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Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

AFGHANISTAN

Fifth Session of Joint Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 17, 1979 on the 5th session of Indo-Afghan Joint Commission and the signing of agreed minutes:

The mid-term review of the 5th Session of the Indo-Afghan Joint Commission for economic, trade and technical cooperation was held in New Delhi from January 11 to 17, 1979.

The Indian delegation to the talks was led by the Foreign Secretary, Shri Jagat S. Mehta, and the Afghan delegation by their Deputy Minister for Planning, H.E. Mr. Fateh Mohammad Tarin.

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of warmth and cordiality, reflecting the traditionally close and friendly relations between India and Afghanistan.

The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the progress of projects being implemented under the purview of the Joint Commission. They expressed the hope that the implementation of these projects would be further accelerated. The Afghan delegation put forward various fresh proposals for the Government of India's assistance. These related to the setting up of plants for the production of mach-boxes, paper, caustic soda and phosphate fertiliser, agricultural equipment and asbestos.

Indian assistance has also been requested for establishing a centre to maintain roads and the promotion of adult literacy. The, Indian delegation agreed to consider financing such projects, on mutually acceptable terms, as are found feasible. In this connection, it was felt that priority should be

given to the following projects: paper, caustic soda and phosphatic fertiliser, agricultural equipment, including pumps and road construction and maintenance centre. Feasibility studies for these projects would be undertaken with Indian assistance in the near future.

The Agreed Minutes of the mid-term review were signed on January 17, 1979 in New Delhi by Shri U. S. Bajpai, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and H.E. Mr. Fateh Mohammad Tarin.

The next meeting of the Joint Commission would be held towards the end of 1979.

The Afghan delegation visited Agra, Jaipur and Ajmer. During their stay in Delhi, the delegation paid courtesy calls on Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs and Shri George Fernandes, Minister of Industry

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AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

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AUSTRIA

Co-operation in Science and Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 14, 1979 on the memorandum of understanding signed for Indo-Austrian co-operation in science and technology:

India and Austria will strengthen cooperation in the scientific and technological fields of mutual benefit. A memorandum of understanding to this effect was signed in New Delhi on January 14. Dr. Wilhelm Grimburg, Secretary, Department of Research signed on behalf of Austria and Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and Director-General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research on behalf of India.

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The two sides will initiate cooperation in Semi-Conductor and Solid State Physics, Special Steels, Alloys and High Temperature Materials, Synthetic Organic Chemistry of Natural Products, and Powder Metallurgy and Solar Energy. The Institutions which will be cooperating in the joint research and development projects have also been identified.

The two sides have agreed to arrange the visits of scientists and experts in all these fields to work out concrete operational work plans.

The understanding was reached after the discussions held during the visit of an eightmember delegation from Austria led by H.E. (Mrs.) Hertha Firnberg, Federal Minister for Science and Research. Earlier, Prof. M. G. K. Menon had called on Mrs. Firnberg and had informal exchange of views with her regarding science policy and planning and joint research and development programmes.

During its seven-day stay in India the delegation called on the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Industry, Railways, Education and Social Welfare and the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission. The delegation visited places of scientific and cultural interest in Bombay, Hyderabad and Bangalore. The leader of the delegation addressed the 66th Session of the Indian Science Congress at Hyderabad.

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AUSTRIA USA INDIA **Date**: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Shri Desai's Speech at Banquet for Australian Premier

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai at a banquet given by him in honour of the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Malcolm Fraser, in New Delhi on January 25, 1979:

It gives me great pleasure to extend a warm and cordial welcome to you and Mrs. Fraser and the members of your party on your first visit to India. We are honoured that you have agreed to be our chief guest at our National Day tomorrow. Your participation in that function tomorrow is even more significant for the fact that thereby you have deprived yourself of celebrating your National Day, which by coincidence falls on the same day as ours, amongst your own people.

Mr. Prime Minister, although the time that you have in India is short, we know that you have come with the intention of getting to know India better and to ascertain how the cooperation between the two countries could be improved and increased. May I say how happy we are to have so staunch a friend in our midst during this period of national rejoicing?

India and Australia are no strange to each other. We can recall the past when both our countries were bound together as part of an imperial set-up. We both have reason to be happy that that is no more. Today we have freely chosen to remain as independent sovereign countries in association together in the Commonwealth of Nations. We also share the same values of democracy, civil liberties and the rule of law. Our peoples prize equally the rights of the

individual, and the benefits of a free society and independence. Within this frame-work, we are both trying to meet the aspirations and hopes of our peoples. If I may say so, Mr. Prime Minister, neither the differences of race nor of religion nor indeed distance of geography have prevented our two countries from taking our part in the conferences of the world or the Commonwealth in pursuit of common purposes.

The achievements of Australia have evoked great admiration in us. You have achieved a common national destiny for

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peoples drawn from humanity's rich and diverse strands. India too has sought to create a synthesis of mankind's varied streams of religion and philosophy, many of whom had their initial birth in our land. If we have reason to be proud, it is because we can say that our societies permit every individual the achievement of not only his material but his spiritual goals.

FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Our common interests spread across man's endeavours. Our sportsmen vie with each other on the cricket field and on the tennis court. We have learnt much from your management of agriculture, reclamation of the arid desert and the livestock. Your assistance in many fields is greatly appreciated but in these particular fields it has been outstanding. Our growing cooperation at the frontiers of science and technology promises a better life for our citizens and a measure of progress which would grow as time moves on. Our economic exchanges have proved beneficial and I am confident that we can raise them not only to higher levels but even to a higher plane in the years to come. India can claim resources of skills and trained manpower, whereas Australia has a wealth of natural resources and technical talent. Could there be, Mr. Prime Minister, a better field for mutually beneficial cooperative endeavour?

But perhaps as befits the countries with

our common values. the most valued traffic is that of ideas and peoples. Here too, we both can undoubtedly a gain enormously by increasing the flows and raising the levels.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Prime Minister, my Government's policy is to build a social and economic order which will ensure that the fruits of development are enhanced and also spread suitably over all sections of our society. Gandhiji reminded us that India lives in the villages and therefore our progress can only lie in the vigorous rejuvenation of our countryside. My Government has worked to reorient our planning and development to lay ever greater stress on agriculture and rural development on small scale industries and greater employment opportunities.

To achieve this we are well aware that the fruits of development can best be achieved and enjoyed in a climate of cordiality, goodwill and understanding. To this end we have directed our endeavours to overcome the problems with our neighbours which history has bequeathed us and to move forward towards promising areas of cooperation. We are gratified at the successes we have achieved. We believe the world must be a family of independent and yet inter-dependent nations. True independence can only be born out of equality. So the world community must, necessarily direct its efforts at reducing the economic disparities which so disfigure our present system.

We have another major task ahead of us to dispel the clouds of hatred and suspicion which still lie over so many areas of the world. Tensions contain in them seeds of confrontation. We have therefore to tackle the malady at the source and remove the causes of these tensions. Yet not profiting from bitter experiences of the past and ignoring the obvious course of wisdom and prudence the build-up of arms and ammunition goes on unrestrained and the vast powder magazines and arsenals are waiting for a spark to set them on fire. India has made its policy crystal clear. It has an irrevocable commitment for only peaceful use of nuclear

energy, for reduction and elimination of nuclear arms by countries which have them and for gradual disarmament of conventional arms. I hope, Mr. Prime Minister, that in you and your country we have likeness of minds on this burning issue facing the contemporary world.

Mr. Prime Minister, relations between our two countries are warm and cordial and your visit will go a long way to strengthen them even further as we find new areas in which we can work together.

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AUSTRALIA USA INDIA PERU

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

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AUSTRALIA

H. E. The Rt. Hon'ble Fraser's Speech

Replying to the toast, H.E. Mr. Fraser said:

I address you tonight on the eve of the 26th January, a date of the deepest significance for both our countries.

For India, the 26th January represents the culmination of your struggle for independence as a republic. That struggle constitutes one of the epics of modern history.

I am very conscious that for many of you it is more than that, that it is biography rather than history, something you lived through and participated in, and which has been a part of you ever since.

For Australia, too, this is the day on

which we commemorate our achievement of nationhood and reflect upon our aspirations as a nation.

COLONIAL RULE

Both our countries achieved independence after a long period of colonial rule. I think that we are both free enough of any inferiority complex and sure enough of our identity to reflect on that period dispassionately.

It brought us many things which were good and which even today contribute greatly to our welfare including, notably, modern science and technology.

I mention those aspects in particular because both our countries have subsequently been conspicuously successful in building on those foundations and creating scientific and technological establishments which are impressive by world standards.

COMMON HERITAGE

Despite the very great differences in our colonial experiences, the fact that we were both British colonies means that we share many things; a common heritage of parliamentary Government, the principles of common law, the independent role of the judiciary and the rights and privileges of our citizens. It is a heritage to value.

But when all this is acknowledged, and it amounts to a great deal, it is still true that colonialism was colonialism not to be endured, not to be continued.

Apart from the balance sheet of costs and advantages for individual countries, the extent to which the world we live in has been shaped by the colonial experience is striking.

It is very evident in the way states are grouped and labelled today, and we are living in a world which is obsessed with labelling.

Our countries have had contrasting tags attached to them over the years. Thus India is a "developing" country, a member of the "Third World", part of the "South" in the North-South Dialogue.

Australia is "Developed", "Western" and part of the "North". How inadequate, and, in some ways, positively misleading, these labels are.

As far as India is concerned, they work to obscure the fact that, while still a developing nation, you are in many important respects, industrially, scientifically, culturally, amongst the most developed countries of the world.

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER

The term "Third World" applied as it is to cover both yourselves and many countries which are not a hundredth of your size in terms of either population or area, serves to disguise rather than to illuminate the distinctive character of India.

Similarly, in the case of Australia, simply calling us "North" when we are situated deep in the southern hemisphere or "West" when we are thousands of miles from the centres of western power, is to miss much of what is distinctive and individual in our character as a country.

One can understand the appeal of this type-casting. It represents an attempt to Make an increasingly complex world more comprehensible and manageable.

But in so far as it tends to obscure the living reality with an abstract concept the unique character of the particular case with a stereo-type it has its dangers.

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Both India and Australia are in important respects typical countries, countries whose experiences cut across accepted patterns, which have very pronounced characters and voices of their own.

VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

It is precisely in terms of that individuality that, it seems to me, they can make their most valuable contribution to the world today.

That world is one characterised to an increasing extent by bloc diplomacy and bloc thinking. Unless the central problems which confront it, problems such as: racialism, with its unique capacity to poison human relations, the need to redefine relationships bet ween rich and poor countries. inflation which has the capacity to destroy the international system, and to harm all people: unless these problems are solved, we are faced with the prospect that those blocs will harden, and that rigid confrontation will result.

The problems we face are not isolated, discrete ones. If the colonial experience taught us anything it taught us that what start as economic matters quickly assume political and strategic implications.

In the interdependent world in which we live, one in which issues, as well as countries, are interdependent, that is a lesson which it is essential we remember.

Famine, energy shortages, frustrated aspirations for a better life can lead directly to political crises. And, as recent events in the Middle East have illustrated, political turmoil can quickly render economic projections meaningless.

PURSUIT OF TOLERANCE

There is a real danger that extremism will prevail, extremism that takes the form of a refusal to understand the perspectives and problems of others, and a lack of respect for the legitimacy of different approaches. Let our passion be in pursuit of tolerance.

I believe that, both by example and by acting as voices of moderation, our two countries can contribute singificantly to averting that danger.

We have it within out, capacity to strengthen the cause of reason and co-operation both within the groups to which we respectively belong, and by acting as moderators between those groups.

The very fact that we are not typical, that we have distinctive perspectives of our own and are not inclined simply to run with any herd, make it easier for us to do so.

India already has a distinguished record in this regard. At the risk of drawing criticisms from all sides, you have been militant in upholding the cause of moderation.

In your practice, the stress you place on self-reliance, on solving your own problems and creating the right domestic conditions for growth and development has provided a healthy and salutary example.

ECONOMIC ORDER

For while there is most certainly an urgent need for some changes in the international economic order, this can never be a substitute for responsible and determined domestic programmes.

In this regard, India's performance over the years stands high. As India has disassociated itself from the extreme position sometimes found in the third World, which depicts relations between it and the West in terms of irreconcilable antagonism, so has Australia firmly disassociated itself from the extreme position in the First World which claims that the Third World's troubles are all of its own making, that there is nothing that can be improved, in the international economic system.

In recent years we have increasingly taken initiatives, over the Common Fund, in the Commonwealth context, in our own region, to develop and sustain a constructive dialogue between developed and developing countries.

Within the councils of the OECD countries we have taken a lead to ensure that the case of the developing countries is considered at its strongest and in a sympathetic and positive spirit.

We have done so, and we shall continue to do so, because we believe very strongly that much is at stake.

The international system will be placed under increasingly severe strain if the voice of moderation, of plain, ordinary commonsense, fails.

I hope that our two countries can find ways of collaborating to diminish the chance

of that happening, both by consulting and cooperating at the diplomatic level, and by developing a mutually beneficial bilateral relationship which will stand as an instance of what is possible.

I feel very honoured to be your guest on this occasion. My family and I look forward immensely to the coming week and to the richness of experience it promises.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of the India-Australia joint press statement issued in New Delhi on January 29, 1979:

The Rt. Hon'ble Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia, is paying a visit to India for nine days from January 25 to February 2, 1979. During his stay he has called on the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy. Discussions have been held between Mr. Fraser and the Prime Minister

of India, Shri Morarji Desai, the two Deputy Prime Ministers of India and other Cabinet Ministers.

The discussions covered a wide range of international and regional issues as well as the further development of bilateral relations between India and Australia. The talks, which took place in a spirit of utmost cordiality and understanding, were very valuable.

The two Prime Ministers took pleasure in recalling their earlier meetings and discussions, particularly at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting in Sydney in February 1978, which had helped to bring the two countries closer together. The two Prime Ministers felt that their countries had many interests in common and that it would be to their mutual advantage further to build in practical ways on the close ties already existing between their peoples and Governments.

The discussions identified ways in which the relationship between India and Australia could be developed further. Officials from the two countries will be discussing the practical basis for further cooperation, particularly in science, technology, trade, energy and related areas.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the advantages to be derived from membership of the Commonwealth. They expressed the hope that this institution would prove increasingly useful as a forum for mutual cooperation and they recalled with satisfaction the cooperation already achieved among the countries of the region.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

The two Prime Ministers considered the international situation In depth. They noted that there were areas of grave concern as well as of positive satisfaction on the world scene. Among the subjects on which the discussions particularly focussed were the situation in South Asia and the neighbouring countries, South Fast Asia and the Indian Ocean.

Both Prime Ministers agreed that there NA-as an urgent need today for both aligned and non-aligned countries to find positive ways to reduce tensions. This should not be left to the super-powers alone. They reaffirmed that India and Australia from their respective positions - India as a member of the non-aligned movement and Australia as an aligned country - could play a useful role in promoting peace and stability by advocating responsible attitudes and constructive solutions to world problems.

It was recognised that the two countries had different historical and cultural backgrounds but shared democratic experience and a common belief that differences could be resolved if there were consideration for the views of others and a genuine desire to seek out common objectives and grounds for agreement. Because of their respective and distinct position, further developing their relations and working together more closely would help in creating an atmosphere conducive to cooperation rather than confrontation among nations.

WARM RELATIONSHIP

The Prime Ministers recorded their determination to strengthen the warm relationship between their two countries and also

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their intention to advocate and put-sue the cause of moderation.

The Prime Minister of Australia expressed this sincere appreciation of the warm welcome and hospitality received by him and his family during his visit. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Australia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

During his stay in New Delhi, the Prime Minister of Australia was the Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebration in the capital. He left New Delhi on January 29, 1979, to visit Pantnagar, Chandigarh, Udaipur and Bombay. He is accompanied by Mrs. Fraser and three of their children and by senior

officials of the Australian Government.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Text of Shri Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of H.E. Mr. Honecker

The following is the text of the speech by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, at a banquet he held in honour of His Excellency Mr. Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party, and the Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, in New Delhi on January 8, 1979:

Your Excellency Mr. General Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of GDR, Your Excellency Mr. Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, Mr. Chairman, I have great pleasure in welcoming you and the distinguished members of your delegation this evening. We greet you as the head of a friendly State with which India has excellent and firm relations.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

Since independence, India's leaders have urged a policy of peaceful co-existence of all nations regardless of the forms of Government or social systems. For many years, it seemed that the world would remain divided in hostile camps. There seemed to be no way to avoid the dangers of conflict and of

disaster. We are happy that in Europe at least, the logic of detente and cooperation is now accepted and, to quote the Helsinki Final Act, is committed to peace and security.

Your country was left in ruins by the last war. Under the guidance of the Socialist Unity Party, your diligent people have made it one of the most advanced countries in the world. While its economic, social and scientific progress is the envy of many, I am happy to say that India has benefited from your advances. For two decades now, the GDR has been one of our closest partners in our development. From modest beginnings our trade has passed the level of a thousand million rupees annually. We import from the GDR chemicals, fertilisers, ships and industrial machinery. We have cooperated in the fields of science and technology and enriched each other through cultural exchanges. Our cooperation has reached a stage where it can and should expand to a higher level. Our Joint Commission has recently identified a whole range of new fields and I am happy to learn that a long-term agreement for bilateral cooperation is ready for signature during your visit.

ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE

Excellency, your stay in India is short. But your halt in Bombay will, I hope, give you a glimpse of the technological progress India has made. You will see the results of our own efforts and your cooperation and that of other friendly countries. Our agriculture is being modernised and we have built a strong and sound industrial base. We have moved a long way towards economic self-reliance. India no longer suffers from endemic food shortages and we can also meet

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most of our needs for raw materials and capital goods. Many doubted our capacity, but the GDR did not. We are grateful for your contribution to our progress and believe you share the grounds of confidence in our future.

