India. Some people might ask us whether it is possible for planning bodies to cooperate if their countries have different social systems and economies built on different bases. But therein lies the peculiarity of the agreement - it takes into account the socialist nature of Soviet economy as well as the consistent economic development of India and the big government sector it has.

I can tell you that we in the Soviet Union, will soon be reviewing the economic results of this year and discussing the next year's draft plan. At a future date we will be drawing our country's long-range economic development plan up to 1990. In doing this work we naturally place the main stress on problems stemming from the development of Soviet socialist society. At the same time we link the solution of these problems with the consolidation of peace and development of mutually profitable cooperation with various countries, above all the fraternal socialist countries. There is no doubt that cooperation with India will also hold a prominent place in our plans.

We understand the desire of the Government, of India - as expressed in the course of the talks - to strengthen the country's security for the sake of safeguarding national

sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence.

This visit has enriched us by providing us with new impressions about the way of life of the friendly Indian people, their determination to advance towards national revival, consolidation of economic independence and broadening of social transformations.

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On the whole, dear friends, my conscience allows me to say that we are perfectly satisfied with the results of our visit and with our talks with the leaders of India. I do not think that it will be an exaggeration to say that the results of this visit signify that a new big step has been taken in the development of Soviet-Indian friendship. All this reaffirms the importance of direct contacts between the leaders of states when these contacts are aimed at constructive development of inter-state cooperation.

In this connection I would like to say here that we shall be sincerely happy to welcome the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who has accepted an invitation to come on an official visit to our country.

In conclusion allow me to request you to join me in drinking a toast to friendly India, the great Indian people, the health and success of their outstanding leader - Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi.

USA INDIA PERU PAKISTAN BANGLADESH

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Her Honour

Following is the free rendering of, the speech of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the banquet given in her honour by H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev:

We are very happy that you accepted our invitation and were able to spare some time to be here amidst us. We attach great significance to such meetings as these enable us to deepen acquaintance and friendship and we can appreciate better each other's point of view. The people of India who had earlier known you only from a distance have now come to know you more closely. During this brief period our discussions have covered bilateral and international matters and we find that our outlook is similar on many international issues.

Quite a few initiatives for building peace and lessening tension have been taken in the last few months but there are still many dangers ahead on our way. It is, therefore, essential that we be aware of each other's views and the steps being taken, especially by a great country like yours, to establish peace so that we may also contribute our mite.

Your visit and your stay here have been successful and very profitable for us. It has provided us an opportunity to remove any misgivings about our Treaty, particularly from such minds which are not too keen to discourage misunderstandings about it.

There is a lot that we can learn from your country, the most important being the way a people can, in the face of heavy odds and many dangers, march ahead and create a new society. There are many newly-independent nations like India whose revolutions are not yet complete. Ours is a long and arduous path and the last year has been particularly difficult. But we are fully confident that the people of India possess the fortitude, enthusiasm and strength to brave these difficulties and forge forward with the help of their friends.

The attention of the world is naturally focussed on your visit; it is appropriately of great interest to all. What you say and do is Important for yours is a great country and the thoughts and deeds of a leader of your eminence cannot but influence the entire world. Our friendship with you will ever work for peace and justice everywhere.

Today we all are your hosts and I thank you on behalf of my colleagues.

Your, Excellency, Mr. General Secretary, we wish you good health and success to your peace efforts. Our best wishes also for the great Soviet people and Indo-Soviet friendship.

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Date : Nov 01, 1973

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Farewell Speech

Following is the speech of the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the farewell function on November 30, 1973, at the Palam Airport, New Delhi, on the occasion of the departure of H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev:

It has been a significant week not only for us but also for the Soviet Union and the whole world. Fruitful discussions aimed at promoting international peace and stability and enlarging mutual cooperation were held with Mr. Brezhnev and his colleagues in the Soviet delegation during their visit. International friendship is a great objective; it

is an equally important means also. I have no doubt that our mutual discussions will encourage efforts for establishing peace among nations.

Agreements have been signed between our two countries for expanding the area of economic and cultural cooperation. This visit has also opened new vistas for strengthening our relations in the economic and technological fields. These multifarious relations are indeed vital to our endeavours to strengthen our economic base. A country can surmount poverty and economic disparities only if it had a strong economic base.

We are aware that it will be mainly our own hard work and sacrifice which will enable us to overcome economic backwardness. But in some special sophisticated areas we greatly need external assistance. In the modern world no country can be completely self-sufficient. We are working towards self-reliance through our Five-Year Plans -- during the Fourth Plan 85 per cent of the resources utilised were indigenous and the percentage for the ensuing Fifth Plan will be 92. When people talk of foreign aid they seem to forget that it forms only a small part of our entire economic endeavour.

In this strife-torn world full of dangers, our friendship is an enlightening example of how people with different social structures and other diversities can still escape division. The vision of unity, peace and prosperity can bind mankind together.

Mr. General Secretary, we welcome you as an illustrious person and as a representative of the Soviet leadership. Now when you are returning to your homeland we earnestly urge you to convey our sincere good wishes to President Podgorny, Prime Minister Kosygin and other Soviet leaders and our warm and friendly greetings to the great Soviet people. Bon voyage and godspeed to you!

INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Brezhnev's Speech

Following is the speech of H.E. Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev at the farewell function at Palam Airport, New Delhi:

The days of our stay in sun-drenched, hospitable and friendly India have come to an end. They were days filled with the warmth of friendship radiated by the eyes and smiles of tens and hundreds of thousands of citizens of the great India who were greeting their true friends from the Soviet Union. The days of our visit were filled to the brim with profound and, we are convinced, with highly fruitful discussions with the outstanding leaders of India, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her colleagues.

The talks that we have had with the leaders of India have enabled us to map out new important steps to develop and deepen the unbreakable friendship and all round co-operation uniting our people. We are leaving the land of friendly India filled with vivid and unforgettable impressions, with the feeling of profound satisfaction at the work done. We are fully confident in the good prospects of Soviet-Indian relations developing to the good of our people, to the good of peace throughout the world.

We express our heart-felt gratitude to the President of the Republic of India, Mr. Giri, the Prime Minister, Madame Indira

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Gandhi, the Government and to the people of India for their cordiality and hospitality and for their kind feelings addressed to the Soviet Union and its representatives.

We will be happy to greet in our country the Prime Minister of your country, the esteemed Madame Indira Gandhi and I can assure you that the Soviet leadership and the Soviet people will accord her the most cordial hospitality worthy of the representative of the great and friendly India and we are convinced that that visit will still further strengthen the friendship of our countries and people. We wholeheartedly wish the people of India enduring peace, happiness and wellbeing.

Once again, dear friends, many thanks for your cordiality, courtesy and warm welcome.

INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration

Following is the text of the joint Indo-Soviet declaration signed by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev and issued in New Delhi on November 29, 1973:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and the Government of India, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, paid an official friendly visit to India from November 26 to 30, 1973.

Mr. L. I. Brezhnev was accompanied by Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member of Politbureau of the CC of the CPSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; Mr. D. A. Kunaev, Member of Politbureau of the CC of the

CPSU, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan; Mr. N. K. Baibakov, Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR; Mr. S. A. Skachkov, Chairman of the State Committee of the Council of Ministers of the USSR for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries, and other senior officials.

I

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, and members of his party were accorded a cordial welcome wherever they went, testifying to the feelings of sincere friendship and regard of the people of India for the people and the leadership of the Soviet Union. The visit of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev to India was a vivid demonstration of the strengthening ties of Indo-Soviet friendship.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU Mr. L. I. Brezhnev called on the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri, and had a friendly discussion with him.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, called on the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev acclaimed the great personal contribution of Shrimati Indira Gandhi to the cause of strengthening of friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union and to the cause of consolidating peace in the whole world. He conveyed to her greetings from the Soviet leadership and from all the Soviet people, among whom the Prime Minister enjoys great respect.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, expressed his profound gratitude for the friendly and warm reception accorded to him and his party in India.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev paid homage to the memory of the great sons of India, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lai Bahadur Shastri, by laying wreaths at Rajghat, Shanti Vana and Vijay Ghat.

Mr. L. I. Brezhnev addressed a mass meeting of friendship at the Red Fort where he was welcomed with great enthusiasm and warmth by hundreds of thousands of people. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev addressed the Members of the Indian Parliament who listened to him with great interest and attention. He also met the leaders and members of the Indo-

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Soviet Cultural Society. This meeting was held in an atmosphere of warmth and cordiality.

During his stay in Delhi, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, had several meetings and discussions with the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Taking part in the talks were:

FROM THE INDIAN SIDE: Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs; Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister for Finance; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister for Planning; Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Dr. K. S. Shelvankar, Ambassador of India to the USSR; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

FROM THE SOVIET SIDE: Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member of Politbureau of the CC of the CPSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; Mr. D. A. Kunaev, Member of Politbureau of the CC of the CPSU, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan; Mr. N. K. Baibakov, Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR; Mr. S. A. Skachkov, Chairman of the State Committee of the Council of Ministers of the USSR for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries; Mr. A. M. Alexandrov, Assistant to the General Secretary of the Central Committee, of the CPSU and Mr. V. K. Boldy-

rev, Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in India.

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The talks, which were held in an atmosphere of trust, friendship and mutual understanding, covered a wide range of subjects concerning Indo-Soviet bilateral relations and perspectives of their further all-round development as well as topical international problems of common interest. Both sides noted with satisfaction the broad identity of views on the questions discussed and expressed their profound satisfaction at the successful development of relations of friendship and cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in all fields.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, informed the Prime Minister of India Shrimati Indira Gandhi, of the development of the national economy of the USSR, the life of the Soviet people, and of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union which is being carried out, in accordance with the Peace Programme of the 24th Congress of the CPSU.

The Prime Minister of India highly appreciated the foreign policy of the Soviet Union, consistently aimed at consolidating international peace, strengthening peaceful cooperation among states, and rendering support to the peoples struggling against colonialism and for the strengthening of the political and economic independence of their countries.

The Prime Minister of India informed the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU of India's foreign policy based on non-alignment and the principles of peaceful co-existence between states as well as the development of India's economy and the socioeconomic measures of the Government aimed at improving the life of the Indian people.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU paid tribute to the peaceful foreign policy consistently pursued by India, her policy of non-alignment and

her valuable contribution to the struggle for peace, against colonialism, neocolonialism and racism, which has rightfully earned for India her position of prestige in the world.

The exceptional importance of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation concluded between India and the USSR in August 1971, which signifies a new stage in the strengthening of traditional friendship between the two countries, was emphasised by both sides during the talks. The Treaty exerts an increasingly positive influence on the further expansion of Indo-Soviet cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and others fields. The Treaty has become one of the major factors in strengthening peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world.

Both sides solemnly reaffirmed their determination to develop in every possible way Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation

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which is a valuable asset of the peoples of the two countries.

III

In the course of an exchange of views on topical international problems the two sides expressed their satisfaction at the coincidence or proximity of the positions of India and the USSR on major questions of the international situation.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU stressed that in the present world of today the growing desire of the majority of states for international detente and for the settlement of outstanding problems by negotiations is becoming ever more pronounced. Positively appraising the important contribution made to the improvement of the general international situation as a result of the Soviet-American summit talks, the Soviet Union considers that the agreements reached in the course of the talks will serve the cause of developing peaceful cooperation and improving the international climate. It attaches great significance to the conclusion of the Soviet-American Agree-

ment on the Prevention of Nuclear War which not only meets the interests of the peoples of the USSR and the USA, but also serves the cause of strengthening universal peace.

The Prime Minister of India welcomed the detente between the USSR and the USA as a step towards relaxation of tensions in the world. In this connection, she highly appreciated the efforts of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and expressed the hope that this relaxation will also spread to other areas of the world and bring an end to the nuclear arms race which is a threat to mankind.

Both sides welcome the process of growing detente in Europe and the strengthening of peace in that Continent. They emphasised the great Importance of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They believe that the Conference is called upon to make a tangible contribution to detente and to lay a solid foundation for peace, security and cooperation in the European Continent. They express the hope that the All-European Conference on Security and Cooperation will be crowned with success.

At the same time, they noted the persistence of areas of tension in some regions of the world and stressed the need to, continue the efforts to liquidate the remaining vestiges of colonialism, neocolonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid. Both sides declared their support to all governments in their struggle against the forces of reaction and imperialism. They further declared the determination of their two states to spare no effort in contributing to the elimination of the still existing hotbeds of war which pose a threat to international security, world peace and mutually beneficial cooperation among all nations.

Both sides are convinced that detente can and must give real practical benefits to all countries of the world, big and small, developed and developing.

India and the Soviet Union welcome the positive shifts in the situation in Asia.

India and the Soviet Union believe that the restoration of peace in Vietnam on the basis of the Paris Agreement or) Ending the War and Restoring Peace In Vietnam of January 27, 1973, as well as the signing of the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos create conditions for a healthier climate in Asia and throughout the world and for settling other outstanding international issues. India and the Soviet Union resolutely come out in favour of strict and full implementation of the above-mentioned Agreements by all parties, as well as an early and just settlement in Cambodia in accordance with the national interests of the people of Cambodia.

Both sides welcome the contacts between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea and consider that the relaxation of tensions in the Korean peninsula will make an important contribution to the consolidation of peace and security in Asia.

The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, exchanged views on the situation in the Indian sub-continent. The agreement reached on the settlement of a number of problems, which hindered the normalisation of the situation in the Indian sub-continent, is of great significance in overcoming the consequences of the recent crisis in the area.

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Both sides believe that outstanding issues which still exist in the Indian sub-continent can and must be solved through negotiations between the countries concerned without any outside interference. The settlement of these problems in accordance with the Simla Agreement reached between India and Pakistan would meet the interests of the peoples of all the countries of the area. India and the Soviet Union believe that the Joint Declaration by India and Bangladesh of April 17, 1973 and the Agreement between India and Pakistan of August 28, 1973, constitute important steps towards the complete normalisation of the situation in the sub-

continent.

The two sides greeted with satisfaction the successes of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in strengthening its economy and solving complex problems facing the people of Bangladesh. India and the Soviet Union call for the admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations and consider that there are no grounds, whatsoever, for delaying the realisation of its legitimate right to be a member of that international organisation.

Both sides believe that the interest of a speedy achievement of a political settlement and of the ensuring of firm stability in the sub-continent would be served by Pakistan's recognition of Bangladesh. They express the hope that such a step on the part of Pakistan will be taken in the near future.

India and the Soviet Union expressed their deep concern at the situation in West Asia where hostilities had recently broken out again as a result of Israel's continued occupation of Arab territories. Both sides welcome the UN Security Council Resolution No. 338 of October 22, 1973, and note that this important decision indicates clearly the basis for a political settlement of the West Asian conflict, namely, the immediate practical implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 242 of November 22, 1967. The establishment of a lasting peace in the area is inconceivable without complete liberation of the Arab territories occupied by Israel and the ensurance of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine. The sooner Israel vacates the occupied Arab territories, the speedier can peace be ensured in West Asia. Both sides agreed that durable peace in this region is possible only through the strict implementation of the Resolutions of the Security Council which will constitute the most reliable guarantee of the security and respect for the rights of all countries and peoples of that area. Both sides declare their firm determination to continue giving all-round support to the just cause of the Arab states and peoples.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirmed

that they attach particular significance to a broad development of mutually beneficial co-operation and the strengthening of peace and stability in Asia through common efforts by all the states of this largest and most populated area of the world. India and the Soviet Union agreed on the need to create such conditions as would permit the peoples to live in peace and good-neighbourliness, and for their manpower and material resources, to be channelled to solve social and economic problems which are of primary importance for the improvement of the living standards of the peoples and the uplift of their economy and culture.

The two sides believe that the relations between all states should be based on such principles as the renunciation of the use of force, respect for sovereignty and inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs and broad development of economic and other cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

The transformation of Asia into a continent of durable peace, stability and positive cooperation will, in the opinion of both, sides, undoubtedly facilitate further normalisation of relations between countries and strengthen universal peace.

India and the Soviet Union consistently come out in favour of the right of the peoples to be masters of their own destinies, to exercise their sovereign rights and to implement progressive socioeconomic transformations.

Attaching great significance to the United Nations and recognising its positive contribution to the relaxation of international tensions, the two sides reaffirmed their determination to seek to strengthen the United Nations, to enhance its effectiveness in maintaining universal peace and the security of peoples on the basis of the strict observance of the principles and purposes of the UN Charter.

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India and the Soviet Union believe that the cessation of the arms race and the achievement of General and Complete Dis-

armament embracing both nuclear and conventional weapons, under effective international control, are of paramount importance for the preservation and consolidation of peace. They believe that the time has come to proceed to practical preparations for convening the world Disarmament Conference, and to this end they declared their readiness to lend support to the work of the UN Special Committee.

The two sides reaffirm their readiness to participate, together with other states concerned, on an equal basis, in finding a fail- solution to the question of making the Indian Ocean a "Zone of Peace".

India and the Soviet Union regard with satisfaction, as a major event in international life, the adoption by the UN General Assembly of a Resolution whereby the member states have solemnly resolved to renounce the use or threat of force in all its forms and manifestations in international relations, in conformity with the UN Charter, and the prohibition for all time of the use of nuclear weapons. The two sides are convinced that the implementation of this decision will constitute an important contribution to the cause of strengthening international security and will meet the interests of all states. They are in favour of taking without delay, within the framework of the United Nations, such measures as would ensure the practical implementation of the said decision of the UN General Assembly.

The Prime Minister of India received favourably the proposal made by the Soviet Union at the United Nations for the reduction of military budgets of the states which are permanent members of the Security Council and reiterated India's conviction that a part of the savings effected in this manner should be diverted to provide additional assistance for the needs of the developing countries. Both sides agreed that a constructive effort should be made to consider how this proposal could serve the interest of disarmament and also enhance development assistance.

India and the Soviet Union will continue

to work firmly for the early and complete elimination of the remnants of colonialism as well as the speedy and effective implementation of the UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The two sides strongly condemn racism and apartheid in all forms and manifestations wherever they exist.

IV

In the course of the talks the Prime Minister of India and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU expressed their profound satisfaction at the fact that the diversified Indo-Soviet ties have been steadily expanding and strengthening on the firm basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation. They solemnly reaffirmed that India and the USSR will continue to pursue consistently the course of strengthening and widening the friendship and cooperation already existing between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of India and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU emphasised the great significance of personal meetings and contacts between statesmen at all levels, including the top level, for strengthening mutual understanding and mutual confidence between the states, for the successful solution of questions of inter-state relations and the tasks of consolidating universal peace.

Both sides placed a high assessment on the successful development of mutually advantageous economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation between India and the USSR.

As a result of the broad economic cooperation between the two countries, a number of major industrial enterprises and projects have been or are being built in India, such as the Bhilai and Bokaro metallurgical plants, the machine-building plants in Ranchi, Hardwar and Durgapur, the oil-refineries in Barauni and Koyali, oil-fields, electric power plants and other projects, which corresponds to the desire of the Government of India to strengthen the

country's economic independence.

The two sides expressed their firm intention to continue to develop and strengthen economic and technological cooperation between the two countries. This cooperation will be carried out through the expansion of

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some projects built earlier with the assistance of the USSR and through the construction of new industrial enterprises and projects inter-alia in the fields of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, geological prospecting, extracting and refining of oil, natural gas and other natural resources, power production, petrochemical and other industries, and agriculture as well as in training national technical personnel. It is understood that the two sides will, in particular, cooperate in the further expansion of the metallurgical plant in Bhilai to produce 7 million tons and of that in Bokaro to produce 10 million tons of steel annually, in the construction of an oil refinery in Mathura with the annual production capacity of 6 million tons of oil, a copper mining and dressing complex in Malanjkhand, the subway in Calcutta, and other projects which may later be determined by the two sides, as well as in the development of industrial cooperation in the fields of non-ferrous metallurgy, light and other industries.

In this connection, the Government or the USSR will, whenever necessary, render to the Government of India appropriate economic assistance.

During the visit of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, to India, the following Agreements were signed:

Agreement on the further development of Economic and Trade Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as well as a Protocol on Concrete Steps for implementing the Agreement;

Agreement on Cooperation between the Planning Commission of the Republic of India and the State Planning Com-

mittee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and

Consular Convention between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Both sides are convinced that these Agreements will constitute a new significant contribution to the further strengthening of friendship and all-round cooperation between India and the USSR.

The two sides note with satisfaction that Indo-Soviet trade has developed considerably. Beneficial commercial and economic cooperation based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit has evolved into an objective trend and has become an important factor in developing the economies of the two friendly states.

Proceeding from the acquired experience of cooperation, the two sides agreed to take measures to ensure from one and a half to two fold increase in the volume of Indo-Soviet trade by 1980. To this end, the appropriate organisations of the two sides will work out in 1974 joint proposals for the further development of trade between the two countries on a long-term and stable basis and on a wide scale. These proposals should envisage new forms of mutually advantageous cooperation taking account of specialisation and cooperation in the manufacture of individual industrial products, the construction in India and the USSR of new enterprises and the expansion of existing enterprises to increase mutual deliveries of goods required by the USSR and India.

Both sides welcome the development of Indo-Soviet ties in the fields of science, art, literature, education, health, press, radio, television, cinema, tourism and sports. They deem it necessary to continue to perfect and deepen the existing ties in the above fields.

The two sides expressed their confidence that the visit of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, and the talks held during the visit signify a new important contribution to the

cause of further developing friendship and fruitful cooperation between India and the Soviet Union and to the cause of strengthening peace in Asia and throughout the world.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, invited the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

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INDIA USA KAZAKHSTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU VIETNAM FRANCE LAOS
CAMBODIA KOREA MALI PAKISTAN BANGLADESH ISRAEL RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement on Economic and Trade Cooperation Between India and

Soviet Union

Following is the text of the agreement an further development of economic and trade cooperation between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed in New Delhi on November 29. 1973, by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, DESIRING to further strengthen and develop friendship and cooperation between their two countries on the basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of August 9, 1971,

RECALLING that as a result of a wide range of cooperation between the two countries in many branches of the economy of

India a number of major industrial enterprises and projects have been established and are being set up, such as iron and steel plants in Bhilai and Bokaro, machine building plants in Ranchi, Hardwar, Durgapur, refineries in Barauni and Koyali, oil production projects, electric power stations and other projects, and that these conform to the programme of the Government of India for developing its economy and strengthening the economic independence of India,

PROCEEDING from their common aspiration for all possible expansion and deepening of mutually beneficial economic and trade cooperation between the two countries and convinced that such cooperation will be in the interests of the people of both the countries in their struggle for economic and social progress,

HAVE AGREED to conclude this Agreement which provides as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Parties to this Agreement shall continue to further develop and strengthen economic and technical cooperation as well as trade between the two countries on the basis of the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs of each other, equality, and mutual benefit. Such cooperation shall be implemented and strengthened in the fields of industry, power, agriculture, geological surveys, training of personnel, and trade, as well as in all other branches of the economy of the two countries where the necessary economic pre-requisites are favourable for rapid development.

ARTICLE 2

The cooperation mentioned in Article 1 hereof shall aim at exploring the possibilities of developing the economies of the two countries, in production collaboration and in the sharing and utilisation of up-to-date technical and technological achievements on mutually favourable terms, particularly bearing in mind the following objectives:

(i) Cooperation in designing and construction of mutually agreed enterprises and projects in the field of iron and steel and non-ferrous metals production, prospecting, production and refining of oil, natural gas, coal and other minerals, power engineering, petrochemical industry, shipping and other branches of industry, agriculture as well as providing facilities for training personnel, will be effected by expanding projects previously undertaken with the assistance of the USSR, by setting up new industrial and agricultural and other projects, and also by assisting in establishing institutes for specialised training. The Parties will cooperate in further expansion of iron and steel plants in Bhilai and Bokaro to increase their annual capacity to 7 and 10 million tonnes respectively, in the construction of the oil refinery in Mathura with the annual capacity of 6 million tonnes of oil, of the copper mining complex in Malanjkhand, of the Calcutta underground railway project, and also of other projects as may be further agreed upon between the two parties, as well as in development of the manufacturing cooperation in the field of non-ferrous metals production, and light and other branches of industry.

(ii) For the aforementioned purposes, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will extend to the Government of the Republic of India credits, the amounts and terms and conditions of which will be settled by separate agreements.

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(iii) Steady development of goods turnover by increasing deliveries of complete and other equipment, expanding the nomenclature and increasing the quantities of goods of mutual interest, will be furthered.

(iv) Methods of reciprocal settlement of accounts and terms of credit relations will be streamlined and improved.

(v) The two parties shall cooperate in the matter of supply of equipment and services for setting up plants in third countries.

ARTICLE 3

Attaching great importance to the scientific and technical cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of India contributing to the scientific and technical progress of both countries, including in the fields of atomic energy for peaceful uses, space, electronics, as well as to the development of economic relations, the two parties deem it necessary to further develop and strengthen this cooperation.

ARTICLE 4

The Parties to this Agreement shall promote in every possible way cooperation between the concerned organisations of the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the field of economic and trade relations, as well as facilitate the conclusion of appropriate long-term agreements and contracts on the basis hereof, consistent with the mutual interests of the parties and in conformity with the laws force in each of the two countries.

ARTICLE 5

The Parties to this Agreement, noting that the promotion of exports of each country to the markets of the other remains their common aspiration for the future, shall, consistent with their international obligations, further grant mutual advantages, privileges, facilities and favourable terms in the field of trade and economic relations in compliance with the agreements and treaties in force between them.

ARTICLE 6

The Parties to this Agreement shall regularly consult each other on matters of mutual interest pertaining to economic and trade relations between the two countries.

ARTICLE 7

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature. The present Agreement is signed for a term of FIFTEEN years

and shall be prolonged automatically for every subsequent period of five years unless one of the Parties declares its-intention to terminate its operation by notifying the other Party six months before the expiration of the term of the Agreement.

Done in New Delhi on 29th November, 1973 In two original copies, each in the Russian, Hindi and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement on Cooperation Between Planning Commission of India and
Soviet Union

State Planning Committee of

Following is the text of the agreement on cooperation between the Planning Commission of the Republic of India and the State Planning Committee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (GOSPLAN of the USSR) signed by Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister for Planning and Mr. N. K. Baibakov, Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR, in New Delhi on November 29, 1973 :

Appreciating the importance of planned development of economies and guided by Article 6 of the Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the USSR on the setting up of the Inter-governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, the contracting Parties have agreed as follows:

1. There shall be established a Joint Indo-Soviet Study Group on cooperation in

the field of planning within the frame-work of the Inter-governmental Indo-Soviet Com-

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mission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

2. (i) The Study Group will be composed of the Members of the Planning Commission of India assisted by such representatives of Central Ministries or State Governments as may be deemed necessary from time to time by the Government of India and the responsible officials of the State Planning Committee of the USSR (GOSPLAN of the USSR).

(ii) Specialists of other organisations and institutions connected with planning can be enlisted in the capacity of advisers and or experts.

3. (i) The main functions of the Study Group will be the exchange of experience and knowledge in the following fields:

- (a) economic forecasting,
- (b) methodology of annula, medium and perspective planning,
- (c) formulation of projects and programmes,
- (d) methods of monitoring and evaluation of planned programmes and projects,
- (e) planning the supplies of materials,
- (f) exchange of published reports and materials.

(ii) The scope of problems to be reviewed by the Study Group may be enlarged by mutual agreement.

(iii) The Study Group shall also examine and report on any matter referred to it by the Inter-governmental Commission referred to in paragraph 1.

4. Meetings of the Study Group will be held, as a rule, not less than once a year in New Delhi and in Moscow by turn.

5. (i) Leaders of the Indian and Soviet sides of the Study Group shall by mutual agreement determine the agenda and the timelimit of each meeting.

(ii) In order that discussions of the Study Group are fruitful, both sides shall circulate material and documents in advance of each meeting.

6. (i) Agreed minutes reflecting the results of the discussions shall be drawn up at the conclusion of each meeting of the Study Group.

(ii) The agreed minutes will be submitted to the Inter-governmental Commission referred to in paragraph 1 for its consideration.

Done in New Delhi on November 29, 1973 in three originals each in Hindi, Russian and English, all the texts being equally authentic.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Consular Convention Between India and USSR

Following is the text of the Consular Convention between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed in New Delhi on November 29, 1973, by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs,

and Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the, USSR:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Desirous of strengthening friendly relations existing between their two countries,

Have decided to conclude a Consular Convention and for this purpose have agreed as follows:

SECTION I - DEFINITIONS

ARTICLE 1

In this Convention the terms mentioned hereunder shall have the following meaning:

a) "consular establishment" means consulate-general, consulate, vice-consulate or consular agency;

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b) "head of consular establishment" means consul general, consul, vice consul, or consular agent, charged with the duty of acting in that capacity;

c) "consular officer" means any person including the head of the consular establishment entrusted with the performance of consular functions. The term shall also include persons attached to the consular establishment for training in the consular service;

d) "consular employee" means a person, not being a consular officer, performing administrative, technical, or service functions in a consular establishment;

e) "consular premises" means the buildings or parts of buildings and the land ancillary thereto, irrespective of ownership, used exclusively for the purposes of the consular establishment.

SECTION II

OPENING OF CONSULAR ESTABLISH-

MENT AND APPOINTMENT OF CONSULAR OFFICERS

ARTICLE 2

1. A consular establishment may be opened by the sending State in the territory of the receiving State only with the consent of the receiving State.

2. The location of a consular establishment, its status and the territorial limits of the consular district shall be determined by agreement between the sending State and the receiving State.

ARTICLE 3

1. Before the appointment of the head of a consular establishment, the sending State shall obtain the approval of the receiving State to such appointment through diplomatic channels.

2. The diplomatic mission of the sending State shall send to the Ministry of External Affairs of the receiving State the commission of appointment or any other corresponding document testifying to the appointment of the head of a consular establishment. The said commission or document shall mention the full name of the head of the consular establishment, his citizenship, rank, consular district in which he shall be performing his functions, and the seat of his consular establishment,

3. The receiving State shall, on receipt of the aforesaid commission or other document about the appointment of the head of a consular establishment, issue to the latter, as quickly as possible, an exequatur or other document of permission.