We have framed our constitution and set our economic and social goals to suit India's

needs and the genius of our people. It is an open system which permits discussion and debate. Periodically the working of this system has to meet popular approval through free and fair elections. We are determined to advance socially and economically without neglecting industrial advances. Our stress now is on transforming our villages to eradicate poverty and provide jobs for millions.

FOREIGN POLICY

India's foreign policy of non-alignment and positive peaceful cooperation serving bilateral advantage is logical and consistent with our aspirations. It can release our resources and energy for national progress. It also makes for peace and stability in our region and the world.

It is in this context that my Government placed priority of emphasis on resolving problems with our neighbours and respecting their independence. This policy, as we believe, commands understanding and support of all countries. We intend to persist with this policy and explore its logic further. Need I say that we do not intend to sacrifice established and beneficial friendships nor do we seek to profit from international tensions.

Recently, our cooperative relations with fellow developing countries in Asia and Africa have grown. We have also made new beginnings to develop such economic relations with the countries of Indo-China which only recently were ravaged by destructive wars and are now wanting to make valiant efforts to reconstruct their economies. We are making fresh efforts to improve our economic ties with the ASEAN nations with whom we share a cultural heritage and natural affinities. These parallel efforts towards regional cooperation and stability in South and South East Asia, we believe, serve the larger interests of international stability and world peace.

GENERAL DISARMAMENT

Mr. Chairman, we deplore the race for armaments which diverts scarce resources to non-productive ends. We stand for general and complete disarmament. This must include nuclear disarmament, the end of nuclear testing and international discipline for all nations to prevent war by accident or design. In this context, Mr. Chairman, another issue of primary concern to us is the establishment of peace in the Indian Ocean. We believe, therefore, that it must be free from big power naval rivalries and foreign military bases or presence.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we feel that there must be some equity in the distribution of the world's wealth. We, therefore, urge the building of a New International Economic Order.

Mr. Chairman, let me acknowledge once again that we treasure the friendship with your country. You have extended understanding and support for our national and foreign policies and domestic economic efforts. This historic visit is both a symbol of our past relationship and a pledge for our future cooperation. I believe that your nation and mine and all like-minded nations can and will cooperate to further detente and peace among nations.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in wishing good health, long life and prosperity to H.E. the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State, Mr. Erich Honecker, to H.E. the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic Mr. Willi Stoph and other distinguished members of the delegation?, May I also invite you to join me in wishing greater success to the hard working and friendly people of the German Democratic Republic and to the ever growing strength of Indo-GDR friendship?

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INDIA GERMANY FINLAND USA CHINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Jan 01, 1979

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

President's Speech

The following is the speech by the President Shri Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet given by H.E. Mr. Erich Honecker in his honour in New Delhi on January 9, 1979:

Your Excellency Mr. General Secretary and Chairman of the Council of State of the G.D.R., Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr. Chairman, I see that your country and Europe are having one of the coldest winters ever. I hope, therefore, that you have enjoyed your stay here in the warm Indian sunshine during your very short visit. Despite your stay of only two days in our historic capital, I understand that you and my colleagues have had fruitful discussions. I hope you will agree that these deliberations have been marked by the cordiality and warmth that is characteristic of Indo-GDR relations. We have profited from your presence to learn of your views on international affairs and we have also shared our thoughts and concerns with you.

CLIMATE OF PEACE

We are deeply conscious of the fact that the German Democratic Republic is not just a fair weather friend. Our mutual concern for the creation of an international climate of peace and understanding is a cementing force in our relationship. We have again reaffirmed our resolve to strengthen those factors which enhance goodwill and cooperation and at the same time to eliminate those which separate and divide peoples and nations.

We share your belief that in the last few years there have been some positive developments in international affairs. The process of detente in Europe promises to heal the wounds that were inflicted as a consequence of the last World War. There is hope for cooperation and understanding on your continent. The two big powers the Soviet Union and the United States of America are engaged in a constructive dialogue to limit their nuclear arsenals. These are welcome beginings and augur well for mankind. But we must recognise that in themselves they are not enough. We must continue to strive for Universal and complete disarmament. Detente must be extended to other parts of the world. In the inter-dependent world that we live in we must never allow ourselves to forget that unless every potential tension and discord is eliminated, we will not be free from the threat of strife and conflict.

SPIRIT OF DETENTE

Mr. General Secretary, it is with a view to reinforcing and extending the spirit of detente and easing international tensions that we hope that the whole of Asia, which faces such immense and complex political and economic problems, can move towards a more assured peace. Such a peace must be based on the Five principles of Co-existence between independent States, and this in turn can facilitate advantageous economic cooperation between nations. The task is not easy. The people of Asian countries, like our own, demand the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of their just aspirations for gainful employment and better life. Our political and economic structure is our own people's answer to these legitimate demands. Where such a process has been frustrated, there have been dramatic developments. We believe that while domestic change is an internal affair, external relations must be based on mutual respect and a will to cooperation. amongst States. We are glad we have achieved some success in promoting this climate in South Asia.

We are anxious to see that the same efforts towards stability and cooperation on a wider basis should develop in Southeast Asia. We are, therefore, disturbed lest recent developments should prove a set back to such a process. Unfortunately, we have no authoritative information about the latest develop-

ments in Kampuchea. However, it has been our hope that the peoples of Kampuchea as well as of the other countries of Indo-China would plan their own development and refashion their own political and economic policies to meet their legitimate hopes and develop trust and cooperation with each other.

PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT

We remain deeply committed to the principles of Non-alignment, co-existence and respect for national sovereignty and integrity. Consistent with these principles, problems between neighbours must be resolved peacefully and powers great and small must be

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careful not to interfere in the internal affairs of independent nations. The countries of Indo-China have suffered enough and, like us, they want to concentrate on national reconstruction, which could lay firm foundations of friendship between their governments through representatives enjoying the backing and support of their people.

Excellency, your visit has provided a great impetus for the further expansion and development of our cooperation. We have signed an important Agreement which should open up new avenues of economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation. Our economies have a potential which can be developed for our benefit as well as for benefit of third countries.

Excellency, this is your first visit to our country. I hope you will cary back pleasant memories of your stay here. Our two nations have built up a fruitful cooperation in the past few years, but we still have a long distance to travel. I am confident that our two countries will continue to work towards a better and more harmonious world.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now invite you to join me in a toast to the good health, happiness and prosperity of H. E. General Secretary and Chairman Honecker, His Excellency Chairman Stoph, all distinguished members of the GDR delegation and to the ever-growing friendship bet-

ween the peoples of India and the German Democratic Republic.

INDIA USA PERU CHINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Joint Statement

The following is the text of the Indo-GDR Joint Statement issued in New Delhi on January 11, 1979 which was signed by Shri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of the Republic of India and Mr. Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of Council of State of the German Democratic Republic:

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of States of the German Democratic Republic, H.E. Mr. Erich Honecker paid an official visit to India from January 8 to 12, 1979.

H.E. Mr. Erich Honecker laid a wreath at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi and also attended a civic reception at the Red Fort given in his honour by the Mayor of Delhi on behalf of the people of Delhi. H.E. Mr. Honecker accompanied by members of his party also visited Agra and Bombay to acquaint themselves with the culture of India and the pace of India's industrial, economic and scientific development.

During his stay in Delhi, H.E. Mr. Honecker called on the President of India,

Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy and had a friendly discussion with him.

H.E. Mr. Honecker, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic had official discussions with the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai. During these talks the two leaders were assisted by:

FROM THE INDIAN SIDE

Shri Jagjivan Ram, Minister of Defence; Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs; Shri George Fernandes, Minister of Industry; Shri Mohan Dharia, Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies & Cooperation; Shri Purushottam, Lal Kaushik, Minister of Tourism & Civil Aviation; Shri Samarendra, Kundu, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri Arif Beg, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation; Shri V. Shankar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri U. S. Bajpai, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri V. Krishnamurthy, Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Industry; Shri C. R. Krishnaswami Rao Sahib, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation; Shri A. R. Deo, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri Roy Axel-Khan, Ambassador of India to the German Democratic Republic.

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Mr. Willi Stoph, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic; Mr. Harmannixen, Member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany; Mr. Guenter Mittag, Member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany; Mr. Gerhard Weiss, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, GDR Co-Chairman of the Joint Economic Commission, India-German Democratic Re-

public; Mr. Oskar Fischer, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Klaus Willerding, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Heinz Sachse, Depuuty Minister of Foreign Trade; Mr. Martin Bierbach Head of the South and South East Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Heinz Birch, Ambassador extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the German Democratic Republic to the Republic of India.

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The official talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and close understanding. Shri Desai and Mr. Honecker discussed bilateral relations as well as international issues of mutual interest. They noted with satisfaction a broad identity of views on the subjects discussed and reaffirmed their conviction that the friendly relations between the two countries would be strengthened in the interest of their peoples, thus enhancing the cause of world peace.

Shri Desai and Mr. Honecker were gratified to note that since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in October 1972, Indo-GDR cooperation had diversified considerably. They viewed the increase in economic and industrial cooperation as reflected in the volume and diversification of trade and were confident that these exchanges would grow rapidly in the coming years. They recalled with satisfaction the long standing traditions of Indo-German cultural relations and expressed the view that the further development of cultural links would strengthen the close understanding between the two countries and peoples.

During the visit the two sides concluded the following agreements:

- (i) Long-Term Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the German Democratic Republic on Economic, Industrial, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.
- (ii) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Govern-

ment of the German Democratic Republic on Cooperation in the field of Merchant Shipping.

In their review of the international situation the two leaders agreed that there was a tangible relaxation of tensions in Europe and noted Act of the Conference on Security & Cooperation in Europe had made a valuable contribution to detente. They reaffirmed their conviction that there is no reasonable alternative to the process of detente, based upon the principles of peaceful co-existence. They expressed their desire to see this process deepened, extended to other regions of the globe and made irreversible.

The two sides called for an end to the arms race and took note of the various talks and negotiations under way towards this end. They expressed the hope that these would come to a speedy conclusion, thereby contributing to the process of detente and disarmament. The resources and energies released through the process of disarmament should be rechannelled into the all round development efforts of nations particularly among the developing countries.

India and the German Democratic Republic were firmly convinced that in our age, the goal of all disarmament efforts should be the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control with the highest priority being accorded to nuclear disarmament. They urged the prohibition of the manufacture of all types of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, including new types and systems of such weapons. They called for a reduction, leading to eventual elimination, of

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the existing stockpile of such weapons and for an early conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty.

Both sides agreed that the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly

devoted to Disarmament had yielded positive results and emphasised the necessity to achieve early binding agreements on disarmament. Both sides expressed themselves in favour of convening a World Disarmament Conference.

The two sides reiterated their support for converting the Indian Ocean into a Zone of Peace in keeping with the wishes of the littoral states and to the benefit of all peoples of the world. They expressed the hope that the bilateral talks between the USSR and the USA, which had been suspended nearly a year ago would be resumed without further delay and brought to a speedy and successful conclusion which could contribute to the realisation of the United Nations General Assembly resolution on the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Reviewing the situation in South Asia, the two leaders welcomed the recent positive developments in the region, including the resolution of long standing problems through bilateral negotiations. They believed that the process was a proof of the desire of the countries of the region to establish an atmosphere of peace, good-neighbourliness and mutually beneficial cooperation. They were convinced that increasing regional cooperation would serve the interests of the people of these countries by contributing to greater stability and economic development, and thus to peace in Asia and the world.

The two sides wholeheartedly supported the endeavours of the peoples of South East Asia to live in an atmosphere of peace and cooperation. In this context, they welcomed the improvement of relations between countries of Indo-China and countries of ASEAN and Burma. They expressed their support to the task of national reconstruction of the war ravaged economies of the states of Indo-China and hoped that the energies of the people who had emerged victorious after a long struggle for independence would not be deflected from this pressing task. Both sides expressed their concern at the tensions that had recently surfaced in South East Asia and desired that all outstanding issues should be

resolved bilaterally through peaceful negotiations and without outside interference, in the spirit of the universally accepted principles of peaceful co-existence.

The two sides reaffirmed their conviction that mutually beneficial cooperation among Asian States must be developed and extended in order to consolidate peace and stability in the region. They stressed that inter-state relations should rest on principles such as the right of each people to choose their own political system, renunciation of the use of force or threat of force, respect for sovereignty and inviolability of frontiers, noninterference in internal affairs and cooperation in economic and other fields on the basis of full equality and mutual benefit. Acceptance of these principles in inter-state relations would contribute to the transformation of Asia into a continent of durable peace and to the strengthening of peace in the whole world.

The two sides took note of recent developments in West Asia and of the efforts of the states concerned towards the achievement of a lasting peace in the region. They felt that a just and durable solution could only be achieved in accordance with the United Nations Resolutions, through complete withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, recognition of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people including their right to their own state and the right of all states in the region to live in peace within recognised borders. The two sides called for full implementation of the United Nations Resolutions concerning the restoration of peace and stability to West Asia.

The two sides declared their resolve to continue their support to the just struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa against colonial domination and racial discrimination. They reiterated their condemnation of the policy of apartheid and called for the strict enforcement of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations against illegal regimes in Zimbabwe and the Republic of South Africa. The two sides further called for the immediate and unconditional transfer of power to

the legitimate representatives of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

India and the German Democratic Republic recognised the value of the non-aligned movement as a positive factor in international relations and assessed highly its contribution

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to world peace and to the struggle against colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid. They appreciated the consistent stand taken by the members of the non-aligned movement on the question of the establishment of equitable and just economic relations between the members of the world community. The two sides believed that in accordance with the declaration and Programme of actions on the establishment of a New international Economic Order such relations should be conducted on the basis of respect for national sovereignty, the equality of states and of mutual benefit.

India and the German Democratic Republic agreed to work further towards enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations in ensuring lasting peace and strengthening international security. They agreed to support all measures adopted to implement these goals in strict accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

IV

India and the German Democratic Republic are convinced that the first official visit of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, H.E. Mr. Erich Honecker, to the Republic of India signals a new and important phase in the cordial relations that exist between India and the German Democratic Republic. They believe that the friendly and constructive exchange of views between the leaders of the two countries contributed to the consolidation of Indo-GDR relations and provides a further impetus to their accelerated development.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic thanked the President and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India for the cordial reception and the warm hospitality accorded to him and his party during their visit to India. He extended invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of India to pay official visits to the German Democratic Republic. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

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INDIA GERMANY USA RUSSIA CHINA BURMA ISRAEL SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Broadcast on the Eve of Republic Day

The following is the text of the message broadcast on eve of Republic Day by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy an January 25, 1979:

Tomorrow we will celebrate the 30th Republic Day. On this auspicious occasion, I am happy to greet you all, my fellow citizens at home and abroad, and convey to you my good wishes. This is no doubt a joyous occasion and we celebrate it with all enthusiasm. But this is also an occasion for calm introspection about where we stand and in what direction we are going.

A few years back our country was suffering from a deficit of foodgrains and some people abroad had written us off as a country which "could not be saved". In their view, our agriculture had no future and we would be exposed to recurring famines. These prophets of gloom had recokned without our

indefatigable Kisan and they have been proved false. This country which was producing 55 million tonnes of foodgrains in 1950 has now reached a level of 125 million tonnes in spite of floods and other natural calamities in several parts of the country. The credit for this goes to the Kisans, the vast majority of whom are small and marginal farmers. The developmental efforts over the last thirty years, which have been channelised by successive Five Year Plans, have resulted in the

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execution of many major, medium and minor irrigation projects all over the country. The assured water supply from these projects as well as production of fertilisers, pesticides and high-yielding strains have all aided the Kisan in ushering in an era of plenty. Because of the record output of foodgrains and industrial raw materials, we have been able to achieve a measure of price stability and contain inflation. Food sufficiency is among the major factors that have helped the country to sustain and strengthen its political and economic independence.

AGRICULTURE

We cannot, however, afford to be complacent. In the coming years, we will have to place agriculture on a sounder and more viable base. We will have to assure fair prices for the farmers' produce and reduce the cost of inputs that will encourage the Kisan to work harder and show better results. There has to be an intensive study of the agro-ecology of every area and we must build up self-reliance of each area in order to ensure the full development of its potential. If farmers, scientists, extension workers, developmental administrators, mass media agencies, and, above all, our political leaders, will all work together, we can soon regain the old image of our country as a land full of milk and honey.

RURAL PROSPERITY

While this achievement is certainly within our reach, a radical change in the entire value system of our urban societies is essential for attaining this goal. The brain

drain and the depletion of resources from the village to the city must not only be stopped, but must be reversed. The imperative need is for a happy combination of brain and brawn for achieving rural prosperity. Those living in villages and our scientists and technologists who choose to work in villages, must be provided with adequate facilities. The basic minimum needs of rural people must be fulfilled without further delay. In the welter of demands and agitations by urban pressure groups for an ever-increasing share in the national cake, the needs of the poor farmer, the real producer of wealth in our country, are apt to be overlooked. Let us not forget that India will prosper only if the tiller of the soil lives and prospers.

Our hard-working peasantry have proved time and again that they are ready to adopt new technology provided they are helped to do so. It is now the responsibility of every citizen in this country to ensure that our farmers are able to produce more food from less land. This presupposes considerable attention in safeguarding our basic agricultural assets like soil, water flora and fauna, so that productivity can be improved without harming the long-term production potential of soil and water.

I have had occasion to fly over the Himalayas in recent months and I was shocked to see the extent of deforestation that has taken place, What was once verdant greenery has been reduced to barren rocks. Such denudation and the resultant soil erosion pose a grave danger to our future. Floods and droughts are caused by thoughtless destruction of forests. We should ensure that in our zeal to bring more land under the plough we do not disturb the delicate balance of nature. We need to create new forests belts to be maintained in perpetuity. I am happy that the State Governments are now imposing restrictions on the felling of trees and preventing further denudation of forest areas. But this is largely a matter for community, involvement and initiative and I hope our people, particularly in rural areas, will take up this work in right earnest.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

If today many people still go without enough food, it is not because of lack of food but rather because of lack of purchasing power. Hence, our agricultural plans will have to aim at generating more and more employment in the rural areas in addition to providing food for our growing population. Because of the rapid growth of population, the pressure on the available cultivable land is increasing and it will not be possible to provide land for all the landless. It will be necessary to employ them gainfully in other occupations. The only way to tackle this problem is to plan for a massive growth of agro-based small-scale and cottage industries. Without thriving rural industries our agriculture cannot prosper.

If we choose this pathway of action, we can certainly create a new India where no man, woman or child will go to bed hungry. 1979 is also the International Year of the Child. Let us make a beginning by saving our children from hunger. I have complete faith in the ability of our farmers and scien-

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tists to bring about this great and desirable change if only there is the requisite political will and social action to assist them in their work.

I would like on this occasion to reiterate India's policy of friendship and goodwill towards all nations, particularly towards our neighbours. We believe in peace and peaceful co-existence among nations. But we must always be prepared to defend, with all our might, our hard-won freedom and the integrity and sovereignty of our motherland. In recent months I had many opportunities of witnessing the preparedness of our Army, Navy and Air Force. I would like to pay my tribute to the high sense of dedication and discipline that prevails in our Armed Forces. Their courage and valour in the face of hardships and their services in times of natural calamities deserve our admiration and gratitude.

Friends, I would appeal to you all to

desist from controversies and confrontations but bend all your energies towards the achievement of the goals that we have set before ourselves. Anything that diverts the nation's attention or tends to divide it hurts us all. In unity of purpose and action lies our strength. May God guide us on the right path of harmony and hard work. JAI HIND.

USA LATVIA INDIA OMAN

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Agreement on Satellite Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 23, 1979 on India signing an agreement with Indonesia on satellite:

India and Indonesia have signed a formal "Memorandum of Understanding" (MOU) to coordinate the satisfactory use of INSAT 1A and PALAPA domestic satellite systems. This formal agreement in effect completes the process of international coordination of INSAT 1A network in accordance with the regulatory procedures of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

The MOU was signed at Jakarta by Shri J. A. Dave, Secretary, Ministry of Communications, on behalf of India and Dr. Suryadi, Director General of Indonesian Posts and Telecommunications on behalf of Indonesia.

The team led by Shri Dave which included the Wireless Adviser to the Government of India and senior engineers from the Department of Space and P & T Department held discussions with the Indonesian telecom-

munication authorities on problems of orbitfrequency coordination between INSAT and PALAPA domestic satellite systems and allied matters of mutual interest. During the discussion all pending technical problems concerning the compatibility of both the satellite systems from the point of mutual radio frequency interference effects were successfully resolved.

Coordinating efforts in respect of Indonesia's PALAPA system have been under way for over eighteen months. The visit of the Indian team to Jakarta was, among other things, aimed at obtaining final agreement of Indonesia to 74(degree)E location for INSAT 1A.

The first satellite, INSAT 1A, for the multi-purpose Indian domestic system is programmed for launch in early 1981. The satellite, together with the associated ground segment, will offer supplementary trunk telecommunication services including to remote areas, and nationwide Television Broadcasting and Meteorological Services. 74(degree)E longitude location in the geo-stationary orbit 36,000 Kms.. above the equator, was decided upon for INSAT 1A. This was decided after considerable efforts for coordination with satellite systems of the Administration of USSR and INTELSAT.

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The MOU also reflects the agreement reached between the two sides concerning the location of an active spare satellite, INSAT 1B by India at 94(degree)E orbit position and 3 new satellites, PALAPA 3, 4 and 5 by Indonesia in the orbit arc 108 to 118(degree)E. The way is now clear for embarking on further international coordination processes in regard to these satellites, which are planned to become operational in 1983.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Possibilities for mutual cooperation between the two countries in the field of tele-communication, with special reference to applications of communication satellite technology to domestic services were also considered during the Jakarta discussions. Both sides have agreed that as the first two countries of the developing world to embark on

domestic communication satellite systems, there is considerable scope for exchange views and expertise in the light of experience gained on the respective systems, for mutual benefit.

The discussions also identified the need and desirability of evolving common approaches by the two countries at the world Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) to be held in Geneva from September 1979 for a general review revision of the International Radio Regulations including the table of frequency allocation, with special reference to the question of equitable exploitation of the geo-stationary orbit resource, in which both countries have vital and increasing interests.

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INDONESIA INDIA USA SWITZERLAND

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Shri Desai's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Malaysian Premier

The following is the text of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, at the banquet in honour of the Prime Minister of Malaysia in New Delhi on January 22, 1979:

It gives me much pleasure to extend a warm and cordial welcome to you Mr. Prime Minister, to your gracious wife and to the distinguished members of your delegation on your first official visit as Prime Minister to our country. Excellency, you represent the country which is a neighbour, a country which has been our valued friend, and a coun-

try whose people have long had links in many and varied fields with us. We therefore welcome you as one of us and as our own.

To you India is no strange land. A part of your vigorous youth was spent in India in association with our armed services. The memories of those days, I trust, are as warm and friendly as our feelings towards you. This present visit will enable you to renew some of these old associations but we also hope that you will have an opportunity to see the progress we have achieved since you were here last. I am sure that you will also be able to understand and appreciate our people's hopes and aspirations.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ORDER

India and Malaysia share the same goals. We wish to bring about a socioeconomic order which will provide freedom from want and deprivation, to the most vulnerable sections of society, while providing them with democratic freedoms and basic human rights. It is no coincidence that the intermingling of our peoples and cultures over many centuries has enabled us to transmute our shared ideals of love and tolerance into a balanced and happy growth for our societies despite the multiplicity of religions, ethnic characteristics, languages and cultures. Moreover, our common beliefs have inspired us to seek peaceful and friendly cooperation in our neighbourhood and beyond. We must record our admiration and praise for the tremen-

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dous economic achievements of Malaysia in the ambit of a free society, and despite many hurdles. Over a million people of Indian origin have contributed in their own humble way to the richness of the Malaysian mainstream and have found a life of fulfilment and dignity in their new homeland. Mr. Prime Minister, it is our earnest endeavour to help to inculcate in them the sense of belonging to that homeland notwithstanding their cherished love for their country of origin.

FRUITS OF DEVELOPMENT

In this day and age, it is incumbent on developing countries to learn to be of assistance to each other. We are proud that India, despite the handicap of its material poverty, has still been able to share some of the fruits of its development with other countries in a similar position. You too have contributed significantly towards our development. We feel assured that in the years to come we can build these bonds into a much larger, closer and ever more imposing edifice.

It has been one of the fundamental policies of my Government to try and establish a regime of trust and co-operation among the countries of this subcontinent. We stand today somewhat more assured that this process has made good headway. We believe that the countries of South East Asia too need to and must live in peaceful and gainful cooperation with each other. We hail the role of your Government in bringing this about in the harmonious working of ASEAN, and also in your sincere efforts to expand this cooperation and the establishment of a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in the overall areas of South East Asia. Let me assure you that your efforts have our consistent support because our firm conviction is that the peace and stability of South Asia can only be enhanced by similar peace and stability in South East Asia and the Indian Ocean. We sincerely mean to join you in that laudable enterprise.

Excellency, the world has developed a strong dislike for strife and yearns for peace. Global peace cannot come however with mankind divided into military groupings vying with each other in strengthening and enlarging their arsenals of destruction. We, the non-aligned countries are not perhaps militarily strong, but we have a clear vision that we must strive for an international order in which tensions are reduced and suspicions and rivalries are removed. What is more, we have a will and determination to turn that vision into a reality by joint efforts in a spirit of mutual co-operation and dedication to the cause of peace and comradeship. We must direct efforts at obtaining general and comprehensive disarmament, and particularly nuclear disarmament, so that all nations can

live in ever greater friendship and harmony free from fear of confrontation and destruction and that the resources now wasted on weapons can be utilised for the good and welfare of mankind.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of H.M. the Yang di Pertuan Agong of Malaysia; to the health of H.E. Datuk Hussein Onn, Prime Minister of Malaysia; to the progress and prosperity of the Federation of Malaysia; and to the ever-lasting and growing friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between India and Malaysia.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Text of H.E. Dato' Hussein Bin Onn's Speech

Replying to the toast, H.E. Mr. Dato' Hussein Bin Onn said:

Mr. Prime Minister, this visit of mine to your great country brings back to me many happy memories. It was at the Indian Military Academy at Dehradun at the end of 1941 that I learned to be a soldier. I was only 20 years old then. What had been taught to me at the Academy had made a lasting impression on me. It has been a constant guide and inspiration in my later life. It not only taught me military service but what is more important, it had taught me the art and quality of leadership, loyalty to one's country and responsibility for the welfare and well-being of those who have given their trust in you. I consider it a great honour to have known some of India's

great sons. General Shrinagesh was my Company Commander at the Indian Military Academy; General Thimaya was my Secondin-Command at Agra, and General Raina and I were in the same company and Battalion. If I remember with nostalgia my association

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with the Indian Army, I am proud of it' Mr. Prime Minister, pardon me if I reminisce a bit too long with regard to my early association with the Indian Army. An old soldier, it has been said, never tires talking about his army days. I greatly look forward to a reunion with my old regiment on Wednesday.

Mr. Prime Minister, I wish to thank you for inviting me to visit your country. I have always wanted to visit India again. It is a great country. I have always fond memories of it. I am very thankful for the warm welcome and kind hospitality which have been extended to me, my wife and the members of my delegation. Your kind words just now about my country amply show the feelings of close and friendly relations which have always existed between our two countries.

VISIT

Mr. Prime Minister, I am happy to say that you and I are not strangers. We met in London during the Commonwealth Conference in June 1977 and in Sydney during the Regional Commonwealth Conference in February 1978. I greatly enjoyed our private conversations both in London and Sydney. I am struck by your friendliness, humility, sincerity and simplicity. India and Malaysia have many things in common: both are members of the Commonwealth and of the Non-Aligned Countries; both believe in and practise Parliamentary Democracy; many of the provisions of the Malaysian Constitution are borrowed from the Indian Constitution. The Malaysian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and the Law of Evidence, and the Laws of Contract and Specific Performance are based on the Indian ones. The decisions of the Indian Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and High Courts still have persuasive authority and in some cases are

followed by the Malaysian Courts.

MT. Prime Minister, as you know, the main purposes of my visit are:

- (a) to further strengthen the existing bilateral relations between Malaysia and India;
- (b) to discuss areas of bilateral cooperation in the economic, technical, cultural and trade fields;
- (c) to sign an Economic and Technical Agreement and conclude an Extradition Agreement; and
- (d) to exchange views on regional and international issues.

There are many matters relating to technical cooperation, agriculture, industries, research, trade, education, investment, joint venture, air-services, etc. which I hope will be discussed during my visit. These are, matters of mutual benefits to our two countries. I am also looking forward to have an exchange of views with you, Mr. Prime Minister, on regional and international issues.

BIG POWER RIVALRIES

With the world as it is today, where there are big power rivalries, where there aredifferent ideologies, where there are intense and unceasing efforts to influence, subvert and subjugate the smaller countries, either politically or economically, regional cooperation and collective efforts afford the best and practical means for small and developing countries to develop and ensure peace and stability. These small and developing countries do not wish to get involved in big power politics. They wish to be friendly with all countries irrespective of their social systems. They wish to be left in peace to pursue their own ways of life and destinies. Asean is onesuch group of countries. The objectives and policies of Asean are already well-known. The countries of Asean have over the years worked patiently, single-mindedly and with the spirit of tolerance and give and take. It has made some progress, but there is still a

lot that has to be done. God willing, it will, step by step progress towards the realisation, of its objectives. There is nothing more precious to Asean than peace and stability in the South-East Asian Region. That is the reason for Asean's proposal for the creation of a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in South East Asia. We are thankful to India for supporting the proposal.

ASEAN

We welcome India's interest to have, closer link and trade with Asean. We welcome India's desire to have dialogues with Asean. All these will bring nothing but good to this part of the world. India is a big developing country. Its industries are growing; it is steadily catching up with some of themost modern and sophisticated technology. It will benefit India as well as Asean if there is closer understanding and co-operation between the two.

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The first official visit of a Malaysian Prime Minister to India was made by Tunku Abdul Rahman in 1962. Tun Abdul Razak intended to make a visit but he died before He could do so. Mrs. Indira Gandhi made an official visit to Malaysia in 1968. Mr. Prime Minister, I would like to extend an invitation to you to visit Malaysia at any time convenient to you. I sincerely hope that you will find the time to visit our country.

Ladies and Gentlemen, before I sit down, may I ask you to rise and join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency the President of India, His Excellency the Prime Minister, the Government and People of India.

MALAYSIA USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM AUSTRALIA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

MALAYSIA

India-Malaysia Agreement

The following is the text of the India-Malaysia agreement issued in New Delhi on January 24, 1979:

At an impressive ceremony here today, Shri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India and the Hon'ble Dato' Hussein Bin Onn, Prime Minister of Malaysia, concluded an Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between India and Malaysia. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs and H.E. Mr. Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, Foreign Minister of Malaysia, signed and exchanged Letters to cover extradition arrangements between the two countries.

The Ceremony was attended by Shri Charan Singh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, other Cabinet Ministers and high ranking officials. From the Malaysian side, the high ranking officials accompanying the Malaysian Prime Minister and Diplomats of the Malaysian High Commission in the Capital were present.

The Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement provides for a broad framework to encourage and enhance the already existing cooperation between India and Malaysia in the fields of industry, science and technology, agriculture, etc. Under this umbrella Agreement, individual agreements dealing with specific fields will be entered into. The Agreements contemplate the setting up of a Joint Committee to oversee the implementation of the Agreement and to consider ways and means of promoting economic and technical cooperation between the respective countries. The Agreement is a landmark in the development of the present cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between India and Malaysia.

The Extradition Arrangement provides for extradition of fugitive criminals from the territory of one country to another in accordance with their respective extradition laws. The Arrangement excludes extradition of political offenders.

The Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Hon'ble Dato Bin Hussein Onn, accompanied by his wife, is paying a state visit to India from January 22 to 25, 1979. During his stay in the capital he has called on the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and has had discussions with the Prime Minister and other Ministers.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of the India-Malaysia joint press statement issued in New Delhi on January 24, 1979:

The Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Hon. Dato Hussein Onn, paid a State Visit to India from January 22 to 25, 1979. He called on the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, and held discussions with the Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai and other Ministers. These discussions covered the international situation with particular reference to the developments in Asia, as well as the bilateral relations between India and Malaysia. The talks were conducted in the traditional atmosphere of friendship and understanding characterising the relations between the two countries.

Recalling with pleasure their earlier meetings on different occasions, the two Prime Ministers felt that these meetings had contributed towards strengthening their mutual understanding. They expressed satisfaction at the already wide range of co-operation between their two countries which would be extended further as a result of this visit. Welcoming the signing of the Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement, the two Prime Ministers expressed their confidence that the consultative machinery provided by the Agreement will further step up their co-operative efforts and enlarge the areas of their mutual co-operation and share their skills and know-how, for their own development. The two Prime Ministers also welcomed the exchange of letters to cover extradition arrangements between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of Malaysia apprised the Prime Minister of India of the latest developments in ASEAN in the promotion of regional economic growth, social progress and cultural development. The Prime Minister of India reaffirmed India's support for ASEAN and reiterated his country's desire to establish co-operation with it. The two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the steps that had already been initiated in this direction. The Prime Minister of India noted the progress achieved by ASEAN countries to promote regional peace, solidarity and co-operation in the region and reiterated India's support for the concept of Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in Southeast Asia.

The two Prime Ministers stressed the need for co-operation among States in South and Southeast Asia and, while welcoming some positive developments, were of the view that further efforts should be made to promote regional Stability and co-operation in an atmosphere of peace and understanding. They also were of the view that intra-regional economic co-operation would contribute towards greater stability of the region and resilience of the countries of the region. They further emphasized the need to develop

peaceful and constructive relations among States on the basis of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs and respect for sovereignty of nation-States, and the peaceful co-existence of countries with different social and economic systems.

While discussing the Summit Conference of Non-aligned countries to be held later this year, the two Prime Ministers emphasized their determination to work towards preserving the authentic character and the genuine principles that have guided the Movement since its inception. They expressed their confidence that the Movement will continue to make meaningful contribution to world peace.

The Prime Minister of Malaysia extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Malaysia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

During his stay in India, the Prime Minister of Malaysia paid a visit to Agra and met officers and men of his former regiment. He was accompanied by his wife Datin Suhaila, His Excellency, the Foreign Minister and senior officials of the Malaysian Government.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Supply of Rice

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 27, 1979 on the supply of additional twelve thousand tonnes of rice by India to Mauritius:

India and Mauritius today signed an agreement for the supply of additional 12,000 tonnes of rice of Mauritius. The agreement was signed by the Mauritius Minister for Commerce, His Excellency Mr. D. Basant Rai on behalf of his Government and by Shri R. Subramanian, Union Secretary for Food on behalf of the Government of India.

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India has also given an option to Mauritius to take another 12,000 tonnes of rice later. The option is to be exercised by March 31 this year. Two varieties of rice - fine and medium have been identified. The choice of the variety to be supplied will be intimated by Mauritius Government by 31st May this year. This has been done to enable the Mauritius Government to assess the acceptability of its people.