4. The head of the consular establishment may begin to perform his functions after he has received from the receiving State the aforesaid exequatur or document.

5. Pending the issue of the aforesaid exequatur or document the receiving State may permit the head of the consular establishment to perform his functions provision-

ally.

6. From the moment of recognition, including provisional recognition, the authorities of the receiving State shall take all measures necessary to enable the head of the consular establishment to perform his functions.

ARTICLE 4

1. The sending State shall inform the Ministry of External Affairs of the receiving State about the full name, citizenship, rank and post held by a consular officer, other than the head, appointed to a consular establishment.

2. The receiving State shall consider the consular officer as having begun performance of his functions when the notification referred to in paragraph I of this Article has reached the Ministry of External Affairs.

3. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall issue to consular officers, consular employees and members of their families living with them identity certificates in accordance with the practice followed by them in this regard.

ARTICLE 5

Only a citizen of the sending State shall be appointed a consular officer.

ARTICLE 6

The receiving State may, at any time, without having to explain its decision, notify the sending State through diplomatic channels that any consular officer is *persona non*

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grata or that any employee of the consular establishment is unacceptable. In such a case the sending State shall recall such officer or employee of the consular establishment. If the sending State refuses or fails within a reasonable time to carry out its obligations under this Article, the receiving State may refuse to recognise the consular officer or the consular employee concerned as a member of the consular establishment.

SECTION III

PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

ARTICLE 7

The receiving State shall take all appropriate measures to protect a consular officer and shall accord full facilities to enable him to perform his functions and to enjoy the rights, privileges and immunities provided for by this Convention and the laws of the receiving State. The receiving State shall also take all appropriate measures to protect the premises of the consular establishment and the residences of the consular officers and the consular employees.

ARTICLE 8

1. If the head of the consular establishment is unable to perform his functions for some reason or if the post of the head is temporarily vacant, the sending State may empower a consular officer of the given consular establishment or one of its other consular establishments in the receiving State or a member of the diplomatic staff of its diplomatic mission in that State for heading provisionally the said consular establishment. The full name of such person shall be conveyed to the Ministry of External Affairs of the receiving State.

2. A person temporarily and provisionally empowered to head a consular establishment has the right to perform the functions of the head of such establishment and shall enjoy the same rights, privileges and immunities, and be subject to the same obligations, as apply to the head of the establishment appointed in accordance with Article 3 of this Convention.

3. The appointment of a member of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State in the receiving State to a consular post in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article does not affect the privileges and immunities which he enjoys in his capacity as a diplomat.

ARTICLE 9

1. The rights and duties of consular officers provided for in the present Convention shall be extended to such members of the diplomatic mission of the sending State in the receiving State as have been entrusted with the performance of consular functions in the said diplomatic mission.

2. The performance of consular functions by persons mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article does not affect their privileges and immunities in their capacity as diplomats.

ARTICLE 10

1. The sending State may, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the receiving State, acquire in free-hold or on lease lands, buildings or parts of buildings for its consular establishment and for residential accommodation of its consular officers and consular employees.

2. The receiving State shall assist the sending State in case of need in acquiring or renting land, buildings or parts of building as well as residential apartments for the aforesaid purpose.

ARTICLE 11

1. The name-plate of the consular establishment, with the national coat-of-arms or emblem of the sending State, in the language of that State and as appropriate in the language of the receiving State, may be affixed on the building where the establishment is located.

2. The flag of the sending State may be hoisted on the consular establishment and on the residence of the head of the consular establishment.

3. The head of the consular establishment may also display the flag on his means

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of transportation, including automobile, when used on official business.

ARTICLE 12

1. The buildings or parts of buildings exclusively used for the purposes of the consular establishment as well as the plot of land attached thereto and the private residence of the head of the consular establishment are inviolable.

2. The authorities of the receiving State may not enter the buildings or parts of buildings utilised exclusively for the purposes of the consular establishment or plot of land attached to such buildings or parts thereof or the private residence of the head of the consular establishment without the permission of the head of the consular establishment or the chief of the diplomatic mission of the sending State or the person empowered by either of them to grant such permission.

ARTICLE 13

Consular archives and documents, are inviolable at all times and in all places. Non-official papers must not be held together with consular archives and documents.

ARTICLE 14

1. The consular establishment shall have the right to communicate with its Government and with the diplomatic mission and other consular establishments of the sending State. For this purpose, the consular establishment shall have the right to use all normal means of communication, code, cypher, diplomatic and consular couriers, and sealed bags. The establishment or use of radio transmitters can be made only with the consent of the receiving State.

For the use of normal means of communication, the consular establishment shall be charged the same rates as those which apply to diplomatic missions.

2. The official correspondence of a consular establishment, irrespective of the means of communication used, and sealed bags having external visible marks demonstrating their official character, shall be in-

violable and shall not be subjected to examination or detention by the authorities of the receiving State.

3. The packages constituting the consular bag may contain only official correspondence and documents.

4. The consular courier shall be provided with an official document indicating his status and the number of packages constituting the consular bag. He shall hold a diplomatic passport issued by the sending State. In the performance of his functions he shall be protected by the receiving State. He shall enjoy personal inviolability and shall not be liable to any form of arrest or detention.

5. The sending State, its diplomatic missions and its consular establishment may designate a consular courier ad hoc. The provisions of paragraph 4 of this Article shall apply to such courier except that the privileges and immunities mentioned therein shall cease to apply when he has delivered to the consignee the consular bag in his charge.

6. A consular bag may be entrusted to the captain of a ship or of a commercial aircraft scheduled to land at an authorised port of entry. He shall be provided with an official document indicating the number of packages constituting the bag, but he shall not be considered to be a consular courier. By arrangement with the appropriate local authorities, the consular establishment may send one of its members to take possession of the bag directly and freely from the captain of the ship or of the aircraft.

ARTICLE 15

1. The receiving State shall treat consular officers, consular employees and members of their families living with them, with due respect and shall take all appropriate measures to prevent any attack on their person, freedom or dignity.

2. The head of the consular establishment shall not be liable to arrest or detention and shall enjoy immunity from criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State.

3. The immunity of the head of the consular establishment from criminal juris-

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diction of the receiving state may be waived by the sending State. Waiver shall always be express and shall be communicated to the receiving State in writing.

4. The members of the family of the head of the consular establishment living with him shall enjoy immunity from criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State to the same extent as the head of the consular establishment.

5. A consular officer, other than the head of the consular establishment, shall not be liable to arrest or detention pending trial, except in the case of a grave crime and pursuant to a decision by the competent judicial authority of the receiving State.

6. Except in the case specified in paragraph 5 of this Article, a consular officer shall not be committed to prison or be liable to any other form of restriction on his personal freedom save in execution of a judicial decision of final effect.

7. If criminal proceedings are instituted against a consular officer, other than the head of the consular establishment, he must appear before the competent authorities. Nevertheless, the proceedings shall be conducted with the respect due to such consular officer by reason of his official position and, except in the case specified in paragraph 5 of this Article, in a manner which will hamper the performance of consular functions as little as possible. When, in circumstance mentioned in paragraph 5 of this Article, it becomes necessary to arrest or detain a consular officer, the Proceedings against him shall be instituted with the minimum of delay.

8. The members of the family of a consular officer living with him shall enjoy immunity from criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State to the same extent as the consular officer.

ARTICLE 16

1. A consular officer or a consular employee shall not be amenable to the jurisdiction of the judicial or administrative authorities of the receiving State in matters relating to the performance of his consular functions.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply in respect of a civil action either:

- (a) relating to private immovable property situated in the territory of the receiving State, unless the consular officer or the consular employee holds it on behalf of the sending State for the purposes of the consular establishment; or
- (b) relating to succession in which he is involved as executor, administrator, heir or legatee as a private person and not on behalf of the sending State; or
- (c) relating to any professional or commercial activity exercised by him in the receiving State outside his official functions; or
- (d) arising out of a contract concluded by a consular officer or a consular employee in which he did not contract expressly or impliedly as an agent of the sending State; or
- (e) relating to an action by a third party for damage arising from an accident in the receiving State caused by a vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

3. The sending State may waive, with regard to a consular officer or a consular employee, any of the immunities provided for in this Article. The waiver must always be express.

4. The initiation of proceedings by a consular officer or a consular employee in a

matter where he might enjoy immunity from jurisdiction shall preclude him from invoking immunity from jurisdiction in respect of any counter-claim directly connected with the principal claim.

5. The waiver of immunity from jurisdiction for the purposes of civil or administrative proceedings shall not be deemed to imply the waiver of immunity from the measures of execution resulting from the judicial decision; in respect of such measures, a separate waiver shall be necessary.

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ARTICLE 17

1. A consular officer, other than the head of the consular establishment, or a consular employee may be called upon to attend as witness in the course of judicial or administrative proceedings. He shall not, except in cases mentioned in paragraph 3 of this Article, decline to give evidence. If a consular officer should decline to do so, no coercive measure or penalty may be applied to him.

2. The authority requiring the evidence of a consular officer shall avoid interference with the performance of his functions. It may, where possible, take such evidence at his residence or at the consular establishment or accept a statement from him in writing.

3. A consular officer, a consular employee, and members of their families living with them, are under no obligation to give evidence concerning matters connected with the performance by consular officer or consular employee of their functions or to produce official correspondence and documents relating thereto. They are also entitled to decline to give evidence as expert witnesses with regard to the law of the sending State.

ARTICLE 18

A consular officer, a consular employee, and members of their families living with them, are absolved from military service to the receiving State as well as from any other

form of obligatory service.

ARTICLE 19

A consular officer, a consular employee, and members of their families living with them, are, on the basis of reciprocity, absolved from requirements concerning alien registration, permission for residence and other similar requirements relating to foreigners under the laws and regulations of the receiving state.

ARTICLE 20

1. The consular premises and the residence of the head of the consular establishment of which the sending State or any person acting on its behalf is the owner or leasee, shall be exempt from all national, regional or municipal dues and taxes whatsoever, other than such as represent payment for specific services rendered. The same exemptions shall apply to the consular establishment.

2. The exemption from dues and taxes referred to in paragraph 1 shall not apply

- (a) such dues and taxes if, under the laws and regulations of the receiving State, they are payable by the person who contracted with the sending State or with the person acting on its behalf, and
- (b) indirect taxes of a kind which are normally incorporated in the price of goods or services.

3. A consular officer, a consular employee other than a member of the service staff, and members of their families living with them, if citizens of the sending State, shall be exempt from all dues and taxes, personal or real, national, regional or municipal, other than the following:

- (a) indirect taxes of a kind which are normally incorporated in the price of goods or services;
- (b) dues and taxes on private immo-

vable property situated in the territory of the receiving State subject to the provisions of paragraph 1 and 2 of this Article;

- (c) estate, succession or inheritance duties, and duties on transfers, levied by the receiving State, subject to the provisions of Article 22 of this Convention;
- (d) dues and taxes on private income having its source in the receiving State and any other tax of a similar nature;
- (e) registration, court or record fees, mortgage dues and stamp duties, subject to the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article;
- (f) charges levied for specific services rendered.

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4. Members of the Service staff shall be exempt from dues and taxes on the wages which they receive for their services.

5. Consular officers and consular employees who employ persons whose wages or salaries are not exempt from income-tax or other similar taxes in the receiving State shall observe the obligations which the laws and regulations of that State impose upon employers concerning the levying of such taxes, including laws and regulations concerning social security.

ARTICLE 21

1. The receiving State shall, in accordance with such laws and regulations as it may adopt and on the basis of reciprocity, permit entry of and grant exemption from customs duties, taxes, and related charges other than charges for storage, cartage and similar services, on:

- (a) articles for the official use of the consular establishment;
- (b) articles for the personal use of a

consular officer or members of his family living with him, including an automobile. The articles intended for consumption shall not exceed the quantities necessary for direct utilization by the persons concerned.

2. Consular employees who are citizens of the sending State and members of their families living with them shall enjoy exemptions in respect of articles, other than automobiles, referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this Article, at the time of first installation in accordance with the applicable baggage rules of the receiving State.

3. Personal baggage accompanying consular officers and members of their families living with them shall be exempt from customs inspection. Such baggage may be inspected only if there is serious reason to believe that it contains articles other than those referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this Article, or articles the import or export of which is prohibited by the laws and regulations of the receiving state or which are subject to its quarantine laws and regulations. Such inspection shall be carried out in the presence of the consular officer or a member of his family.

ARTICLE 22

In the event of death of a consular officer or a consular employee or of a member of his family living with him, the receiving State

a) shall permit the duty free export of the movable property of the deceased, with the exception of any such property acquired in the receiving State the export of which was prohibited at the time of his death;

b) shall not levy national, regional or municipal taxes or duties on estate, succession or inheritance, or duties on transfer of movable property, the presence of which in the receiving State was due solely to the presence in that State of the deceased as a consular officer or a consular employee or a

member of his family.

ARTICLE 23

1. All persons to whom privileges and immunities are granted under this Convention are duty bound to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State, consistent with such privileges and immunities, including the laws and regulations relating to motor vehicles and automobile insurance. They also have a duty not to interfere in the internal affairs of that State.

2. Consular premises shall not be used in any manner incompatible with the performance of consular functions.

ARTICLE 24

Subject to the laws and regulations of the receiving State prohibiting or limiting, on ground of State security, entry into certain regions, a consular officer and a consular employee shall have the freedom of movement within the consular district.

ARTICLE 25

The privileges, immunities and exemptions provided for in this Section shall not apply to a consular employee, or a member of the family of a consular officer or a con-

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sular employee living with him, if he is a national of the receiving State or is a person having permanent residence in the receiving State. However, the receiving State must exercise its jurisdiction over these persons in such a manner as not to interfere unduly with the performance of the functions of the consular establishment.

SECTION IV CONSULAR FUNCTIONS

ARTICLE 26

1. A consular officer has the right to perform the functions indicated in this Section within the limits of his consular district. Besides this, a consular officer may

perform other consular functions, if they are not prohibited by the laws and regulations of the receiving State.

2. During the course of performance of his functions, a consular officer may address in writing or orally the competent authorities of the consular district, including the competent central authorities of the receiving State if and to the extent that this is allowed by the laws, regulations and usages of the receiving State.

3. A consular officer may perform his functions outside the limits of the consular district only with the consent of the authorities of the receiving State.

ARTICLE 27

Within the limits of his consular district a consular officer has the right:

- (a) to defend the rights and interests of the sending State, as well as its citizens, including juridical persons;
- (b) to promote the development of trade, economic, cultural and scientific relations, and tourism between the sending State and the receiving State; and
- (c) to otherwise promote the development of friendly relations between the two States in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.

ARTICLE 28

1. Within the limits of his consular district a consular officer has the right:

- (a) to maintain a register of the citizens of the sending State;
- (b) to receive applications required by the laws of the sending State on questions concerning citizenship;
- (c) to register and receive communications and documents about births

and deaths of the citizens of the sending State;

- (d) to celebrate marriages and to register divorces, if both persons concerned are citizens of the sending State, in accordance with the laws of the sending State, and unless prohibited by the laws of the receiving State;
- (e) to receive applications concerning family relations of the citizens of the sending State in accordance with the laws of the sending State.

2. The consular officer shall inform the appropriate authorities of the receiving State about the registration of civil acts done under sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) of paragraph 1 of this Article, if such information is required to be supplied to such authorities by the laws and regulations of the receiving State.

3. The provisions of sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not exempt the persons concerned from the requirements of the laws and regulations of the receiving State.

ARTICLE 29

A consular officer has the right:

- (a) to grant passports to citizens of the sending State, to issue travel documents, and to extend, renew or cancel them, and to perform any other service relating thereto; and
- (b) to grant entry, exit and transit visas, or other documents relating thereto, and to extend, renew or cancel them.

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ARTICLE 30

1. A consular officer has the right to perform the following acts in the consular establishment and at his residence:

- (a) receive, draw up or attest applications or statements made by the citizens of the sending State, and also issue them corresponding documents;
- (b) draw up, attest and preserve in custody wills made by the citizens of the sending State;
- (c) draw up or attest transactions concluded between the citizens of the sending State in se or attest one party transactions to the extent that such transactions are not prohibited by the laws and regulations of the receiving State. A consular officer can neither draw up nor attest such transactions as either establish or alienate property rights in immovable property situated within the receiving State;
- (d) draw up or attest transactions between the citizens of the sending State and the citizens of the receiving State in cases where such transactions relate exclusively to Property and rights in the sending State or if such transactions are to be executed in that State, on condition however that such transactions do not offend against the laws and regulations of the receiving State;
- (e) authenticate documents issued by the authorities or officers of the sending State or the receiving State and also attest copies, translations or extracts from such documents;
- (f) attest the signature of the citizens of the sending State on documents if their contents do not offend against the laws and regulations of the receiving State;
- (g) accept for safe custody property and documents from citizens of the sending State or on behalf of such citizens so far as it does not offend

against the laws and regulations of the receiving State, it being understood that transfer of such property or documents outside the receiving State shall not be done except with the consent of the receiving State;

- (h) do other acts relating to the functions of the consular officers on condition that they do not offend against the laws and regulations of the receiving State.

2. If any of the aforesaid acts are to be performed at the residence of any citizen of the sending State, or on board a ship or aircraft carrying the flag of his State when such ship or aircraft is outside the geographical limits of the consular district concerned, the consent of the receiving State shall be necessary.

ARTICLE 31

The documents drawn up, attested or translated by a consular officer of the sending State under Article 30 will be regarded in the receiving State as having the same legal significance and evidentiary value as if they had been drawn up, attested or translated by the appropriate authority or office in the receiving State.

ARTICLE 32

1. The appropriate authorities of the receiving State shall inform the consular establishment about the death of a citizen of the sending State. They shall also inform the consular establishment about any facts concerning property left by him in inheritance, his legal representatives and heirs, or any other persons who appear to have legal claims to inheritance, and also wills, if any, if such information is available with them.

2. The appropriate authorities of the receiving State shall inform the consular establishment, upon request, about the property located within such State that has fallen into inheritance in cases where the heir or the person who appears to have a legal claim

to inheritance is a citizen of the sending State, if such information is available with them,

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ARTICLE 33

Within the limits of his consular district, a consular officer has the right to represent the citizens of the sending State other than those who are permanently resident in the receiving State before the authorities of the receiving State if such citizens are not in a position to defend their rights and interests because of their absence or for other good and proper reasons. This representation continues until such time as the persons represented appoint their own attorneys or otherwise undertake the defence of their own interests and rights. Nothing in this Article shall empower a consular officer to plead or act before a court without a power of attorney from the concerned party.

ARTICLE 34

1. A consular officer has the right within the limits of his consular district to meet and maintain contact with any citizen of the sending State, to give him advice and to render all assistance including legal assistance in cases of necessity.

2. The receiving State shall not in any manner restrict the contacts of the citizens of the sending State with their consular establishment.

3. The appropriate authorities of the receiving State shall inform the diplomatic mission or the consular establishment with the least possible delay about the arrest or detention of a citizen of the sending State.

4. A consular officer has the right to immediately visit, and establish and maintain contact with a citizen of the sending State under arrest or detention or who is undergoing a sentence of imprisonment. This right of the consular officer may be exercised on a continuing basis.

5. The rights mentioned in paragraph

4 shall be exercised in conformity with the laws and regulations of the receiving State provided, however, that such laws and regulations do not annul these rights.

ARTICLE 35

1. A consular officer has the right to render all assistance to a ship of the sending State standing in port or harbour or in the territorial or internal waters of the receiving State.

2. A consular officer may board a ship as soon as the ship is allowed to establish free contact with the shore. The captain of the ship and the members of the crew may maintain contact with the consular officer.

3. A consular officer may approach the proper authorities of the receiving State for help in any matter concerning the performance of his functions under this Article.

ARTICLE 36

Within the limits of his consular district, a consular officers has the right:

- (a) without derogation to the rights of the authorities of the receiving State, to investigate any incident taking place during the course or voyage of a ship of the sending State, to question the captain and any member of the crew of such a ship, to verify the documents of the ship, to take statements concerning the voyage of the ship and, its destination, and also to assist, the entry and exit of the ship into and from the port of the receiving State and its lying at anchor in the port;
- (b) without derogation to the rights of authorities of the receiving State, to resolve disputes between the captain and any member of the crew, including disputes concerning wages and contracts of service in so far as such action is provided for by the laws and regulations of

the sending State;

- (c) to receive, draw up or attest any declaration or document concerning ships provided for by the laws and regulations of the sending State;
- (d) to take measures for the hospitalisation and repatriation of the captain or any member of the crew of the ship; and
- (e) to issue provisional certificates to an acquired or newly built ship

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for its right of voyage under the flag of the sending State.

ARTICLE 37

1. In cases where the courts or other appropriate authorities of the receiving State intend to take any compulsive action, or to commence any official investigation, on board a ship of the sending State, the competent authorities of the receiving State shall inform the consular establishment about the same. Such information shall be given as far as possible before the commencement of such action so as to enable a consular officer or his representative to be present when such action is being taken. If the consular officer or his representative is not present, the authorities of the receiving State shall furnish the consular establishment, on request, full information about such action.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall apply also to cases where the captain or a member of the crew of a ship are to be examined on shore by the appropriate authorities.

3. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to customs, passport and sanitary control and inspections, or to action taken at the request or with the consent of the captain of the ship.

ARTICLE 38

1. If a ship of the sending State suffers runs aground, is swept ashore, or suffers any other accident within the national limits of the receiving State, or if an article belonging to a citizen of the sending State being a part of the cargo of a ship of the sending State or of a ship of a third State which has met with an accident is found on the shore or near the shore of the receiving State or is conveyed to its port, the competent authorities of the receiving State, shall, as soon as possible, inform the consular establishment about such event. They shall also inform it about the measures which have already been taken for rescuing persons, ships, cargo and other property on board the ship, and articles belonging to the ship or forming part of its cargo, as well as those, which have been separated from the ship.

2. The consular officer may render all assistance to such a ship, its passengers and Members of its crew. For this purpose he may request for help from the appropriate authorities of the receiving State. He may also take measures to repair the ship and may request the appropriate authorities to undertake or to continue to underake such measures.

3. No customs duty shall be levied against a ship-wrecked vessel, its cargo or stores in the territory of the receiving State unless they are delivered for use in that State.

4. If a ship of the sending State which has met with an accident, or anything belonging To such a ship are found on shore or near the shore of the receiving State or are carried to the port of such State, and the captain of the ship or the owner or his agent or the representative of the insurance company is not in a position to take steps to preserve in safe custody or to dispose of such ship or such thing, the head of the consular establishment or his representative shall be regarded as empowered to take on behalf of the owner of the ship all such steps as the owner himself may take for the aforesaid purposes in accordance with the laws and regulations of the receiving State.

The provisions of the present paragraph shall be applicable also to any article which

is a part of the cargo of a ship and belongs to a citizen or a juridical person of the sending State.

5. if any article which is or was a part of the cargo of a ship of the receiving State or of a third State which has met with an accident is the property of a citizen or juridical person of the sending State and is found on shore or near the shore of the receiving State or is carried into the port of such State and neither the captain nor the owner of the article or his agent nor the representatives of the insurance company are in a position to take steps for its safe custody or disposal, the head of the consular establishment or his representative shall be regarded as empowered to undertake on behalf of the owner all such steps as the owner himself may take for the aforesaid purposes in accordance with the laws and regulations of the receiving State.

ARTICLE 39

Articles 35 to 38 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* also to aircraft.

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SECTION V

FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 40

1. This Convention shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the exchange of instruments of ratification which will take place in Moscow as soon as possible.

2. This Convention shall continue to be in force for a period of five years, subject to extension for a further period of five years, unless terminated at any time by either Party by giving to the other a six months' notice in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed this Convention and affixed their seals thereto.

DONE in New Delhi on November 29, 1973, in two copies, each in the Hindi, Russian and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement on US Naval Fleet in Indian Ocean

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement in Lok Sabha on November 12, 1973, regarding the reported presence of the US Naval Fleet in the Indian Ocean:

On October 29, 1973, the U.S. Government announced that it was despatching an aircraft carrier task force into the Indian Ocean as a part of the alert of U.S. forces around the world. This task force was not however, called back when the alert was lifted. According to the State Department, it was a precautionary move related to moves by other States in the Middle East crisis. Subsequently some other justifications were put forward such as the assertion of the right of navigation through the Straits of Malacca, balancing the increased Soviet naval presence in the Mediterranean, safeguarding the oil routes from the Middle East, etc.

It is not easy for us to understand what particular task the Americans have before them for which they have thought it necessary to constitute the so-called task force.

I reiterated on November 1 the objective of our policy regarding the Indian Ocean, i.e., to ensure that it remains an area of peace

five from Big Power rivalry. Any large scale and loud presence of the navy of one Big Power is bound to attract the navies of other Big Powers. Such rivalry could create problems for littoral countries the overwhelming majority of whom desire to maintain the Indian Ocean as an area of tranquillity. Government of India have strongly supported the U.N. General Assembly Resolution of December 16, 1971, declaring the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace for all time and calling upon the Great Powers to halt the further escalation and expansion of their military presence in the Indian Ocean.

Government have also associated themselves actively with efforts in the United Nations and elsewhere for the realisation of this objective. In this context, we are naturally concerned at any escalation of a major naval powers presence in the Indian Ocean.

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USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Nov 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

ZAIRE

Zaire Foreign Minister's Visit to India

The following press release on the visit of H.E. Mr. Nguza Karl-I-Bond, Minister of External Affairs and International Cooperation of Zaire, was issued in New Delhi on November 28, 1973:

His Excellency Mr. Nguza Karl-I-Bond, Minister of External Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Zaire accompanied by His Excellency Mr. Engulu Bangampongo Bakokela Lokanga, Minister of Public Works and Housing of the Republic

of Zaire and a team of officials visited New Delhi from November, 25 to 27, 1973, at the invitation of Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs.

During their stay, the Zaire Minister of Foreign Affairs called on the President of India, Vice-President of India and the Prime Minister. He also held discussions with the Minister of External Affairs in the course of which the international situation and bilateral relations were reviewed.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zaire and the Indian Minister of External Affairs expressed their strong desire to further strengthen economic relations in the framework of the Protocol of Economic, Commercial, Scientific, Cultural and Maritime Cooperation signed during the visit of President Mobutu Sese Seko in January, 1973.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality reflecting the close relations between Zaire and India.

During their stay in India, the Zaire delegation visited places of historical interest as well as economic projects around Delhi.

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Date : Nov 01, 1973

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NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA HUNGARY NAMIBIA IRAN KOREA NEW ZEALAND

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

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ASIAN CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL POLICIES

Speech by Prof. Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education

The following speech, was delivered by prof. S. Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education at the first Asian Conference of Ministers of Culture (organised by UNESCO), in Jogjakarta (Indonesia) on December 12, 1973:

Mr. President and distinguished delegates,

It is through the generosity of the Government of Indonesia that this first Conference of Asian Ministers of Culture is taking place in these beautiful surroundings. This great country has a rich heritage and a refined sensitivity to things cultural: at the same time it has always been at the forefront of the struggle for liberation and self-expression among Asian countries. It is my privilege to associate myself with all those who have addressed this meeting before me in saluting the host country for its role in making this Conference possible.

I am privileged, on behalf of my delegation, to thank His Excellency the President of Indonesia for his graciousness in coming here and inaugurating this historic Conference. His participation symbolises the great concern being felt by the leaders of the continent for the emergence of meaningful and coherent cultural policies as an essential factor in national development.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of UNESCO in organising this Conference. Under the dynamic leadership of its Director General, UNESCO has taken a laudable initiative in bringing together so many policy makers in the cultural field from Asia.

Mr. President, the features of the Asian situation that have attracted maximum attention in recent years are the manifes-

tations of strife, the consciousness of poverty and the awareness of the need for social advancement. Perhaps we should remind ourselves that in this hall today are assembled representatives of the longest-lived and most variegated cultural traditions that have been evolved by the genius of man. The bulk of the world's population lives in Asia and this vast continent has made its proportionate contribution to the growth of arts and crafts, of symbols and ideas, of science and technology that goes to make up human civilisation. In every field of endeavour, the region of Asia has lofty achievements to its credit, which embellish its past and light the way to the future. In spite of the diversity of cultures and civilisations which have blurred the commonness of tradition and history, there is a great deal of similarity in the problems of the Asian countries.

This heritage is not limited, regional or narrow in any sense. The sweep of Asian history depicts tremendous movements of peoples and ideas across the whole wide continent. From protohistoric times there has been evidence of intimate contact between the major centres of Asian civilisation. Characteristically, they have shared and borrowed from each other; while developing what is peculiarly their own, they have remained open and receptive to the impact of neighbouring civilisations. Essentially they have been partners, not rivals.

Yet today Asia does not have that traditional easy inter-relationship. We no longer look to each other for what we may need and, despite the revolution in communications, we remain ill-informed about each others' contemporary achievements. The cultural cross-fertilisation which characterised our history could not survive the impact of imperialism and colonialism of European countries. To quote Jawaharlal Nehru. "This dynamic Asia, from which great streams of

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culture flowed in all directions, gradually became static and unchanging. Other peoples and other continents came to the fore and with their new dynamism spread out and took possession of great parts of the world.

This mighty continent became just a field for the rival imperialisms of Europe...". Foreign rule did not provide a fertile ground for the development of indigenous cultures; on the contrary it created a feeling of backwardness among subject populations and thwarted normal processes of social change. Society became petrified, with the result that aspects of culture that were decadent and backward looking were able to persist. The impoverished masses increasingly lost their power and will to assert themselves. In this society the normal growth of science, technology and means of production could not be encompassed, a dichotomy was thus caused between what was traditional and what was modern. The consequences of these developments are with us in one form or another even today.

During the course of freedom struggle and on attaining independence, our countries naturally sought to assert their own national identities and emphasise their own civilisations and cultures. Political emancipation permitted a revaluation of the historical past and traditional ways of life. In all our countries vast efforts are afoot to preserve, to discover, to nourish, to sustain and to popularise the different aspects of our cultural heritage. We have learned to look to ourselves in terms of our own distinctiveness, but the break in our traditional contact with adjacent cultures needs more time before it is fully repaired. Slowly we are beginning to pick up once more the threads which linked us through the ages in friendship and mutual benefit.