The agreement signed in October last was for 24,000 tonnes. Its supply will begin in March, to be completed within six months. The supply of the additional quantity of 12,000 tonnes agreed today will begin in November this year and completed by January-February next year.

Speaking to newsmen, Shri Subramanian said that he had no doubt that the Indian variety of rice would be acceptable to Mauritius, as it was very good. He expressed the hope that in times to come the export of rice to that country would further grow. It already forms a sizeable portion of the total Indian export to that country.

The Mauritius Minister expressed the hope that the special cultural and economic ties between the two countries would further grow and the trading activities would further strengthen the existing relations.

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MAURITIUS USA INDIA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Shri Vajpayee's Statement at Maputo

The following is the text of the statement by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, leader of the Indian delegation at the extraordinary meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned countries, Maputo, on January 31, 1979:

Mr. Chairman, we are gathered here at this Frontier of Freedom to acclaim and reiterate our unflinching support to the heroic struggle of our brethren in Southeren Africa for liberation from colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination.

'Freedom is our birth right', declared Lokmanya Tilak, one, of the great leaders of India's independence struggle, at the turn of the last century. If it was the birth right of the Indian people and that of the millions in Asia, Africa and Latin America, who became free in the past three decades, how can it be denied and for how long, to the people of Southern Africa?

It is for the people in Southern Africa to assert their inalienable right to National independence and human dignity. It is equally necessary for all freedom loving nations of the world and particularly the members of the nonaligned movement to stand shoulder to shoulder with them in this task and pledge every assistance at this decisive stage of their struggle.

Meeting as we are so close to the scene of the final phase of the fight against colonialism and racism, we can sense the reverberations of the struggle against the repressive minority regimes in Namibia and Zimbabwe and the stirrings of the revolt against the apartheid regime in South Africa.

PERSEVERANCE

We have witnessed and admired the perseverance and dedication of the freedom fighters in the face of evermounting brutality perpetrated in the remaining citadels of imperialism and racist tyranny. Each day in the valiant struggle is a saga of courage and a profile in tenacity.

From its very inception the non-aligned movement has looked upon the situation in Southern Africa as a challenge to the human conscience. The abiding collective commitment of the movement to the freedom strug-

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gle is symbolised in this special session of the Foreign Ministers of the Coordinating Bureau.

SALUTATIONS TO FRONT-LINE STATES

Our salutations go to the frontline state of this region, to the leaders and the peoples of Angola, Botswana, Tanzania, Zambia an of course our hosts for this Conference, Mozambique, who have made excellent arrangements for the Conference despite the Overwhelming burden which the continuing crisis in Southern Africa has placed upon them. The Front-line States have willingly borne the brunt of unprovoked aggression, untold sufferings and serious strains on their nascent economies in their determined support to the liberation struggle.

For me personally a journey to this part of the African continent is always a pilgrimage. Eighty-six years ago, Mahatma Gandhi raised his voice in this region against racial discrimination. He organised here the first mass movement based on non-violence and non-cooperation against the abhorrent racist laws and the evil practice of apartheid, perfecting in the process the technique of 'Satyagrah' or 'Truth-Force' which was later employed with great success against British imperialism in India.

We have all along cherished a sense of shared experience and common suffering with the people of Southern Africa in their struggle for throwing off the yoke of colonial domination and exploitation.

We have all along believed that in this shrinking world, the struggle for human equality and dignity anywhere should be a universal responsibility. Thus alone could humanity hope to achieve the goal of true independence of the human spirit.

RACIST REGIMES

The people of Southern Africa have long tried to win freedom through peaceful means. The racist regimes have, however, resorted to brazen defiance of world opinion and remained impervious to moral force. In consequence the freedom fighters have been driven as a last resort to armed struggle. They had no other option in the face of continued intransigence and brutal oppression by the minority regimes in Zimbabwe, Namibia and in South Africa. If freedom and independence can still be brought about in a peaceful manner it would redound to the credit of the U.N.

Rapid transition to genuine majority rule can alone bring peace, justice and stability to this region and ensure the development of its rich natural resources for the happiness and prosperity of all its peoples. This is a task of utmost priority in the larger context of international peace and security as well. While a peacefull change is preferable even at this stage, it cannot be allowed to be exploited as a ruse for buying time by the minority regimes in Pretoria and Salisbury while they continue their internal oppression and exploitation of the people and external aggression against their neighbours.

NAMIBIA

Namibia is a classic example of a trust broken, a people betrayed and an internationally conferred mandate subverted for the self-aggrandisement of a regime based on political domination, economic exploitation and racial subjugation. Twelve years ago, the General Assembly assumed direct responsibility for Namibia by terminating South Africa's mandate over it and declaring it an international territory. On many occasions during this period the Security Council has adopted strong resolutions calling upon South Africa to withdraw from the Namibia and has warned it that failure to cooperate with the U.N. in the implementation of its resolutions would lead to further action against it as provided in the U.N. Charter, including Chapter VII.

In concert with the U.N., the non-aligned countries have made determined efforts over the last decades and more to terminate South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia, to expose and prevent South Africa's attempts to install a puppet regime in this richly endowed territory and above all to ensure that the people of Namibia attain independence as soon as possible.

SANCTIONS

Since the termination of South Africa's mandate over Namibia, there have been several occasions when hopes were aroused that South Africa would at last agree to cooperate with the U.N. in ending its illegal occupation of the territory. Each time, however, these expectations proved to be only a mirage. And each time the Security Council sought to impose sanctions against the recalcitrant Pretoria regime, such actions were blocked by countries that have massive economic

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and strategic vested interests in South Africa and Namibia, or deferred by yet another facetious promise of 'consideration to cooperate' by South Africa.

Today, Mr. Chairman, we are at the cross-roads. The Security Council - in its resolutions 431 (1978) and 435 (1978) has adopted the proposals presented by the five western members of the Security Council in March 1978 for an international settlement of the question of Namibia, namely its transition to independence after elections

held under the supervision and control of the U.N. The manoeuvres which the Pretoria regime has undertaken since the finalisation of these proposals are ample evidence of its intention to derive maximum possible leverage in order to ensure the ultimate installation of a client regime in Windhoek.

BLATANT DEFIANCE

They first announced their qualified acceptance of these proposals in April 1978. Later, they went back on this and decided unilaterally and illegally to hold their own elections in Namibia without U.N. supervision and control - yet another example of South Africa's blatant defiance of the will of the international community.

South Africa's gross disregard for justice and fairplay in the conduct of these bogus elections was evidenced by acts of violence against and the intimidation and detention of SWAPO leaders during this period. Now that these elections have been held and a completely illegal body created, South Africa has announced its acceptance of U.N. specified Elections in Namibia. This acceptance, is, however, ringed around with several preconditions and demands. After the recent visit by the special representative of the U.N. Secretary General to Pretoria and Windhoek, we have seen reports of South Africa's suggestion for the U.N. monitoring of SWAPO basis outside Namibia. This is yet another example of diversionary tactics. Do they seriously expect that any sovereign state or any self-respecting people fighting against colonial and racist regimes would accept such conditions? The key element in the whole situation is South Africa's illegal presence inside Namibia. Let South Africa vacate Namibia and we are confident that the U.N. will be able to organize a just, rapid and peaceful changeover to majority rule.

SWAPO Leaders have consistently shown their willingness to accept UN-supervised elections for the transition to majority rule and independence in Namibia. Their participation in such election is naturally dependent on U.N. assurances that they will be completely free and fair without any bias

or discrimination. It is upto the non-aligned countries, in particular those among us in the Security Council to ensure that conditions for free and fair elections were actually created. Otherwise there is no question of an agreed ceasefire and SWAPO will have no alternative but to intensify and carry forward its armed struggle to final victory.

INDIA'S SUPPORT

India fully supports all efforts by the Security Council towards implementing resolutions 435(1978). We also whole-heartedly support the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory economic-sanctions against South Africa. On our part we broke off diplomatic and trade relations with South Africa as early as 1946. If attempts through the Security Council to compel South Africa to end its illegal occupation of Namibia fail, the General Assembly should itself consider appropriate action in accordance with the U.N. Charter and its resolutions. The onus lies on the early universal membership of the U.N. to bring this about through concerted collective action without letting the minority regime in anyway delay independence or dilute its content through tactical manoeuvres. Towards this end our conference could agree upon the options open for consideration by the resumed sessions of 33rd General Assembly on the question of Namibia.

INALIENABLE HUMAN RIGHTS

On our part, I would like to reaffirm the total political, moral and material support of the Government and people of India to the people of Namibia in their struggle for national independence based on majority rule and assertion of their inalienable human rights.

The situation in Zimbabwe has reached flashpoint. The 13 cruel years that Ian Smith has imposed his illegal regime on seven million Africans in Zimbabwe have been a period of tyranny and racist oppression which has forced the brave people of Zimbabwe to take up arms. The significant successes achieved through armed struggle

by the people of Zimbabwe under the leader ship of the Patriotic Front, has led in turn to even more viciousness and brutality. This sharply escalating cycle of violence with its tragic toll in death, suffering and irreparable economic loss, if not checked, will have serious consequences for peace and stability in the region, with global repercussions.

PATRIOTIC FRONT

The Patriotic Front has consistently demonstrated its willingness to participate in negotiations for an internationally acceptable settlement for transition to majority rule and independence. But negotiations towards this end have repeatedly been stalled by the illegal Ian Smith regime which has circumvented and sabotaged all efforts to bring about genuine majority rule.

It is evident that unless necessary pressure is brought to bear on the racist Smith regime by the originators of the Anglo-American proposals and by those countries that have the leverage towards this end, this racist minority clique will continue to be defiant and obdurate.

There is no scope for half-way measures at this stage. Time is running out, if we are to avoid a horrifying blood-bath in this region. We reject any attempts to legitimise the so-called internal settlement contained in the Salisbury Agreement of 3rd March 1978. The agreement, which was condemned as illegal by the Security Council in its Resolution 423 (1978), stands utterly exposed as a mere extension of the Smith Regime. Ian Smith and his coterie must hand over power to a transitional Government of the freedom fighters, after which the process of free and fair elections could be initiated.

NAKED AGGRESSION CONDEMNED

India unequivocally condemns the increasing incidents of naked aggression being launched by the Salisbury regime against neighbouring countries like Zambia and Mozambique, who have consistently supported the liberation movements of their brethren

inside Southern Rhodesia. These raids involve a clear infringement of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Frontline States and constitute a threat to international peace and security. They are unmistakably directed at undermining the social and economic fabric of these countries as well as the efforts to achieve a peaceful and negotiated solution of the Zimbabwe problem.

Mr. Chairman, where do we from here? The 'expanded proposals' presented by the U.K. and U.S.A. have not elicited a positive response from any of the parties concerned. The sudden so-called change of heart' evinced through Ian Smith's deceptive announcement during his visit to the U.S.A. that he was ready to attend an all-party conference 'without pre-conditions' now stands clearly exposed as yet another attempt at hoodwinking the international community.

Although the United Nations has adopted comprehensive and mandatory sanctions as provided for under Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter against Southern Rhodesia, there is well-documented information to indicate their wide-spread evasion by multinational companies based in Western countries. It is clear that the Ian Smith regime has survived only through the connivance and collusion of well-entrenched foreign economic interests. Security Council sanctions have also been rendered ineffective by the massive and undisguised sustenance and support provided to the Ian Smith regime by South Africa.

We would, therefore, whole-heartedly support both a review of the existing sanctions against Southern Rhodesia with a view to tightening and extending them under article 41 of the Charter, as well as the imposition of comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa as a means of terminating the illegal Ian Smith regime.

VICIOUS POLICY OF APARTHEID

The fountain source of instability in Southern Africa lies in the vicious policy of apartheid and colour curtain practised by the racist South African regime. The oppressed majority of this unfortunate land continues to be subjected to callous barbaric brutality.

The streets of Soweto have been witness to the death of innocent school children. Leaders and patriots of the people have been suffering incarceration in the dreaded prison of Robben Island and many of them have been liquidated by police torture. The creation of so-called Bantustans forms part of the attempt to create fake political institutions and to divide and rule the subjugated majority. All respect for human rights and human dignity have fallen by the wayside in a blatant attempt to perpetuate control and domination by a handful of White racists.

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It is universally recognised and accepted that the practice of Apartheid constitutes a crime against humanity. The international community has acknowledged the legitimacy of the struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa to eliminate Apartheid by all means at their disposal.

In the context of Southern Africa, it is imperative that those Western countries, who advocate human rights and human dignity for all, translate their words into action by terminating all collaboration with the Pretoria regime.

ARMS EMBARGO

However, even the first step has not been taken by them, that is, the implementation of the arms embargo against South Africa as called for by the Security Council. South Africa has not been prevented from continually producing and piling up a huge military arsenal with the help of the existing licences permitting arms manufacture.

India fully supports the adoption of a comprehensive mandatory arms embargo against South Africa. The world community must implement it seriously by plugging all loopholes. Complete embargo on oil exports not only to Salisbury but also Pretoria must he vigorously enforced, if effective pressure is to be applied on these minority regimes.

The liberation struggle in Southern Africa is at a decisive phase. The United Nations has a collective and direct responsibility. All measures provided for in the UN Charter to deal with such a grave situation should be enforced. We in the Non-Aligned Movement need to take appropriate collective action which would be catalytic in moving the United Nations to adopt effective measures.

For freedom fighters, unity of purpose and action is imperative. Their collective strength and capacity for action would be immeasurably enhanced if all those struggling for freedom rally around a single banner in a solid front. Unity is strength. It is through unity alone that the peoples of Southern Africa would realise their long cherished goals.

True to its principles, the Non-Aligned Movement must continue to extend its united and resolute support. We have deliberated and decided upon many declarations and action programmes. Let us now proceed. from deliberations to implementation both at the United Nations as well as in the field.

The completion of the process of decolonisation brooks no further delay. Freedom delayed is freedom denied. Let the struggle continue. 'INQILAB ZINDABAD'. 'A LUTA CONTINUA'.

MOZAMBIQUE INDIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA BOTSWANA TANZANIA ZAMBIA USA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No					
1995					
SWEDEN					
Technical Assistance to India					

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 4, 1979 on the signing of an agreement by India with Sweden for technical assistance:

An agreement on terms and procedures relating to the Indo-Swedish Development Cooperation Programme was signed here to-ay between India and Sweden. Shri R. N. Malhotra, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance signed the agreement on behalf of India and His Excellency, Mr. Torsten Orn, Charge d' Affaires of Sweden signed for his country.

Under this agreement, the Government of Sweden will continue to give technical assistance to India for various development sectors. The assistance provides for the services of experts, supply of equipment and scholarships to the Indian nationals. The agreement will help smooth implementation

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of Sweden-aided projects and the new projects to be taken up in the coming years.

The agreement is an extension of the General Technical Cooperation Agreement signed in November 1972 which expired on December 31, 1978. It has come into force on January 1 this year and would remain valid till June 30, 1983.

The Government of Sweden has given valuable technical assistance in the shaped of experts, equipment, commodities and training facilities for a variety of projects. These include the India Population Project, the Groundwater Development Project, forestry projects, Advanced Training Institute for Electronics and Process Instrumentation Hyderabad, Vocational Training Programme for Women, New Delhi, consumer cooperatives and export promotion etc.

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Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Aid Agreements Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 25, 1979 on the aid agreements signed with United Kingdom:

Three Agreements for a total value of Rs. 232 crores (æ 145 million) were signed here today by Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Union Ministry of Finance, and by Sir Peter Preston, Permanent Secretary for Overseas Development Ministry, Government of the United Kingdom, who is on a nine-day visit to India at the invitation of the Government of India.

The agreements are in pursuance of the British pledge at the last Aid-India Consortium meeting to provide I 75 million for projects imports, 60 million for maintenance imports and I 10 million for power and coal sector imports. Aid provided by U.K. under these agreements, as in the previous years since June, 1975 is in the form of grants.

In addition, an agreement was also signed today setting out the arrangements for annual British grant commitments for financing local costs of agreed development projects and programmes, including those designed to help the rural poor. The agreement formalises the British decision, announced by Mrs. Judith Hart on July 31, 1978, to relieve India, through such local cost financing, of debt service payments on past official loans from U.K. which upto the end of this century aggregate to Rs. 904 crores (α 565 million).

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Manmohan Singh thanked the Government of the United Kingdom for this generous amount of assistance. He added that Britain had been the largest donor in India's development effort. Development of India in various fields was a tremendous effort with many complexities. The assistance received from the United Kingdom was of tremendous significance to us.

Sir Peter Preston said that the signing of today's agreements was an important development in the British aid programme to India and reinforced Britain's position as the largest donor of bilateral aid to India. The agreements came at a time when there was a significant awakening of interest by British exporters in the Indian market. Sir Peter said that the extra aid made available would further strengthen the close and friendly economic relations between the two countries.

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INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA MALI

Date: Jan 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India and Soviet Union Sign Agreement for Peaceful Utilization of Atomic Energy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on January 22, 1979 on the signing of an agreement between India and the Soviet Union:

A new agreement for Scientific and Technical Cooperation in the field of Peaceful Utilization of Atomic Energy was signed in Bombay between India and the Soviet Union today.

The original agreement for cooperation, which was signed in 1961, has been revised to include additional areas for cooperation, as mutually agreed upon by India and the Soviet Union.

From the Soviet side, the agreement was signed by Prof. A. M. Petrosyants, Chairman, USSR State Committee for the utilization of Atomic Energy, and from the Indian side by Dr. H. N. Sethna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission.

Prof. Petrosyants is on a visit to India with a three-member delegation including Dr. I. G. Morozov, Deputy Chairman, USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy. On his arrival in India, Pr-of. Petrosyants had paid courtesy calls on the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister on January 20, 1979.