Unfortunately our expectations of rapid re-building of cultural ties were not immediately to be fulfilled. Colonialism receded but Asia remained a battleground. Internal strife, tension between neighbours and, most significantly, the intervention of outside powers made for turbulent times. Rich and powerful countries were not content to let Asia go its own way but sought to exert influence and control through indirect means. When such a process of neocolonialism is disguised and sweetened with material benefits, even its victims are often unaware of its full impact. But such blandishments

leading to distortions of our essential developments have consciously to be combated. In the words of Mahatma Gandhi: "Golden fetters are no less galling to a self-respecting man than iron ones. The sting lies in the fetters and not in the metal".

The process of change that we are undergoing is not blind: the new forces at work in our societies are not without direction. Throughout the world we see the masses expressing their just aspirations, and the right of the hitherto deprived multitudes to the benefits of progress is not in question. We have to make a conscious choice of the direction which we wish to give to social change in our own countries and we have to search for new value systems which we may wish to adopt. I would like once again to draw on the words of Jawaharlal Nehru in describing our task. His words remain apposite today, more than 20 years after they were first spoken; the occasion should also be remembered, for it was the 18-Nation New Delhi Conference in January 1949, devoted to the cause of the independence of Indonesia: He said: "We are the heirs of these long yesterdays of our history, but we are also the builders of tomorrow that is shaping itself. The burden of that tomorrow has to be borne by us and we have to prove ourselves worthy of that great responsibility."

Mr. President, I want to draw attention to a particular feature of Asian civilisation and culture. This continent has not sought to raise barriers against the outside world but, on the contrary, has welcomed influences from all sources. Many diverse cultural streams have met and mingled in Asia. Different ways of life, different systems of thought and belief have existed side by side, without conflict. In India we are very conscious of the cultural and spiritual riches that have come to us through successive waves of settlers. We have played host to the most divergent cultural groups, ultimately to the enrichment of our distinctive way of life. And our experience is not unique. Throughout the continent similar processes can be observed; the indigenous culture has been able to respond to what is new by neither sur-

rendering to it nor rejecting it. Instead a process of assimilation has taken place which has enriched rather than destroyed what was originally there. Such a process bespeaks a spirit of grand universalism and lofty tole-

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rance. The importance of such attitudes in the world today scarcely needs emphasis.

I would also venture to suggest that the Asian heritage is such as to give a special character to the impact of industrialisation on a traditional society. This question has received a great deal of attention in recent years, as more and more countries have embarked on the path of industrial development. Despite beliefs to the contrary, we should be confident that the tenacity and resilience of our cultural traditions is such that we should prove fully equal to the task of adapting to the disciplines of scientific, technological and an industrial society without losing our balance. Our historical tradition should encourage us in this belief and help us to face this aspect of our current problems with

Mr. President, with some exceptions, the main struggle of the countries represented here is against poverty, hunger, backwardness and want. Our governments are committed to programmes aimed at the amelioration of the circumstances of the vast masses for which the scarce resources of our countries must be carefully husbanded. In these circumstances, no large funds can be expected from the state exchequer for the furtherance of culture in the narrower sense: by this I mean programmes such as the endowment of museums and theatres, or the wide-scale development of television and other similar schemes. Such institutions are undoubtedly useful and desirable, but they have to take lower priority in our countries. Neither should they be regarded as the measure of cultural advancement. We must be careful to avoid the vulgarisation of culture that we see too often and which finds much sustenance in the mass media. We must try instead to improve the quality of life of the masses in the belief that as they free themselves from the shackles of poverty and backwardness, they will, as a necessary

part of this process, accelerate their cultural renaissance and new cultural values will come within our grasp.

While our countries are engaged in wide-scale development programmes, we should be careful to avoid some of the dangers inherent in this course. Development, in some quarters, has become more or less synonymous with the creation of a high consumption society. There is no need to point to the dangers and problems to be found in such consumer societies; in the last decade they have emerged in clear relief. One aspect that has attracted growing concern in the world at large is the disturbance in ecological balance. The consumer society is consuming the world's riches and polluting its environment at such a rate that even the most ardent votaries of economic progress at all cost are obliged to pause and ponder. We, who are part of the developing world of Asia, must find our own solutions and structure out, societies in the light of our requirements and our traditions. The spirit of competitiveness must give way to that of cooperative living, which is in keeping with the gains of our own cultures. Culture is a dynamic instrument for adapting society to new environments. Borrowed models must always be inadequate and we must do better than to end up in the same morass where the developed countries find themselves. Development has to take on a more important human dimension. In the words of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi: "We must concern ourselves not only with the kind of world we want but also with the kind of man who should inhabit it. Surely we do not want a society divided into those who condition and those who are conditioned. We want thinking people, capable of spontaneous self-directed activity, people who are interested and interesting, and who are imbued with compassion and concern for others".

Most of our countries contain within their geographic frontiers diverse population groups in very different stages of economic, social and political development. This often creates grave problems of national integration. Most of us are clear that national integration can best be brought about by res-

pecting the culture, traditions, language and literature of each section of the population. The concept of suppression or subjugation by a dominant culture has been rejected. It is, therefore, essential that attitudes which seem to promote enmity and hatred between peoples on grounds of nationality, race or religion must be consciously combated. The temptation of paternalism in devising appropriate cultural policies for less developed regions will have to be avoided. The legitimate aspirations of these societies for all the benefits of progress need to be met and we must not fall into the trap of leaving them untouched in the name of preservation. A properly concerted cultural policy will help

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to Integrate such peoples more thoroughly into the larger society of which they form part. The essence of such a cultural policy is to enable all sections of society, and the Individuals constituting it, to develop their own creative personality and to enable them to become aware of the achievements of their fellow men the world over. The mass base of cultural activity would restore to cultural forms its, humanising role in the development of its spirit.

One of the very striking recent developments is the new focus that has been established on the role of youth. I do not believe that any useful purpose is served by discussing questions relating to youth in terms of the generation gap or of conflict between the young and their elders. These are not phenomena unique to our age. What we are observing is a period when the pace of social change is quick; many aspects of the old value system no longer apply and the new set of values is still being evolved. Society has stated its goals clearly but social development has not always taken place according to these goals. Inevitably there is restiveness among the youth. But they are a source of vigour and their stake in the future is naturally higher than that of their elders. Societies must provide suitable means for the channelling of this youthful energy into constructive directions. In a material sense the young people should be considered as a resource for the nation's development, parti-

cularly for its cultural regeneration.

Mr. President, this Conference in which we are participating has encouraged me in the view that our respective national priorities and our shared feeling for our historical past are such that we can readily arrive at useful and viable programmes of mutual co-operation. We need to make a conscious effort to intensify cultural exchanges among ourselves. I would commend the furthering of these exchanges under organised cooperation so that the common people of one country become aware of the cultural achievements of the other. Intensified two-way contacts of this nature between Asian countries should provide concrete means of establishing friendship and cooperation. No matter how divergent our paths may be in other respects, we will certainly find much to say each other in the cultural sphere.

Many of our countries have founded institutions devoted to some branch of knowledge or some aspect of culture which could well be of very great Interest to their neighbours. I would suggest that institutions of this nature may be identified and encouraged to develop a regional character. Instead of catering only to national requirements, they should be given facilities enabling them to cast a wider net, embracing the whole region. They can become centres of study and training, - for fellow Asians and in a multitude of ways offer their specialised knowledge for the solution of problems in other countries. There are many matters in which there is no need for us to look to the developed countries of the world for the expertise or information that we may require. It may be readily available with our neighbours and we should be encouraged to seek for it nearer home. The benefits may be greater than we imagine, for so many of the solutions found originally in the highly industrialised parts of the world have proved inadequate when applied to distant regions. We have to adapt existing solutions for our own use, and in this the sharing of experience should be of mutual benefit.

UNESCO can foster Asian cultural co-operation by adopting a more active policy

of encouraging and assisting those institutions in the various Asian countries which have a regional potential. Some centralised unit within the Organisation for providing necessary information to member states would be a useful facility. I would commend such a proposal for consideration by this Conference.

I would also propose a vastly expanded programme of translation of writing from one Asian language to other Asian languages. This would contribute to mutual understanding between countries of their region. A programme of this nature deserves support from UNESCO.

Mr. President, I have mentioned a few concrete steps which I hope will have the support of my distinguished colleagues. Through these and other similar means we may go some way towards re-creating the superior measure of interchange that has characterised our contacts in the past. While pleading for greater cooperation among the Asian countries I venture to clarify that I am not suggesting an Asian isolationism. We have to consciously work for a wider under-

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standing with the other parts of the world. There can be no exclusiveness in cultural development, least of all from this continent of Asia. The brotherhood of man and the universality of the human spirit are among the established concepts in our Asian frame of reference. To these, I am sure, we will continue to subscribe in the future.

INDONESIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Welcoming His Excellency Dr. Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and Madame Viera Husakova who arrived in New Delhi on December 3, 1973, on a seven-day official visit, Prime Minister, Shrimti Indira Gandhi, made the following speech at the airport:

On behalf of the Government and people of India I extend a warm welcome to His Excellency Dr. Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and his distinguished colleagues.

We are glad to have them amongst us. We are specially happy that Madame Husakova has accompanied the party.

Your Excellency, you come from a friendly country, a country with which we have many bonds of sympathy and of economic, cultural and political co-operation. The high standards achieved by Czechoslovakia in industry and technology are well-known. We are benefiting from these skills through programmes of expanding trade and economic collaboration.

Czechoslovakia is as noted for its tradition of learning and art as for its industrial competence. In the realm of culture also, our exchanges are growing.

It has been my privilege to visit Czechoslovakia more than once. During my stay there last year, I was able to see the great progress being made by the Czechoslovak people under Your Excellency's guidance.

This is your first visit to our land and although it is so brief, I hope it will enable you to know at first hand something of what we are doing in our country to overcome

problems accumulated over the centuries and to create a new society which will ensure greater economic and social justice to our people. Your visit will also strengthen our friendship and enable us to work together to bring friendship among nations and the blessings of peace to the peoples of the world.

I hope that Your Excellency and your colleagues will have a useful, pleasant and interesting stay in this ancient yet ever new city. Wherever you go in our country, you will find a warm welcome.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Reply by Dr. Gustav Husak

Replying to the welcome Hie Excellency,
Dr. Gustav Husak said:

Permit me, Mrs. Prime Minister, to thank you on behalf of my delegation and myself for your kind invitation to visit your beautiful country and for your friendly welcome. It is my pleasant duty to convey at the same time hearty greetings and a mes-

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sage of respect and friendship from the people of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to you and to other state representatives as Well as to all people of India.

We appreciate the long tradition of friendship and cooperation which arose in the course of so many years between the People of Czechoslovakia and India. In spite

of the fact that our countries are separated by thousands of kilometres we came to you as our close and good friends with whom we are connected by the ties of profound understanding. We regard it as our great duty to continue to strengthen, develop and intensify the tradition of friendship between our nation and states.

I should like, Mrs. Prime Minister, to take this opportunity to recall your visit in Czechoslovakia last year. It was an event which impressed profoundly our people and which became an expressive step for the further development of relations between our states. It offered an opportunity to discuss questions related to mutual friendly co-operation. We want to follow the talks of that time also during our present stay in the Republic of India.

Since our talks of the last year we have been witnessing new very important achievements of anti-imperialist, progressive and peace forces. However, dangerous situation also arose, which seriously complicated the international relations and which were inconsistent with our joint efforts to secure a positive development in the world.

Our Present meeting will be a new opportunity to exchange views on the development of international Political situation and on the possibilities of contributing jointly ever more to the strengthening of peace and to the intensification of those sound trends in the international relations which in spite of all obstacles continue to be carried through and which have been gaining ever more support from the people of all continents.

The great development of the Czechoslovak-Indian relations in recent years gives us also enough reasons to assess jointly the contribution of this favourable trend to our two countries. We want to discuss with you the prospects of an all-round and mutually advantageous Czechoslovak-Indian co-operation for a further period. We are therefore convinced that our talks and our visit will contribute to a further strengthening and intensification of friendship, mutual understanding and co-operation between India and

Czechoslovakia.

Permit me to thank you once again for the hearty welcome given us here today.

Long live the friendship between the peoples of Czechoslovakia and India.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA TOTO CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Dr. Husak

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, gave a banquet on December 3, 1973 in honour of His Excellency Dr. Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. The following is the text of her speech delivered on the occasion:

Our distinguished friend has spent only a few hours in Delhi but I am sure that he has been able to feel the esteem and friendship in which we hold him -- not only for his personal qualities but because he is here as a representative of the great people of Czechoslovakia.

Your Excellency, although our two countries are so different, our peoples share many common experiences in history -- agony and excitement, struggle and fulfilment. Both nations are composed of diverse linguistic groups which are united in the common quest for freedom and equality. We have both endured foreign rule for centuries yet we have preserved our independence of spirit. In the last century there has been a great cultural renaissance and political re-

newal in the two countries.

The name of Czechoslovakia became imprinted on the political consciousness of our people when we were fighting for our inde-

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pendence and you were opposing fascism. With the end of the war, you re-emerged as a sovereign nation and we achieved our independence. We were glad to establish direct political and diplomatic relations with the valiant and talented people of Czechoslovakia. Over the last twenty-six years, this relationship has grown stronger to our mutual advantage.

Czechoslovakia has long been famous for its achievements in industry. In recent years, under Your Excellency's leadership, economic strength has been further consolidated and expanded. Particularly notable is the manner in which Your villages have been provided with the amenities of modern technology, taking care to safeguard the natural serenity of your countryside. You have kept up and enriched your old traditional arts and crafts and have made many significant innovations in the audio-visual media which have added immensely to the enjoyment of people and have helped the educational process.

With far-seeing economic statesmanship, you have shared the fruits of your progress with other peoples. It is heartening that trade between our two countries is expanding steadily and is more or less balanced. Several major industrial establishments in India stand witness to the constructive co-operation between our two countries - to name only a few, the Hindustan Electricals at Hyderabad and Tiruchi, the Heavy Industrial Machinery complex in Ranchi and the Pinjore Tractor Factory. These play an important role in our development programme. They enable us to make the most of our resources and to rely increasingly on ourselves for sophisticated equipment for power generation and agriculture.

Proclaiming independence, at the midnight hour, my father described it as a tryst

with destiny. Freedom opened the doors of opportunity and for our entry into the age of modern technology. The research of our scientists and the work of our engineers combined with the sustained labour of our farmers has enabled us to bring 13 million hectares more land under irrigation so that the yield is twice as much as before. We have established many new industries, such as machine building, aircraft manufacture and major metallurgical factories, some with the help of friendly nations like yours and more with the newly developed talents of our own engineers and technologists. While the import of technology from outside is a catalyst, development must in the main be a product of a nation's own labour and resources.

In addition to developing steel and electricity which are basic to a country's strength we have, like you, laid stress on cultural development. In fact, the endeavour to harmonise the traditional with the modern is another common feature of our endeavours.

We have yet a very long way to go. Our growing strength makes our further development easier in some ways, yet the aspirations released by development and the acceleration of the progress of advanced nations make the task more complex. The caprices of nature and unforeseen developments in international Politics suddenly create new problems. In the last few months we in India have passed through particularly trying times largely due to drought and the international economic crisis.

Scientific progress, especially in the technologies of destruction, has made the leaders of nations aware of the impending danger of total annihilation. We welcome the hopeful initiatives towards detente and disarmament, which have been taken in the recent past.

You have spoken of the important steps which have been taken since I met you last year. Your forthcoming meeting with Chancellor Brandt for the conclusion of the Treaty on the normalisation of relations between Czechoslovakia and the Federal

Republic of Germany will be a historic one and will end a long period of bitterness. The deliberations of European Conference on Security and cooperation which have concluded in Helsinki are significant. We sincerely hope that meeting in Geneva will make further progress in this direction. The situation in Europe has definitely improved. I wish I could say the same for Asia.

Detente should not be restricted to any region or continent. It must extend to the entire family of nations. Moreover, it is not enough to eliminate military and economic confrontation between the stronger and advanced nations. We live in a world of in-

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stant communications which sharpen the longings of the millions who have so long been denied opportunities for a full life. The fear that natural resources are being fast depleted, and that the weaker nations may not get their due share could easily arouse desperation leading to conflict. We feel therefore that in order to achieve lasting peace and stability, it is necessary to make earnest efforts to reduce poverty and disparities within countries and between them. This challenge demands extensive international cooperation.

Czechoslovakia and India have worked together on the international scene for cooperation and peaceful resolution of disputes. The Government and people of Czechoslovakia have shown consistent sympathy for our position on international matters. This was especially in evidence during the events of 1971 on our sub-continent. In this age of change and uncertainty, I am sure that we shall be together in the endeavour to find a secure anchorage for mankind. Dr. Husak's visit will deepen our mutual friendship and strengthen our resolve and capacity to work together for peace and justice among nations. Once more I express my great pleasure at having you, Your Excellency, Madame and your colleagues with us.

Excellencies, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of His Excellency Dr. Gustav Husak and Madame

Husakova, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Czechoslovakia and to the further strengthening of Indo-Czechoslovak friendship and cooperation.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA RUSSIA MALI GERMANY
FINLAND SWITZERLAND

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dr. Husak's Reply

The following is the text of reply of His Excellency Dr. Husak, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the National Front, CSSR, delivered at the banquet given in his honour by the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi:

May I use this opportunity first of all to thank once more for the kind reception in your country and also for all the warm words said here by Mrs. Prime Minister about the people of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and our delegation. Permit me to express sincere gladness and pleasure over the fact that we can, on the territory of India and among friends, see the beauties of your ancient civilization and acquaint ourselves with the important successes of the Republic of India to which the people of Czechoslovakia have harboured for many years deep sympathies.

We follow with great interest the endeavour of the Indian people, their diligent work and the results they have attained. We are happy to see the results of the work by which, under the leadership of its representatives they create, for themselves, for the happiness of the future generations and the

progress of their great homeland.

In getting acquainted with and by the evaluation of the present economic and social development of India, we recall the progressive thoughts of the bequest of the wise teacher of the Indian people, Mahatma Gandhi, and his continuator, the great statesman, Jawaharlal Nehru, that the Government of the country belong to the people, that India become an independent democratic State. We are very glad that the bequest of those unforgettable personalities was successfully realized in the Republic of India during the 25 years of its existence.

Our happiness over the present success of the Indian people is based on the mutual friendly relations connecting the nations of our countries and their long rich tradition. The sympathies of our progressive people for the people of India have become markedly stronger already at the time of the anti-colonial uprising in the middle of the last century. However, they have met with the full support and assistance of the nations of Czechoslovakia particularly in the case of the long national liberation struggle against colonialism and for freedom which victoriously led, under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru, to the declaration of the Indian independence on 15 August 1947.

We in Czechoslovakia greatly appreciate the attitude of the unforgettable leader of the Indian people, Jawaharlal Nehru, who at the time when our State in-

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dependence and national freedom were endangered by the Hitlerite fascism, took a decisive stand for the defence of our country against the shameful Munich Diktat in 1938. We can say that the history has tried our friendly relations particularly at those times when the nations of our two countries waged struggle for gaining the national freedom and state independence or for their defence.

After the victorious struggle of the Czechoslovak people against the Hitlerite fascism, after the liberation of Our country

by the Soviet Army and the declaration of independence of the Republic of India, our mutual ties have further strengthened and have always been marked with friendly understanding. During the recent years they have particularly developed in all spheres to the benefit of our two countries.

The visits of the leading Indian statesmen in Czechoslovakia which left deep impressions with the Czechoslovak people likewise significantly contributed to the development of our mutual cooperation. We were happy to be able to welcome in our country the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the President Mr. Giri, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Singh and the Parliamentary delegation of the Republic of India, headed by Mr. Dhillon.

Today's discussions with the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, as well as the meeting with the President of the Republic, Mr. Giri and with the other representatives, have already proved that we wish to develop permanently and bilaterally the Czechoslovak-Indian cooperation on the basis of the attained results. We are interested in the deepening and improving of the political, economic, scientific, technological and other relations.

In the sphere of economy we wish, in addition to further development of the exchange of goods and other traditional forms of our relations, to start also with the application of a long-term coordinated cooperation on the basis of the national economic plans of both countries. The Third Economic Agreement which will be signed during our visit can play here an important role as well as the recently concluded Agreement on the Scientific and Technological Cooperation and Industrial Cooperation. We are also thinking about the creation of further conditions for a yet broader exchange of cultural values between the two states, which has long tradition and contributes to the strengthening of friendly relations between the Czechoslovak and Indian people.

We wish to enrich and develop further all traditions of our friendship which pro-

ceeds from common interests of the people of both our countries in the strengthening of the national freedom and democracy, social progress and peaceful cooperation among nations.

We note also with satisfaction the accord in views on the most important international questions, which is the result of the long years of tradition of cooperation of the socialist world with the world born from the national liberation movement. The active endeavour of the socialist and other states, big and small, of all anti-imperialist, national liberation and progressive forces for the attainment of permanent peace, liquidation of all forms of the rule of imperialism and colonialism and for the development of equal cooperation, gains an ever greater support of the masses of the population all over the world. The lessening of international tension, the assertion of positive changes in relations among states and nations on the principles of peaceful coexistence are the favourable result of that influence.

We regard the termination of the war in Vietnam, which is a great victory of the heroic Vietnamese people, as an event of world-wide significance. It is also a remarkable success of all democratic, progressive and peace-loving forces who actively worked for the ending of the imperialist aggression in Vietnam.

In spite of the opposition of the aggressive circles of Israel, a hope of establishing a just peace in the Middle East is growing and it corresponds to the vital interests of Arab nations, Palestinian people and all countries in that region. We fully support the people of Arab countries and regard it as indispensable for Israel to fulfil the Security Council resolutions of October 1973.

We note positive tendencies also in the European continent. Prerequisites are being created for Europe to become a con-

of arms race as well as the first proposals aimed at gradual disarmament can contribute to the strengthening of this hope.

But we are realistic and do not close our eyes to the fact that reactionary forces still exist in the world who do not favour peace and progress, that remnants of colonialism and neocolonialism still survive and that we still meet racial discrimination. In various places of our planet we see attempts of anti-popular forces to stop the social progress with the use of gross violence and to persecute brutally the supporters of progressive and democratic forces as it is proved by the terror of the fascist junta in Chile.

We also see that the imperialist circles continue to profit from the economic, social and cultural consequences of colonialism in the new independent states of Asia, Africa and Latin America, the rise of which was one of the most important political changes after the second world war. But their struggle for national liberty and independence has not yet ended. The imperialist circles want to maintain economic control over these countries and by means of intrigues they obstruct the right of the formerly oppressed nations to pursue an independent economic development, to make use of their natural riches to the benefit of their peoples and to improve their living conditions. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has always supported the national liberation movement, supported and supports the developing countries in their struggle for the attainment of complete independence and sovereignty.

We deeply appreciate the role played by the Republic of India in the positive solution of important international issues. From its birth it belongs to the most important factors of the world-wide struggle for permanent peace and social progress. With its important position among the developing and non-aligned countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America and with its systematic active efforts in the peace and anti-imperialist movement, the Republic of India made and is making a valuable contribution to the peaceful solution of international relations.

Also in the affairs of the sub-continent, India gave her own example of a realistic approach which also has Czechoslovakia's full support. The existing successful development of co-operation of the Republic of India with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Other socialist countries - as confirmed again during the recent visit of L. I. Brezhnev in India - convincingly shows the advantages and usefulness of friendly relations between states with different social systems.

The progressive policy of the Republic of India is closely connected with the remarkable personality of the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi who consistently follows the path of her predecessors, the great sons of the Indian people, thinkers and fighters for its better future, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. Mrs. Prime Minister, we appreciate your untiring endeavour in the struggle for the world peace, social progress in your country, for the peaceful settlement of international problems and understanding among nations.

Dear Mrs. Prime Minister,
Dear Friends,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to wish the entire people of India, Government and you personally, Mrs. Prime Minister, much success in the endeavour for the further development of the independent Republic of India, for a happy future of the people of India and in the struggle for the world peace. This is the goal which already at the beginning of this century has been expressed also by the great Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore in his poem Forward which is known also in Czechoslovakia for many years:

Go only forward, go only forward, go -
go only for the truth, it shows the way,
go only forward, out of joy and full life.
Go always along the road of freedom,
speed in the carriage which sweeps all
troubles from the world.

Permit me now to raise the glass and to drink on the successes of the people of India, on the Czechoslovak-Indian friendship

and further development of our co-operation,
on your health and successes in your public
and political work - dear Mrs. Prime
Minister.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prime Minister's Speech at Civic Reception to Dr. Husak

Following is the free rendering of the
Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's
address at the civic reception held in New
Delhi on December 4, 1973, in honour of
Dr. Gustav Husak:

The city of Delhi feels privileged to
honour Dr. Gustav Husak, one of the great
statesmen of our times, and the leader and
guide of a dynamic country, with which we
have close ties of mutual regard, friendship
and co-operation.

My own introduction to Czechoslovakia
took place when a Professor of the University
sent me a beautiful book of engravings and
pictures of Prague Through the Years when
I was about 12 or 13. He was a great
oriental scholar and a friend of my father.
The city of Prague has for many centuries
been a centre of commerce and a seat of
learning. The Charles University is one of
the oldest universities in the continent.
Czechoslovaks have a great tradition of intel-
lectual inquiry. Many have taken close in-
terest in Sanskrit and Indian thought.

Several Czech intellectual and political leaders were deeply interested in India's own fight for freedom. Our distinguished guest himself has been familiar with the writings of Tilak, Gandhi, Nehru and Tagore. Ancient Prague was one of the most beautiful cities of Europe. I was delighted and impressed to see, during my visit last year, how well you have conserved the old landmarks and how attractively they blend with the new.

Czechoslovakia has played an important part in Europe's history, producing great fighters, scholars and reformers. For centuries the people had to fight for their freedom and became a sovereign nation after the First World War. At the time of the Second World War Czechoslovakia again passed under foreign rule. Under the leadership of intrepid leaders, of whom Dr. Husak was prominent, the people doggedly resisted Nazism and once again emerged independent.

Technology has opened many new avenues for mankind but side by side it brought into the fore many new problems and dangers. It will be a great contribution to the cause of peace, if we could work, in unison to remove poverty, disparities and injustice, not only in our country but in the whole world.

It is only in our age that man has emerged from the hold of feudalism, and the average citizen - workers and peasant - has become a source of political power. Different types of revolutions, political and industrial, have transformed societies. Various regions all over the world are in the midst of these processes. As I said in the Non-aligned Conference, we in the developing nations must go a long way to complete our unfinished revolutions. We are obstructed by the forces that have always resisted change. The power of technology has great potential for progress but the manner in which it is being used is giving rise to new dangers and fears. But I have faith in Man and his innate power to overcome obstacles and solve the most difficult of problems. Capacity is developed only through effort. So each nation must also work hard to strengthen it in its own way. We must

build international institutions and conventions which will ensure more extensive co-operation among nations. This is the faith which has guided our actions and Policies in India. Czechoslovakia also has been a firm advocate of international cooperation for the promotion of peace and equality among nations.

I speak here as a citizen of Delhi and of India. I join with other citizens in welcoming Dr. Husak, Madame Husakova and the other distinguished guests. I wish them a pleasant and interesting stay in our country and safe return to greater achievements in Czechoslovakia. I request them to take with them the friendly greetings and good wishes of the Indian people to the people of Czechoslovakia.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dr. Husak's Speech at Civic Reception

The following is the text of H.E. Dr. Husak's speech delivered at the Civic Reception:

Permit me to thank the leaders of the capital of Delhi Mr. Mayor, for all the kind words he has addressed to the Czechoslovak delegation as well as to the Czechoslovak people, for the kind attention given to us and to thank all of you for the kind reception.

Permit me primarily to thank Madame Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for her invi-

tation to visit the Republic of India, for the warm reception and for the manifestations of friendship accompanying us from the first moments of our stay in your country.

Taking this opportunity I should like to convey sincere and hearty greetings of our President and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic as well as of all our people to you, Madam Prime Minister as well as to all people present at this meeting, to all citizens of the capital of Delhi and to all people of India.

The people of Czechoslovakia have always been taking great interest in the life, work and future of the people of India. With a great sympathy and with a warm understanding the people of Czechoslovakia followed especially the long struggle of the people of India against colonialism and for the freedom, into which the Indian National Congress joined broad patriotic forces.

The peoples of Czechoslovakia which, in the same way as the peoples of India, had to fight hard in the past for national freedom and state independence, regard highly the heroic struggle of the people of India for national liberation. They appreciate greatly the work and the heritage of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi as well as of his close collaborator and successor Jawaharlal Nehru, who belonged to the unforgettable leading personalities of the Indian and world anti-imperialist and national liberation movement.

With a deep respect we remember the memorable day of August 15, 1947, when the flag of independent India waved for the first time over this ancient historical Red Fort in your city, which became the metropolis of the Republic of India. Here the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru pronounced solemnly the memorable words about the victorious road emphasising that the free Government of India would build up an independent, democratic state and strive to install a just peace and to complete the struggle for the nation's liberation.

We in Czechoslovakia are pleased that since the declaration of independence these thoughts have successfully been called into

existence in your country. Since 1947 India has been achieving remarkable results in strengthening her independent state, in developing the society, and the national economy, in building up new industrial branches, in increasing the production of agriculture products and in modernizing and expanding the network of transport.

A new generation of creators of material and spiritual values, a new generation of Indian intelligentsia, experts and others who open the progressive roads in the development of industry and agriculture, science, culture and education has grown up.

We are convinced that the Republic of India will in the next years newly succeed upon this road and that the people of India will continue to follow unswervingly the road of building up a democratic and peace-loving state. We wish to you, dear Madame Prime Minister, we wish to the Government of the Republic of India as well as to all people of India much success in materialising these noble goals.

Dear friends,

The efforts of our two countries to further the policy of peaceful coexistence among states and countries in the whole world are the natural basis of the long Czechoslovak-Indian relations. Also in the struggle against imperialism, racism, the residues of colonialism and all manifestations of neocolonialism as well as in solving other world problems our countries strive for the same aims.

It resulted also from our talks and meetings we have had so far whether we talked of the development of relations in Asia, Europe, Africa or Latin America or of our foreign policy in the individual regions, in

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Indo-China, Central Europe, in the Near and Middle East. Czechoslovakia greatly appreciates the role and the contribution of India in the international sphere. From its birth the Republic of India belongs to the most important initiators and factors of the policy of peaceful co-operation among countries of

Various continents, especially among young independent countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. With her efforts of many years India contributed to the development of a broad and mighty movement of all anti-imperialist, democratic and progressive national liberation forces and took a significant part in promoting positive changes in international relations, which create prerequisites to divert the threat of a new world war. In doing so, India has gained respect and recognition in the world.

The significant role of the Republic of India was confirmed also at the Conference of non-aligned countries in Algiers which became a proof of the continuing rise of anti-imperialist, peaceful and national liberation forces.

The valuable contribution of the Republic of India to the policy of peaceful coexistence was highly appreciated also on the occasion of the recent visit of the Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev to India. The results of this visit are regarded also by us in Czechoslovakia as an outstanding contribution to the development of an all-round Soviet-Indian co-operation as well as a contribution to further efforts to strengthen and intensify the positive alterations in the relations among peoples and states in the whole world.

At present, it is considered important by us to make an effort that the positive results of the relaxation of international tension might expand to all continents. But especially the last events remind us that neither the social progress nor the constructive solution of controversial international problems according to the principles of peaceful co-existence can be carried through by themselves. Only by means of a consistent struggle of all anti-imperialist, peace-loving and democratic forces in Asia, in America, in Africa and in Europe it is possible to promote further relaxation of international tension and to open the road for the social progress.

New obstacles may emerge on the fur-

ther road of freedom-loving nations. However, we are convinced of the final victory of the ideas of peace, friendly co-operation among peoples and of the social progress corresponding to the wishes and vital interests of millions of people of all continents.

Dear Friends,

During the talks with Madam Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in the course of meetings with the President of the Republic Mr. Giri and with other Indian representatives we also informed about the life of our people and about the questions which at present are being solved in socialist Czechoslovakia. In fulfilling the new challenging tasks of the further all-round development of our socialist society we follow up with the major achievements of our people attained in the course of the twenty-five years of the upbuilding of socialism in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres as well as in the general increase of the standard of living.

The programme of the XIV Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia which expressed our line in the internal as well as in the foreign policy met with the mass confidence and support of all our people. Its tasks are gradually being fulfilled in all spheres which brings about ever new values to the benefit of the society and also for our every citizen.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic develops friendly relations with many countries. We are very pleased that it is also like that with regard to our relations with the Republic of India. The identity or the nearness of our views on the solution of the basic problems of the contemporary world is also accompanied with a rich and an all-round development of Czechoslovak-Indian relations. The friendly ties of many years between our countries are also proved by numerous mutual visits of the highest representatives. Especially the visit of Madam Indira Gandhi in Czechoslovakia last year and this year's visit of the President of the Republic of India Mr. Giri were an important step for the strengthening of our friendly relations and impressed deeply our people.

We fully agree with the thought often emphasised by Madam Prime Minister Gandhi that the best co-operation is such a

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co-operation which supports the independent and sound development of a state and of its national economy. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic does not belong to the big countries. We are, however, pleased that we also can within the framework of our possibilities contribute to the economic development of the Republic of India by means of such a co-operation.

In building up big industrial plants which were constructed by means of co-operation of our and Indian workers and technicians and in creating peacefully the values serving to improve the life of the people the friendship between the people of Czechoslovakia and India has also grown stronger. Thousands of our qualified experts were active in India in the past years and many Indian experts were improving their qualifications in Czechoslovakia to be able to contribute after their return home to the growth of the economic power of India.

During the talks with Madam Prime Minister Gandhi we came to the joint conclusion that the economic co-operation between Czechoslovakia and India is being materialized on a mutually advantageous basis, on the principles of equality and to the benefit of the people of the two countries. We not only want to continue these joint efforts but we also want to develop our mutual co-operation towards higher forms. New future prospects in that respect are contained in the third agreement on economic co-operation between Czechoslovakia and India which will be signed in the course of our visit here.

There are considerable reserves and so far unused possibilities for a further development of mutually advantageous economic relations - as we talked about it in the course of our meetings - especially in the application of higher forms of economic co-operation on the basis of productional co-operation and specialization, in the development of scientific co-operation, etc.

Also the Czechoslovak-Indian co-operation in the sphere of culture, science and arts has been developing successfully. Many of our and your foremost scientists, artists and employees working in the sphere of culture education and health care visited India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. They established everlasting friendly ties.

Like India, Czechoslovakia is also interested in the development of all-round relations. We realise their contribution to the knowledge of life of the people of our two countries, to their economic and social development and to the strengthening of friendship between our peoples. That is also the main result of our negotiations with Madam Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Dear Madam Prime Minister, dear Mr. Mayor, dear guests, dear friends, once again I thank you Madam Prime Minister, for the friendly reception and for all the care devoted to me and to the members of my delegation. I wish to you, to your Government, to you - citizens of the capital Delhi and to all people of India much success in the untiring efforts to build up your country at peace and to guarantee social progress and peace throughout the world.

I thank Mr. Mayor of the capital of Delhi and all of you who provided for the success of our meeting today.

Long live the friendship of the peoples of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and of the Republic of India.

Long live peace.

Permit me to convey to the citizens of the capital of the Republic of India the greetings of the capital of our country, Prague, to congratulate the citizens of the capital of Delhi for the construction and reconstruction of this ancient capital and to hand over a souvenir from the citizens of the city of Prague to Mr. Mayor.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA CHINA ALGERIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CZECH

REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prime Minister's speech at Return Banquet by Dr. Husak

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the Banquet given in her honour by Dr. Gustav Husak on December 4, 1973:

All things that begin must come to an end whether they are good or bad. And I think we, all of us who are here, will agree that the visit of His Excellency Dr. Husak and of the rest of the delegation was a very good thing, not only because that was a further link in a long chain of friendship and cooperation, a link which will make that

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friendship and cooperation firmer and stronger, not only because it gave us the opportunity of detailed conversations over a wide range of subjects, and it gave the opportunity to our Czechoslovak friends to meet a large number of Indians and to get to know us a little better.

My father whose works you know very well, spent his whole lifetime to discover India, but even at the end of his life, he said he did not know very well what India was, and the more he tried to find, the more facets of the Indian personality were revealed to him. But it is obvious that you know more about India by coming here than by not coming. So, you have been very welcome here by the Government and by, as you saw, the entire people of our country. So far as I am concerned, our conversations were useful, from many points of view. The similarity in outlook getting a better view of your

assessment of various subjects was a very practical help to us. But more than all this, I would say that I saw behind the statesman, about whom we have read so much, the leader of men and one who is guiding the destiny of, very talented people - behind all this, I find a very warm-hearted human being.

So, may I ask you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to the health and further success of our guests, of Dr. Husak, to the health of His Excellency, President Svoboda, to the health of His Excellency, Chairman Strougal, to greater prosperity and happiness of the people of Czechoslovakia, to ever increasing, deepening friendship between our two countries and people and last but not least, to peace in the world.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dr. Husak's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Prime Minister

The following is the text of speech of Dr. Gustav Husak at the Banquet given by him in honour of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi on December 4, 1973:

We had already two beautiful meetings. Permit me to say a few words at least.

Our stay in Delhi is coming to an end. We may say for the Czechoslovak side, for our delegation that we are very satisfied with the course of talks between our delegations and Madam Prime Minister, that we are satisfied both with the talks and with their results, that we are satisfied first of all with the very friendly atmosphere which

we found here.

When one travels to a foreign country, one knows something about it, one reads something about the respective country. I knew that India was a friendly country to Czechoslovakia. But in spite of that I was surprised with the warm reception with which we met here. By "we" I mean our delegation. We are pleased to see that because it corresponds to the interests of Czechoslovakia and, in our opinion, also to the interests of India. I am pleased to say that I was able to meet personally the leading representatives of India, the representatives of the Republic of India and I primarily appreciate the fact that I could have spent so much working time with Madam Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi.

When one has a reading pause, one knows that it is not always an easy work. On the contrary it is a complicated work. I must say that I greatly admire Madam Gandhi that she can do this exacting, enormous and tiring working in such a vast country as the Republic of India. I have a pleasure because of this art of hers and I must sincerely say I envy her. I am pleased to say that it was really a great pleasure for me that I could meet personally other leading representatives of the Republic of India. I shall not mention their names. That would make a long list and my statement would become long. I will only say that we appreciate them all and that the experience from our meetings will be also for us very instructive. It will improve our knowledge about the Republic of India, about the people of India and about the intentions of India.

I very much like the optimism and tenacity with which the leading representatives

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of India strive for a better future. This realistic optimism is a revolutionary optimism, overcoming the difficulties and fighting for a better, happy life. With these deep persuasions, we shall leave Delhi and before long also India that there is here a vast population, a heroic population which at the time of their struggle for freedom

and also now-a-days gave birth to its great political leaders who are not afraid of obstacles and who strive for noble ideas of freedom, independence, justice and human progress. We are happy that we have friendly relations with such a country.

Permit me to raise the glasses to the glory and a great future of the people of India and of the Republic of India, to the health of the President of the Republic of India, Mr. Giri, to the health of the leader of the people of India and of a great politician, Madam Indira Gandhi, to a fair and permanent Indo-Czechoslovak friendship.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prime Minister's Farewell Speech

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the Palam Airport on December 5, 1973 at the departure of H.E. Dr. Gustav Husak:

Many years ago, a great poetess of India, Madam Sarojini Naidu, said about one of our States that it is a small state with a very big heart. I think that we can say the same for your country. It has played an important role in Europe and its people have been known not only for their skill, their talents, their art, but also for their generosity. You have shown generosity in sharing your experience and your goods or other equipment which would help other people. Above all, you have been generous with your friendship, and the friendship is there always, but specially noticeable in

times of need.

Just a couple of days ago, we welcomed you here and today we are sad that you are leaving Delhi. But we are grateful that you are seeing some other parts of our country because Delhi is not the representative of India. Each area has its own individuality and we would like you to see as much as you can during the short time that you are in our country.

Your visit has been significant not only because it is the first time that you have come to India, but because of the extremely useful and valuable talks which we have had. This has given us the opportunity to reaffirm our position about various international matters and to reinforce our economic, cultural and other cooperation. So, we are grateful to you for coming and we hope that the rest of your stay in India will be pleasant and interesting and that wherever you go, I know you will make many friends for yourself and for your country.

The weather in Delhi had been specially considerate for you and had kept busy most of the time. But in South, where we say there are only two seasons, hot and hotter, you will see a different type of warmth and I hope you take this warmth with you to Czechoslovakia, that it will keep warm our friendship and our fellow-feelings for your country.

Please give our very warm greetings and best wishes to your President, Svoboda, Prime Minister Strougal, your other, colleagues and to all the people of Czechoslovakia. We wish you a safe and happy journey in India and back to your country.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

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1995

Joint Indo-Czechoslovak Declaration

The following Joint Declaration was issued in New Delhi on December 5, 1973 and was signed by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and H.E. Dr. Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and Chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:

Upon the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechos-

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lovakia and Chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak, and Madame Viera Husakova paid an official friendly visit to India from December 3 to 9, 1973.

Dr. Gustav Husak was accompanied by ing. Jindrich Zahradnik, Deputy Prime Minister the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; ing. Bohuslav Chnoupek, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Ing. Josef Simon, Minister of Metallurgy and Engineering; Ing. Andrej Barcak, Minister of Foreign Trade; and other senior officials.

The General Secretary of the CC of the CPC and the Chairman of the CC of the National Front of the CSSR, Dr. Gustav Husak and members of his party were accorded a warm and cordial welcome everywhere they went symbolising the traditional relations of sincere and deep friendship and mutual esteem existing between the peoples of the two countries.

During his stay in Delhi, Dr. Gustav Husak was received by the President of the Republic of India, Shri Varahagiri Venkata

Giri.

The General Secretary of the CC of the CPC and the Chairman of the National Front of the CSSR, Dr. Gustav Husak, paid homage to the memory of the leaders of the national liberation struggle of the Indian people, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri, and laid wreaths at Rajghat, Shanti Vana and Vijay Ghat.

Dr. Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the CC of the CPC and the Chairman of the National Front of the CSSR, was accorded a civic reception at the historic Red Fort where he was welcomed with warmth and cordiality by the citizens of Delhi. Dr. Gustav Husak also addressed a meeting in the Vigyan Bhavan and was listened to with great interest and attention.

The Secretary General of the CC of the CPC and Chairman of the CC of the National Front of the CSSR, Dr. Gustav Husak, had several meetings and discussions with the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, regarding ways and means for the further widening and deepening of Indo-Czechoslovak relations. They also informed each other on developments in their respective countries and exchanged views on international problems of common interest.

Participating in the talks were:
ON THE INDIAN SIDE:

Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs; Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of Finance; Shri T. A. Pai, Minister of Heavy Industry; Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri V. Siddharthachary, Ambassador of India to Czechoslovakia; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE:

Ing. Jindrich Zahradnik, Deputy Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; Ing. Bohuslav Chnoupek, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Ing. Josef Simon, Minister of Metallurgy and Engineering; Ing. Andrej Barcak, Minister of Foreign Trade; Mr. Zdenek Trhlik, Ambassador of Czechoslovakia in India; Dr. Mikulas Beno, Head of the Secretariat of the General Secretary of the CC of the CP of Czechoslovakia; Dr. Antonin Vavrus, Deputy Head of the International Department of the CC of the CP of Czechoslovakia; Dr. Vladimir Polacek, Secretary to the General Secretary of the CC of the CP of Czechoslovakia; Mr. Jaroslav Cisar, Deputy Head of Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Dr. Vaclav Kouba, International Department of the CC of the CP of Czechoslovakia.

The talks were held in a spirit of sincere friendship, cordiality and complete mutual understanding. Both sides noted with satisfaction that the relations of fruitful, mutually beneficial cooperation between the two friendly countries, based on principles of friendship and solidarity are continuing to strengthen and develop successfully in all fields.

The General Secretary of the CC of the CPC and the Chairman of the CC of the

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National Front of the CSSR, Dr. Gustav Husak, paid tribute to the peaceful foreign policy of the Government of India based on non-alignment and the principles of peaceful co-existence as an important contribution towards the strengthening and safeguarding of positive trends in international relations.

The Prime Minister of India highly appraised the foreign policy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic which is aimed at consolidating international peace and cooperation amongst States.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the development of Economic, Industrial and Commercial cooperation between India and Czechoslovakia. Industrial Plants

like the Foundry Forge Plant, Ranchi; Heavy Power Equipment Plant, Hyderabad; High Pressure Boiler Plant, Tiruchirappali; Machine Tool Plant, Ajmer, and others set up with Czechoslovak cooperation in the frame of the First and Second Economic Agreements have contributed towards industrialisation of India. At present, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is cooperating with India in the setting up of yet other industrial plants including Coal Based Fertiliser Plants at Ramagundam, Talchar and Korba.

The Indian side expressed its deep appreciation of the mutually advantageous cooperation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in India's industrialisation programmes. The Czechoslovak side reaffirmed its continued interest in cooperating in India's efforts at achieving economic self-reliance, especially in the fields of heavy industry, power generation and engineering.

Both sides are convinced that the Economic Cooperation Agreement along with the Protocol on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, signed on December 5, 1973 and the recently concluded Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation and Industrial Cooperation will play an important part in this context. Within the framework of these agreements Czechoslovakia will participate in further strengthening of India's industrial base, namely, in the field of Power Generation, Electrification of Railways, fertiliser production and Engineering, extending the capacities of existing plants, etc.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction over the diversification and increase in the volume of their commercial exchanges. They agreed that in the interest of furthering cooperation in that field and particularly for benefiting from the complementarity of the economies of the two countries, it will be necessary to develop further the exchange of goods and other forms of trade and economic relations and, to start with, to work out long-term programmes of cooperation in this and allied fields on the basis of the economic plans of the two countries.

Both sides agreed to expand and promote mutual economic, scientific and technological cooperation and to exchange experience and expertise in developing all branches of their national economies and in the training of qualified personnel so as to encourage purposeful and effective cooperation on a stable and long-term basis. To this end, they shall consider the possibility of establishing additional working groups to augment and establish industrial capacities in both countries to meet the long-term requirements of each other.

Both sides were of the view that in the interest of accelerating the many-sided development of mutual contacts in the economic, educational, cultural, Press, Radio, Television and other fields it would be useful to consider the conclusion of appropriate additional agreements.

III

The exchange of views revealed an identity or closeness of views between the two sides on the international issues discussed.

Keeping the fundamental interests of all humanity in mind, both sides denounced imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism in all their forms and manifestations and resolutely condemned racism and neo-fascism. In accordance with the ideals of just peace and progress both sides expressed their determination to continue to provide every possible moral, political and material support to peoples in the defence of their inalienable rights and to strive for the safeguarding of

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peaceful and progressive development throughout the world.

Both sides reiterated their determination to continue to work for peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems. They welcomed the trend towards international detente and the positive changes which have taken place in the international arena resulting from the en-

deavours and initiatives on the part of the socialist countries, all peace-loving States and all progressive forces and stated the determination of India and Czechoslovakia to contribute their utmost to this trend.

Both sides welcomed the growing detente in Europe and emphasised the important role played by the Socialist Community in the convening of the All-European Conference on Security and Cooperation for ensuring peace, security and cooperation on that continent. They were convinced that the successful conclusion of the Conference would create the pre-requisites for safeguarding peaceful cooperation amongst all European States. The Indian side highly appraised the constructive role of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the efforts at promoting peaceful and cooperative relations between the States of the European Continent.

Both sides expressed the hope that this favourable development in Europe would help in the relaxation of tensions and solution of conflicts in other parts of the world as well.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction at the positive contribution of the recent Summit Conference of Non-Aligned countries, held in Algiers, in September 1973 in the fight against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism and in the struggle for just peace, national independence and social progress. The Czechoslovak side expressed its high regard for the significant role played by India at that Conference.

Both sides fully understand and support the efforts to make the process of relaxation of tensions irreversible, to expand it to all parts of the world and to project the political detente already achieved also in the military sphere. They support the proposal to convene a World Conference on Disarmament at an early date, with the participation of all States so as to bring about a cessation of the arms race and the achievement of General and Complete Disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under strict inter-

national control. Both sides reiterated their adherence to the Resolution of the XXVII UN General Assembly on the non-use of force or threat of force in international relations and the prohibition, for all time, of the use of nuclear weapons.

India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic believe that outstanding problems that still exist between the States of the Indian sub-continent should be settled in accordance with the Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan of July 1972. Both sides believe that the Joint Declaration by India and Bangladesh of April 17, 1973 and the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of August 28, 1973 provide the basis for the establishment of good neighbourly relations between the countries of the Indian sub-continent. The Czechoslovak side expressed its appreciation of India's untiring efforts in seeking to achieve speedy normalisation of relations and for the establishment of durable peace in this part of the world.

Both sides called for the early admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations and consider that there are no grounds, whatsoever, for delaying the realisation of her legitimate right to be a member of the World Body.

Both sides attach great importance to the securing of world peace- In this context they consider that the development of broad-based cooperation amongst the Asian States, in accordance with the principles of respect for the sovereignty of States and the inviolability of frontiers, renouncement of the use or threat of force in relations between States, non-interference in internal affairs and equality and mutual benefit will be conducive to peace and stability on the Asian continent.

India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic regard the termination of the Vietnam War as an event of world significance and at the same time a success for the Vietnamese people and for all peace-loving forces. Both sides welcomed the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam and regard it as essential for all the

signatories to strictly and consistently observe and implement the Agreement. Simultaneously, they called for a consistent implementation of the Agreement on the Restoration of Peace and National Reconciliation in Laos as well as the Subsequent Protocol following from it. They also expressed the hope for an early and peaceful settlement in Cambodia in conformity with the interests of the people of that country.

Both sides welcomed the positive tendencies developing in the Korean peninsula and expressed the conviction that the move towards peaceful reunification through bilateral talks, free from outside interference, meets with the just interests of the Korean people and serves the cause of promoting peace and security in this part of the world.

Both sides expressed their grave concern at the situation in West Asia where hostilities had recently broken out as a result of Israel's continued occupation of Arab territories. They expressed themselves in favour of a just and lasting peace in West Asia on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from an occupied Arab territories and in favour of ensuring the security and sovereignty of all countries and peoples in that region, including the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Both sides again confirmed their solidarity with the struggle of the Arab countries against aggressive Israeli expansionism. They regard it as imperative that Israel should implement without delay the Security Council Resolutions No. 242 of November 22, 1967 and No. 338 of October 22, 1973, which provide a practical and just basis for the political settlement of the West Asian conflict.

Both sides again expressed their full support for national liberation movements in colonial territories and emphatically called for the speedy and complete liquidation of the remnants of colonialism in conformity with the UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. They resolutely condemned all manifestations of racism and apartheid as

repugnant to the conscience of humanity and incompatible with fundamental human rights and freedoms.

Both sides emphasised the importance of the United Nations in the strengthening of peace and for the development of international peaceful cooperation in the context of the present relaxation of international tensions. They agreed to continue to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral cooperation within the UN and its specialised agencies.

Both sides share the view that the Charter of Economic Rights and Obligations of States, which is being prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, could help in the creation of an equitable international economic order and the development of economic relations among all states, irrespective of differences in their economic levels and social systems so as to contribute to the acceleration of social and economic progress in the world. They agreed upon the necessity to redress the effects of colonial exploitation so as to decrease and remove the economic disparities of the peoples of the world.

IV

Both sides attached great importance to personal meetings of the highest representatives of the two friendly countries which have become traditional and which have made a significant contribution to the widening and deepening of relations of friendship and cooperation between them. They agreed to continue such contacts at all levels with a view to promoting a fruitful and regular exchange of views on important bilateral and international questions of common interest.

Both sides declared their determination to continue efforts towards developing further their cooperation in the cultural field in the mutual benefit, taking into consideration the long tradition of understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the General Secretary of

the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak, expressed their full satisfaction with the results of their discussions. They were convinced that the visit by Dr. Gustav Husak and his delegation represented an important step in the development of

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friendship and cooperation between India and Czechoslovakia.

Dr. Gustav Husak expressed his appreciation of the warm hospitality extended to him and to members of his party by the Government and people of India. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to pay a visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA ALGERIA PAKISTAN BANGLADESH MALI LAOS CAMBODIA
KOREA ISRAEL

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Protocol on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation

The following Protocol was signed by Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce for the Government of India and Mr. A. Barcak, Minister of Foreign Trade for the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on December 5, 1973:

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the General Secretary of the Central Committee

of the Communist Party of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak, and the delegations of the two countries, took the opportunity to review the trade, economic and technical relations between India and Czechoslovakia, during the visit of Dr. Gustav Husak in December, 1973. The two sides agreed that these relations had been friendly, multifaceted and mutually advantageous. They expressed their strong desire and their conviction that these relations would be expanded and strengthened further in subsequent years.

2. Both sides took note of the work done by the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee which has held four meetings and noted with satisfaction that the deliberations of the Committee had led to progress in Indo-Czechoslovak cooperation in various commercial, technical and scientific fields, and the successful development of economic relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

3. Both sides noted with gratification the increasing trade turn-over under the current Trade and Payments Agreement. It was observed that the volume of trade between the two countries had grown from Rs. 207 million in 1960 to an anticipated value of Rs. 800 million in the current year. Both sides noted that the trade plan for 1974 envisages a turn-over of approximately Rs. 1500 million. It was agreed that every effort should be made to achieve this level during the coming year. The necessity for a suitable change in the trade pattern has been recognised by both sides to maintain balanced and expanding growth of trade between the two countries. The Indian side expressed the view that exports from India in future should include a greater share of non-traditional items, particularly engineering and manufactured goods. Both sides were agreed that it was desirable to adopt a long term frame for trade exchanges between the two countries which would include commodities having special interest to both countries. It was decided that both sides would actively participate in joint ventures in third countries in the future.

4. Both sides noted the considerable Czechoslovak participation in projects in India, covering essential industries such as machine tools, heavy electricals, tractors, etc. With the increased pace of credit utilisation under the Second Economic Agreement and the conclusion of the Third Economic Agreement during the visit of Dr. Gustav Husak, it is hoped that economic collaboration between the two countries as well as the volume of trade in future would register considerable increase.

5. In discussing the Czechoslovak aided projects in India, both sides agreed to upgrade the technology in the various schemes and projects started with Czechoslovak collaboration, particularly in the area of machine tools and tractors, and in the Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd. Both sides also agreed to collaborate in the promotion of research and development at the Research and Development Unit of Bharat Heavy Electricals in Hyderabad and to explore the possibilities of capacity

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complementarities in the fields of heavy Industries and their utilisation to mutual advantage. The Czechoslovak side undertook to further examine the possibility of supplying components, spares and scarce raw materials to meet the requirements of Czechoslovak aided projects and to exchange technical information on the manufacture in India of 500 MW generating sets. The Research and Development Unit, which is being set up in Hyderabad, and in which Czechoslovak assistance would be useful, could participate in this exchange. Both sides agreed to meet and determine the action to be taken in these fields. The Czechoslovak side has offered to depute experts to visit Czechoslovak aided projects in India and advise on the best way to meet the requirements of these projects.

6. Both sides agreed that, continuing earlier contacts during Asia 72, the Art Centrum, Prague would extend long term artistic, design and technical cooperation to the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad and the Indian Authority for Exhibitions and Trade Fairs.

7. Both sides hoped that with the conclusion of the Agreement on Scientific, Technical and Industrial Cooperation in May, 1973, cooperation in the fields of science and technology would be strengthened and amplified.

Done in New Delhi on December 5, 1973
in two original copies, each in English and Czech, both texts being equally authentic.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CZECH REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Economic Collaboration between the Government of India and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

The following agreement on economic collaboration was signed by Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of Finance for the Government of India and Mr. Jindrich Zahradnik, Deputy Prime Minister for the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on December 5, 1973:

The Government of India and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

Being mutually desirous of achieving the closest possible collaboration in the economic and technical fields and

Having in view the successful development of economic relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

1) The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall enable the respective Czechoslovak organisations, authorised under Czechoslovak laws to Carry on foreign trade activities, to export, and the Government of India shall enable and authorise the respective Indian organisations to import, under the terms and conditions stipulated in this Agreement, machinery, industrial equipment and other supplies for the construction and expansion of Projects in India (hereinafter referred to as Capital Goods) and components for the production programme of various Projects established in India within the framework of economic collaboration with the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic (hereinafter referred to as Components).

2) Capital Goods and Components shall be supplied under this Agreement for such projects in India as may be mutually agreed upon between the two Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 2

1) With a view to contributing to the implementation of Plans of Economic Development of the Republic of India the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic hereby extends to the Government of India a credit upto Rs. 800 million (eight hundred million Indian Rupees) for financing the FOB value of purchases in Czechoslovakia of Capital Goods and Components referred to in Article 1.

2) Out of this total, the supplies of Components shall not exceed the amount of Rs. 300 million (three hundred million Indian Rupees).

ARTICLE 3

1) The supplies of Capital Goods and Components under this Agreement shall be

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carried out on the basis of commercial contracts in Indian Rupees to be concluded bet-

ween the organisations of the two countries not later than 31st December, 1977.

2) Each individual contract for supplies of Capital Goods and Components

- i) shall be subject to an approval of the respective authorities of the two Contracting Parties who shall satisfy themselves that such contract falls properly under the Agreement;
- ii) shall enter into force after such an approval;
- iii) shall bear a clear reference to the effect that it is being concluded under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4

1) The Credit may be drawn from the date this Agreement comes into force until the completion of supplies in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective contract (s).

2) The date when the Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka a.s., Prague, honours the documents presented as per Article 5 by the Czechoslovak exporter(s), shall be considered as the date on which the credit has been drawn upon.

ARTICLE 5

1) The Ceskoslovenska obchodni banka a.s., Prague, shall open on its books, in the name of the Government of India (Ministry of Finance), a Credit Account in Indian Rupees for each Project and one Credit Account for all Programmes envisaged under Article 1. No charges will be levied for the maintenance of these Credit Accounts.

2) On presentation of the respective Invoices and Bills of Lading, or appropriate transport documents for consignments sent to India by air, the Ceskoslovenska obchodni banka a.s., Prague, is authorized to draw upon the Credit the cot-responding amount (s) of the said documents by debiting the Credit

Account(s) referred to above.

3) As and when repayments are made under Article 8 of this Agreement, the Ceskoslovenska obchodni banka a.s., Prague, shall credit the amounts so repaid to the relevant Credit Account(s).

ARTICLE 6

The Credit shall bear an interest of 2.5% per annum, the amount of interest payable being calculated on the amount outstanding to the debit of the Indian Government in the Credit Account(s) as on June 30th and December 31st each year. The amount of interest so calculated will be communicated to the Government of India (Ministry of Finance) to be paid within one month after the receipt of such intimation.

ARTICLE 7

The amount of the credit drawn upon under Article 5 shall be repaid by the Government of India as follows:

- i) The amount outstanding after the Completion of supplies for the corresponding Project, in each respective Credit Account mentioned in Article 5, shall be divided into twelve equal yearly instalments. The first instalment for the repayment of the Credit drawn upon shall be paid upon the expiry of three years after the presentation of the final invoice and other documents (vide Article 5) to the Ceskoslovenska obchodni banka. as., Prague, in respect of the last delivery of the machinery and equipment, the next instalments being due after the lapse of each successive year.
- ii) For the supplies of Components connected with the Production Programmes mentioned in Article 1, supplies effected in each calendar year will constitute a separate Programme and the amount outstanding as at the end of each calendar

year will be divided into 10(ten) equal yearly instalments. The first instalment shall be paid on the second day of the second following calendar year; the subsequent instalments being due on the second day of each successive year.