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INDIA USA

Date: Jan 01, 1979

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Date: Feb 01, 1979

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DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 3, 1979 on the signing of the first Cultural Exchange Programme with Democratic people's Republic of Korea:

The first Cultural Exchange Programme between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was signed here today. H.E. Mr. Jang Se Guk, Vice-Chairman, Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign countries, and Dr. D. N. Misra, Joint Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, signed on behalf of their respective Governments.

The programme envisages strengthening of mutual relations and understanding between the two countries through cooperation in the fields of education and science, art, films and sports, radio, television and information.

Besides exchange of educationists, the programme provides for visits by agricultural scientists and irrigation experts and exchange of materials in the fields of literature, science and public health. Exhibitions of books and photographs will also be organised.

In the field of art, films and sports, both sides will arrange for the visits of performing artists, creative workers, and encourage participation in the international festivals of feature films to be held in their respective countries.

The information and broadcasting services of the two countries will be assisted in exchanging materials necessary for information media, radio and television broadcasting.

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KOREA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Vajpayee's Statement in Rajya Sabha on Reported Attack by China on Vietnam

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, made the following statement in Rajya Sabha on February 20, 1979 regarding the reported attack by China on Vietnamese territory and the Government of India's reaction thereto. He was replying to a Calling Attention Notice by Shri G.C. Bhattacharya and twenty five others:

May I recall to the House that after the reports of the massive attack by the Chinese troops across the Sino-Vietnamese border, the Prime Minister had, on February 18, issued a statement of our reactions to these developments? The Statement expressed our profound shock and distress at the outbreak of hostilities which could endanger international peace and security. It also made an earnest plea for the immediate restoration of peace and, as a first step towards cessation of hostilities, underlined the urgent need for the withdrawal of Chinese forces from the Vietnamese territory.

I myself heard of these developments late in the evening of February 17, when I was

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in Hangchow, through a news agency report and the international radio network. As I was not near any of our diplomatic missions, I tried to gather as much firm information as possible. When reports confirmed these grave developments, I decided immediately to cancel the remaining programme of my stay in China and sought the help of the Chinese authorities to get to Hongkong and to return to India the same day.

Our serious concern at these developments was conveyed to the Chinese authorities in Peking through the Chinese Ambassador to India, who was accompanying our party on the tour in China early on February 18 before we left Hangchow.

The situation in Indo-China has been tense and inflamed for the last few months. This had caused set back to the process, which at one time looked hopeful of co-operative relations being developed in the South East Asian region. Being already a serious focus of tension, the situation in Indo-China figured at some length in my discussions with the Chinese leaders in Peking. The Chinese side, in explaining their viewpoint, had mentioned that there were provocations and threats along their border with Vietnam.

From my side, I had even then expressed our concern at the possibility of deterioration of the situation and its dangerous consequences. I sought to impress on the Chinese leaders that any escalation would be serious and urged that the problem should be solved peacefully through negotiations. I added that the aggravation of tensions in an already complex situation could be a set back to stability in South-East Asia and endanger international relations in general.

According to the Vietnam official statement conveyed to the Ambassadors of various countries in Hanoi on February 17, China had used troops, tanks, long range artillery and war planes for the attack along the entire length of the border. They had occupied border posts along the border in the Vietnamese provinces of Long Son, Hoang Lien Son, Lai Chau, and Quang Ninh.

In any case, as stated by the Prime Minister, we are distressed and shocked at these developments. The present aggravation of the situation is - and must be - a matter of grave concern to the entire international community. This escalation, with massive armed incursion across the Sino-Vietnamese frontier, must be arrested and reversed as soon as possible, lest there should be further widening of the conflict and danger to world peace.

The Vietnamese Government has appealed to the United Nations Secretary-General to take remedial measures in the face of the present situation. The Secretary-General has also called for maximum restraint to arrive at a peaceful settlement.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is well known that we in principle are opposed to the use of armed force across established frontiers and interference in internal affairs of other nations. We consider that respect for the independence of nations is fundamental, since that alone can ensure stability and peace in any region of the world. We are against punitive military action in international relations. We would, even at this state urge, powers involved or interested in Peace and stability, and especially great powers which

may have influence with the parties to the conflict or interest in the region, to exercise caution and restraint. Armed forces must be withdrawn before the problem becomes graver through a further escalation in the dangerous chain of reactions. The problem must be returned to the negotiating table in a climate of peace.

I should like to add that India has long admired Vietnam for its heroic struggle against the heaviest possible odds for its national independence which culminated eventually in victory against imperialism and intervention. We had responded as generously as to any country and as quickly as any nonaligned nation, to take a hand in the gigantic task of economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction which faced the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. We remain as committed as ever to develop friendly relations with Vietnam.

We want to eventually see peace and stability made secure so that nations in their independence can resume economic cooperation in the region. India had no ulterior interest in South East Asia, but as in the case of the Indian sub-continent, we would like to see the chapter of outside competitive involvement come to an end.

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CHINA VIETNAM INDIA USA PERU

Date: Feb 01, 1979

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INDONESIA

Areas in Steel, Heavy Industries Identified for Greater Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 15, 1979 on the signing of minutes between India and Indonesia:

A broad framework of agreement for greater economic cooperation between India and Indonesia has emerged at the conclusion of the discussions between the visiting Indonesian Industries Minister and the Indian side. This includes the purchase of 2 million tonnes of Indian iron ore pellets on a longterm basis by Indonesia from the proposed pelletisation plant at Bailadila in Madhya Pradesh. India has also offered technical assistance by way of consultancy and engineering for the development and expansion of the iron and steel industry in Indonesia. The minutes of the meetings were initialled here today by the Industries Minister for Indonesia, Shri A. R. Shoehoed and Shri Biju Patnaik, Union Minister for Steel and Mines. Shri George Fernandes, Union Minister for Industries, who had wide-ranging discussions with the Indonesian Minister on Cooperation in industries, was present at the signing of the minutes.

TASK FORCE FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS

It is proposed that a Task Force would be set up at an early date to finalise areas of economic cooperation between the two countries to the mutual advantage of both in the areas of non-ferrous metals; engineering industries, including manufacture of machines and machine tools, particularly suitable for small scale industries in Indonesia; power and transport; geological exploration and development of mineral and other natural resources; design, engineering and technology for the development of steel, cement, sugar and small scale industries; establishment of training institutes for the development of necessary technical manpower; and rural cooperatives, with particular emphasis on dairy development. In steel, the Task Force will finalise programmes in the areas of pellets, sponge iron and flat products. Indonesia has offered to make some of the sponge iron obtained through conversion of the pellets with natural gas available to India for use in the mini steel plants. This would add to the

capacity of the electric arc furnace industry and enable the mini steel plants to overcome the shortage of scrap. The Task Force will make in-depth studies in these areas and suggest specific programmes.

NON-FERROUS METALS: POWER GENERATION

It was agreed that Indonesia would draw upon the Indian expertise to the extent necessary and that India would be prepared to consider purchase of nickel, tin and other non-ferrous metals to the extent available from Indonesia.

India offered to supply alumina to Indonesia for conversion into aluminium metal by using power generated through hydel and gas resources to be developed in North Sumatra. In this connection, it was agreed that the Indian side would submit a package proposal covering construction of a dam and a hydel power station. It was also agreed that India and Indonesia would collaborate with each other in the location and development of additional gas resources for power generation in this area. It was envisaged that the capacity of India for the manufacture of oil rigs for off-shore, on-shore and deep-sea drilling would be used in conjunction with technical know-how from a third country, wherever it was possible to do so.

CEMENT, ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

The Indian side offered to consider participation in the development of cement plants in Indonesia; this may include the expansion of the two existing cement plants in Indonesia as well as a new plant to be set up in Padang to ensure supply of cement to India as well as third countries on a long term basis.

The Indian side undertook to furnish a project profile embracing (a) the manufacture of machines and machine tools suitable for use in small scale industries of Indonesia (b) the development of associated engineering and design facilities, and (c) the setting up of a training institute.

The Indian side also agreed to supply requisite information and advise, where necessary, on the promotion and management of small scale industries, protective measures, quality control, supply of raw materials and marketing. India offered to consider purchase of pulp from Indonesia for paper making and also offered to set up a pulp plant in Indonesia.

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INDONESIA USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Co-operation in Agriculture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 24, 1979 on an Indo-Iraq agreement on cooperation in agriculture:

India has agreed to assist Iraq in the development of agriculture, research, irrigation, seeds and fisheries. It has offered to undertake a joint study for the setting up of an Agricultural Research Institute in Iraq on the lines of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, and to extend cooperation in providing expert services and training to Iraqi personnel at Universities Research Institutes in India. The two countries also explored the possibilities of strengthening technological, scientific and economic cooperation in agriculture and allied fields.

An agreement formalising these decisions was signed here this evening between the Union Secretary, Agriculture and Rural

Development, Shri G. V. K. Rao and H.E. Mr. Hisham, Ayub Sabri, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Iraq, leader of the Iraqi delegation now in India.

India also agreed to consider the proposal to provide experts for plant protection works and for soil and land reclamation. In the held of fisheries, the services of two fishery experts for existing Institute for the riverine fisheries at Tigris and Euphartis river systems would be made available.

India will provide training facilities for Iraqi students officers at post-graduate levels at various agricultural universities research institutes in the country in soil physics, soil and water conservation, agricultural meteorology and agricultural engineering inncluding irrigation and drainage.

In the field of irrigation, machinery and land reclamation, India indicated its willingness to the extension of the contract of Water and Power Development Consultancy Services (India) with Iraq government for another one year. Iraqi drillers would be trained in two batches each including an engineer and a ground water geologist in each batch. The assistance of Government Corporations like WAPCOS, Agricultural Finance Corporations etc. would be made available for drawing up detailed proposals of joint water well drilling company and for examining these matters in detail for a collaborative scheme and the matter would be examined further.

India offered consultancy services in the field of construction of irrigation and land reclamation projects, on-farm development, intensification of cropping - including other package projects for carrying out further studies and prepare project reports. Iraq agreed to consider Indian firms for consultancy services and for preparing feasibility report and turn-key projects. Eight Indian firms have applied for such jobs.

Iraq indicated its interest in wheat, sorghum, soyabean, potato, mesta and vegetable seeds, including those of high yielding

varieties. India indicated that seeds of all crops except mesta could be provided to Iraq after its exact requirements were intimated. The requirements of Iraq for exports of seed certification, potato inspection, production and storage and for soyabean would be

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favourably considered and in addition Iraqi personnel would be trained in these fields.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

In the field of animal husbandry, India agreed to the sending of a team of experts to Iraq to prepare a report for the setting up of a buffaloe breeding farm, composite milk plant, food manufacturing plant, fodder farm and also suggest necessary measures to provide technical inputs to the farmers for increasing milk production.

India was informed that Iraq has accepted the recommendations of the Indian experts team that visited Iraq in 1977 in respect of hydro-biological studies of Razozza lake for developing fisheries, setting up of fish farm at Bashra and of five agricultural stations, in Tigris and Euphratis rivers for carrying out biological studies and the development of fish in marshy areas in South Iraq. India indicated that development programmes for these proposals may have to be undertaken on project basis and a team of technical experts would be sent to Iraq to discuss the details for preparing and executing these projects.

Referring to the deputation period of Indian experts working in Iraq, it was explained that the maximum normal period of deputation allowed to Government officers on foreign assignment is five years. In case however, Iraq requires them for short term for completion of their projects India would consider the proposal on receipt of specific requests indicating the name and other details of the experts.

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Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

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JAPAN

Fishers Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 16, 1979 on the Japanese grant for Fisheries Development in India:

The Governments of India and Japan exchanged notes here today on the grant aid amounting to Yen 600 million (equivalent to Rs. 2.6 crores approximately) extended by Japan to India for promotion of fisheries in India.

The notes were exchanged between Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The grant is a part of Yen 1,800 million aid extended by Japan to India in the current fiscal year.

The salient features of the notes exchanged are as follows:

- (i) this grant aid will be extended towards the Government of India's projects for fisheries research and training.
- (ii) the grant aid will be used for the purchase of two fisheries survey and training vessels from Japan.

The grant aid is being extended to India

in response to a request made by the Government of India at the Aid India Consortium meeting in June 1978.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that economic aid from Japan for India's development was substantial during the past few years. This showed Japan's sincere belief in international cooperation, which India highly appreciated.

Dr. Singh said that the Indo-Japanese relations went beyond trade and commerce

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and our relations are marked by goodwill and friendship between the two peoples. He expressed sincere appreciation to the people and the Government of Japan for their assistance in India's development efforts.

The Japanese Ambassador said; "These grant aids are the manifestation of the desire of the Government of Japan to diversify forms of economic assistance to India and to improve the conditions thereof. I am sure that these grant aids will help accelerate the tempo of disbursement of the economic assistance of Japan."

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JAPAN INDIA USA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

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MALDIVES

Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press

release issued in New Delhi on February 13, 1979 on the India-Maldives Air Services Agreement:

An Air Services Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the Republic of Maldives was concluded here today.

According to the agreement the Indian Airlines is entitled to operate three services per week to Male. Similarly the agreement also provides for the operation of three services per week to Trivandrum or Madras by the Maldivian International Airlines.

The Agreement was initialled by Air Marshal J. Zaheer, Director General of Civil Aviation on behalf of the Government of India and by Mr. Mohamed Naeem, Director, Ministry of Transport, Government of the Republic of Maldives.

The agreement is expected to further promote closer contact between the People of the two friendly countries and further strengthen the existing bonds between India and Maldives.

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MALDIVES INDIA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

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NEPAL

Bilateral Talks

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 24, 1979 on the India-Nepal talks:

At the two sessions of periodic consul-

tations held between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Nepal on February 23 and 24, 1979, international developments with particular reference to Asia and bilateral Indo-Nepal matters were reviewed. Both side noted with satisfaction that the situation in the South Asian region was conducive to-

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wards further enhancing the spirit of cooperation and relations of mutual benefit between the countries of the region.

As for bilateral matters, progress in various on going schemes or proposals of Indian assistance in the fields of soil conservation, power generation, industrial development of Nepal etc. were reviewed with satisfaction. It was also noted that the studies and data gathering in connection with multipurpose projects of mutual benefit to both countries on the rivers Karnali and Rapti and at Pancheswar were proceeding according to the agreed time schedules.

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NEPAL INDIA USA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Speech at Banquet

Following is the text of speech by Minister of External Affairs Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the Banquet in his honour on February 13, 1979 by H.E. Mr. Huang Hua, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China in Peking: Excellency, Distinguished guests, I appreciate your warm words of welcome. It has already been my privilege to have met you in New York. However, this is the first opportunity I have had to visit your historic and beautiful capital and see something of your great and dynamic country. I must apologise for the last-minute cancellation of my scheduled visit in October/November last year. The postponement was ordered, much to my personal disappointment, by my medical, and not political, advisers,

VISITS THEN AND NOW

It is 18 years since your distinguished Prime Minister Chou En-lai, accompanied by Foreign Minister Chen Yi, visited Delhi and 21 years since our late President S. Radhakrishnan then Vice-President, came to China. I am aware that this visit of mine as Foreign Minister of India to the People's Republic of China and the resumption of ministerial-level dialogue between our countries, after all these years (and what transpired during the period), is being watched by the people of India with keen interest. The international community also looks upon the resumed highlevel contact between China and India as of far-reaching significance.

Our two countries belong to Asia. We also share the majestic Himalayas along which runs for our common border. Our two nations comprise two-fifth of the human race. We are heirs of two of the ancient civilizations in the world. India has been second to none in its recognition of the contribution of Chinese civilization to the world. We pay tribute to the role which China and its innovative and diligent people have played in the long history of the continent of Asia.

AGE-OLD LINKS

The cultural contacts between India and China go back to time immemorial. The great scholar and traveller Hiuen Tsang was the chronicler of India. The message of the Buddha travelled from India and was adopted by millions of people in China. Both countries experienced the humiliation of imperialist domination, and now both India and China,

in their political rebirth, are marching in a determined manner towards modernisation to fulfil the aspirations of their peoples. The world recognises that both India and China, in keeping with their individual historical traditions and their different national personalities, are destined to play a momentous role in world affairs when they fully develop their potentials.

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The Independence of India symbolised the new era of the end of imperialism. It was followed soon afterwards by the establishment of the great People's Republic of China. These events together represented the resurgence of a new political vitality in the old continent of Asia. Both countries in this political rebirth faced identical challenges of development and progress. We chose different paths, but we succeeded in establishing a relationship of warmth and friendship which we held to be to our mutual advantage and dignity. More than that, it was our belief that India and China could play a vital role in uprooting the old colonial system and usher in an era of complete independence and dignity to Asia and Africa.

SETBACK IN RELATIONS

Our relations developed and grew for a decade. But this trend received a sharp set-back by the events of 1959 and the events that followed. The boundary question caused us surprise and dismay and the hopes of friendship so assiduously fostered by us and notably by the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, and, we believed, by China, suffered a reversal. The vision of an emergent Asia, diverse but at peace, suffered a severe blow. Indeed at that time I myself, from the opposition benches of our Parliament, gave expression to the deep hurt which was felt throughout our country.

NEED FOR ESTABLISHING NEW RELATIONSHIP

Naturally, therefore, my visit has aroused mixed feelings of apprehensions in some quarters and expectations in others. It would not be realistic to claim that these unfortunate events, the story of expectations and disappointments in our relations, can be easily forgotten. I have come, nevertheless, undaunted by any hesitations because I am convinced that the establishment of a new relationship of friendship, respect and cooperation is imperative in the interest of both our countries. Success in the effort to restore such a relationship can strengthen the fabric of peace in Asia. Failure can only be a comfort to those who want Asian nations to remain a plaything of international power politics.