ARTICLE 8

Repayments of the credit and payments of the interest accrued thereon shall be

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credited to the Central clearing Account in accordance with the Trade and Payments Agreement in force between the two countries. The amounts so tendered into the above account shall be utilised for purchasing Indian goods for export to Czechoslovakia in accordance with the Trade and Payments Agreement between the two countries. In the absence of such a Trade and Payments Agreement, repayment of the credit and payment of interest shall be effected by the export of Indian goods to be mutually decided, or through any other method that may be agreed upon by the two Governments.

ARTICLE 9

In case of a change in the gold parity of the Indian Rupee (one Rupee being now equal to 0.118489 gramme of fine gold), the amount of unutilized Credit extended under Article 2, the outstanding balance(s) shown on the Credit Account(s) maintained under Article 5, the amounts of unpaid interest referred to in Article 6 and the amounts which have not been passed to the said Credit Account(s) on the strength of the respective contracts for supplies of Capital Goods and Components under this Agreement, including respective banking instruments (i.e. Letters of Credit, guarantees, etc.) shall always be adjusted, as of the day when the change takes place, in proportion to the change in the gold parity of the Indian Rupee. There shall not, however, be any such adjustment if and to the extent the change in the par value of the Indian Rupee is part of a uniform change in the par value of currencies as a result of a revision of the

international official price of gold.

ARTICLE 10

The prices of the goods to be purchased and sold under this Agreement shall be based on world market prices and shall be agreed upon between the respective organisations of the two countries at the time of concluding specific contracts.

ARTICLE 11

Payments relating to technical assistance, project work and other services in connection with the setting up of projects and in connection with the supplies envisaged in Article 1 shall not be drawn upon the Credit extended under this Agreement but shall be effected by the respective Indian organisation in accordance with the respective contracts under the Trade and Payments Agreement in force at the time.

ARTICLE 12

The Československá obchodní banka a.s., Prague and the Government of India (Ministry of Finance), as also the Reserve Bank of India shall mutually agree upon all the necessary financial and banking procedures for putting this Agreement into effect.

ARTICLE 13

Both Governments undertake to do their best to enable the conclusion of contracts under this Agreement as early as possible and for their proper realization.

ARTICLE 14

1) In order to facilitate a smooth implementation and full realization of this Agreement both Governments shall consult each other whenever necessary. For such consultations a meeting of the representatives of the two Governments shall be convened as soon as possible after a request is made by either Government, alternately in Prague and in New Delhi.

2) In case of dispute between the res-

pective organization of the two countries in respect of contracts concluded under this Agreement, the representatives of the two Governments shall consult each other in order to bring about mutual agreement.

ARTICLE 15

This Agreement shall come into force on the day of the exchange of notes confirming that it has been approved in accordance with the constitutional procedures of both countries and shall remain valid until the implementation of the commitments resulting therefrom.

Done and signed in New Delhi on December 5, 1973, in two originals each in the Hindi, Czech and English Languages, all texts being equally authentic, except in case of doubt when the English text shall prevail.

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NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CZECH REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Trade Protocol

The following press release on Indo-Czechoslovak trade protocol for 1974 was issued in New Delhi on December 6, 1973:

Trade negotiations were held between the trade delegations of India and Czechoslovakia and a Trade Protocol was concluded envisaging a trade turn-over of Rs. 1,500 million between the two countries during 1974. The Trade Protocol was signed yesterday by Shri A. S. Gill, Joint Secretary,

Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India and by Mr. V. Kirsbaum, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Trade, on behalf of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Besides various traditional commodities like jute manufactures, de-oiled cakes, iron ore, coffee, tobacco, etc., from India to Czechoslovakia, a number of non-traditional items including finished leather and leather products, rayon and synthetic fabrics including readymade garments, engineering goods such as automobile ancillaries, hand tools and small tools, castings and forgings and alarm clocks, drugs and medicines, etc., will be exported from India to Czechoslovakia in 1974.

Principal items of import from Czechoslovakia during 1974 will include rolled steel products, newsprint, caprolactum, organic and inorganic chemicals, casing pipes and machinery items.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Joint India - E E C Press Release

The following joint press release was published at Brussels on December 17, 1973 on the occasion of the signature of a commercial cooperation agreement between the European Economic Community and India:

The commercial cooperation agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India was signed at

Brussels on 17 December 1973 by:

for the Government of the Republic of
India:

Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya,
Minister for Commerce;

for the Community:

Mr. Ivar Norgaard, Minister for Ex-
ternal Economic Affairs for the King-
dom of Denmark, and Sir Christopher
Soames, Vice-President, Commission
of the European Communities.

The ceremony took place at the Council
of the European Communities, in the
presence of:

for India:

Dr. Krishen Behari Lall, Ambassador
of India to the European Economic
Community, Special Envoy for Econo-
mic Affairs for West Europe and
Permanent Representative of India to
G.A.T.T. and U.N.C.T.A.D., Shrimati
Rukmini Menon, Ambassador of India
to the Kingdom of Denmark, Shri
K. K. Bhargava, Minister, Mission of
India to the European Economic Com-
munity, Shri N. K. Singh, Special
Assistant to Commerce Minister and
members of the Indian Mission to the
European Economic Community;

for the Member States of the Commu-
nities:

Mr. J. Van Der Meulen, Ambassador,
Permanent Representative of Belgium

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to the European Economic Commu-
nity, Mr. Jens Christensen, State Sec-
retary for External Economic Affairs
for Denmark, Mr. Ulrich Lebsanft,
Ambassador, Permanent Representa-
tive of Germany to the European
Economic Community, Mr. Michel,
Jobert, Minister for Foreign Affairs
for France, Mr. Jean de Lipkowski,

State Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs for France, Mr. Garret Fitzgerald, Minister for Foreign Affairs for Ireland, Mr Justin Keating, Minister of Industry and Commerce for Ireland, Mr. Aldo Moro, Minister for Foreign Affairs for Italy, Mr Mario Pedini, State Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs for Italy, Mr. Gaston Thron, Minister for Foreign Affairs for Luxembourg, Mr. M. Van Der Stoel, Minister for Foreign Affairs for the Netherlands, Mr. L. J. Brinkhorst, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs for the Netherlands and Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs for the United Kingdom; and

for the Commission:

Mr. W. Ernst, Assistant Director General at the Commission of the European Communities.

The Secretary General of the Council, Mr. Nicolas Hommel, was also present at the ceremony.

Also signed today, were two Agreements between the European Economic Community and India regarding trade in products of jute and coir:

for the Government of the Republic of India by Dr. Krishen Behari Lall, Ambassador, Head of the Indian Mission to the European Economic Community

for the European Economic Community by Mr Ernst, Deputy Director General of the Commission of the European Communities.

After the signature of the Agreement, speeches were made by the President of the Council of the European Economic Community, Mr. Ivar Norgaard, the Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, Sir Christopher Soames, and Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister for Commerce of the Republic of India.

In their statements, the signatories stressed the great potential in the growing capacity of India and the Community to meet each other's requirements on the basis of comparative advantage and mutual benefit. They noted that the Commercial Cooperation Agreement will now provide a juridical basis and an efficient instrument for the two great democratic configurations in Asia and Europe to make a contribution to a new phase of international economic cooperation commensurate with their human, intellectual and material resources. They agreed that the Commercial Cooperation Agreement could also serve as a basis for deepening and diversifying economic contacts between India and the Community in the light of the development of their respective economies and the evolution of their economic policies.

The Agreement defines the goal of commercial cooperation and sets out the guidelines and approaches to reach them. It provides for the development of their commercial exchanges to their mutual benefit and to the improvement of the balance of their mutual trade at a level as high as possible. The emphasis is on furthering and creating of contacts indispensable to any cooperation, including those between the economic organisations of the two sides, for the development of mutually beneficial exchanges and also in the field of their economic relations with third countries especially developing countries.

The central instrument for furthering the objectives of the Agreement is the Joint Commission. It will ensure the proper functioning of the Agreement; it will study the barriers to the flow of commercial exchanges; it will examine the possibilities for their development and explore ways and means for an efficient and coherent utilization of all available instruments, besides M.F.N. tariffs and generalised preferences, to promote the trade of items of interest to India. In the pursuit of its work, the Joint Commission will take into account India's developmental plans and the progress of Community policies in different fields of its activities.

Another important subject for study in

this Joint Commission are the ways in which

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the two Parties might progressively adapt their trade patterns and marketing structures so as to promote their commercial and economic relations and avoid maladjustments.

This Joint Commission also has a very important function in the different sectoral agreements concerning cotton textiles, cottage industry goods, jute and coir products, and in enhancing cooperation in these sectors for their mutual benefits.

The agreement also contains an exchange of letters in which the Community declares that it is prepared to consolidate the tariff suspensions already applied by it autonomously on certain products such as tea, pepper, cardamon and certain types of bovine cattle leather. There is also the declaration by the Community about its preparedness to take into account the interests of India in the course of its endeavours to improve the system of generalised preferences and to examine in the Joint Commission the possibilities for further tariff adjustments to promote the development of trade between India and the Community. In its declaration concerning these fields, India has indicated that it would notify to the Community the list of the products in respect of which total tariff suspension is desired for being examined in the first meeting of the Joint Commission. The same declaration indicates that India will submit for consideration by the Community the areas in which its 1974 scheme of generalised preferences can be improved more especially in the context of the provisions of the joint declaration of intent made by the Community on the occasion of its enlargement.

The Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date on which the Parties have notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose. These procedures are expected to be completed by next month. The Agreement is concluded for a period of five years.

As regards the new agreements for jute and coir products, they take the place of previous agreements which have been applied since 1969. They contain however new elements in favour of Indian exports. They provide indeed for a new elasticity in the regimes governing the volume of exports of certain of the products concerned. Moreover, they contain important tariff reductions on the part of the Community. For most of the products concerned, reductions as far as 60% are envisaged. These concessions are to be implemented in the framework of the Community's scheme of generalised preferences which would also permit the continuance of duty-free imports of these products from India into the United Kingdom and Denmark during 1974.

INDIA BELGIUM USA DENMARK UNITED KINGDOM GERMANY FRANCE IRELAND ITALY THE NETHERLANDS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Statement by Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce

The following is the text of a statement made by Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce at the signing ceremony of India-E E C commercial cooperation agreement in Brussels on December 17, 1973:

Mr. President, Your Excellencies
Members of the Council of Ministers, distinguished Commissioners and friends:

I am indeed very happy to be able to come to Brussels to sign the Commercial Cooperation Agreement.

I believe my country was the first from the developing world and from Asia to estab-

lish diplomatic relations with the Community, more than 11 years ago. I consider myself particularly privileged to evolve with you a wide ranging juridical instrument for the promotion and development of economic relations between India and the Community.

I and my Government are grateful to your negotiators, to Mr. Ernst and his collaborators, for their hard work, for the understanding they have brought to bear on our problems, and for the skill with which they sought to overcome difficulties and evolve constructive solutions.

I am conscious of the deep debt of gratitude we owe to the Commission, to President Ortolí, and in particular to Sir Christopher for his visit to Asia and to my country, for his interest in our concerns, for his vision in

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regard to the Community's relations with India, and, above all, for his guidance, without which these negotiations could not have been so satisfactorily concluded in so short a time.

Mr. President, you and your colleagues in the Council of Ministers have been a source of inspiration and tower of strength for the negotiators in all these months. We are grateful to you for including the development of Community's relations with India in the Presidency's time-table for the current half year and for ensuring that this important task is completed on time.

Please allow me, Mr. President, to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to your colleagues in the Council of Ministers for their kindness and for their support. May I also request you, Sir, to convey the thanks and appreciation of my Government to the Governments of the Member-States and to their Permanent Representatives in Brussels for their invaluable support and contribution to the Agreement we have just signed. It shall be the endeavour of my Government to respond to their initiatives and to deepen and widen our relations with the Nine, both collectively and individually.

I must beg leave to mention thankfully the work of Ambassador Lall in this connection. He has been striving since 1962 to gather support for the creative concept of closer ties between India and the Community. It is a matter for gratification that today we are giving concrete institutional shape to this concept.

The Enlarged European Economic Community is India's biggest single trading partner. Our relations with the Member-States of the Community are of long standing and are based on friendship and shared values. Indeed, ever since our independence we have had expanding exchanges in diverse fields and contacts between our leaders have been particularly cordial and close. Your industry, your exports, your technology and your finance have had a significant role to play in the transformation and modernisation of our economy. However, there has been a chronic imbalance in our economic relations; for, we have not succeeded in the past in winning from your markets the wherewithal to sustain an intensification of our contacts. For this reason, it shall be our aim, in the context of our endeavour to deepen economic cooperation with all friendly countries, to strive to attain a dynamic equilibrium in our relations with the Community. It is my hope that the commitments both Parties have undertaken in the Agreement to develop their commercial exchanges to the highest possible level on the basis of comparative advantage and mutual benefit, to explore practical ways and means and to take all appropriate steps in this regard will contribute to this aim.

I welcome the Community's declaration in regard to its preparedness to bind tariff suspensions and to consider tariff adjustments and improvements in the scheme of Generalized Preferences. I attach even greater importance to the task of the Joint Commission to devise and recommend practical measures for the progressive adaptation of our marketing structures and for the development of our economic relations in accordance with our complementary possibilities.

We have, Mr. President, agreed to assign to the Joint Commission a crucial role in achieving the ambitious goals set forth in the Agreement. Both Parties will consequently expect from the Joint Commission and its sub-Commissions and associated bodies a high degree of dedication, much hard work, and abundance of innovative skills. I can only pledge the full support of the entire Government of India to the Joint Commission in the discharge of its arduous responsibilities. It is relevant to mention in this context that India now has the resources and the capabilities to play a more significant role in your markets. If we succeed, with your support and cooperation, in gearing our production to the needs of your market and in increasing our export sales to the Community, we will have done our bit to make it easier for industrial equipment, technology and finance of the Nine to have a more significant role in our economy and to make a larger contribution to our Fifth Development Plan. It will be our endeavour in this connection to lend support to the institutions set up to enhance contacts between our respective economic organisations.

The India-EEC Commercial Cooperation Agreement is, I believe, unique in some respects. It is much wider in scope than a classi-

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cal Trade Agreement, It constitutes the first step in the evolution of mutual relationship between India and the enlarged Community. It views the development of commercial exchanges as a means for achieving wider objectives. It provides for the progressive development of economic cooperation between the two Parties in fields of mutual interest. It enables India and Europe to make their contribution to a new phase in international economic cooperation. And, may I, venture to hope that it also paves the way, in the emerging world context, for the development of Europe's external relations with many Asian countries, in conformity with the declaration recently made in this regard by the Nine from Copenhagen.

I thank you once again, Mr. President, for your personal contribution to the India-

EEC Commercial Cooperation Agreement and to assure you, the Council of Ministers, and the Commission that as we embark on the more concrete stage of our work we shall not falter in taking all appropriate steps for furthering the principles and objectives to which we have subscribed.

INDIA BELGIUM USA DENMARK

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Speech by President of Council of European Economic Community

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Mr. Ivar Norgaard, President of the Council of the European Economic Community at the signing ceremony:

Minister, I warmly welcome you and all the members of the Indian delegation to Brussels. Your presence among us once again testifies to the constant interest that you have unfailingly shown in the relations between the Community and India. I am delighted to take this opportunity of expressing a special esteem for the role you have played in the successful conclusion of the negotiations by your personal action, in which a spirit of conviction and a sense of compromise found such a happy combination.

Since the very beginnings of our Community, relations with your country have been particularly warm and close. During the years gone by they have been marked by a series of concrete actions which we have taken jointly, whether in the field of sector agreements or in the area of tariffs. The new circumstances arising from the enlargement of the Community will quite

naturally lead us to strengthen these relations still further, in the spirit of the Declaration of Intent annexed to the Treaty of Accession. The importance which the Community attaches to this Declaration has just been reiterated once again by our Heads of State and of Government at Copenhagen.

The commercial cooperation Agreement which we are about to sign in a few moments thus falls into its natural place in the traditional relationships which we have maintained for so long. But at the same time it undeniably constitutes a new stage in these relationships which is significant, if not decisive. We have jointly come to the conclusion that it was necessary to give to our relations, founded up till now mainly on finding sectoral solutions to specific problems, the added dimension of a more global approach. The commercial cooperation Agreement answers this objective.

Our wish has been to give this Agreement a very large scope, so creating an appropriate framework in which our relations can be followed up. We have not confined our objectives to a narrow and purely mercantile concept; our intention has been to place ourselves in a large perspective, conscious of the fact, as indicated in the preamble, that trade exchanges are not an end in themselves but a means of progressing towards more ambitious economic and social objectives, and wishing to contribute to a new order of international economic cooperation.

We hope that this Agreement an addition to the other measures which the Community has already taken - particularly in the framework of generalised preferences - and will still be able to take in favour of India in the future, will provide a doubtless limited yet real contribution to the development problems which confront your country and whose magnitude is known to us.

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I should add that for the Community this Agreement has a very special importance. In effect, it is the first Agreement of this type which we have concluded with an Asian country, and we are particularly glad

that the country concerned is the Republic of India which holds a place of the highest order on the Asian continent and in the world.

Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, before Concluding, it is my pleasant duty to address the thanks of the Council to all those who have contributed to the success of the negotiations. Minister, I have already singled out the personal role played by yourself. I must now pay an equally warm tribute to His Excellency Ambassador Lall who led the Indian delegation. His perfect knowledge of the material, his enthusiasm, but above all his broad vision of things have had a significant influence on the result of our work. My thanks are also due to the Commission and particularly to Sir Christopher Soames who is a great friend of India and who has served this negotiation with all the talent at his disposal. They are also due to Director General Ernst and I must emphasise the considerable part played by him and those who worked with him in these negotiations. I would like also to mention the role played by the Permanent Representative Ambassadors and the observers of the Member States.

Minister, allow me to finish by expressing to you the feelings of friendship and esteem that all of us in the Community have towards your country and your people.

As the repository of a thousand years of civilisation and thought, India has from the dawn of time been involved in all the currents of world history on which she has deeply impressed her influence. She has given to humanity personalities who have contributed to the spread of the highest values of peace, justice and equality among all peoples.

In the difficult contemporary world in which we live India remains consistently faithful to this tradition.

I am pleased to pass on today the tribute of the European democracies to the great Indian democracy.

INDIA BELGIUM USA DENMARK

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

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EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Speech by Vice-President of Commission of European Communities

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, at the signing ceremony:

Sir, it is not only a great honour for me, but also a source of deep personal satisfaction, to sign together with the President of the Council and on behalf of the European Community, this Commercial Cooperation Agreement with the Republic of India. When I visited India last September, you and I, Sir, agreed that we should try to get this Agreement settled by the end of the year. And when you visited us in Brussels last month, you added a personal impetus to achieve this.

To my mind, this Agreement has a special significance that goes far beyond the day-to-day trade relations between the EEC and India. It seeks to provide a new framework for a much wider and more intensive effort of cooperation than was envisaged in the Community's earlier trade agreements. In its ambitious aim of establishing increasingly close ties over a whole range of common interests, it may become a model which carries considerable potential for the future of our relationships, not only with your country but also with other important trading partners.

This Agreement is being signed at a time when the Community is taking a number of important decisions on all aspects of its

commercial relations with India, decisions that stem directly from the Joint Declaration of Intent to the Treaty of Accession, which we consider to be a continuing and living commitment for the Community. I am particularly glad that it has been possible, in

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drawing up our Generalised Preference Scheme for 1974, to go much further than ever before to meet India's needs. Indeed we have just recorded in the Council our decision to include tobacco, a product of the greatest importance to you.

The Community sees this Commercial Cooperation Agreement not as an end in itself, but as the beginning of a new and challenging phase of interdependence. It views with a great measure of confidence the new possibilities created by the setting up of the Joint Commission. We are determined to contribute to its labours with all the perseverance and imagination necessary to ensure that solid progress can be made. We all look forward to seeing the first results of its work, which is so essential if we are to put flesh on the bones of the Agreement we are signing today.

I feel sure I speak for all of us on the Community side in giving you, Sir, the assurance that the problems that India is at present tackling with courage and resolution are a matter of immediate and sincere concern to us. The new ground we are breaking together today will serve to focus our efforts even more closely and to give a new impulse to Europe's consciousness of its responsibilities on a world-wide scale.

INDIA BELGIUM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Shri G. S. Pathak's Presidential Address

Presiding over the function on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Human Rights Day, held in New Delhi on December 8, 1973, Vice-President Shri G. S. Pathak delivered the following speech:

I thank Mrs. Savitri Nigam, the President of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations, for her kind invitation to me to preside over the Human Rights Day function and for the warm welcome extended to me here today.

This is a special occasion. It marks the 25th Anniversary of the Human Rights Day which is being celebrated all over the world in response to the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. It also synchronises with the commencement of the decade for Action to combat Racism and Racial Discrimination which is being launched in pursuance of another resolution of the General Assembly. The main purpose of the observance of the 25th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is to contribute in a significant manner to the realisation of the principles, values and ideals contained in the Declaration for the benefit of all mankind. This Declaration was a unique event in the history of mankind. It has influenced thought and action in various fields of human activity. It has guided the United Nations and its organs in performing its functions; it has inspired many nations whose constitutional instruments have incorporated its principles; it has had an impact on judicial thinking and has been cited in judgments of both the national courts and the World Court. Thus, the high and noble purpose underlying the Declaration of Human Rights is being fulfilled in numerous ways both on the national and international planes. Among the achievements which stand to the credit of the United Nations is its work in the sphere of Human Rights, and in this sphere its success has been notable.

The heroic and valiant effort made by the United Nations to fight the evils of Apartheid, colonialism and racialism will emblazon the pages of the history of civilisation. There are many States in the world which have genuinely endeavoured to advance human rights and to improve the lot of man. It is true that old prejudices die hard, evil

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traditions have to be broken up and inequalities and discrimination have to be abolished so that man may enjoy Human Rights and fundamental freedoms as delineated in the Declaration. The process often takes a long time. What is important is the vigorous implementation of the ideas and principles laid down in the Declaration and a persistent effort to educate the minds of the peoples of the world and to make them conscious of their own rights and freedoms so that those noble ideas and high principles may be realised in practice.

Incidentally, I may mention one aspect of the Human Rights as delineated in the Declaration. It has been observed that sometimes, in the implementation of the Declaration, the emphasis on the individual's rights and freedoms has made one apt to forget article 29 of the Declaration which states that everyone has duties to the community, in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible. Respect for the rights and freedoms of others is as important as the rights and freedoms of oneself. One is also apt to forget the protection against abuse of such rights and freedoms which is recognised by article 30 of the Declaration.

There are still some member States who are persistent in intensifying Apartheid (which in international parlance is rightly being described as a crime), and in trying to perpetuate colonialism and racialism. Such conduct is a blot on civilization. Since 1946 when India raised the question of the treatment of people of Indian origin in South Africa, there have been numerous resolutions passed by the General Assembly and the Security Council, including those which declared that Apartheid as practised in that

country is a threat to international peace and which prescribed the application of economic sanctions against South Africa. It is not necessary to say here why economic sanctions have not achieved the desired results. One thing, however, is certain, that is, that it is not the United Nations which has failed in this respect. Against this total disregard of its obligation under the Charter by the government of South Africa, the United Nations' effort has been mounting and the volume of opinion against South Africa's attitudes and policies is growing. The inevitable day may not be far when South Africa will have to yield to the pressure of world public opinion. The attitudes and action,; of the colonial government of Portugal have been condemned and are Too well known to be mentioned. In spite of these exceptional and deplorable instances, one can hope that the day will be reached when colonialism and racialism will be obliterated from the face of the globe and human rights shall be protected by the Rule of Law universally.

The rights of man is a dynamic, growing, concept developing with the advance of our civilization and with the development of what may be described as world culture. The history of man has run on two opposite lines. While the world has moved forward in recognising and upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms, man has also been forging, all along, newer and newer weapons till he has-acquired the capacity to destroy himself and all that he has achieved so far. Education on human rights and insistence on their universal observance may generate ethical forces which may become more powerful than the atomic bomb itself, and in the two conflicting trends of human history the victory in the end must belong to the rights of man. Human nature has contrived the means of man's extinction. It is man himself who must devise the means to meet the challenge of destruction if he wants to survive. When the right to live is a fundamental right, the scourge of war has to be eliminated from the human possibilities. This is possible only when there is complete disarmament. The United Nations has always striven, sometimes with success, sometimes without success, to create conditions of peace. It is

a matter of gratification that it redounds to the credit of the World Body that it has declared the Indian Ocean as an ocean of peace.

In this age of science and technology, it has been increasingly recognised that its uncontrolled advance has resulted in certain hazards. Man tends to become the slave of his own discoveries and inventions. It is heartening to find that the United Nations is engaged in the study of the balance which should be established between scientific and technological progress and the intellectual, spiritual, cultural and moral advancement of humanity.

Freedom from hunger is a vital freedom which must be enjoyed in all parts of the world. Unless that freedom is realised and the right to a standard of living adequate for

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the health and well-being of the individual is enjoyed, many other freedoms would lose their meaning. It is a sad reflection that while such a large proportion of human race is near starvation level, six per cent of the world resources, as has been stated, is devoted to military expenditure.

Today we must rededicate ourselves to the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The greater the difficulties and the dangers around us, the stronger should be our resolve to make man free and to preserve the values gained by him after a long struggle. Once again I thank you for this opportunity to be present here today and to join you in the observance of the Human Rights Day on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I wish your endeavours to promote peace and happiness in the world through the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms all success.

INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA PORTUGAL

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Trade Protocol

The following press release on Indo-Hungarian trade protocol was issued in New Delhi on December 14, 1973:

A Trade Protocol between India and Hungary was concluded here today, envisaging a trade turnover of Rs. 775 million during 1974. The Protocol was signed by His Excellency Dr. B. Szalai, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Government of People's Republic of Hungary and by Shri A. S. Gill, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India.

The Trade Plan envisages a substantial increase in the supplies of rolled steel products from Hungary. Imports from Hungary will include among other items, different types of chemicals, machinery items, etc.

Besides various traditional commodities, India's exports to Hungary will include a number of non-traditional items including engineering, consumer and manufactured goods.

HUNGARY INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri S. Sen's Statement on Namibia

Following is the text of the statement made by Shri Samar Sen in the Security Council on the question of Namibia on December 11, 1973:

I should like to congratulate you on your assuming the Presidency of the Council for December. Next month India will retire from the Council and it is fitting that in the last month of our current membership, we shall be working with a fellow Asian in the chair. We offer you our fullest co-operation in the discharge of your responsible task.

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We should also like to extend our appreciation to the outgoing President, Ambassador Jan-kowitch of Austria who brought his youth and dedication to the best service of the Council. We thank him.

The original mandate concerning the question of Namibia was entrusted to the Secretary-General by the Security Council on 4th February, 1972, when it adopted its Resolution 309 (1972). In that Resolution while the Secretary-General was invited to initiate contacts with all parties concerned with a view to establishing the necessary conditions so as to enable the people of Namibia to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, it had also called on the Government of South Africa to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the implementation of this Resolution. Since then the Secretary-General has submitted three reports, the last being his report S 10921 of 30th April, 1973.

We shall, of course, vote for the resolution moved by the distinguished Ambassador of Peru as it fully reflects our views about the futility of establishing contact with South Africa or continuing any negotiations with it. The Secretary-General's report demolishes completely the theory that by removing its isolation, we can make it behave in a decent or civilized manner. Mr. President, the original resolution had two elements: (one) efforts to be made by the Secretary-General and the other, the co-operation to be offered by the Government of

South Africa. I shall be repeating the distinguished delegates, who have already spoken on the subject in detail, on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his representatives. We greatly appreciate them, and I personally believe that Mr. Chacko's death was perhaps not in some small measure due to the considerable tension and over-work for the difficult and delicate task which the Council had set the Secretary-General and with which he was associated.

Now the fact is that the South African Government has systematically taken actions to frustrate the Secretary-General's mission. Before deciding on, and announcing the method by which the people of Namibia would exercise their right of self-determination, national independence and the preservation of their territorial integrity on which alone any solution for Namibia can be based, the South African Government declared in June that elections for the Bantustan (were) to take place on the 1st and 2nd of August. Because of the election campaign started by the Namibians on the basis of "One Namibia" came a wave of arrests and detentions. However, the result of this so-called election was a clear defeat for the South African Government. Of those eligible to vote, only 2.5 per cent voted. Infuriated by this defeat, the South African Government initiated a policy of terror. Some of the SWAPO leaders were arrested and charged with offences under the Sabotage Act. Meetings were broken up by the police, who on several occasions opened fire. This reign of terror culminated in the strike of the 20th of August, in which hundreds were eventually arrested and detained 'for being illegally in Windhoek'. A concentration camp has now been set (up) in (a) very remote place, at Omidamba on the Namibian-Angolan border.

We are considering the report of the Secretary-General in an atmosphere of unrest and terror in Namibia. In one college alone, Augustineum College of Windhoek, 250 pupils have been expelled. The whole of Katutura township has been combed by the police in a massive manhunt. Now the Government of South Africa has started a new method of terror. People are being sum-

marily arrested and freely flogged. According to the memorandum submitted by a delegation, which included two members of the British Parliament and the SWAPO representative in the United Kingdom, to the British Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, more than 100 people so far have been publicly flogged: women and children are included among them. The men and the boys were forced to stand naked, while being flogged. Women and girls had to hoist their skirts up over their faces while receiving the lash. The South African Government announced that this was traditional "tribal punishment".

According to the latest reports published in the Windhoek Advertiser of 20th November, 1973, urgent applications have been filed in the Supreme Court on behalf of the Bishop of Damaraland and the Bishop of the Owambo-Kawango Lutheran Church, Bishop Aula. In spite of the urgency of the matter, the hearing of the show-cause notice has been fixed for 22nd February next year. Meanwhile, a request for a doctor to be present

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when floggings are administered was not allowed, because it was not considered practicable in Owambo.

In the circumstances, there is no doubt that any meaningful talk with the representatives of the Pretoria regime is impossible. The wider question of independence for Namibia has already been discussed. in the IV Committee of the General Assembly, (where it was decided it) would be useful if the Secretary-General is requested to watch the situation and report to the Security Council, as circumstances warrant. The Secretary-General, being the highest executive officer of an Organisation to which South Africa still wishes to belong, has a task to perform and he should not lack our support or confidence if some chance, however slight, exists that progress can be made on this problem, even if South Africa has left the freedom fighters no other option but to undertake a prolonged and agonising campaign for freedom.

We do not consider it necessary, at any rate at this stage, to comment on the substance of the problem. Understandably, several speakers, particularly our African colleagues and the President of the Council of Namibia have already brought us up to date on the tragic developments in Namibia since the Council last discussed them about a year ago. It seems to my delegation that at times instead of showing our disapproval in many ways open to us of those who encourage South Africa, we have indeed rewarded them. There is much need for vigilance, for when Namibia is finally free - as undoubtedly it will be - we would wish for the people of Namibia to look upon us as partners in our common struggle, and not as mere bystanders who behaved in a whimsical way.

INDIA NAMIBIA AUSTRIA USA SOUTH AFRICA PERU ANGOLA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reply by Sardar Swaran Singh to Rajya Sabha Debate on International

Situation

Replying to the debate in the Rajya Sabha on December 6, 1973, on the motion regarding the international situation, the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement:

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we are at the end of the two-day debate and I would like to say that I am very much satisfied and happy with the general trend and tenor of the debate. There have been outstanding speeches, as usual, in accordance with the high traditions of this House, both from Opposition benches as well as from this side. I would like to pay my tribute to the great deal of thought that had gone in when these

speeches were thought of by the hon. Members. It is not easy for me to handle a debate of this nature by way of reply because I notice that there could be only two speeches which could be said to be highly critical - one, the opening speech by Shri C. D. Pande, belonging to the group of our former Congress colleagues who now sit in the Opposition, and the other, which was the first speech after lunch-time today, by Dr. Bhai Mahavir. When I say that it is difficult to handle the debate, what is in my mind is that Dr. Bhai Mahavir is not present here even to listen to the replies to the points that he raised. I will be striking in the air when I try to pick up all the points and then try to build an argument in reply to them.

SHRI PITAMBER DAS: I will convey it to him.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Thank you very much. Like a wise leader you will certainly convey it to him, but we would like him to get the impact of the speeches of others also. Sir, it is also very interesting that Dr. Bhai Mahavir somehow could not have the courage to face the general trend

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of the debate in this House. He was absent from the House throughout yesterday and in the course of his opening speech today, he said that he had taken great pains to study at great length the speech made by the leader of the Communist Party, Shri Sardesai. He also said that he had read the speeches of a large number of my own colleagues from this party. But the normal courtesy and practice in debates is that a person who wants to make a major speech which he thought, according to his judgment, was very profound, he should first be soaked by the process of the impact of the speeches of those people who are speaking against the ideas that he is going to propound. The only irresistible conclusion is that unable to face the thrust of the debate, unable to face the flood of support for the policy that we are pursuing, he thought it fit to read it in cold print or pretend to read it, or maybe he glanced through the newspapers, and then he comes here for the first time after lunch-

time today and reels off a written text. This is not in tune with the general manner in which debates on such serious matters should be handled. So far as Shri Pande is concerned, it is very interesting that he also is not present. He has great regard for me. I am sure he would have been present here to hear me, but probably he did not have the heart to bear his own colleague, Shri Nawal Kishore. I think that he, in his own inimitable way, being a senior public man, has answered many of the doubts that Shri Pande sought to stir up.

You should not take him so seriously in this matter. So, when I say that it is difficult for me to handle a debate of this nature, I think you will appreciate why I find myself in this predicament. The main critics are absent and I do not know how I should answer them or how seriously I should take their criticism or some of the points that they tried to build up. Anyhow, I would like to take this opportunity of placing on record some of my views on some important aspects that are before the country because the debate here has a much bigger audience in our own country and, I would like to add, in the world as a whole.

PAKISTAN

Therefore, I would like to place on record certain aspects about points which have been raised. I will try to be very brief because I do not want to make a very comprehensive speech covering every point. I would start with the last point raised by Shri Nawal Kishore. This was also referred to by Dr. Bhai Mahavir. And that is about Prime Minister Bhutto's speeches and his general attitude. I would like to say very briefly the following which is partly factual, because you might recall that I had informed either this House or the other House that we had already taken this matter up -- I think I mentioned it here during the Question Hour - with the Government of Pakistan. The House is aware of the reported statements of the Prime Minister of Pakistan during his tour of Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir in early November which were contrary to

the aims and objectives of the Simla Agreement, in particular, the provisions regarding non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

On 9th November we had sent an aide memoire to the Pakistan Government drawing pointed attention to these statements. We had said that in our view such statements by the highest authority in Pakistan could only cause apprehension among the people and the Government of India regarding Pakistan's intention about the implementation of the Simla Agreement. Later on 21st November I sent a personal message to Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Pakistan's Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs wherein I drew his attention to the speeches of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, particularly the speech at Mirpur on 9th November, which had tended to create the impression that he had endorsed the slogans from a section of the crowd which was advocating "Guerilla Warfare to liberate Kashmir". I asked Mr. Aziz Ahmed to clarify the Pakistan Government's position on this subject so that we could understand where we stood in terms of the Simla Agreement. Mr. Aziz Ahmed has sent me a reply. In his reply which was received towards the end of the last month - his reply is dated November 29 - Mr. Aziz Ahmed has tried to explain that Prime Minister Bhutto's speeches, read as a whole, could not justify the kind of impression we had formed. Regarding Mr. Bhutto's remarks at Mirpur he clarified that the Prime Minister was actually trying to pacify a section of the crowd which was shouting

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these slogans and was creating a disturbance, He has further said that this is Mr. Bhutto's style of dealing with hecklers. He has further stated that on the other hand Mr. Bhutto has been repeatedly advocating during this tour that war would not resolve the Kashmir issue and that three wars fought during the last twenty-six years had left this issue unresolved. These are the words Mr. Aziz Ahmed has used while making a summary of the general trend of Mr. Bhutto's speeches. According to Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Pakistan Government remains committed to promot-

ing friendship and harmonious relation-, with India and to implementing the Simla Agreement in letter and spirit. My only comment is that the fact that they are trying to be defensive on this and are trying again to come back to the Simla Agreement is a factor in the situation which we should not ignore. While we have taken note of this clarification, we cannot but express our unhappiness that the Prime Minister of Pakistan should have thought it fit to make remarks in his speeches which violated the provisions of the Simla Agreement regarding non-interference in each other's internal affairs. We will, therefore, earnestly hope that Pakistan Government will fulfil the assurance contained in Mr. Aziz Ahmed's letter of 29th November. It is necessary for us not to forget the objective. The objective is clear. We have to stabilise peace. In our relations with Pakistan we have to reverse the trends of confrontation and we are dead-earnest to establish good neighbourly relations. And if there are any deviations from the side of Pakistan, it should be our duty to point out those deviations and try to bring them back on to the rails so that they continued to be firm on the Simla Agreement. It is not a very pleasant task. But while dealing with a history of the type that we have had with Pakistan, the main objective has to be kept in view and it is with that objective that we continue to make our efforts.

I would also like to take this opportunity to bring the figures up to date with regard to repatriation of the three categories of persons about which I made a reference in my opening remark. I have got now figures which are fairly recent. I have got figures upto 2nd December, 1973. The figures available with us till 2nd December, 1972 are quite impressive and they show that the persons repatriated were as follows:

Prisoners of war and civilian internees in India . . .	30,190
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Pakistanis from Bangladesh	22,593
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Bangladesh nationals from Pakistan	52,821
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The number is well over a lakh and this trend is continuing. My senior brother Shri Awadheshwar Prasad Sinha has pointed out that even this morning it was on the radio that more prisoners of war have gone. It is true that during these three or four days further repatriation has taken place. But I am giving you authentic figures which show that our one lakh persons have already been repatriated.

As the House is aware, we are dealing with three categories of persons - prisoners of war and civil internees in India; Bangladesh nationals in Pakistan and Pakistani nationals in Bangladesh. The outstanding number is still substantial. It will take some months more before we complete this first phase.

Indian prisoners in Pakistani custody at the time of cease-fire had been repatriated long ago. We had exchanged Pakistani prisoners that came into our custody from Western side with the Indian P.O.Ws. that were in their custody. It is obvious that there were no Indian prisoners of war on the Eastern side.

A part of the money according to international convention is recoverable and we have reserved our right to claim the expenditure which is recoverable according to international law.

BREZHNEV'S VISIT

The other important point that cropped up during the debate quite naturally was the recent visit to India of His Excellency Brezhnev and also to some extent reference was made to the visit of Dr. Husak. I would like to say that some of the criticism - although it was very, very mild - that was voiced was not, it appears, based on a correct appraisal of the contents of the various documents that were signed at the end of these

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visits. I have laid copies on the Table of the House. But apparently, the critics had other preoccupations and they did not have time to study these documents carefully. Therefore, with your permission, I would like

to take this opportunity to pin-point the salient features of the documents that we signed with the USSR leader. I would divided it into two parts: Political and Economic.

In the political field, the important agreements that have been arrived at may be summarised as follows:

(1) The Soviet Union has paid tributes to India's policy of non-alignment and her valuable contribution to the struggle for peace and against colonialism, neo-colonialism and fascism.

(2) India has welcomed the detente between the USSR and the USA, supporting the Soviet efforts in that direction and hoping that this relaxation will further spread to the other parts of the world and bring an end to the nuclear arms race which is a threat to mankind. The House will recall that this is consistent with our well-known position and this answers the alleged inconsistency as pointed out by Dr. Mahavir.

(3) Both sides welcome the process of growing detente in Europe and the strengthening of peace in that continent.

(4) Both sides favour the strict and full implementation of the Vietnam Agreement of 27th January, 1973, the Agreement that brought about peace in that region and the Laotian Agreement of August 1973, a brief mention of which was made by me in my opening remarks, as well as hope for a just settlement in Cambodia in accordance with the national interests of the people of Cambodia.

(5) On the sub-continent, the Soviet Union reiterated their support for India's well-known policy and initiatives in normalising the situation. Both side also support the admission of Bangladesh into the UN and recognition of Bangladesh by Pakistan.

(6) On West Asia, both sides agree that durable peace in the region is possible only through the strict implementation of the Resolution of the Security Council which will constitute the most reliable guarantee for

the security and respect for the rights of all countries.

(7) The USSR has expressed her readiness to find a fair solution to the question of making the Indian Ocean a "Zone of Peace".

(8) Both in the Joint Declaration and in the 15-Year Economic Agreement, the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, governing the relations between the two countries have been reiterated. Of course, the support for the liberation struggles, for ending colonialism, for ending racism, for ending apartheid, has been reiterated.

I have tried to highlight the important political content of this Declaration and I am sure that even the worst critics will agree, those critics who, I should say, are allergic to the USSR will agree, that all these are very sound principles consistent with our longstanding attitude.

I would like to say that we should not attach any importance to the speculative items that appear not only in "The London Economist", but also in several other American and West European newspapers and journals. This is the usual kite-flying and there is absolutely no substance. There is absolutely no substance in these suggestions and the documents that we have signed fully demonstrate that any suggestion to the contrary was spread in order to create some sort of misunderstanding between the two friendly countries. We should be cautious about these things. We know our interests and we will reject firmly any attempt to create any differences or misunderstanding. Everybody knows that there is no military content in our friendship with the USSR.

They have never asked and we have never given any facilities in the form of base, naval or otherwise, and all speculation to that effect is totally unfounded and I would reject it with the greatest emphasis at my command.

Now, Mr. Deputy Chairman, I come to the economic content of the agreements that have been signed. These also I will try

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to summarise in a very brief manner, pointing out various fields in which this economic and trade cooperation has been agreed upon.

Under the 15-year Economic & Trade Cooperation Agreement, Indo-USSR cooperation and collaboration in the following fields will grow:

1. In production capacity for iron & steel.
2. Our capacity to produce nonferrous metals.
3. Prospecting production and refining of oil, natural gas, coal and other essential materials.
4. Power engineering, petrochemical industries and shipping.
5. Agriculture and training of personnel.

Capacities of existing plants in India, where we have received Soviet assistance, will be expanded and the Soviet Union will also assist in the setting up of new plants.

Production capacities in the Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants will expand to 7 and 10 million tonnes per annum respectively. The Mathura oil refinery will have an annual capacity of 6 million tonnes. Copper mining blocks at Malanj Khand will be developed. The Calcutta underground railway project will receive Soviet assistance.

In very specific terms, Soviet Union has reiterated its commitment to assist us in our achievements of economic self-reliance, particularly in the key industrial sectors. We are also to receive fresh credits from Soviet Union. The existing credit relations between the two countries are in the process of being improved and streamlined.

As a result of the recent talks India and USSR have undertaken to increase their bilateral trade turnover between now and 1980 from 50% to 100%. The trade turnover during 1973 has been of the order of over Rs. 400 crores. It is obvious that the two countries will have to create additional production capacities for meeting the requirements of each other, over a long-term period.

The Agreement on Cooperation between our Planning Commission and the Soviet Planning Commission will assist us in assessing long-term requirements of the Soviet economy in order to increase our export capacities in the required sectors. It will also help us to determine the long-term capacities of Soviet economy in fields and areas of special interest to us, like newsprint, special steel, fertilizers, non-ferrous metals, etc.

Now, I have given these details, because it appears that most of these have not been carefully studied even by very careful Members, particularly those who wanted to criticize these documents.

I was amazed when certain observations were made, quoting copiously from the Parliamentary Committee of Public Undertakings' reports. It is amazing that use has been made of this exercise, with which many of us are familiar, which is undertaken in order to highlight the shortcomings of State undertakings. Any selective quoting or criticism of the shortcomings in one type of project certainly is not the whole picture.

I do not want to compare the progress of plants. Unfortunately, in many spheres, particularly in steel, we faced several difficulties. I was myself in charge of steel for 5 years and it was during my stewardship that the three major plants in the public sector were constructed - Bhilai Steel Plant with USSR's help, then the Rourkela Steel Plant with help from the Federal Republic of Germany and Durgapur Steel Plant with the help of the British.

Now, it is not for me to enter into a full-dress debate about the progress of these steel plants or to compare these three names, Bhilai Steel Plant, Durgapur Steel Plant and

the Rourkela Steel Plant. Look at their performance. Look at the total production over a certain period and the ratio of the actual production to capacity and this arithmetic will convince even the hardest critic as to which of the three plants has the best performance. This is a complete answer. I do not want to compare because at one stage when I was the Steel Minister, somebody asked me: "Which of the three plants do you think is the best"? My reply was: "They are like children to me and I have equal love for all the three and I want all the three to prosper". But the later figures will indicate what the actual arithmetic is. By any comparison, the Brilai Steel Plant certainly gave the best performance of the three

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steel plants. We want that the other two steel plants - Rourkela and Durgapur - should also give us good performance. But it so happened that Bhilai did outshine the others in performance and in actual production and even in the economic turn-over. Is it a matter of mere coincidence that out of all these public undertakings, Dr. Bhai Mahavir thought fit only to refer to those projects which have been established with U.S.S.R. collaboration? Is this the way to treat this hon. House in order to create an impression as if anything that goes up as a result of collaboration with the U.S.S.R. is necessarily something which is defective? I would say that this is a completely wrong way of dealing with such a serious matter. I do not mind if he criticises us inside the country. He is perfectly at liberty to do so. Once when I asked him as to why he was always negative, he said, "We are in the opposition and we do not want you to remain there." If this is the attitude, I do not mind. But I would humbly appeal to him and my other colleagues in the Opposition that we should adopt a different attitude when we are discussing international affairs because here it is not only the party that might be ruling suffers, but the country suffers and, therefore, while dealing with international affairs, whether they are political or economic, I would appeal to the hon. Members to follow the example of other responsible leader-, of other parties. Even the leader

of the Jan Sangh group has not thought it fit to remain present here although he said he would come.

My point is that the Pandes and Dr. Bhai Mahavirs should also learn some lesson at any rate from other senior colleagues even in opposition because in such matters our love for the country and our patriotism should be the guiding factor and not a desire merely to raise a debate. Drain-inspecting is familiar. This is part and parcel of parliamentary life to drain-inspect. But it injures the national interest and I have no hesitation in saying that this type of selective and disconnected quotations from public documents does definitely distort our image in the international sphere. Therefore, I would very strongly urge that this temptation should be resisted and we should not indulge in this type of criticism.

Sir, these are very basic matters and at this stage I would like to touch upon one point which was raised by the distinguished Member of the Swatantra Party, Pi-of. Ruthnaswamy. What he said was that the primary attention was to basic industries and the effects of this help were not available to the general people, to the average run of the people, to the agriculturists and the rural population.

I would humbly request him to ponder over this thing. What are the requirements of an agriculturist today? I myself am an agriculturist. I do not know whether Prof. Ruthnaswamy was also a peasant or not. I was born in a small village; I was brought up in a peasant family. And I can tell you the basic requirements of a peasant today, whether he is in Punjab or Haryana or Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra or Tamil Nadu. His requirement is to modernise agriculture. His basic requirement is that he should get more fertilizer, he should have the benefit of the latest agricultural research, he should have the benefit of pesticides, he should have the mechanical means like tractors, and he should have lift pumps. Can we produce all these basic materials unless we have got steel, unless we have got fertilizers, unless we have got electricity to run the

pumps? So, in a sense the economy is so complicated or so inter-dependent that any basic advance in the rural sector or in the consumer sector is not possible today unless we give attention to the basic requirements.

Even in cottage industries, what do we require? We require machine tools, we require small machines, we require electric power, and we require metals-ferrous and nonferrous. And the list that I read out shows that attention is going to be given to the production of these, even to expand production of these things. I would like to say that this conflict between the consumer industry and the heavy industry is a slogan about which we should be very, very careful in a developing society. The highly industrialised countries will always continue to din in our ears that we should sleep over the basic industry and we should concentrate on consumer industries. The inexorable lesson of history is that we cannot have worthwhile consumer industries unless we give attention to the basic industries. In fact, one flows from the other. Now I am not adumbrating the general economic policy. But these are the features which should be quite clear to every hon. Member of this House. They are

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quite clear to me because I have had the good fortune under the control of this House to handle several economic Ministries. So, for this reason, it is very necessary to give attention to these basic industries - metals, machines, power, fertilizers and chemical industries. Without these, any talk of worthwhile consumer industry is certainly not feasible. And we should also remember that ours is not a country with small population. We have the responsibility to serve more than 550 million people. Can we serve them with their normal requirements of steel? An agriculturist does require a piece of steel in every plough that he uses. He does require steel when he installs his electric pump. He does require electric power to energize that pump. He does require oil if the electricity is not there to run the pump. So, these are the things about which we are seeking collaboration.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: The hon. Minister has put the case very well and very convincingly. But there is one clarification which I would like to have from him. In all these industries and other matters, the Russian experts are invited and they will come. Have you made sure that the financial or other control of these industries would not be interfered with by the Russians?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: This is a very valid point. And I would like to say, based on my own experience, that we not only make ample provision for this but we are also very, very jealous to safeguard our right to control the finances and the management. I would like to cite only one example. When I was the Steel Minister, for the Bhilai Plant, a very distinguished steel engineer of very outstanding stature was deputed by the Soviet Union to head the Soviet Team. He is so well-known and so outstanding in his own country that today he is the Vice-Prime Minister in the USSR Mr. Dimshits. In his very first meeting with me, he asked me as to what the organisation was going to be. I told him that I would benefit by his advice and would do whatever he suggested. It is very interesting, he said that he did not want to be involved in any administrative or financial matters which were entirely our own concern. He said that his function was to give us good adequate technical advice which would enable us to complete the construction. He stated that so far as administrative, financial and other matters were concerned we must have a top man who is an Indian and who would be answerable to us. He did not want to be involved in this. I have quoted only one example. In every Case we are careful to ensure this aspect.

Well, we may have many shortcomings. But, I have a great pride and faith in the capacity of our technocrats, engineers, scientists, metallurgists, electrical engineers, who handle even the most complicated of these projects. It is mainly on account of the devoted and very able help that we get by our own engineers that we have been able to establish so many industries.

AGREEMENTS WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Sir, I would like to end this by giving you briefly some points from the agreements signed between India and Czechoslovakia, because that was also a matter which was of considerable importance. The economic collaboration agreement concluded during Dr. Husak's visit will have the following direct results to assist India in attaining self-reliance in our economic development. Our trade turnover which stands at Rs. 80 crores this year is likely to increase to Rs. 150 crores in 1974. The latest Czech credit to us of Rs. 80 crores has been given, as the House knows, on terms which are more favourable than those of the previous Czechoslovak credits. Czechoslovakia has undertaken to strengthen our industrial base, especially in the field of power generation, electrification of Railways, fertilizer production and engineering. We have been able to discuss with the Czechoslovak leaders the possibility of their supplying us certain specific items of special interests to us currently. These include, as in the case of the Soviet Union, items like newsprint, special alloys and steel, fertilizers, special pipes meant for drilling, etc.

Sir, before I pass on to the next subject, I would like to say that this criticism that because it is a balanced trade and a barter trade and so there is some catch in it, requires some clarification. Otherwise, it will cause confusion in the country. Now, it is an amazing argument. The obvious stage in the development of our economy is such that we can no longer be content only by the export of so-called traditional items like tea, jute or textiles or iron-ore or manganese. We have to move from this traditional ambit of our exports to the export of engineering

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goods, to those goods that are produced as a result of our new industry. We are prepared in India to enter into such arrangements with any country, whether it is the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Britain, France or the United States of America, in fact with any country which is prepared to open up its economy to our industrial goods, whether they are components or whether they are

finished industrial goods. Now, how can you force any country, whether it is the Soviet Union or Britain or France to accept any components from us unless they fit into their own machines. So, it is quite obvious that if we are desirous of expanding the base and ambit of our exports - we want that this should be spread into industrial goods, we must know the requirements of other countries in order to be able to sell those goods.

And it is here that with the agreement, the two sides will remain in touch with each other in the planning field and in other fields. To know it precisely, it is the field in which we can step up our production which will be acceptable to both. This is a quite straight-forward thing. Nothing secret about it and it is rather surprising that anything fishy should be read into it.

Then the usual warning of prophets of doom and despair, what will happen if the things go wrong? I am proceeding on the basis that we will see that the things do not go wrong. It is one of our jobs to see that we proceed correctly. Of course, maybe that things can go wrong and they are able to build up arguments and then say we have told you what will happen. No country can form its opinion on the basis of 'things will go wrong'. It is the function of the Government and the administration to keep their eyes open and see that things do not go wrong and, therefore, to base a policy on such fear and on such suspicion is totally wrong and without any Justification whatsoever.

NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Mr. Deputy Chairman, I know that I must finish within the next few minutes. Therefore, I quickly say a few words more about our neighbours. I did touch upon this matter in my opening remarks as to the policy we have been pursuing over the years, a consistent policy of befriending our neighbours and I can claim that we have succeeded reasonably well in our efforts in this direction. Look at our present relations with Bangladesh - political and economic. Look at the relations between India and Burma.

We are quietly discussing rather the sensitive matters like demarcation of the boundary. The world does not know about it. We are bilaterally trying to resolve. There have been exchange of delegations between Burma and India to strengthen the economic content of our relationship. I myself led such a delegation some time back., There have been exchange of ministerial delegations in which there were several experts from Burma's side, who spent two weeks in our country. Take our relations with our northern neighbours, Bhutan and Nepal. We have got excellent relations, both in the economic and political fields. Take our relations with Sri Lanka. Notwithstanding the discordant voices that are raised from time to time, it is a fact that we have entered into an agreement which settles the future of a number of persons of Indian origin. Some will get Sri Lanka citizenship, others we have agreed to take back according to the agreed phased programme. These are the bilateral discussions. Take our relations with Afghanistan. We welcome that Afghanistan in their best judgment have decided now to function as the Republic of Afghanistan. We welcome these changes because it is their own concern. We have excellent relations with Afghanistan. One of their very senior leaders came to India. I myself paid a visit to Kabul only a couple of months back and I was greatly satisfied with the determination of the new Government of Afghanistan to strengthen their sovereignty, their independence and to improve the economic lot of the people in Afghanistan. There is such a complete understanding between us and Afghanistan on all matters.

I want that our relations with other neighbours should also be good and this is the policy we have been consistently pursuing. I have already touched upon our relations with our efforts to normalise relations with Pakistan, with China. We have every time expressed our desire to improve relations. Well, we have not got 'Kissingers' in India and you will have to be content with what I am because I have to look after the relationship but I would like to assure you that this is a matter perhaps in which some reciprocity is necessary.

KISSINGER'S VISIT

Now about Mr. Kissinger's visit, he is a good friend of mine, I like some of his unorthodox methods but let us not forget - as I reminded Shri Goray because he raised this matter on an earlier occasion also - that it will be wrong to imagine that any great magic was done by Dr. Kissinger's hop from Pakistan to Peking when he undertook his first visit. That was preceded by long years of quiet diplomacy between the two countries. We are perhaps less quiet because we have got near normal relations because we have got embassies of both countries functioning in Peking and in Delhi. We have contacts in other capitals also. So we do not dramatise our relations with China. Only if both countries show reciprocity can relations improve and we shall not hesitate to take advantage of the possibility of improving relations but any over-anxiety or just repeating it ad nauseam I am sure will not advance the objective which might be before some of the hon. Members.

WEST ASIA

Having said this I would like to reiterate our clear policy on West Asia because that was again a matter which was touched upon in rather a circuitous manner by some of the critics. This is an area of conflict and we have taken a consistent stand. I want to make sure that the strength of our stand is not whittled down by these discordant voices and I would, therefore, like to reiterate our clear position in this respect. As I have already said on two occasions, there are in the West Asia situation some hopeful trends. There is a cease-fire; at the present moment it is there although at times it appears very precarious. On the wider issues of durable peace, negotiations have been taking place in various capitals. There are some hints or suggestions that peace talks might commence shortly. Towards the end of November, there was an Arab Heads of States and Governments meeting in Algiers, with a view to coordinating Arab action towards

the just settlement of the West Asia problem. We have been kept in close and constant touch with the situation and our Arab friends have been in constant consultation with us, both in the United Nations and elsewhere, in our capital and in the Arab capitals. We are glad that besides strong diplomatic support we were able to offer some material support to them, and we were able to send some supplies, medicines and doctors, etc., both to Egypt and to Syria.

The military might of Israel, and their temporary successes in 1948, 1956 and 1967 resulted in the long-term considerations of statesmanship being forgotten. We are sorry that after each conflict in the Middle East, in the ensuing negotiations, expediency and the desire to acquire more real estate over-shadowed the considerations of justice, equity, peace and stability. The result has been a continuing crisis and a continuing tragedy not only for West Asia but for the entire civilized world.

The arrogance of Israel and the support she has received from her mighty friends, the House is aware, had driven the Palestinians to measures of desperation. Mr. Abraham had rightly drawn attention to the miserable condition of the Palestinians who have been expelled from their homeland in a manner unprecedented in history. Our views on this matter can leave no room for doubt. The rights of the Palestinians must be restored and their homeland assured to them. Our attitude towards this situation in this conflict is based on firm and unalterable principles. These are principles not only of equity and justice and steadfast friendship and solidarity but also principles of international law and behaviour. I can do no better than quote what the Prime Minister has said on this subject. I quote:

"Our sympathies for the Arabs are for two reasons. First, they are our centuries old friends and secondly their territories have been occupied following the Israeli aggression. We have certain principles and the whole world knows India has never compromised on principles. Our relations with the

Arabs are centuries old and these ties are not frivolous bonds of friendship. They are old and solid. We have always stood for the vacation of territories occupied by aggression, irrespective of the countries involved".

I would like to add one more thought. We are indeed anxious that peace and stability in West Asia are ensured. We are anxious that recourse to the conference table, rather than arbitrament of Weapons, should succeed

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there. Our commitment to justice is there. Our support for the Arabs is well known. To Israel we must sound a note of caution. Israel should draw the lessons of history and should see the writing on the wall. Already in the last few weeks Israel has become more and more isolated in Asia and in Africa, also in Europe. Look at the joint statement issued by the Ministers of the European Community. Look at the last statement issued by Japan. Look at the several African countries which have broken off diplomatic relations with Israel. This process can go very much further and it will not be in the interests of Israel herself to force the non-aligned countries into taking further steps to ensure justice and peace for the entire region. We must and we shall do all we can to ensure that peace with honour is restored to the West Asian region.

U. S. A.

Sir, now I will say a few words, before I close, about our relations with the United States of America. The House may recall that a little over a year ago, on 30th November, 1972, I stated in the Rajya Sabha that we would do everything in our power to normalise and strengthen our relations with the United States on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual respect. I am glad to be able to say that in the post-1971 period both India and the United States have made conscious and deliberate efforts to ensure that our mutual relations improve. I was able in the month of October to have discussions with the new Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger in Washington. We have

also noted that in his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in September, 1973 Dr. Kissinger recognised India's role as of special importance in the developing world whose growth and stability is essential to peace and stability in South Asia. In this connection, it is pertinent to point out that negotiations on settlement of the question of PL-480 funds are making satisfactory progress and we hope that this question would soon be resolved to the mutual satisfaction of the two sides. Our assessment is that Indo-US relations have entered a phase where a constructive, co-operative and mature relationship can be built up between the two countries.

On two recent occasions we have reiterated that durable peace in this region continues to be the prime objective of our policy, not only in the sub-continent, not only with Pakistan, but peace generally in this region. We are gratified to note that our American friends have a better appreciation of this policy, including the fact that supply of arms to Pakistan, whether directly or indirectly, can be a major element impeding the process of normalisation.

It is our earnest hope that, keeping in view the steady improvement in the situation in the sub-continent, the U.S. Government will take all steps to help the process and not take measures which adversely affect it.