Our task is no doubt immense because of the magnitude and complexity of the problems which confront us. It is a challenge to our sagacity to resolve them and to create and maintain the climate of confidence to enable us to do so. I believe that through a frank exchange of views, we can, and must, make purposeful efforts to explore the possibility of restoring mutual confidence in our relationship.

SUPPORT FOR CHINA'S ENTRY INTO U. N.

Your Excellency, just as even a subject nation, India, under Mahatma Gandhi, raised the banner of non-violent defiance against racial discrimiation, the Indian national independence movement proclaimed its sympathy and admiration for the Long March of China towards liberation. The Dr. Kotnis Mission from India was sent to join and share the travails of your heroic struggle from the eaves of Yenan. India took the lead to demand - and never relented from the position - that China (and only one China, the People's Republic of China) must take its rightful place in the comity of Nations.

India and China, it may be recalled, cooperated to bring peace to war-torn Korea and for the end of imperialism in Indo-China. At Bandung we worked together to express the aspirations of emergent Asia and Africa. We never severed our diplomatic ties with China, even when the bonds of friendship were strained. We can, in brief, recall that India never hesitated to underline China's importance or defend its legitimate interests, even when many nations were hostile or hesitant about the People's Republic.

Excellency, as we resume this dialogue after a long interregnum, we may recall that we proclaimed our commitment to basic principles in international relationships. It was India and China who were the first to affirm the Five Principles of Co-existence as the foundation for good relations between nations. Let us recapitulate those abiding principles which have subsequently been almost universally acclaimed:

- Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty-,
- Mutual non-aggression;
- Mutual non-interference;
- Equality and mutual benefit;
- Peaceful Co-existence.

India never wavered in its faith in or the practice of these principles. In fact, as

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the international community comes to recognise the imperative of international interdependence, these principles, or Panch Sheel as we call it, gather greater validity and relevance. I sincerely believe that, notwithstanding the vicissitudes of our history, these same basic Principles can provide the key for the resolution of our own bilateral problems and guide us in the search for improved relations in the future.

INDIA'S QUEST FOR PEACE

In the history of her struggle against imperialism, and, indeed, in the thrust and adherence to our independent non-aligned foreign policy, India has had to face aggression and unsolicited conflicts. Attempts have been made, through direct threats or indirect pressures, to weaken and deflect us from our internal goals or our independence of judgement in external relations. We have not flinched - and whatever the odds, we will not flinch in self-defence or hesitate to follow the path of peace and persuasion and the search for dignified and cooperative relations with all countries, whatever their size or strength. India has never believed in the

inevitability of war or abandoned its faith in the diplomacy of dialogue and the wisdom of peaceful resolution of problems between nations.

Your Excellency, the world situation today presents a more complex picture compared to the times of our early friendship. It provides a new mix of hopes and apprehensions and calls more earnestly for cooperation between nations. With the triumph of national liberation movements in Asia and Africa, colonialism and imperialism are on their last legs. We rejoice today that the, United Nations has been strengthened by the representation of the peoples of these great continents.

The non-aligned and the developing world commands a majority in the councils of nations, giving these world bodies a new character and rich diversity of peoples and cultures. Though some may be weak, all nations have pride in their nationalism and determination to oppose interference and resist external pressures and are against all forms of subjugation and domination.

NON-ALIGNMENT VINDICATED

The old bipolar philosophy of ideological and military blocs has withered away and, if I may say so, the approach of non-alignment and independence of judgement and action has been vindicated and confirmed. We believe that the growing fraternity of the non-aligned movement has contributed to international stability and has helped bolster nations against the dangers of multilateral militarism and malevolent interference. We have welcomed the process of detente which has eased tensions and defused explosive situations, notably in Europe. But the umbrella of the balance of terror has to be replaced by saner cooperative relations between great powers as an extension of the principle of peaceful co-existence.

INDIA FOR TOTAL DISARMAMENT

We have persistently advocated general and complete disarmament, both nuclear and conventional. We have demanded that the steps to ease the arms race must achieve universal disarmament and total prohibition of nuclear weapons, so that the vital productive resources of the world be released for international economic development. We are firmly of the view that disarmament, like peace, must be a collective responsibility of all nations. We welcome China's decision to participate in the Disarmament Commission set up by the United Nations, and hope that the combined effort of the countries of the world today will achieve progress towards its declared purpose.

OPPOSITION To BLOCS

In the spirit of non-alignment, we shall continue to raise our voice against blocs and foreign military bases and the extension of great power rivalries on land, in space and in the oceans. India will never cease opposing policies and counsels of confrontation and escalation of conflicts. We believe that the strands of independently determined beneficial bilateral relations can be woven into a tapestry of international peace and a cooperative world order. What is essential is true respect for the national personality of all nations. big or small, weak or strong.

ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES

Your Excellency is aware that the Indian people, with full national consensus, have from 1950 adopted a democratic Constitution for our country. Your Excellency is also aware that, exercising their constitutional right and responsibility, the people of India

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brought about a historic change in March of 1977. Many of us, who until then had been in the opposition, were called upon to shoulder the responsibility of Government. This Government, of which I am a member, is firmly committed to a planned programmed of social and economic transformation. With this goal, we have a new focus on rural development and the ending of the degradation of mass unemployment.

BUILDING BRIDGES OF CONFIDENCE

At the same time, in the external field,

we have consolidated and enlarged well-established and mutually advantageous friendships and sought, with some success to build bridges of confidence where there had been gulfs of indifference and even suspicion. We do not seek to take advantage of differences between nations. We exercise our independent judgement on international relationships but we are convinced that the quest for friendship must neither offend nor obstruct mutually beneficial cooperation with others. We have given positive vigour and content to economic and technical cooperation with fellow developing countries so that in partnership with them and the world community in general, we may help fashion a new international economic order.

From the very beginning, we recognised that the credibility of our policies of peace and cooperation would depend on the success we achieve in translating these principles into reality in our immediate neighbourhood. The countries of the Indian subcontinent are inexorably linked by geography, culture and history. We face similar and common challenges in the husbanding and development of the potential and resources of our respective nations. Our vision is based on the recognition that while each nation must choose its own path to progress, the interests of all countries south of the Himalayas could be promoted through economic cooperation based on equality and dignity.

It is only too well known that many problems of South Asia were precipitated or aggravated because of mutual differences which were exploited by outside powers. A stable South Asia, committed to genuine independence, peace and cooperation, will be and asset to the entire world. We are determined to resist forces which may debilitate us through conflicts and divert us from constructive endeavours. We expect, and indeed ask, all powers to refrain from the temptation of temporary or imagined advantage and look upon the demonstrated quest of South Asia for stability and cooperation as serving regional and global peace.

Your Excellency, I have dwelt at some length and with candour on our approach to

international relations. It would be evident that these perceptions and policies are in no way repugnant to China's true and legitimate interests. We expect nothing more and nothing less than corresponding understanding of our objectives. On this basis, I believe, we can make a purposeful beginning at resolving our bilateral problems and restore the quality of our relations.

SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS

In the short period of two years, since we resumed diplomatic relations at the Ambassadorial level, we have already made some headway in this direction. We have exchanged delegations and, I believe, discovered that there is scope for developing our trade and sharing our experience in the technical and developmental field. After all, both nations were thwarted by imperialism and today face similar economic problems. Both seek to modernise their agriculture and adopt new and appropriate technology for their respective industrial and scientific advancement. Both countries have also taken great strides on their path to progress, which go beyond what our critics or even our friends expected three decades ago.

PROSPECTS OF ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

We fashioned our own strategy of self-reliant development, which did not exclude foreign collaboration or technological cooperation. China has now adopted a new approach to modernization of its national economy which, in some ways, has similar features to our own. There is no reason why we cannot benefit from each other's experience and expertise in a manner that would enable our bilateral economic cooperation to fit into the larger framework of a cooperative world order. The Government which I represent does not hesitate in positive and mutually advantageous economic cooperation with ant country as long as such cooperation has no other motivation. Nor are we interested in the accentuation of any differences or disputes which may exist between other nations.

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Excellency, I started by saying that my mission and my task are of momentous significance. It is no doubt difficult and delicate, but I believe there need be no failure in our combined efforts if our approach is based on mutual respect, as befits two proud peoples. If, through patience and perseverence, we succeed in carrying further a constructive and fruitful dialogue, we can not only serve and safeguard the national interests of our countries and peoples, but also the enlightened goal of world peace and stability. it is in this spirit that I pay tribute to the People's Republic of China and ask my guests to raise their glasses to the friendship between the Peoples of our two countries; to the prosperity and welfare of the People's Republic of China; to the health of His Excellency Premier Hua Kuo-Feng; to the health of His Excellency Foreign Minister Huang Hua; and to the health of the distinguished hosts present here this evening.

CHINA USA INDIA PERU KOREA INDONESIA MALDIVES CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Return Banquet by Shri Vajpayee in Peking

he following is the text of speech by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs at the Return Banquet given by him on February 15, 1979 in honour of H.E. Mr. Huang Hua, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China:

Your Excellency Mr. Huang Hua, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, as my visit to Peking draws to a close, may I say on behalf of myself and my party how grateful we are to the Chinese Government and specially to you for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to us. I would like to extend my congratulations to you on your Spring Festival. I have not been able to see as much of Peking as I had hoped but even so the visit to the Forbidden City, Peking University and the cultural performance of the traditional Peking opera made a great impact on me.

While sight-seeing was limited, the depth of our conversations was extensive. The conversations which I had with Premier Hua Kuo-feng, Vice Premier Teng Hsiao ping and the three long sessions with you have enabled us to cover in detail and with utmost frankness, the vast ground of international problems, regional questions and above all vital issues affecting our bilateral relations. Though such ministerial level talks were taking place after so many years, we both recognised that these conversations were characterised by cordiality, frankness and a purposeful effort to understand each other's view-point. I was happy to find that on many issues our views were close or similar. There are no doubt questions on which there are differences of perception. With due respect to each other's viewpoints, we recognised that our bilateral relations can and should improve.

On the boundary question our discussions were necessarily exploratory. Both recognised that the resolution of this question is important to our relations and that serious efforts must be made and this should be done sooner rather than later. In the principles of Panch Sheel, we agreed, we can find the guidelines for our future relations. In this spirit, I believe we can continue our exchanges in diverse fields. Indeed in the same spirit, all relations must be strengthened to enable all countries, big and small, to fulfil their national aspirations of progress in an environment made secure for peace and cooperation.

Excellency, I look forward during the rest of our visit to seeing the tremendous strides you have made in industry and agriculture, in science and technology, in economy and trade and in fine arts, architecture and

culture. I hope that when you are able to come and visit us in India, we too can show you some of the progress we have made since achieving Independence and some monuments of our rich past.

Excellency, the world contains too many dangerous tensions. The scope of easing these tensions and improving relationships is a challenge for the community of nations, Faithful to the broad concept of our foreign policy of Non-alignment and independence of judgement, we shall continue to seek to pro-

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mote stability in our region and contribute to the solutions of international problems in a constructive way. We wish to bend every effort towards building a world which is safer more stable and more peaceful.

May I request you, Excellency, ladies and gentelmen, to raise your glasses and join me in a toast to the friendship between the peoples of our two countries; to the prosperity and welfare of the People's Republic of China; to the health of His Excellency Premier Hua Kuo-feng; to the health of His Excellency Foreign Minister Huang Hua; and to the health of the distinguished guests present here this evening.

CHINA USA INDIA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Foreign Minister's Statement in Parliament on His Visit to China

Statement by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, in Parliament on February 21, 1979 on his visit to China from February 12 to 18, 1979:

Mr. Speaker Chairman, Sir, I wish to report to the House on my visit to the People's Republic of China, which had to be postponed at the last minute in October 1978 because of medical advice. The mutually convenient dates for the visit had been fixed over six weeks ago. The House will recall that I had made clear that I was accepting the invitation of Foreign Minister Huang Hua to visit China in the spirit of adherence to our Government's policy of non-alignment and to explore the possibilities of improving bilateral relations with all countries without jeopardising well-established friendships. My visit and my conversations were entirely in keeping with this declared policy and objective. While exchange of views on international issues were always intended to figure in the discussions, the primary focus of my visit was on the difficult and complex questions which beset relations between India and China.

Our foreign policy and its endeavours and successes in promoting positive improvements in bilateral relations and India's national strength gave me a measure of confidence in my mission. My anticipation that these resumed ministerial-level bilateral contacts at this time might prove worthwhile in securing a better understanding of each other's viewpoint, has been borne out from my visit.

It was my first visit to China. From my brief stay in Shanghai and Hangchow I got vivid impressions of the very strong cultural and historical links between our two large and ancient Asian countries and the similar problems confronting them. The Temple in Hangchow which I visited is a beautiful historical monument to the message of the Buddha which went from India to China. In Shanghai, I got some idea of the achievements of China as well as the similarities of our developmental problems.

TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS

Of primary importance, however were the conversations which I had with the

Chinese leadership in Peking. The three sessions of talks I had with Foreign Minister Huang Hua and a long conversation with Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping and finally the meeting with Premier Hua Kuo-Feng were all characterised by an atmosphere of cordiality. The discussions were wide-ranging in content and both sides were frank in the presentations of their respective view-points. In these talks, all major issues of common concern to the two countries were covered. In dealing with the international political and economic scene, we focussed on problems in Asia, Africa and Europe and exchanged respective assessments on the prospects of war and the difficulties which cast their shadow on world peace and stability. We discussed in detail the situation in and around the Indian sub-continent and, most important, the issues affecting India-China bilateral relations.

Both sides agreed on a few issues, such as the vital importance of supporting the struggle for liberation in Southern Africa and the need for a comprehensive settlement in West Asia which must include the fulfilment of Palestinian rights. We agreed that for the progress of the developing countries, it was necessary to create an international environment of peace and tranquillity. How-

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ever, both sides clearly recognised that we had differing assessments on the inevitability of war, the logic of disarmament and the prospects of detente. I naturally affirmed our well-known positions on such subjects.

NON-ALIGNMENT EXPLAINED

I explained in detail how, in keeping with India's traditional and continuing policy of non-alignment, our Government had made strenuous efforts and, with gratifying success, in preserving well-established friendships and at the same time in improving relations with others. I explained that, in our view, the world order with its enlarged membership of nation States, must be made safer and stabler so that independent nations may be able to exercise their right to progress in their

own way. A new economic order must be fashioned which would correct the dangerous imbalances which have developed and made more just so that impediments faced, notably by the developing world, are removed and international economic relations are re-structured.

THE SUB-CONTINENT

On the subject of the situation in the sub-continent, which was discussed at considerable length, I explained that, with full deference to the independence of our neighbours, we have sought assiduously to resolve attempts to create a climate of confidence between the nations south of the Himalayas, which on the one hand, would lead to an optimisation of our respective national development and cooperation between neighbours, and, on the other, could reduce and, hopefully, end, the long story of great power involvement and competition in the problems of our region. A stable and cooperative South Asia, I urged, can be an example and an asset to the world.

Against this background, I described in detail our strict and scrupulous policy of non-interference in internal problems and the steps taken to improve relations with Pakistan. Even while we do not object to normal bilateral relations between Pakistan and China, the prospect of improvement of India-China relations would be impeded if their relations adversely affect our legitimate interests.

In this context, I summarised the origin and the long history of our differences with Pakistan oh the question of Jammu and Kashmir. I informed the Chinese leaders that under the Simla Agreement, to which both countries are parties, we are committed to the final settlement of the Kashmir question through bilateral discussions. It has been the considered view of the Government and all sections of the people in India that, unlike the stand taken by Chinese in the fifties, the attitude adopted by the People's Republic of China in the last decade and a half had been an additional and unnecessary complication

to the prospects of Sino-Indian relations. In this connection, I also reiterated our concern at the construction of the Karakoram Highway across a territory which formed part of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chinese Government showed understanding of our policy towards Pakistan and our neighbours and expressed, both in public and in our conversations, appreciation of our efforts, and indeed, the rationale and success of the policy. The Chinese leaders noted the facts of improved bilateral relations between the countries in this region and the propitious climate of co-operation which now prevailed in the sub-continent.

INDIA-CHINA BOUNDARY QUESTION

I come now to the major bilateral issues between India and China. I underlined to the Chinese leadership the fundamental importance attached by the Government and people to a satisfactory solution of the India-China Boundary question. Parliament and public opinion in India consider that its resolution is vital to the restoration of confidence and full normalisation in the climate of our relations. There was recognition of the importance of this issue amongst the Chinese leadership.

As the House is aware, the India-China Boundary question is an old problem. While the cartographic positions of the two countries are well-known, the discrepancy in the effective control on the ground and the diplomatic position has remained where it was since 1962. I had made it clear that mine was an exploratory mission. It was not my purpose, nor was it, indeed, the expectation on the Chinese side, that my visit to Peking could resolve this difficult problem which concerns differences between the two countries involving approximately 50,000 sq. miles of territory.

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Our conversations did provide an opportunity for the first time in 19 years to have a frank exchange of views on this complex and politically vital issue. I made clear that the unresolved Boundary question must be

satisfactorily settled if relations of mutual confidence are to be established between India and China. These exploratory preliminary contacts have at least unfrozen the issue and both Governments are agreed on the need to reflect further on the possible ways to resolve this crucial question. The common willingness to recognise it as such, is not an insignificant step forward.

My conversations with the Chinese leaders also covered other past irritants to our relations. I drew attention to the fact that rebels or disaffected elements from Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur, who had managed to reach China, had received moral and material support for their insurgent or anti-constitutional activities inside our country. I was glad to learn from Chinese leaders that such support which may have been given - the last instance was some time ago - was looked upon as a thing of the past.

DALAI LAMA AND TIBETANS

When the question of the Dalai Lama and Tibetans was referred to, I informed the Chinese leaders that we had made it clear that it was in deference to the Dalai Lama's spiritual position and in recognition of the needs of the Tibetan refugees, who voluntarily came to India, that asylum and resettlement facilities were extended by India. If the Dalai Lama and the Tibetans consider that the conditions are suitable for their return to the places of their origin we, from our side, would not stand in their way in doing so.