IRAN

Sir, I would now very briefly say something about Iran. I would like to give the information about our relationship with Iran. I am happy to be able to say that the Foreign Minister of Iran, Dr. Abbas Ali Khalatbary, will be with us next week. The House will recall that I had paid a visit to Iran in July. This should indicate how sustained and continuing the dialogue between Iran and India has all along been. Both Governments believe that there should be a close and continuing dialogue between us. The political, economic, cultural and other relations between India and Iran have been growing satisfactorily. We shall in the very near future be holding another meeting of the Joint Eco-

conomic Commission in which economic and industrial collaboration will be reviewed and new projects discussed. We consider Iran a neighbour and heir to a common historical, linguistic and cultural heritage. At times some doubts have been expressed either on Iranian motivations towards us or our attitude towards them. I am glad to be able to say that despite such insinuations both countries have not allowed their bilateral relations to be affected. Both Iran and India subscribe to the policy of creating a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean free from great Power presence and rivalries. In this context of peaceful co-operation, we shall on our side, do everything to strengthen our ties with Iran.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, within the short time at my disposal I have tried to touch upon some important aspects of our foreign policy and I have tried to meet some of the points that have been raised. I hope that the policy which we are pursuing will receive the support of the entire House.

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USA PAKISTAN INDIA BANGLADESH CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM CAMBODIA MALI
UNITED KINGDOM GERMANY FRANCE RUSSIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA JAPAN BURMA BHUTAN
NEPAL SRI LANKA AFGHANISTAN CHINA ALGERIA EGYPT SYRIA ISRAEL IRAN

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reply by the Minister of External Affairs to Lok Sabha Debate on International Situation

Replying to the debate in the Lok Sabha on December 21, 1973, on the motion regarding the international situation, the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement:

We had a full debate yesterday on the international situation and I would, in my reply, endeavour to cover some of the points that have been raised in the course of the debate. Much as I would like to reply in detail to many matters that have been raised by hon. Members, it will not be possible for me to do so because of paucity of time. But I would like to assure the hon. Members that I have greatly benefitted by their comments and by their observations and I will try to derive the maximum benefit from their mature ideas and suggestions that they have made.

In this debate Members from the Opposition Benches as well as my colleagues from our Party have touched upon some important points.

Almost all the leaders of the Opposition Parties have spoken and some of the doubts that were attempted to be raised on some vital issues have been effectively replied to by my colleagues on this side and my task to that extent has been very much lightened.

BANGLADESH

About the international situation our first thought should go to countries in our region. In this connection, I would like once again to draw the attention of the House to the great progress that Bangladesh has made over two years. Bangladesh has completed two years of its sovereign independent existence on 16th December this year. These two years have seen what a tremendous progress in all fields has been made by Bangladesh. Human memory is short but it was just two years ago, on the 16th December, 1971, that Bangladesh emerged as a free independent country. Ten million Bangladesh citizens had taken refuge in India and according to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, another twenty million had been displaced from their homes and hearths. All the refugees have gone back. In fact, they returned to Bangladesh before the year 1972 was out and the floating population of Bangladesh is, by and large, now settled and they are pursuing their normal avocation.

These two years have seen Bangladesh adopting a democratic Constitution based on Parliamentary system. They have enforced that Constitution and the elections have been completed; the administration, according to the democratic methods with the objective of strengthening democracy and secularism - those processes have taken deep roots in Bangladesh. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has emerged as the leader who has provided stability and philosophy to the new country, Bangladesh and we rejoice at the great strides and progress that have been made by the people of Bangladesh.

It is always proper to remember, when we talk of progress the immense sacrifices which people of Bangladesh have gone through. Many people had to lay down their lives for Bangladesh; our own Indian soldiers, members of the security forces shed their blood to defend India's sovereignty and also to defend the freedom and sovereignty of Bangladesh. I would like to take this opportunity of paying my homage to the memory of all those who made their supreme sacrifice, who laid down their lives and who underwent many sufferings. The situation in Bangladesh is stabilised in the political sense and the Government and people are now engaged in the mighty task of restructuring their war ravaged economy. They have made considerable progress. Great deal has still to be done and we wish them well. Our friendship with them is of an abiding character and it is a matter of great satisfaction for us to note that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has, from time to time, made very clear and categorical statements to the effect that Bangladesh friendship with India is the basic cornerstone in the policy of Bangladesh in the international affairs and we rejoice to recall this state of happy relationship between Bangladesh and India.

PAKISTAN

Now, coming to Pakistan, I would like to bring the information about our relations

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up to date. From time to time, I have been

keeping the House informed about the salient features of our relationship with Pakistan.

After the signing of the Delhi Agreement, the process of three-way repatriation commenced on the 19th September. Up to the 17th December, a total of 134,328 persons have been repatriated to their respective countries. This includes as many as 36,474 Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees in India. We have every hope in this way of resolving this humanitarian problem affecting so many individuals in a mutually satisfactory manner.

In accordance with the Delhi Agreement, the problem of 195 prisoners of war has to be taken up in a tripartite meeting between Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, it being understood that Bangladesh can participate in such a meeting only on the basis of sovereign equality. Therefore, the hall is in Pakistan court to create the necessary conditions for Bangladesh's participation so that this matter can be discussed and resolved amicably. For this, it is not necessary to wait till the entire process of repatriation is completed, as it is provided for in para 3 (VII) of the Delhi Agreement that this tripartite meeting can take place earlier if it is so agreed.

Now, we have seen reported statements by Pakistani leaders to the effect that Bangladesh cannot be recognised till certain pre-conditions are fulfilled like the return of all war prisoners, presumably including 195 and suspension of proposed trials by Bangladesh. It seems hardly fair on the part of Pakistani leaders to talk of pre-conditions when all these matters were discussed before the Delhi Agreement was signed which provides for a tripartite meeting with the participation of Bangladesh as a sovereign equal. We would therefore, sincerely hope that the Pakistan Government would see its way to fulfilling its commitment under the Delhi Agreement.

We are glad that Pakistan has at last withdrawn its complaint on the 195 prisoners of war from the World Court. Pakistan should now take action in accordance with the Delhi

Agreement.

I have repeatedly said in this House that both India and Pakistan stand committed to the implementation of the Simla Agreement. While we have had occasions to draw the attention of Pakistan Government to some of the statements and actions of their leaders which in our view were not in tune with the spirit and the objectives of the Simla Agreement, the Pakistan Government have so far responded by reiterating their faith and their allegiance to this agreement and the principles enshrined in it. The question, therefore, arises, what is preventing the implementation of certain normalisation measures such as resumption of communications, air links, travel, trade and cultural exchanges between the two countries? These are the items mentioned in para 3, discussions on which can begin any time Pakistan desires. We on our side are willing and ready to start these discussions at the earliest moment. On our part, we had made it clear to Pakistan soon after the completion of delineation and withdrawal of troops from occupied territories that we were prepared for bilateral discussions on these issues. Surely, there can be no doubt that it is in the mutual interest of Pakistan and India and in the interest of the vast number of people in the two countries, if there is no further delay in this matter and fresh agreements are worked out to resume these links between the two countries in so many fields.

This would also give rise to greater confidence and improve the atmosphere which would facilitate the task of discussing more complicated issues.

I have also seen press reports about the remarks of Pakistani leaders suggesting that India has ignored Pakistan's proposal for reduction of defence forces. This is quite a misleading statement. Pakistani leaders are well aware that Pakistan herself is spending as much as 50 per cent of her national budget and as much as 9 per cent of her GNP (based on last year's budget figures) on military expenditure. Despite her much greater need due to extensive borders, apart from the border with Pakistan and long

coastline, India is spending much less proportionately on defence. However, we have never been averse to having any discussion on any subject with Pakistan, but the fact remains that the pre-requisite for meaningful discussions on defence matters is the establishment of durable peace in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

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The recent statements of Pakistani leaders on Kashmir to which we had taken exception, her efforts to acquire more and more weapons far in excess of her reasonable requirements, despite the existing high order of military spending and her continued negative attitude on Bangladesh, a reality which Pakistan can ill-afford to ignore, are obvious contradictions in Pakistan's postures on this subject. However, we are always willing and ready, which we have demonstrated on earlier occasions, to take concrete steps for further normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan and for taking steps for establishment of durable peace.

OTHER NEIGHBOURS

Now I will say a few words about our relations with our other immediate or close neighbours. With Nepal and Bhutan, where there are two young Kings looking after these two countries, our relations are excellent. Our economic relations with Nepal are growing from strength to strength, our co-operation with Nepal for strengthening their economy and for providing a number of amenities and social services continues, and we have made our contribution in the development of Nepal.

With Bhutan as well we have developed very friendly relations which are in the mutual interest of both Bhutan and India. Bhutan has now been a member of the United Nations for some years and the Bhutanese delegation along with the delegations of other sovereign independent countries, members of the UN, are making their contribution in the international forum in an admirable manner. We wish them every success. We will continue to have friendly relations which are in the mutual interest and benefit of our

two countries.

With Burma, we have been able to strengthen our relations even more. I myself, with a high-powered delegation consisting of our representatives from many economic Ministries, paid a visit to Burma and I had for the first time visited places outside Rangoon also. We had the visit of their Minister who came to India with several other persons dealing with economic matters in Burma, and the Burmese delegation visited several places in our country. It is my expectation that as a result of these contacts our bilateral economic relations, relations in the industrial field, mineral field and so on will be strengthened further. It is a matter of great satisfaction to us that with Burma we have always had very friendly relations and a very friendly border where co-operation and quiet and friendship prevail, and we greatly value our old friendship with Burma.

With Sri Lanka, we have had very good relations. There have been several high level visits, and I would like to inform the House that we are expecting Mrs. Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, to be with us in the month of January, most probably at the time of our Republic Day Celebrations. I am sure that this will further strengthen the friendly relations that exist between India and Sri Lanka.

Coming to Afghanistan, I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming the establishment of the Republic of Afghanistan. The President of the new Republic, Sardar Mohammed Daud, is known to us as a great and courageous leader, who was for several years the Prime Minister of Afghanistan. I myself paid a visit to Afghanistan in return for a visit that had been undertaken by a very high-powered political leader of Afghanistan to India. I was greatly struck by the determination of the Afghan leadership to strengthen their sovereignty, to strengthen their independence, and to undertake measures which might improve the lot of the people of Afghanistan. Our friendship with our Afghan brethren has been traditional, and we share many ideas in the international field which are identical, and this

provides the basis for further strengthening of our relations with Afghanistan.

About Iran, another neighbour on the other side of Pakistan, I need hardly remind the hon. Members of the ties of history, language and culture with Iran, and I am glad to be able to report to the House that last week we had with us the Foreign Minister of Iran; a cultural agreement was also signed under which our educational and technical exchanges will be further intensified. The fundamental interests of our two countries do not need to come into any conflict or clash. Our discussions with the Foreign Minister of Iran made it clear that both sides can and must work together for ensuring greater stability in our region and

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in Asia as a whole. our exchanges of views have led to a far better understanding between us and have removed some misgivings which may in the past have arisen, and such as have appeared in the press also from time to time. This visit and my last visit to Tehran, it is my belief, will result in a future relationship between us on the basis of a clearer appreciation and increased confidence regarding each other's policies and objectives. In the economic field, there is considerable scope for expanding our cooperation. The Joint Economic Commission of the two countries will be meeting in the middle of the next month in Delhi led by a senior Iranian Minister. Collaboration in oil refineries and petrochemicals, we believe, can be brought about to a greater extent to the mutual benefit of both our countries.

Iran's relationship with Pakistan is well known to us. However, I believe that the Iranian Government has appreciated our approach to the solution of problems in the sub-continent bilaterally and by peaceful means.

On the Indian Ocean, both India and Iran are in the 15-member ad hoc UNO committee, and our aim is to remove rivalry, tension and major powers' naval presence in this area, which is of vital significance to the peace and tranquillity of Afro-Asia.

WEST ASIA

I will say a few words about the present situation in West Asia. The recent war between the Arabs and Israel has, of course, been an event of global importance and concern. There was the risk of the conflagration spreading, which could have had disastrous consequences for the region as a whole. A significant part was played by the cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in bringing about a cease fire and working out with the cooperation of the UN Security Council a broad framework in which peace could be stabilised. Hon. Members will recall that the UN Security Council in its resolution of October 22, 1973, besides calling for a cease-fire and for the full implementation of its earlier resolution No. 242 of November, 1967, also enjoined that talks between the parties concerned should start immediately with a view to reaching a just and durable peace. This cease-fire in West Asia has been effective now for roughly two months, even though at times it was very tenuous. There are still difficulties which could lead to new clashes. In spite of these difficulties, we feel that the chances of a durable settlement in West Asia are better at the moment than perhaps ever before. An overwhelming majority of the countries in the world is now conscious that an essential condition of peace is the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories and secondly, discussions for a just and durable peace must be undertaken without delay. Our sympathies in the recent conflict and our views on the question of durable peace are well known to the House. No country has a right to remain in occupation of the territories of others seized by armed force. We have seen over long years Israel in illegal occupation of such territory and its refusal even to Accept the principle of withdrawal. We believe moreover that the establishment of a stable peace should be based on respect for the right of existence of all the States in the area and that the full rights of the Palestinian people must be restored. The Peace Conference is starting today in Geneva under the co-chairmanship of USSR and USA, over which the UN Secretary-General will preside in the opening phase. Arab countries have

shown a great deal of flexibility and demonstrated their earnest desire for a peaceful settlement of this problem and we hope that Israel too will show a sense of realism and recognise the force of world opinion in this matter, so that this long-standing problem can be solved in the interests of all the countries of the region. I am glad to notice that in our country, and in this House a broad consensus in support of the Arab cause has already emerged and there was no discordant voice on this issue. The issue is simple: The Arab lands must be vacated and Palestinians must be restored their legitimate rights.

There may be some observations of a collateral nature to the effect that if our support to this cause were not there, we could play a better mediatory role. I fail to understand the logic of this argument that in order to be able to play what some members feel can be a mediator's role, we should be hesitant in expressing our strong support to a cause which we believe is just.

In this particular case, the two countries, the United States and the Soviet Union, were able to play the mediatory role because it is

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hard reality that the war could not be carried on there without the active support of these two countries to the countries which are actually carrying on the war. To that extent, the argument is valid. But that only shows that to be neutral does not provide a very good opportunity to play the so-called mediatory role!

I am mentioning this because sometimes we are carried away by text-book postulates and are prone to forget the realities of the situation. Particularly, the speech of the young Jan Sangh member who, I think, spoke for the first time on foreign affairs - his speech was mostly in very good language and the delivery was good - so far as the content of his speech is concerned, I have no hesitation in saying that it was rather trite and common place, based on some old books and some new journals, and such a combination can never be productive either of clear thinking or forceful presentation. That apart, the important thing is that in a

situation where war prevails, if we find that justice is clearly on one side, we should not hesitate to express our support especially when, apart from the cause being just, the people involved are the Arab people, who are our brethren and with whom we have got friendly and fraternal ties. So, I think the logic is irresistible that there could not be any other attitude except the one that we have adopted. And it is not a small consolation, if I may use that expression, to recall that countries who had been very hesitant in the beginning veered round to the view which India had taken consistently from the beginning. Look at the nine members of the European Community and the statement that they have made, supporting the Arab cause in far more categorical terms than what they have been saying from the time when the war started. Look at the attitude of Japan or several African countries. They are all slowly veering round to the view and attitude that we have taken from the beginning. All this will clearly show that the attitude that we have adopted in this respect is the correct attitude and we should never regret having adopted that attitude.

BREZHNEV'S VISIT

This brings me to the visit of Mr. Brezhnev, about which a great deal has been said. As a matter of fact, I need not say much about this. The outcome of the visit is incorporated in several agreements. I took the earliest opportunity to place those agreements on the Table of the House.

The relationship between India and the Soviet Union ever since our independence has been one of firm friendship, based on principles, and this friendship has stood the test of time. This is the basic thing that we have to remember. It was rather amusing for some hon. Members to express certain misgivings - and the misgivings are not based on any experience in the past, mind you, but some sort of feeling - that perhaps the relationship is becoming so strong that it may have some implications or become a source of concern to us in the future. This, if I may say, is not a correct way of looking at a problem of this nature. If I may say,

experience is the best argument in such circumstances. We have been independent for the last 27 years. Now, during this period, on all vital political issues, we have always had the Soviet support at most critical moments. I need not recount. The important point is that on Kashmir, wherever the question arose in any international forum, including the United Nations, on Goa, on war with Pakistan, on all these political issues, there has been a strong and consistent support of the Soviet Union to us.

Now, I put the question straight: Can you recall any moment where this close relationship may have been used by the Soviet Union to embarrass us on any issue, political or otherwise, either internal or external?

First, on the political issues, it is quite clear that there has been a consistent and clear support from the Soviet Union. Then, you take, for instance, the economic issues, their collaboration with us in the economic field, in the establishment of several projects in our country. I myself have been associated with several such projects. Further, you take, for instance, the growing volume of trade between our two countries. In both these fields, they have never tried to impose any pattern in our economic development. They have shown their willingness to cooperate with us, in giving us the equipment, in giving us the technology, in giving us such other help as we require. They have never insisted that we should do it in this form or that form. They have always tried to conform to our suggestions in the establishment of plants, whether it is a steel plant or a

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heavy electrical plant or it is for the establishment of a power project or it is for search of oil or any other cooperation in the basic industrial fields. How do we then say that they are likely by this cooperation, in any way, to have an influence on us which might be against our interests? This is certainly not the correct way of saying things.

Again, it was said, not perhaps so much by any people here, by many of the Western press people who were indulging in a hobby

that when Mr. Brezhnev comes here, he will ask us to sign this or to sign that. I cannot help recounting my own encounter with a group of two such foreign correspondents, very high placed, who came and had an interview with me, about two or three days before the actual date of Mr. Brezhnev's visit. They asked me, "what is your expectation? What is going to happen?" I gave them a reply which is known to you and which has been justified by our subsequent experience. Then, at the end, they said, "Mr. Minister, do you want to give us the impression that our Head Office has spent all the money for us to undertake this journey to India only to hear this sort of thing about it? We can as well know this thing when we are sitting in our offices." They were out to see something unusual, something spectacular, happening. And the disappointment is that nothing spectacular from their point of view happened which could really form very interesting or sensational story. We cannot help them if we cannot produce a story which hits their headlines according to their own liking.

I would like to say that we should be careful while assessing our relations with such a tried friend as the U.S.S.R. We should view it in the proper perspective and try to understand the importance of that relationship.

What is the type of our relationship with the Soviet Union even in the economic field?

I would like to say that we can say with a certain measure of pride that almost anything of importance that we have obtained from the Soviet Union by way of any machinery, say, for a steel plant or heavy electrical factory or most of the other equipment, almost everything, we have purchased at a negotiated price, almost at world price. We are committed to pay for everything that we have purchased from them. It is true that there was a gift on one occasion of certain equipment - I think, the total value was about Rs. 2 crores or something of that order - certain farm machinery when we were starting a new farm, a State farm; we

got that free. But our relationship is such that we have purchased all the machinery and we are repaying the amounts.

Take our trade. We get their goods and we are selling our goods at market price. If purchasing goods from any country at a price which is comparable, which is competitive, our paying the price thereof, our getting the price for the goods that we export and their paying us the price for the things that we supply, if this is crossing the permissible limit, then I should say that the real meaning of these expressions has been lost by those people who raised this point. This is the type of relationship between these two countries. I think, it is a clean departure from the type of large gifts that are being floated in the international community in their relationship between several other countries. We have taken a conscious, natural decision of paying for everything that we get, including the defence equipment that we have obtained from the Soviet Union or from certain other countries. I will not have any hesitation to get military equipment which is necessary for our defence and security from any source whatsoever. But we have not accepted any gifts from the Soviet Union in this field. Whatever equipment we have obtained we have paid for it. So, I would like to repudiate, most strongly, any such suggestion. In a growing economic relationship, of mutual interest - I repeat, of mutual interest - they are interested in selling their equipment to other countries, and India is a big country which has embarked upon large development programmes. So, it is in the mutual interest of the Soviet Union and India that we get their equipment; and we repay it over the years. There is nothing unequal in this relationship. To import any such concept, to my mind, is absolutely unjustified either on facts or on any careful analysis of the reality of the situation.

Perhaps, at this stage, I could as well dispose of another point that was raised, namely, why is there greater cooperation between the Planning Commissions of the

does this mean? We are embarked upon our development programmes. Our desire is that we should make greater progress in the field of industrialisation; we should move into sophisticated technology. We would, therefore, be interested in getting technology from whatever source it is available. There may be some better sources of technology available but these sources are not available to us for reasons which, we have never been able to comprehend. Therefore, not to take such technology from sources from which it is available will be unwise from our point of view. We are interested in exporting the engineering goods of various types to the Soviet Union and, in fact, to all countries. How can we succeed in exporting industrial goods, whether they are machine tools or components or products of chemical industry or of several other industries? Now, the obvious course that is open to us is that we study carefully what are their requirements. Are they willing to forgo some of their internal production to open their market to Indian engineering goods? If they could do it, this is a very desirable objective, and to be able to successfully enter into deals of this nature, it is necessary for both countries to study carefully their planning programmes, their future plans and the areas of development.

Long range integration in a desirable field is something we should aim at and I would like to repeat that India is now in a position to have such long-term economic co-operation with almost any country in the world. Let it be any country, whether it is Western Europe or America or Canada. If it is prepared to enter into long-term arrangements with us to enable us to increase our industrial and economic potential and to open their markets to our industrial goods, we are prepared to enter into similar arrangements with them.

Then, casually I looked at the names of important visitors over the recent period. This is only to show whether our relationship is being strengthened only with any particular group of countries, and the list which I will read now will indicate as to what are the types of visitors that we are receiving,

say, for the last six weeks or over the next four weeks.

We had first of all the King of Nepal. We had the Minister for Economic Co-operation from the Federal Republic of Germany. We had the Finance Minister of France. Then we had Mr. Brezhnev. We had earlier Dr. Husak, then the Foreign Minister of Iran and we had then the Foreign Minister of Zaire (Congo). Then we are expecting the Prime Minister of New Zealand on the 27th of this month. In the month of January we are expecting President Tito as also Mrs. Bandaranaike.

Now, let my friends on the opposite side go over this list and see for themselves what a cross-section of the world it represents - representatives from West European countries, East European countries, our Asian neighbours, friends from Africa and our non-aligned friend like Yugoslavia. So, this is the type of relationship that we develop. To say that we are developing our relations in such a manner that we are concentrating our effort only in one direction is not correct. While saying that, it will be wrong for us at any time to be on the defensive. While we want to have good relations with all countries, I have always been opposed very strongly to this approach of equi-distance for the sake of equi-distance. We must, as a mature nation, be able to distinguish who are our real friends, who is the friend who has stood with us and which is the friend who will really stand with us. It is this approach which, unfortunately, is sometimes ignored.

ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY

Any country that ignores this fundamental approach is likely to ignore its own interests. Apart from other matters, the interesting topic of Asian collective security has also come up for comments in this House. I was somewhat amused to find that there was a resolution tabled by our comrade, a Member of the Communist Party of India. When the resolution was coming up for discussion, he thought that this was a matter which could perhaps be discussed when the debate comes up. Then, there were several

hon. Members, whom I won't name, all of us know, who were opposing this withdrawal and insisted that it should be discussed.

I am glad that the opportunity has now come for discussing this matter. I would like to make some comments on this in the light of this debate.

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The question of the Soviet proposal for Asian collective security had come up in the speeches of various hon. Members. The General Secretary, Mr. Brezhnev, in his address to Members of Parliament of two Houses had explained the Soviet concept of collective security in Asia.

I need not go into details since most Members present here had listened to Mr. Brezhnev's speech. The operative part of what he had said on the subject was that this is an idea worth discussing with a view to strengthening peace and security in the Asian sub-continent. The present debate may perhaps be regarded as a commencement of discussion on this subject. Hon. Members have commented on this idea and I have benefitted from their views. The emergence of Asia as an area of peace and tranquillity as a result of relaxation of tension is a desirable objective. However, we have to keep in view the situation as it prevails in Asia and the political complexity in the continent of Asia.

The situation in Indo-China has not yet stabilised. In Cambodia, the war situation is still continuing. In South Viet Nam also, there have been allegations of violations of the Paris Agreement. In the Indian sub-continent, the process of normalisation is still to make satisfactory progress. Pakistan continues to pursue the negative policy of not recognising the reality of Bangladesh. In West Asia, the Arab-Israel conflict has re-appeared within a period of six years. Arab territory is continued to be occupied by Israel and the Palestinians still remain without a homeland.

Obviously, it will take considerable time to find a solution of all these problems. More-

over, there are two military groupings in Asia - the CENTO and SEATO. All these aspects are not palatable to the people of Asia. We would like these trends to be reversed and mutual confidence to be established. Any proposal which brings about such a result would be welcome to us. Our own thinking is that an adherence to such principles as renunciation of the use of force, peaceful co-existence, respect for sovereignty of all countries, non-interference in internal affairs and broad development of economic and other cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit will assist such a process.

I may assure the House that it is Government of India's belief that an atmosphere of friendship and peace can prevail not by means of military blocs; nor by any system of grouping of countries directed against any other country or group of countries but through goodwill and cooperation. More intensive co-operation in the economic field in the first instance would help in strengthening mutuality of interests amongst countries of the region. These are the objectives that are before us and we believe that if we continue to pursue these objectives, and if we succeed in creating an atmosphere where these objectives are broadly accepted by the countries in the region, there may be an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity in Asia. Historically, let us remember that Europe has taken something like 28 or 29 years before they could convene a conference in Helsinki. for the first time, a Conference on Security and Co-operation. It was possible for them to do so after the conclusion of some very important agreements or treaties like the Moscow Treaty between the USSR and FRG, and also the Treaty between Poland and FRG and then the various Treaties and Agreements between GDR and FRG. It was after all these treaties had been concluded that an atmosphere was created where Europe, East and West, could sit together for the first time and could talk of peace and security, not of wars, not of conflicts but of co-operation. So, we should not be afraid of these ideas merely because they come from one country or another.

In this particular case, this idea comes

from the leader of a friendly country, and, therefore, we should view it in the spirit in which it is offered and not try to say that there may be some catch in it or there may be something hidden in it. I think ever since our Independence we have developed enough of maturity and understanding of the complexities of international life and we have to see what is in our best interest and what is in the best interests of Asia. and we should be prepared to study carefully any new ideas that might be floated from any quarter whatsoever.

I would like to recall that our own Prime Minister in her tour of South-East Asia had put forward a suggestion for stabilising peace in the South-East Asian region, where all the countries in that region could get together

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and enter into an agreement to respect each other's sovereignty, and this should be guaranteed by other important countries in the region and even outside the region. So, these are the ideas which will continue to be with us and we should try to deal with them in a deep manner, trying to understand the implications thereof, and we should not react in a superficial manner. I cannot understand the arguments put forward by muted critics; I call them muted critics because there is nothing on which they can criticise. If they offer muted criticism, I cannot answer such a criticism. India has demonstrated enough of independence in dealing with such situations and all that I can say is that if earlier experience is any guide, we will certainly look after our best interests.

HUSAK'S VISIT

There was also the visit of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and I would like to say a few words about that visit. Sympathy and friendship between India and Czechoslovakia date back many years before India's independence. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Czechoslovakia in 1948, there has been a very healthy and positive development of our relations in all fields. High level exchanges of visit have contributed greatly in this regard. As hon. members

are aware, our Prime Minister had visited Czechoslovakia last year. In May this year, I paid a visit to Prague at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister. Our President had also been in Czechoslovakia in October this year. The visit of Dr. Husak, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia from December 3 to 9, 1973, is the latest in these high level exchanges of visits. Since this was his first visit to our country, we are glad that he was able to visit some of our cities, Agra, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Trivandrum and Bombay, and to see some of our industrial and cultural centres. We are happy to receive him in our midst since he is known not only for the outstanding leadership which he has given to the Czechoslovak people in their task of socialist construction and for the contribution that Czechoslovakia has made towards strengthening of peace and detente in Europe but also for his humane approach to finding solutions to problems.

In this context, we warmly welcome the signing on December 11 after the return of Dr. Husak to Prague of the Treaty of Normalisation of Relations between Czechoslovakia and FRG by which the Munich Pact has been put out of the way thereby closing once for all the chapter of world war II.

The joint India-Czechoslovakia declaration signed on December 5 has paid a tribute to India's peaceful foreign policy based on nonalignment and the principles of peaceful co-existence. The Czechoslovak side also expressed their appreciation of India's untiring efforts seeking to achieve a durable peace in the Indian sub-continent. India reiterated her appreciation of the constructive role played by Czechoslovakia in promoting peaceful and cooperative relations amongst- the States of the European continent.

During Dr. Husak's visit, the third economic cooperation agreement was signed between the two countries on December 5, 1973. Czechoslovakia has agreed to provide fresh credits of the value of Rs. 800 million on more favourable terms than the previous Czechoslovak credits - providing for a 15-year re-

payment period as against the earlier 12 years. Under the agreement, Czechoslovakia has undertaken to continue her assistance in the strengthening of India's industrial base especially in the fields of power generation, electrification of railways, engineering industries and fertiliser production. The bilateral trade turnover is also planned to be increased to Rs. 1500 million in 1974 as compared to Rs. 800 million in 1973.

U. S. A.

Sir, I would now like to say a few words about our relations with the United States of America. You will recall that a little over a year ago, on the 30th November, 1972, I had stated in the Rajya Sabha that we would do everything in our power to normalise and strengthen our relations with the United States on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual respect.

I am glad to be able to say that in the post-1971 period, both India and the United States have made conscious and deliberate efforts to ensure that our mutual relations improve. I was able in the month of October to have discussions with the new Secretary

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of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger, in Washington. We have also noted that in his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in September, 1973, Dr. Kissinger recognised India's role as of special importance in the developing world, whose growth and stability is essential to peace and stability in South Asia. We are glad that negotiations for a settlement on the question of PL 480 funds have concluded satisfactorily, and this question has been resolved to the mutual satisfaction of the two countries. We are happy that the US administration showed understanding of our point of view in resolving this problem. It is our assessment that Indo-US relations have entered a phase where a constructive, cooperative, mature relationship can be built up between the two countries. On two recent occasions, we have reiterated that durable peace in this region continues to be the prime objective of our policy not only in the sub-continent, not only

with Pakistan, but peace generally in the region.