PILGRIMAGE FACILITIES

I also invited the attention of the Foreign Minister of China to the fact that millions of Indians looked upon Kailash and Mansarovar as sacred and that the devout have for centuries visited the places on Pilgrimage. No one from India has been able to go to Kailash and Mansarovar for nearly two decades. It is true that the Agreement between India and China pertaining to Trade and Intercourse with the Tibet Region expired in 1962 and has not since been renewed. Nevertheless, it was our hope that the

Chinese Government would consider facilitating pilgrimages to these holy places. Should Such facilities be granted, I have no doubt that the people in India would look upon it as symbolic of the improved relations between the two countries. We, on our part, are ready to consider similar facilities for pilgrimage to India.

From this brief account, Hon. Members will observe that international problems and specific questions of concern to the two countries figured squarely in our discussions. Our relations with other countries, which did not in any way affect our relations with China, did not come up in our discussions. Where there was a reference to differences between great powers and areas of tension, I expressed the hope that they would be resolved peacefully.

INDO-CHINA

I might add in this connection that there was a discussion on the situation in Indo-China. The Chinese leaders expressed their view-point on the deterioration of their relations with Vietnam. I clearly expressed my concern at the prevailing tension and stressed that each of the countries in the region must be enabled to maintain their independence and were entitled to respect for their sovereignty and territorial integrity. This required adherence to the principle of non-interference. I cautioned that there should be no further developments which could lead to a dangerous deterioration of the situation. It is a matter of regret that in the course of our frank exchanges, where we clearly recognised that we had differing perspectives on the international situation, the Chinese leaders did not inform me of the possibility of developments on the China-Vietnam border.

ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Tranquillity has existed along our border and this, we agreed, in any case, should be maintained. Following the restoration of our diplomatic representation to Ambassadorial level in 1976, restrictions on trade, banking and shipping had been removed and function-

al contacts and exchange of delegations had already started. Since the present Government assumed office, this process has continued and the scope for possible bilateral functional cooperation has been identified. The Chinese Government are now embarked on a gigantic programme of modernisation. The Chinese leaderships hinted that in many

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fields it would be of reciprocal advantage for the two countries to share each other's experience and expertise. Trade could improve further and scientific and technological knowhow in various branches could be exchanged. It remains for the officials and experts of the two sides to study more closely and work out areas and forms of advantageous co-operation, where real bilateral complementarity exists.

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Mr. Speaker, we have not slurred over set-backs of the past or the outstanding problems which remain. India and China have different perspectives on internal and external policies. We are confident of India's strength and need not be diffident of our ability to safeguard our interests in our diplomacy. It is not too far-fetched to believe that neither China nor India can profit from an attitute of hostility or even detachment of a kind which characterised our relations for many years. I believe there is a new respect for our policy of genuine non-aligned and independent rationale in our judgement on international issues and notably for our policy towards South Asia as well as economic and technological progress of India.

We, for our part, cannot but equally recognise the importance of the People's Republic for its ancient past and its achievement in the last 30 years, and its position in the world. Given mutual respect based on equality and dignity, India-China relations can also improve bilaterally and fit into the web of positively oriented and advantageous relationships, which is the essence of our foreign policy. Just as I would caution against euphoria, I would also urge a measure of

self-confidence that any effort at improvement in relations need not mean the sacrifice of our national interests and aspirations. We have made a beginning and I come back satisfied with the decision to undertake the mission. But, I also know it would be a long haul which will demand maturity and reciprocal efforts by both Governments if, in the path ahead, satisfactory results are to be obtained.

I must acknowledge that the official delegation and the large party of journalists who had decided at their own expense to cover the visit were shown great hospitality and courtesy.

I have extended an invitation to Foreign Minister Huang Hua to visit India at his convenience to enable us to continue the dialogue. Premier Hua Kuo-feng asked me to convey an invitation to our Prime Minister to visit China at a mutually convenient time in the future.

I went to China with the confidence that I had the broad support of a national consensus. I know for every Indian, whether in Government or outside, national interest and honour must be supreme. I vividly remember that in the late fifties and early sixties, I gave expression to my strong feelings when the hopes of India-China friendship suffered a serious setback. With the burden of responsibilities I now carry, my concern for national interest and honour remains the same. All those who were alarmed at the fear of adverse consequences and almost cautioned against my undertaking the visit should rest assured that our dignity, independence and our national interests have not been allowed to suffer damage in any way.

India and China are not only two important members of the international community, they are also neighbours. With full respect to each other's personality and guided by the principles of peaceful co-existence, the two countries must strive for the goal of full normalisation and work for a world order which is just and equitable and where all nations big and small can, in peace, develop

in their own way.

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CHINA USA INDIA PERU PAKISTAN MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SINGAPORE

Agreement to Avoid Double Taxation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 19, 1979 on the agreement between India and Singapore to avoid double taxation:

A comprehensive agreement between India and Singapore was signed here today providing for the avoidance of double taxation on income.

The agreement was signed by Shri V. V. Badami, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of India and Mr. Hsu Tse-Kwang, Commissioner of Inland Revenue of Singapore, for his country.

The agreement provides for the removal of tax obstacles that hinder the flow of capital technology and personnel between the two countries.

Discussions leading to the agreement started on February 14, 1979, at New Delhi. Earlier, an Indian tax delegation had visited Singapore in January, 1978 to initiate discussions on the subject. The New Delhi discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality.

After the agreement was signed, Mr. Tse-Kwang said that Singapore always had the best of relations with India and today's agreement would help both countries by a greater flow of trade and commerce. Shri Badami reciprocated the sentiments.

Double taxation avoidance agreements are a recognised medium for fruitful international economic cooperation. Tax treaties help stimulate the flow of capital, technology and personnel from one country to the other for accelerating economic development and removal of tax barriers that might be inhibiting such a flow.

India has so far entered into comprehensive or limited agreements for the avoidance of double taxation of income with 25 countries. Negotiations with several other developed and developing countries are at various stages of progress.

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REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INDIA USA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Inauguration by Prime Minister of Kotmale Project

The following is the text of a press release of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, while inaugurating the, Kotmale Project in Sri Lanka on February 4, 1979:

Mr. President, Excellencies and Prime Minister, I am conscious of the great honour you have done to me by requesting me to participate in ceremony of the inauguration of this very important project. The Kotmale project is the first in a series of reservoirs and power stations of the Mahaveli Development Scheme. This project alone would produce 150 megawatts of electricity which would be a valuable contribution towards a better life for the people of Sri Lanka. The soaring vision of those who conceived this great national project will be truly justified by the reality in the irrigation and power facilities which it makes available to the people of Sri Lanka. Your Government also truly deserves credit for the tenacity and deter-

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mination with which they have pursued its fulfilment. I hope that the people for whom this beneficient project is designed to serve will do their best to profit from it.

It is a matter of some pride to us that an Indian firm - Water and Power Consultancy Services - was associated in preparing the feasibility report for the Kotmale Project and that this firm was selected by an international agency to get this job in competition with similar firms from developed countries. India is not a rich country. Our main wealth consists of our people and their skills. If we have in some small way been able to contribute that skill to the development of one of our neighbours, that indeed makes us worthy of ourselves. Need I say that we shall always be ready at your call to make available similarly these and other resources for the further development of our good and friendly neighbour, Sri Lanka, as indeed if so desired by other developing countries as well.

Your Government has dedicated itself to the task of economic development of Sri Lanka under the able direction and inspiration of your distinguished and dedicated President. The greatest priority for all of us is economic development and the elimination of social injustices and backwardness, both of which are the tragic gifts of our history. In discharging our respective responsibilities to our peoples we can help each other and profit from each other's ex-

perience.

I am happy today to stand in a part of Sri Lanka mainly concerned with the tea industry which plays an important role in your economy. Many persons of Indian origin have contributed their labour to establish these fruitful and profitable plantations. I am happy to be able to place on record our satisfaction that our two Governments have been able to reach an agreement about the eventual homeland of this group of people. It is, I believe, a sign of our maturity and sincerity that many of them will become valuable citizens of Sri Lanka while others are choosing to become equally valuable citizens of India. In this connection, I must also pay a tribute to the leadership as well as many Government officials of the two countries who have made it possible to implement an agreement in one of the most sensitive areas, namely, a large scale movement of population with humaneness and without creating rancour.

May I once more, Mr. President, thank you and your Government and people for doing my country a signal honour by asking me to lend my hand in the inauguration ceremony of this Project. I do so in the conviction that it will be a significant contribution to the economic well-being of the people of Sri Lanka and also in the hope of building ever greater understanding between the peoples of India and Sri Lanka.

SRI LANKA MALDIVES USA LATVIA INDIA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Shri Desai's Speech at Banquet in Colombo

The following is the text Of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai at the banquet hosted by Mr. Premadasa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka on February 5, 1979:

Your Excellency Mr. Prime Minister, Excellencies and Friends, I am very grateful for the warm words which you have expressed in welcoming me and proposing the toast. Over the last three days I and the members of my party have enjoyed the gracious hospitality extended by the Government and people of Sri Lanka. By asking me to be present as a Chief Guest on the occasion of your National Day celebrations, you have extended a very singular gesture towards India. While I do thank you from the bottom of my heart through the vehicle of words, I can express my gratitude only inadequately for your boundless hospitality, and for this tribute to my country.

Mr. Prime Minister, your dedication towards improving the welfare of the people of Sri Lanka is very well known. It is a fitting tribute that your unremitting toil on their behalf has caused your people to place their destinies in your hands in such remarkable fashion. Permit me to express the confident hope that your tenure in this high and distinguished office will prove the wisdom of

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the people of Sri Lanka in that choice, and give you the satisfaction of having repaid their confidence and achieved the goals that you cherish.

HISTORICAL TIES

As you have emphasised, Mr. Prime Minister, India and Sri Lanka have a special relationship. While geography and history have no doubt made us physically close, it is by the close inter-twining of common traditions of the spirit and the intellect, of religion and philosophy and the whole way of life that we are linked. Recorded history going back over at least 25 centuries shows the inter-action between our nations from the days when Vijaya and later Mahendra and

Sanghamitra travelled to your shores. More recently we joined together to throw off a common imperial yoke and to emerge as free independent countries. Among the vast number of newly independent countries who have so emerged in the last 30 years, we are among the few who have preserved a political system based on values of democracy, the rule of law and the rights of the individual. We have faced common dangers of our system and our people have manfully rejected any attempt to abridge their rights or to impose authoritarian rule. 1977 is a year which we both hail with pride when our peoples reaffirmed our commitment to democracy and upheld its cherished values.

JOINT PROJECTS

It was our privilege to welcome your President to India recently. At that time we concluded that India and Sri Lanka had no problems. More positively, we found that there was a common desire to strengthen our bilateral relations and to seek ways in which we could help each other in our common endeavour of economic development. Our Governments have already taken the first steps to work towards this desired end. It must be our constant endeavour that we realise the hopes that have been aroused from this new cooperation by sufficient concrete preparation and action, to bring into being joint projects and cooperation as quickly as possible.

Sri Lanka has launched forth into purposeful economic activity and development under the able guidance of your Government. We believe that with your natural endowments in terms of resources and the great abilities and skills of your people there is a great future ahead of you. We believe that this can be true of all the countries of our sub-continent and that by joining our hands together we can in many ways accelerate our progress. India will certainly not be found wanting in playing its full part in this common effort, and our skills, our resources and our technology to the extent they are available, are at the disposal of our friends and neighbours.

COMMON OBJECTIVES

Mr. Prime Minister, our common background instinctively gives us a common perception on international affairs. Sri Lanka as Chairman of non-aligned movement and through its able representations in so many other international forums, has played and continues to play a leading role in the attainment of a better and more peaceful world order. Your President's dedication to peace and disarmament has no mere mundane origin but springs from his deep religious and moral conviction. It is my hope that we can cooperate even more closely together in seeking to gain our common objectives and establish a new international economic order in a peaceful and progressive world.

Mr. Prime Minister, your welcome and your hospitality have made us feel that we have come not to a foreign country but into the home of our brothers and sisters. May I express the hope and faith that these fraternal feelings of affection and closeness will continue to be the abiding characteristics of our relationship in times to come.

Excellencies and Friends, may I request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency President Junius R. Jayewardene of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Mr. Ranasinghe Premadasa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, to the progress and prosperity of Sri Lanka and to the growing and the everlasting friendship between our two peoples and our two countries.

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SRI LANKA USA INDIA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai while addressing Members of the Sri Lanka Parliament in Colombo on February 6, 1979:

Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Hon'ble Mr. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and Hon'ble Members of the Parliament of Sri Lanka,

You have bestowed a great honour on me in inviting me to unveil the bust of your worthy and distinguished President Mr. J. R. Jayewardene and to address this august body, the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. I am happy that the honour of unveiling his bust has fallen to me. Not only is he a great personal friend of mine but his statesmanship, dedication to the cause of his country, devotion to his religion, his parliamentary gifts and the significant contribution he has made to the promotion of good neighbourliness between our two countries have won recognition both at home and abroad. You could not have chosen a better occasion to associate myself with this great tribute to his personality and achievements.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I stand here today, I recall my own participation in Parliamentary activities which goes back over many decades. I feel perfectly at home here as I know I am among fellow parliamentarians with whom we share this remarkable institution, its traditional values and the principles which are rooted in this institution since time immemorial.

India and Sri Lanka both started their independent existence with a parliamentary form of Government based on the Westminster pattern. This was an alien system but we both have been able to adopt it to suit our own individual requirements. You have adopted a new Constitution vesting the President with executive powers. You have introduced a system of Referendum on important issues which underscored your sense

of commitment and responsibility to the electorate, as well as many other features. So we continue to make our political system always more meaningful and more responsive to the wishes of our citizens and the needs of the times.

We have often heard it said that democracy is a plant of Anglo-Saxon growth and not suited to alien soils. Doubts were expressed when your country and mine chose this form of Government. Since then there has been no dearth of prophets of doom making gloomy prognostications about the future of the democratic system and its relevance to the requirements of developing countries. They derived comfort from, and a few tears were shed over, the abandonment of democracy by country after country. The attempts, mercifully unsccessful and shortlived, made to mould our Government into an authoritarian form while maintaining the outward trappings of a democracy, were even welcomed by some supporters of democracy for themselves. We can rejoice wholeheartedly over a common landmark in that two years ago we set at rest any question that our two peoples would accept any but a truly democratic system.

VALUES OF DEMOCRACY

Democratic political process for us is of ancient vintage. Participation and consultation together with tolerance and accommodation have characterized the functioning of our political system over the ages. Long before the democracies of Ancient Greece. democratic states existed in India. One of our ancient scriptures, the Rig Veda, outlines how a ruler was to be elected, what instructions he was to be given, and if he flouted them how he was to be removed. Monarchies in our history have often depended on the advice of people's representatives or intellectuals who could interpret popular opinions. Here we see the fount of the democratic spirit, amidst the original incarnation of Indian thought and philosophy.

The realization that every man has the right to freedom has been deeply ingrained in our people. Through centuries of autho-

ritarian rule and subjugation, despite cataclysmic social and political changes it may have lain dormant, but no force has ever succeeded in rooting it out completely. The Greek concept of democracy embraced only the elite.

It connoted essentially an equality among privileged class. It did not include

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the slaves. The essence of true democracy is the bestowal of equal political rights, equal opportunities and equal liberties on the whole population, the rich and the poor, the strong and the weak alike. It means the pursuit of life and liberty of every individual in a system which allows freedom of expression and worship and the fundamental freedoms under law. Both of us made the irrevocable choice in favour of all these concepts. Our future is thus to be determined by our own citizens. They provide the real touchstone of our policies and measures and are dispensers of our fortunes.

Our shared commitment to the harmonising ethic of Buddhism, which besides compassion stands for peace (Shanti) and equality (Samata) is all the more relevant today when tensions prevail and the means of destruction are more powerful than ever before. In this sense the Buddhist message to liberate the mind from ego (atmagraha) and dogma (dharma graha), is of great importance to both our societies. We hold that truth (dharma) is too profound and multidimensional to be limited by prestige. prejudice and parochialism based on communal class or individual interests. In fact we can trace many ideals dear to us such as 'nonviolence' and 'non-alignment' and the Five Principles of peaceful co-existence or Pancha Sheela to the teachings of that illustrious and brilliant son of India, Gautama, 2500 years ago.

TRUTH AND NON-VIOLENCE

Non-violence and truth were the principles taught to us by another great son of India - Mahatma Gandhi. Many of his

teachings and ideals have been enshrined in our Constitution and embrace important spheres of our national life, social, political and economic. Not only India but many other countries in Asia and Africa have been blessed by his exertions and inspired by his example. Thus the fight against caste and against racism continues.

For you as well as us, dharma is a moral value and the sole concern of man. It is an expression which encompasses the entire life of man and the way he should live if he wishes to attain nirvana or spiritual salvation. Truth, non-violence, sincerity, love, compassion, honesty, control of the senses are the virtues which the man of dharma cherishes and practices. Man attains nirvana not only by subjugating the lower selfbut also by growing into the higher one. Totalitarianism is completely at odds against the deepest beliefs and values of such a culture. Any system which aims at regimenting life and thought is an anathema and therefore bound to be rejected by our people. Rather it is the utmost fulfilment of the individual within the society that must provide the framework for our political system.