We are gratified to note that our American friends have a better appreciation of this policy including the fact that the supply of arms to Pakistan, whether directly or indirectly, can be a major element impeding the process of normalisation. It is our earnest hope that keeping in view the steady improvement in the situation in the sub-continent, the US Government will take all steps to help the process and not take measures which may affect this adversely.

Sir, while on this subject, I would like to mention one point which Shri Unnikrishnan had raised, and that is about the statement made by our ambassador to the United States, Shri T. N. Kaul. I am thankful to Shri Krishna Menon, who is not here today, who was good enough to defend our heads of missions abroad. I would like to fully support every word that Shri Krishna Menon had said; that our ambassadors abroad have been doing excellent work and whatever they do, we as Government are responsible for all that they do. It is better to direct any criticism against us rather than to direct it against individual ambassadors.

We have made further enquiries, and this is what Shri T. N. Kaul stated in the United States. This is what he has reported to me; because he now happens to be in India, we made enquiries from him as to what he said, this is what he has stated. I quote:

"India is willing to have foreign investments in India in selected fields on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit. Such investments would be desirable particularly in fields which are export-oriented, import substitution oriented, or where they provide advanced and sophisticated science and technology which India does not possess at present. Each case will be considered on its merits."

I would like to say that there is nothing objectionable in this statement of our policy which is well known. We are interested in foreign investment in sectors over which we

may have control and where the objective is as mentioned in the statement of Ambassador Kaul. We may have differences in the political field with many countries, but we have always endeavoured to keep wherever we can our economic relationship somewhat on a different level compared to our political relationship. Even when the political relations may be somewhat indifferent, we have never hesitated to strengthen the economic relations which, I believe, are in the mutual interest of the countries concerned. This policy continues.

VIETNAM

Hon. Members raised the question of our relationship with Prince Sihanouk and the PRG of South Vietnam. As I have informed the House earlier, these matters have continued to engage Government's attention. Recently the President of PRG, Mr. Tho, with a high level delegation including their Foreign Minister, Madame Binh transited through Delhi. I had the opportunity of receiving them and having an extremely interesting discussion on the situation in South Vietnam in particular and in Indochina in general. We have maintained contact with PRG all throughout and we are considering what further steps we can take in this matter.

CAMBODIA

As far as Cambodia is concerned, we have similarly developed increasingly close contact with Prince Sihanouk. The Prime Minister has spoken to him over the telephone during her visit to Yugoslavia. I have

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had the opportunity of meeting him and the leaders of his Government during the non-aligned conference in Algiers. The Prime Minister had also met Prince Sihanouk at Algiers. Our permanent delegation in New York has continuously remained in touch with other nonaligned delegations with a view to coordinating their approach during the discussion on the item concerning the recognition of Prince Sihanouk's Government and the question of credentials. The General

Assembly has now decided to postpone the matter by one year. Our delegation voted in favour of the delegation of Prince Sihanouk. These are our clear views about the PRG as well as Cambodia.

INDIAN OCEAN

About the Indian Ocean, there is not much I can add to what I have been saying from time to time. This matter is now before the UN and the General Assembly has adopted a resolution favouring the keeping of the Indian Ocean as an area of peace and tranquillity, free from the rivalry of big naval powers and subsequent steps are now being taken in order to implement this general direction given by the General Assembly. I noted with a great deal of interest the observation of Shri Krishna Menon, who appears to have given a great deal of thought to this subject, not only its political aspect but also its juridical aspect. I agree with him fully when he said that in order to keep away outside forces from the Indian Ocean, the countries in the region including India have to strengthen their navies. I fully subscribe to that idea. I would only like to add that his assessment about our present naval strength is somewhat out of date because he has been away from this for 11 years. I think the last war which was forced on us by Pakistan demonstrated the effectiveness of our navy, not only in Chittagong and Khulna but also in Karachi. So, we have travelled a great deal now towards strengthening our navy after 1962. I would like to say that our naval strength will always be used for strengthening peace in this region and it will never be used to the detriment of any other country so that there will be peace and tranquillity in this area.

Mention has been made about the presence of the US task force. On that our view is quite clear. We have told the Americans that this show of force and bringing in of naval units, including aircraft carriers, in this region without any ostensible objective, backed up by statements which are varied from time to time, is naturally something which has caused concern to all littoral countries, including India. We have told the

Americans quite clearly that this type of show of force will never be relished by any country in this region. This is our clear and categorical position.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : What is the proportion of the presence of the naval strength of the two super-powers in the Indian Ocean?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: The naval presence in the matter of counting of ships is something about which no ratio can be given at any time because what I try to state today may be completely altered in ten days because the ships continue coming and going. Any assessment of this nature would be unrealistic and would not be a fair assessment at all. We are not in favour of any large-scale presence of any out-side naval powers, to whatever country it belongs whether to the United States, or the Soviet Union, or France, or China or Britain, or any other country. Our position in this respect is quite clear. Under the present convention, to which we have subscribed and to which Shri Krishna Menon alluded to, the naval ships of any country are entitled to go about in the high seas. At the same time, whatever may be the flaws in the present law, the presence of any naval ships, even though it may be juridically justifiable or based on any such convention and, as such something to which we cannot legally object, if it creates tension in the region, then the littoral countries in the region are perfectly entitled to raise their voice. We will continue to raise our voice to ensure that the Indian Ocean region is maintained an area of peace and tranquillity.

SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: I referred in my speech to the Portuguese Bishop's domination over Goa.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: Shri Shashi Bhushan mentioned yesterday that the Catholic Bishop in Goa today is in their hierarchy under some Cardinal in Portugal.

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I must confess that this is a thing which came to my notice only yesterday. I think, on the face of it, this is something undesir-

able. We will see whatever we can, in consultation with the Christian community in Goa, to ensure that this type of thing is replaced by something which is more palatable to the people in that region.

USA BANGLADESH INDIA PAKISTAN MALI BHUTAN NEPAL BURMA SRI LANKA AFGHANISTAN
IRAN ISRAEL SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN CANADA FRANCE CONGO
ZAIRE NEW ZEALAND YUGOSLAVIA CHINA CAMBODIA RUSSIA POLAND NORWAY SLOVAKIA
CZECH REPUBLIC GERMANY VIETNAM UNITED KINGDOM ALGERIA PORTUGAL

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IRAN

Indo-Iranian Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text Of the cultural exchange programme for 1974 and 1975 signed in New Delhi on December 12, 1973 by Shri I. D. N. Sahi, Secretary, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare for India and Mr. Mohammad Moazzami Goudarzi, Ambassador of His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr in India for Iran:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Imperial Government of Iran, desirous of developing mutual cultural relations, have agreed on the following Cultural Exchange Programme for the years of 1974 and 1975 on the basis of, and with a view to giving effect to the Cultural Agreement of 1st December, 1956 (Azar 19, 1335 AH):

CHAPTER I--ART AND CULTURE

1. Both Sides will continue to cooperate with each other in acquainting themselves with, and preserving, their mutual cultural heritage (by making lists and taking pictures, microfilms and photostat copies as well as making tapes of rare books, printed or manu-

script, works of art, etc.). They will also provide such facilities as are possible and required for the promotion of the activities of research centers concerned with the said heritage.

2. Both Sides will encourage exchange of literary and cultural books and publications between the concerned organisations of the two Sides.

3. Both Sides will exchange documentary and feature films produced in their countries.

4. Both Sides will exchange a folk dance and music ensemble.

5. Both Sides will exchange an art exhibition accompanied, if possible, by an art critic.

6. Both Sides will invite two persons in the field of art and culture for a period of two months each.

7. The Iranian Side will receive and the Indian Side will send two professors of the Persian language and literature for research and study for a period of three to six months.

8. The Iranian Side will send and the Indian Side will receive:

(a) An Expert for training in brocade weaving and weaving with hand-looms, for a period of 3-6 months.

(b) An expert in (meshed and mosaic) woodwork, for a period of two months.

(c) An expert in making glazed tiles, for a period of two months.

(d) An artist to study graphic arts for a period of two months.

(e) An expert in production of instructional films, for a period of two months.

9. The Indian Side will send and the Iranian Side will receive:

- (a) An expert in weaving brocade and velvet to work in the Brocade

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Weaving Workshops and School of Art of Isfahan Division for a period of 3-6 months.

- (b) An expert in the field of inland and mosaic woodwork to work at a workshop in Isfahan for a period of three months.
- (c) A trainee in making glazed tiles, for a period of three months.
- (d) An, expert to study audio-visual management for a period of two months.
- (e) An expert in production of instructional films, for a period of two months.

10. The two Sides will seek to enter into collaborative programmes of archaeological field work. They will also encourage exchange of archaeologists.

11. Each Side will send to the country of the other Side one musicologist for the study of folk music.

12. The two Sides will encourage co-operation between their respective national and other libraries, including exchange of catalogues and publications. They will also exchange visit of a librarian from each side for a study tour.

13. The National Museums of both Sides will cooperate with each other in exchanging publications and pictorial material. They will also facilitate exchange of visits by museologists.

CHAPTER II - SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION

14. The Indian Side will send and the

Iranian Side will receive a professor to teach the Sanskrit language and literature at the Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Meshed University, for a period of one year.

15. Both Sides will exchange a professor to teach and exchange views on Islamic philosophy, scholasticism, shiism, mysticism, sufism, exegesis and studies in religions for a period of six months.

16. Both Sides will consider the possibility of establishing a chair of the Persian language and literature in an Indian university and a chair of Indology In Tehran University.

17. Both Sides will encourage collaboration in the fields of solid states, astronomy and astrophysics between the Physics Department of the Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Pahlavi University, and the Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur), Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi), Indian Institute of Astrophysics (Kodaikanal), and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (Bombay).

18. Both Sides will exchange heads of educational and research departments institutions of the two countries for exchange of views in their specialized fields.

19. Both Sides will encourage co-operation between the educational institutions of the two countries and arrange lectures by professors of both countries.

20. The Iranian Side will send and the Indian Side will receive professors of the Persian language and literature to either teach or deliver lectures at Indian universities.

21. The Iranian Side will offer scholarships for four Indian nationals for study of the Persian language, theology and Islamic studies:

Tehran University - one scholarship for study of the Persian language.

Faculty of Theology and Islamic Studies, Meshed University three scholarships.

NOTE: Indian students who are selected should be fully conversant with the Arabic language as well as Persian. Should they not know Persian, or their knowledge of the language be poor, they will take a six month-to-one-year course in Persian at the Literacy Corps Teachers College before they are admitted to the aforesaid universities. They will continue in the meantime to enjoy the scholarship grants during the language course period.

22. The Indian side will offer five scholarships for study and training in humanities, science, technology, archives, etc.

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23. The Indian Side will provide five short-term scholarships for students of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Pahlavi University, in the field of veterinary medicine and animal husbandry.

24. Both Sides will encourage exchange of publications between the universities of the two Sides.

25. Both Sides will organize a bi-national seminar of intellectuals and academicians of the two countries to consider the problem of development in the context of human values.

26. Both Sides agree that matters concerned with evaluation of educational certificates of the two countries should be considered at a meeting of their specialists, which meeting will be held two months after receipt of documents dealing with educational systems in the two countries at various levels (primary, secondary and higher education). The final date of the meeting will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

CHAPTER III - EDUCATION

27. The Iranian Side will send and the Indian Side will receive two specialists to study educational technology programmes

for a period of one month each. The Indian Side will send and the Iranian Side will receive two Indian specialists in the field of educational technology programmes for a period of one month each.

28. The Indian Side will facilitate recruitment of three Indian professors to teach mechanics, electricity and electronics at the Technical Teachers Training Institute at Babol for a period of One year each.

NOTE: The terms and conditions will be decided on by mutual discussion.

29. The Iranian Side will send and the Indian Side will receive three specialists to get acquainted with technical and vocational programmes in India for a period of two weeks.

The Indian Side will send and the Iranian Side will receive three specialists to get acquainted with technical and vocational programmes in Iran for a period of two weeks.

CHAPTER IV - INFORMATION AND PRESS

30. Two Sides annually exchange two journalists for study tour for a period of ten days each.

31. Both Sides will annually exchange a highly specialized press writer for a period of 10 days.

32. Each Side will annually send to the country of the other Side a reporter of its official news agency for a study tour.

CHAPTER V - RADIO AND TELEVISION

33. The two Sides will proceed to arrange radio and television programmes of mutual interest subject to prior consent of the organizations concerned.

CHAPTER VI - PHYSICAL EDUCATION

34. The Indian Side will help in the selection of a badminton coach to be employed by the National Committee of Iran Olympics for a term of one year.

35. The Indian Side will send and the Iranian Side will receive an Indian hockey team to hold three matches in Tehran.

36. The Iranian Side will send and the Indian Side will receive a football team to hold three matches in India.

CHAPTER VII - FINANCIAL TERMS

37. The Exchange of delegations and or individuals mentioned in the present programmes will be affected under the following conditions:

- (a) The Sending Party will bear the Travel expenses and freight charges of such delegations and or individuals to and from the receiving country.
- (b) The Receiving Party will bear travel expenses of the delegations and or individuals within its territory.
- (c) The Receiving Party will pay the individuals received under this programme sojourn expenses and per diem allowances.

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- (d) The Receiving Party will provide free medical care in the case of sudden illness.

38. Expenses incurred in respect of art troupes will be reimbursed in the following manner:

- (a) Travel expenses of art troupes as well as transportation charges of their personal effects, stage effects, costumes, musical instruments, etc. to and from the receiving country will be borne by the Sending Party.
- (b) The Receiving Party will bear the sojourn expenses of the art troupes as well as expenses incurred in connection with their performances.

It will also provide them with free medical care and a guide-cum-interpreter if the necessity to do so arises. Remunerations and allowances of art troupe members will be paid by the Receiving Party subject to prior agreement thereon.

39. The Receiving Party will, as far as possible, arrange a touring programme for the groups and individuals, and provide them with a guide-cum-interpreter and free medical care should the need to do so arise.

40. Transportation charges and insurance cost of exhibits to and from the receiving country will be borne by the Sending Party. However, transportation charges and insurance cost of such exhibits within the receiving country will be borne by the Receiving Party.

41. Travel expenses of scholarship-holders to and from the receiving country will be borne by the Sending Party.

42. Each Side will provide to scholars of the other country:

- (a) Scholarships.
- (b) Free facilities necessary for studies.
- (c) Such accommodation in hostels and meals at student canteens as are available to local students on payment by scholars.
- (d) Free of charge medical care.

CHAPTER VIII - GENERAL PROVISIONS

43. The two Sides will inform each other of the status, working programme, foreign language knowledge of, and subjects of lectures to be given by, members of each group provided in this programme at least one month before such a group is sent to the receiving country. Upon receipt of such information, each Side will notify the other Side of its consent to receive such individuals and or groups for the implementation of the proposed programmes. Upon receipt of notification of such consent, the Sending Party shall inform the Receiving

Party about the date of arrival of, and the type of transport to be used for the journey by, the proposed individuals and or groups at least seven days in advance.

44. Should the provisions of the present Programme for the year 1974 not be implemented, for any reasons whatsoever, by the end of December of the same year, they may be effected in the year 1975. In the event that these provisions are not implemented by the end of December, 1975, they will be reconsidered in succeeding years.

45. As for supplying any further explanation on the implementation of the proposed programmes and reaching decisions as to particulars, working procedures and conditions as well as to probable alterations therein, the two Sides will conduct negotiations and reach an agreement thereon through official channels.

46. In order to appraise the current cultural exchange programme and to work out the terms and conditions of the ensuing one, A previously agreed joint committee for negotiations will be held by both Sides in each other's capital alternately.

DONE at New Delhi, this twenty-first day of Agrahayana, 1895 (Saka) corresponding to the twenty-first day of Azar 1352 (A.H.) and the twelfth day of December, 1973 (A.D.), in duplicate in English.

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IRAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

KOREA

Shri Surendra Pal Singh's Statement

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, made the following statement in both Houses of Parliament on December 10, 1973 regarding the establishment of diplomatic relations with the two Koreas:

As the House is aware, the end of World War II saw the emergence of two independent governments in the two parts of Korea. While we have always shared and supported the aspirations of the Korean people for a unified Korea through peaceful bilateral negotiations and without outside interference, the two Governments have come into their own and have established themselves over the course of the past quarter of a century. The Government of India accordingly established consular relations with both Koreas in 1962 and since then our relationship with both Korean Governments has been developing satisfactorily. Particularly noteworthy has been the increase in our economic cooperation as also the exchange of delegations and visits of responsible leaders with the two countries.

Apart from historical and cultural ties dating over the centuries, India has played a constructive role in Korean affairs since the early fifties. India contributed actively towards the cessation of the unfortunate war as well as towards the solution of the problems arising out of the war.

For some time past both Koreas have been seeking our diplomatic recognition and the Government of India has decided that the time is now opportune for according diplomatic recognition to the two Governments, particularly since they control between themselves a population of around fifty million people and have already been diplomatically recognised by a large number of countries.

With a view, therefore, to promoting further friendly relations and all-sided co-operation, the Government of India has decided to raise the level of our representation in both Koreas. I am glad to announce that the

two Korean Governments have concurred in this decision. The Government of India has agreed to establish diplomatic relations with both Korean Governments as of today. Appointment of Ambassadors will take place in due course according to the convenience of each country.

KOREA USA INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEW ZEALAND

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Honour of New Zealand Prime Minister

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the banquet held in New Delhi on December 27, 1973 in honour of His Excellency The Right Honourable Norman E. Kirk, Prime Minister of New Zealand:

The people of India feel privileged to welcome the distinguished Prime Minister of New Zealand and I am glad to renew my acquaintance with a dynamic statesman. You visited India and Bangladesh early last year. A few months later, your nation called you to your high office. Your understanding of and sympathy for our aspirations and problems were evident in our conversations this afternoon.

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New Zealand is known for the haunting beauty of its landscape and the maturity of its political Institutions. I cannot help appreciating the fact that you were the very first country to give franchise to women. New Zealand has also been a pioneer in social welfare and the protection of workers. It is obvious that a country does not have to

be large in size to contribute ideas to human progress.

The men and women who built New Zealand "crossing tropics of hope and fear, losing the polestar" (as your poet Fairburn described it) were guided by another pole star - the vision of a society of equals. In my own country we are endeavouring to transform an ancient society into a new nation. Our aim is to overcome poverty, superstition and inequality. But our population is vast. The languages our people speak, the religious beliefs they practise and the customs they follow are bewilderingly varied. Life is encrusted with the accumulated consequences of centuries of feudalism and colonialism, which drained the nation of its wealth and its spirit of adventure and self-confidence. So we have to labour long and hard to bring the vital buoyancy to our people so essential to a strong thrust forward.

Freedom releases long forgotten and suppressed hopes. Closer contact with the world sharpens expectations. Development itself breeds impatience. We were and are committed to democracy because to us the freedom of our country is synonymous with a greater voice for all the millions of her inhabitants. Our struggle for independence was unique in the manner in which it involved the participation of the masses. We cannot and shall not sacrifice one section for another or deny the under-privileged their due. Man and woman - the individual, not the statistic - are at the centre of our thought. We believe that growth and social justice are complementary, for there can be no real advance in one direction, neglecting the other.

We expected the last year, coming as it did after the tremendous strain of the Bangladesh situation, to be a difficult one. But we did not bargain for a severe drought, an international financial upheaval and now the fuel crisis! The responsibility and the burden have increased many-fold. Certain shortcomings and defects in our social and administrative structure have been revealed. The new tendency of groups to press for their own interests is adding to the com-

plexity of our task.

Measured by the current economic indices our progress may not be spectacular but the country is on the move and its economy is gaining strength. We have made notable advances in primary education, public health, family planning and vocational training. In these two decades the life expectation figure has gone up by 20 years and is now 54. The number of school-going children has risen from 23 million to 80 million. The construction of irrigation dams and canals, and agricultural research has enabled us to increase grain production from 53 million tonnes to well above 100 million tonnes this year. We have built roads and bridges, power houses, steel mills, machine-making plants and electronic and nuclear industries. We have undertaken capital accumulation, investment for development and the strengthening of the industrial base for further economic strength within the framework of an assertive democracy. We have been fulfilling, however partially, the aspirations so long deferred. Although poverty is still visible everywhere it is far less deep than it used to be.

In our development, we have received sympathy and tangible assistance from friends. I should like to thank your country for the imaginative help in medical aid, dairying and other fields which make an immediate difference to the lives of children and others who most need care.

We have regarded our endeavour as part of the striving of all colonised and deprived people for a better life. Many countries of Asia and Africa besides ourselves have become politically independent or have emerged from a feudal age since World War II. We have tried to develop close bonds with them. Indeed we have sought friendship with all nations of all continents. We consider peace to be a pre-condition of success in the world's fight against poverty. If we have had to divert some of our limited resources to military preparedness and to fight, it has not been nor shall it ever be, to interfere in the affairs of another country or to annex territory. It is to defend our-land and our freedom when

it has been attacked. All our efforts are stretched in convincing our neighbours of the

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desirability of friendly relations and trying to imbue them with our own conviction that all disputes can be solved through negotiation. We are totally committed to the peaceful settlement of issues. All initiatives for peace moves on our sub-continent have been ours and we have tried to settle the problems created by the 1971 war, without leaving any residue of bitterness.

A living nation must be steadfast to its principles and also nurture a capacity to meet the future half way. You have taken bold initiatives to place your country's relations with its neighbours on a new footing. We welcome your resolve to work more closely and systematically with the countries of Asia and of the Pacific region. In 1947 an Asian Relations Conference was held in this city. Observers came from New Zealand and Australia. Welcoming them, my father, pointed to the problems we face in common in the Pacific and South-East Asia and underlined the need for working together. With the passing years, yet more problems call for united action. India wishes to strengthen bilateral relations with countries of this area and also to develop forms of regional economic cooperation within the larger perspective of world cooperation.

We in India and Asia carry enormous burdens - problems of the past, present-day problems created by growth and change and problems created by external factors. J.W. Dunne has written of time was, time is, time will be, as coexisting. That may be an extreme view, but it is not easy to fix the dividing line between each period. Today is suffused by yesterday and stunned by the shock of tomorrow. We are being constantly held back by yesterday and pulled forward by tomorrow.

The glamour of scientific discovery had led us to believe that with expanding knowledge and capacity, there would be a natural growth of the human values - of understanding and compassion. Science was the

magic password. Instead we find that in affluent countries the dirt that envelops poverty has been replaced by another type of pollution which none can escape. Poverty and pollution are two ends of the spectrum. Technological progress has been largely guided by the instinct for acquisition and the desire for power. Its inadequacies have been evident for some time but the suddenness and drastic effects of the energy crisis have focussed attention on the whole question of the future of civilization. Should we acquiesce in drifting along or give it a more conscious direction? The views and prophesies of so called dreamers no longer seem unreal. There is a danger in taking a too simplistic view, urging a return to the village. In India our gaze has always been on our villages for that is where the majority of Indians live. But the village obviously cannot remain as it is and it cannot change without science and technology. So in a way we are back where we started, though not quite. It is not a circle but a spiral - and the interspace is filled with experience gained-for in the meantime we have learnt much. The fault is not with science or technology but with our motivations in its application, The crisis is too large to be controled through individual national effort. In a world so closely pressed together, no nation's air and water are beyond the reach of others. Nor can the problems of energy and pollution be satisfactorily dealt with if other basic questions are shelved. There is no alternative to working more closely together to build new roads to human survival. New Zealand, which has cradled the men who first peered into the soul of the atom and one who stood six feet above Everest and today we are privileged to have Amongst us Sir Edmund and Lady Hillary - has undoubtedly a contribution to make to this search. So, I hope, has India with the glimpses of ancient wisdom.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of our distinguished guest, His Excellency Mr. Norman E. Kirk, to the progress and prosperity of the people of New Zealand and to enduring friendship between India and New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND INDIA BANGLADESH USA OMAN LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA

Date : Dec 01, 1973

Volume No

1995

NEW ZEALAND

Speech of Mr. Norman Kirk

Following is the text of the speech delivered by Right Honourable Norman E. Kirk, Prime Minister of New Zealand in reply to Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the banquet:

It is a memorable and happy experience to be able as, the Prime Minister of New Zealand to pay a visit at the invitation of the Government of India. The honour you are doing me and my country through me will be remembered as a mark of the respect and friendship between our two countries.

India is a vast land. Its culture is rich and was born in a history that stretches back Over thousands of years. India's great and diverse population and its manifold needs have meant that action in social and economic fields has had to be on a scale completely beyond the experience of people in a small country like New Zealand. Yet I do not feel a stranger here. Our nations share many interests and beliefs, our friendship is founded in a common concern for human advancement, freedom, equality between people and nations.

Madam Prime Minister, you are respected and admired for your unceasing efforts to foster the great ideals of peace and cooperation, efforts that have brought a new lustre

to India's name. Someday the force of ideas and idealism will replace selfish power and brutal conflict. And when it does it will be because of the patient and unswerving work of those who like yourself seek peace and plenty through cooperation.

Five and a half years ago it was our privilege to welcome you to New Zealand and we have many warm memories of the occasion. In February of last year, almost two years ago, I paid a brief visit to New Delhi. This was at a time when a deep concern for the plight of the people of Bangladesh took me on a visit to that very new Republic, just after New Zealand's formal - and early - recognition of it. I was privileged to renew my acquaintance with you then.

I am pleased, too, to meet again with your Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, whom I see here tonight. We were together very recently at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Ottawa. I look forward to my discussions with him tomorrow.

We in New Zealand value highly these personal contacts for the warmth and understanding they add to political relationships. Any nation's political image abroad can only be an extension of the kind of people they are at home. Many times since coming to office I have said that our approach to foreign policy starts with the ideals we wish to see established at home. I find an echo in something you said in Wellington five years ago: "Mutual respect and regard for each other's dignity are as important for good relations between individuals as between nations."

With India this mutual respect and understanding come all the more easily in that as nations we share both historical ties and modern ideals and aspirations. Through founding membership of the Commonwealth and through our inherited systems of parliamentary democracy we share a common political language. We both pursue aims of social and economic justice, equality for all peoples regardless of race, creed or colour, the removal of poverty and economic inequality among nations. The Commonwealth remains

an important association where diversity can meet on common ground, with respect and regard for each other's dignity.

Even where we are not equally involved in the march of events and their repercussions, I believe that we can each rely on the sympathetic understanding of the other, for reasons such as these. We appreciate, for example, the importance of the question of the security of the Indian Ocean. We have in fact given our full support to the United Nations resolutions on the proposal for a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean.

We have been deeply impressed with the earnest endeavours of India, in cooperation with other parties concerned, to reach a permanent settlement of the divisive issues which have plagued the sub-continent. We earnestly hope that the agreements already reached will lead before long to a settlement acceptable to all parties.

For our own part, we hope for India's sympathetic understanding of New Zealand's determination to see an end to all testing of

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nuclear weapons in the atmosphere and indeed generally. We and other nations have made a strenuous effort over the past year, not only to arouse the concern of the international community about the environment of our Pacific neighbours being endangered by nuclear testing, but also to advance the cause of total nuclear disarmament.

Madam Prime Minister, I am in the course of a visit which has taken me, or will take me, to some of your closer neighbours to the east and ours to the west. I have been briefly in Papua New Guinea, and in Indonesia. Malaysia and Singapore. From India I shall be going on to Bangladesh before returning home. I beg you to consider these visits as indeed they truly are - an attempt by my Government to convey to the people of South-East Asia, and of South Asia, our abiding interest in and friendship for these regions. We know our future will be closely involved with that of Asia, - and most, immediately, of course, with the stabi-

lity and prosperity of our neighbours. In South-East Asia and the South Pacific. My Government firmly believes that the only tenable policies are those which are built around an understanding that what happens in South-East Asia will reflect on the quality of our own life in New Zealand: economically, socially, environmentally. We wish to share in the solution of problems which affect our interests and wellbeing. We do not wish to interfere in those that have no bearing on them.

I do not mean to imply that we have made a sudden discovery about our role in the world today. It is true that for a long time the ethnic origins of the majority of our population, as also our economic capabilities, made us heavily dependent on European -- mainly English -- contacts and markets. But this is not so now. Our young people, the people who are moulding New Zealand's future, have for some years been keenly aware that we belong in the South Pacific community, fringing on the larger Asian community. Where once French was the first foreign language taught in our schools, many young people are now able to learn some of the languages of Asia. And they are eager to do so. This reorientation is not sudden. it was spoken of when you were in New Zealand. What my Government wishes to (to is to set the seal on this trend. We wish to expand our participation in the affairs of the region as far as is consistent with our own interests and with the wishes and interests of all members of that community. We believe that through bilateral and regional cooperation potential irritants can be defused before violence erupts. We believe regional and bilateral cooperation to be essential to a more equitable economic development throughout the region, in which my Government is pledged to play a full part.

In New Zealand's policy, too, membership of the United Nations remains important. We congratulate India on her very worthy membership of the Security Council in a year when the Middle East crisis has deepened. We must all hope for the successful conclusion of the negotiations now under way.

Prime Minister, I have spoken of a few of my country's preoccupations. I have not come to ram them down anyone's throats. I simply believe that you and we can talk together frankly as friends, and with the mutual understanding of friends. We have always had excellent bilateral relations, and excellent relations in international bodies. I am here to reaffirm them wholeheartedly. We already have many exchanges between out-two countries, in such fields as education, medicine, and agricultural development, especially dairying. These are among the matters we shall no doubt be talking about further while I am here.

We are proud of our long association with your great country and we look forward to a Perpetually-renewing contact. The association has, I know, been of much benefit to us. We hope we have been able to offer something too. There is, Prime Minister, at least one function in my programme here which may be regarded as symbolic. I shall on Saturday be laying the foundation stone for the new, permanent High Commission complex at Chanakyapuri. I see this as a symbol of a lasting commitment to our friendship for India: cementing, as it were a long-valued relationship.

Prime Minister, I have pleasure in asking the New Zealanders present to rise, and drink with me a toast to the great Prime Minister and people of India. Thank you.

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NEW ZEALAND INDIA USA BANGLADESH CANADA GUINEA PAPUA NEW GUINEA MALAYSIA
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

Date : Dec 01, 1973