How can we fashion a system which is responsive to the needs of people except to submit our policies to their verdict from time to time? How can we fulfil the aspirations of our emergent societies if they are unable to voice their pleas and demands? How can we ensure there is free and fearless debate and public accountability? Thus it is that we have prescribed the supremacy of the electorate, the responsibility of Government to Parliament, the independence of the judiciary and justiciability of the fundamental rights of our citizens and freedom of the Press. Before this distinguished gathering I can state with confidence that our way has indeed proved its superiority in ensuring a better life for every citizen while still preserving his freedom and independence. Our pursuit of economic growth and social justice is continuous, sustained and yet subject to public opinion and pressures and cannot therefore be derailed by the cycles of extremism and violence that are inevitable when we follow the false prophets who tell us that

an authoritarian system provides a better environment for rapid growth and modernisation and will usher in the utopia of many foolish dreams.

ETERNAL VIGILANCE - PRICE OF LIBERTY

The effective functioning of free institutions, including Parliament, is not always easy. Some of us may get impatient with the slowness of decisions. Some of us feel indignant at the occasional lack of order and decorum in the proceedings of the House. Some of us may wonder whether public demonstrations and strikes are not contrary to the public good. Should freedom degenerate into licence, and self-discipline and self-restraint go overboard, this august institution may appear to be without a future. But the question we must really pose is can we afford to lose touch with the people and their hopes, aspirations, frustrations and survive?

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The answer is clearly in the negative. I venture to express the belief that in both our countries, democracy is secure, because our peoples have an unshakable faith in the ultimate authority of Parliament. They are well aware that it is the keystone of the edifice of democracy and will never let it be weakened. Nevertheless eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Parliament and the people must constitute the machinery of that vigilance.

In a society of free man and woman, freedom requires that we should give due consideration to the rights of our neighbours. Since discipline is not to be imposed from above, we must impose it upon ourselves. As the elected representatives of the people we have an even greater responsibility that in our behaviour they see the reflection of how they would have the nation behave itself. It is only the subordination of individual desires for political or material gain to the greater good of the community and the nation that we can build a better country, that we can preserve and strengthen the system of democracy, practice and inculcate good neighbourliness and thus enhance peace and stability

in our region and the world.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we were not born in a perfect world. We had to struggle to achieve our independence. We have to continue our efforts to build a better world for our citizens. We have to remove the disparities between the privileged and underprivileged; we have to bring a better balance between the cities and the villages. We can only do this if we face our tasks as a united people. There must be free discussion about the ways and the means. There may be differences about how we should proceed but these differences should not be derived from caste or creed; from the language or the religion of any person, the more so in a pluralistic society such as we have in India and Sri Lanka.

A democratic society must be an integrated society. If we lose sight of these basic things, then we place our democracy in peril. We face this danger in India and we recognise that we cannot afford to be complacent. But let us also remember that we have inherited many great and ancient traditions. The eternal truths which the Buddha gave us, the immortal varieties from the Hindu scriptures, the fundamental brotherhood of Islam and the love of fellowmen enshrined in Christian teachings and all other religions have one thing in common that man is born equal and that every man can aspire to the most high. If we face the future in that spirit no task can prove too difficult, no obstacle high to surmount, no goal beyond our reach.

DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL SECTOR

Consistent with the greatest good of the largest number, development of the rural sector has a special place in my Government's list of priorities. We are fully conscious that the benefits of our developmental achievements have not percolated down to the village level. For years this important segment of our population has been neglected. The gap between the rich and the poor, not only between those in urban and rural areas but those in the villages themselves has widened. It is a sad reflection on us that while the country has built up a foodgrain stock of

about 20 million tonnes there are still a large number of people in my country who do not have the purchasing power to buy sufficient food. We hope to remedy this by emphasis on small scale and cottage industries which will create jobs in rural areas and by undertaking other planned activities to increase the income of the poor and restrict rural disparities.

One such programme is Antyodaya through which we hope to ensure a minimum living standard upto the last of the community - the poorest of the poor. Another is the Food for Work Programme with the objective of mobilising unemployed rural labour for rural reconstruction. We realise that Gandhiji's Ram Rajya constitutes the acme of perfection of human system of government. We can hardly have any better goal as our objective. But in this imperfect world only constant striving towards perfection can lead to that goal step by step.

COMMON CULTURE

Both India and Sri Lanka have inherited an ancient culture based on ethical and spiritual values. These values must be cherished and fostered. However, I do not believe in the false dichotomy that modernisation of our societies necessarily means a sacrifice of these values. Indeed, we regard the growth of science and technology as of equal importance with that of pursuit of our cherished spiritual and ethical values. Science and technology were never away from life of man.

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However, they are much more relevant today than in the past. I am happy to say that India has at present the third largest number of trained scientific and technical manpower. We are endeavouring, progressively, to utilise this valuable human asset for national development. Perhaps there was greater need for channelising our scientists and technologists into branches of learning of relevance to our rural areas. We find that a good number of this trained human resource is not able to find satisfying and adequately remunerative jobs within the country. We are, therefore, trying to give

a progressively more pronounced rural orientation to our education.

INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

You will forgive me if I give expression to the very justifiable pride I feel when I look back to the long distance we have travelled in the years since Independence. From the narrow industrial base we inherited in 1948, with textiles as our main manufacturing output, India today is among the world's major industrial countries - the tenth in fact. Our industrial spectrum covers steel, cement, chemicals, electronics and engineering goods, fertilisers, machine tools, petroleum, plastics, pharmaceuticals, shipbuilding and sugar to mention a few. Our present industrial capacity, in short, includes the production of almost everything from pin to an automobile, from hand tools to nuclear reactors. We have built up a well developed infrastructure of scientific establishments and laboratories in which research ranges from the designing of a better bullock cart to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

From an exporter of primary commodities, raw materials for industry and certain traditional products, our exports now are diverse enough to include capital and consumer items, telecommunication equipment, and engineering goods. In the agricultural field too our achievements have been no less impressive. Before Independence the agricultural sector had been totally neglected. The farm technology was outmoded with the result that not only was the yield per acre much below the optimum level but there were large fluctuations in production due to the vagaries of the weather. Despite this India was able to maintain near self-sufficiency. With the partition however we lost the most fertile lands and food surplus regions with the result that India became deficit in foodgrains. We have now painstakingly built up our agricultural sector. We are today the world's fourth largest foodgrain producers of rice and leaders in research on other cereals.

PEARL OF INDIAN OCEAN

From my own country, W. Speaker, I

turn to your own country for which we have special regard, affection and goodwill virtually on the same level as for own. Sri Lanka is rightly known as the pearl of the Indian Ocean. Reference to Sri Lanka in travel and folklore dating back thousands of years bear testimony to its glorious past. Yours is a fertile land with hard-working devoted and united people. Your prodigious development in the fields of education, health and social welfare are the envy of the rest of us in this region. Yet you have not been content to merely enjoy the fruits of your industry. You have an ambitious programme of economic development and it is a confident hope that you will achieve it and thus bring an even better life to your people. Let me repeat what I have said at the inauguration ceremony of the Kotmale project of the Mahaveli Ganga Development scheme in which I was so happy to participate on the 4th February. Whatever manpower and skill we possess and what you may need of it is yours for the asking. We shall always be happy to render in your development whatever assistance we can.

Sri Lanka has played and continues to play an important role in world affairs. It has through its tireless and unselfish efforts towards achieving a better world order made a place for itself in the councils of the world where its voice is heard with respect. You have contributed significantly in international forums such as UNCTAD, the Law of the Sea and have taken a leading and constructive role in the proposal for the establishment of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. In your capacity as Chairman of the Non-aligned Group, you are playing an important role in coordinating the strategy and stand of the Group on various international issues as well as in various phases of the continuing dialogue on international economic question between the North and the South.

This proves that it is not only the size but the quality that contributes to world affairs. We salute you on your great con-

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tribution to world councils of moderation and

to your efforts to find possible and concrete solutions to world problems.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have spoken today almost as if I was speaking before our own Parliament. That in itself is a tribute to the similarity of our traditions and the closeness of our relations.

AN ERA OF CO-OPERATION

Today there are no problems between India and Sri Lanka. Those what we have inherited from our colonial past, have been resolved through goodwill and negotiations. We stand on a threshold of a new and meaningful era of cooperation in which we can work together in harnessing our energies to-Wards development and mutual bilateral cooperation. I am confident that in this endeavour our two Governments will be greatly fortified by the national support which they enjoy in pursuing this objective.

Mr. Speaker, let me once again thank you and Hon'ble Members of this august House for giving me the opportunity of sharing my thoughts with you. In a few hours I shall be leaving the shores of this Emerald Isle. I shall carry with me reflections on the affections and goodwill shown to me and through me to my country. I shall also nurse the happy dream of a future full of promise of cooperative endeavour for the welfare of our two peoples and the peace and progress of the entire world of which we are citizens. May the Light of Asia as the West knows him and the Enlightened One as we both recognise him endow the thoughts and endeavours of both our countries with success.

SRI LANKA USA INDIA GREECE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC OMAN MALDIVES

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

India-Sri Lanka Joint Pres Statement

The following is the text of India-Sri Lanka Joint Press Statement issued in New Delhi on February 6, 1979:

His Excellency Shri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, arrived in Sri Lanka on the 3rd February, 1979 on a State visit at the invitation of His Excellency J. R. Jayewardene, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

During the visit, he had discussions with His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka, the Hon'ble Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Government of Sri Lanka. He was assisted by Shri Samarendra Kundu, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

The discussions were conducted in a spirit of warm cordiality and close friendship. The talks covered a wide range of subjects including bilateral matters and a review of the regional and international situation and reflected a close identity of views between the two countries. During discussion on bilateral matters, there was an emphasis on economic and trade matters and closer cooperation between the two countries in cultural affairs, research and development. Particular attention was paid to the question of pursuing action for the increase of trade between the two countries and the establishment of joint ventures in the Industrial and Export Promotion Zone. It will be recalled that His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka had initiated discussions on these matters in New Delhi during his visit to India in October 1978.

The two sides reviewed the implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964.

It was agreed that the question of improving the facilities for Buddhist pilgrims

from Sri Lanka travelling to India, such as provision of land for the establishing of Pilgrims' Rests should be pursued.

On the 4th February, His Excellency the Prime Minister of India was the Chief Guest at the National Day Celebrations in Kandy during which he witnessed the Armed Services Parade and the march past of school children and later a cultural show at the Bogambara Stadium.

Prime Minister Desai visited the Dalada Maligawa, the Temple of the Sacred Tooth, and thereafter met the school children, who had taken part in the march past. In the afternoon, he participated in the inauguration ceremonies of the work on the Kotmale

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Multipurpose Reservoir Project, which is being taken up under the accelerated programme for the development of the Mahaveli.

On the morning of the 5th February, the Prime Minister toured the ancient capital of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura. He returned to Colombo the same day and attended a reception given in his honour by the Sri Lanka-India Trade, Cultural and Friendship Association and the reception given in his honour by the High Commissioner for India in Sri Lanka.

On the 3rd February, His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka gave a garden party in Kandy in his honour, and on the 5th February the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Sri Lanka hosted a banquet for him.

On the 6th February, the Hon'ble Prime Minister held a Press Conference and gave an interview to the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation. On the invitation of the Hon'ble Speaker, Prime Minister Desai addressed the Members of Parliament.

The Prime Minister of India conveyed his deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him and the members of his party. He invited the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka to visit India at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The Prime Minister, accompanied by Shri Samarendra Kundu, Minister of State for External Affairs, and other officials left Colombo for New Delhi on the, afternoon of the 6th February 1979.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA MALI MALDIVES

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Prime Minister's Statement in Parliament on His Visit to Sri Lanka

The Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai made the following statement in Parliament on February 20, 1979 on his visit to Sri Lanka:

On the invitation of the President of Sri Lanka I visited the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka from February 3 to February 6. I was also invited by the President of Sri Lanka to be the Chief Guest at their National Day celebrations on February the 4th in Kandy. I was accompanied by Shri Samarendra Kundu, Minister of State for External Affairs.

A copy of the Joint Press Statement issued at the end of my visit is placed on the Table of the House.

During the visit, I had several opportunities to discuss with the President, the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Government of Sri Lanka a wide range of subjects of bilateral interest and to exchange views on regional and international issues. I am happy to note that we agreed that there are no bilateral outstanding problems between India and Sri Lanka. Our discussions centred mainly around ways and means of

bringing about closer cooperation between the two countries in all fields especially in the areas of trade and economic exchanges as well as cultural and scientific relations.

I met members of the Indian communities both in Kandy and Colombo and representatives of various Indo-Sri Lanka Associations. It is gratifying that they are contributing significantly not only to closer bilateral relations but also to the development of Sri Lanka. I had an opportunity of discussing the problems faced by some of the persons who are to be repatriated to India. Our Missions are already seized of their problems and I have directed them to facilitate the formalities required for repatriation. I reviewed with the Sri Lanka leaders the implementation of the India-Sri Lanka Agreement of 1964. The officials on both sides have been asked to streamline and improve various procedures in this regard. I also had a useful talk with the Leader of the Opposition.

I also participated in the inauguration ceremonies of the Kotmale Multi-purpose Reservoir Project which is part of the prestigious Mahaveli Development Scheme. The scheme will add considerably to agricultural production and power generation in Sri Lanka, and has good potentialities of development of Sri Lanka's economy. Hon'ble Members are no doubt aware that the feasibility study for this project was financed by the Government of India and prepared by an Indian company, Water and Power Development Consultants Ltd. India does not have

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very large material resources; yet we do provide assistance to our friends and neighbours in their national development and I would like to take this opportunity to restate our firm intention to do whatever is possible within our resources to assist in their growth.

During my visit, I was given the privilege of addressing members of the Sri Lanka Parliament. I was able to join with the colleagues of that august body in reaffirming the common dedication of our two coun-

tries to the democratic process and its relevance even to developing societies.

Sir, the main impression that I bring back from my visit is the overwhelming warmth and cordiality which the people and Government of Sri Lanka have for India and which I was personally able to experience and reciprocate. It is only natural that India and Sri Lanka should strengthen these deep bonds of friendship and work towards closer economic and material cooperation to the benefit of both our countries. But over and beyond that we share a common dedication to a democratic way of life, a belief in similar spiritual values and ethics.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not place on record my gratitude to President Jayewardene and Prime Minister Premadasa for the warmth and cordiality of the reception accorded to me and also for the many gestures of personal affections which they extended to me and my party during our entire visit.

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SRI LANKA USA INDIA MALI MALDIVES

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNESCO

Training for Communicators and Journalists

The following is the text of the speech by Shri L. K. Advani, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, at the Intergovernmental UNESCO-sponsored regional conference on Communication Policies in Asia and Occania at Kuala Lumpur on February 6, 1979: On behalf of the Indian delegation and on my behalf I wish to felicitate you Sir, on your election as President of the Conference. Your impartiality and patience, Sir, and your great qualities of leadership are bound to be invaluable assets towards making the deliberations of this Conference a success.

We who are gathered in this hall come from many ancient lands of a continent which has given birth to and reared great civilisations. The inspiration of our cultural heritage enable us to free ourselves in recent decades from foreign domination. Some of us may be new entrants to the Age of Science, but we are second to none in terms of perception or expression of values which reflect our rich cultural heritage.

Mr. President, I come from a country which through the ages has been the crucible of great religious and rich cultural values. It was from India that Buddhism found its way to almost every corner of this region. The Hindu temples in the countries of South-east Asia are proof of the mobility of ideas and flow of communication at a time when science and technology had not been widely pressed in the service of man. We, in our turn, had been the beneficiaries of religious and cultural influences from West and Central Asia even when they followed in the wake of territorial invasions from outside.

Only last month we were privileged to receive in our country the Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Hussein Bin Onn and Datin Suhaila who have had a fleeting glimpse of our vast country and its rich cultural diversity. I do not have to repeat before this august gathering what the Dato had said of the blend of cultures in India. This Indian culture is free of religious denominations and colonial connotations.

DAZZLING FEATURE

The development of modern communication which owes almost everything to the

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West, is one of the most dazzling features of

contemporary scientific advance. Until two hundred years ago, horse-back was still the fastest mode of travel. Then came the railway engine, the automobile in the last century and the aeroplane in our own. The range of not only man's legs but of his eyes and ears has been extended owing to the Gutenberg Galaxy - the printing press, the telegraph, the camera, the telephone, the phonograph, radio, television, the tape-recorder, the satellite and the computer systems of our time. Today man can move about at twice the speed of sound. Words and images can be transmitted at the speed of light. Yet the question can legitimately be asked: is there more illumination, more enlightenment? Our great leader, Mahatma Gandhi subjected western technology to one supreme test: Would it liberate man or would it enslave him? Contrary to a widely prevalent belief, Mahatma Gandhi was not against machinery but against the tendency to place technology above the mind and soul of man.

So let us not be too proud of the prowess of present-day technology and arrogant about the achievements of man. Let us only ask ourselves how the message of the Buddha, Christ and Muhammad spread in days when travel was so slow and tedious. Many millions of hearts were reached without the aid of the genie of the electromagnetic waves. The miracles performed by oral traditions and inter-personal communication in those days could never be repeated by our present day mass media. Indeed it sometims looks as if in pursuing speed, mankind has forfeited depth. As communications have grown, I wonder communication dwindled?

TECHNOLOGY

However, the advance of technology is irreversible. Its toes are directed forward and not backwards. Communication technology, like science, has an inbuilt thrust towards universaliation. To the extent our nations could profit by such technology, we should borrow from it.

There is debate on a second point: the content of the media. Must the press, radio

and television of our countries pass through all the stages and take on all the attributes of the media of the affluent countries? Is it good to preach consumerism to societies being rebuilt on the principles of austerity and mutual accommodation? Must the world be made in a universal Hollywood image?

The first newspaper in my country was published 199 years ago. Next January will mark the completion of the second century of the press in India. Our early newspapers were run by the British community. Soon, however, the leaders of our people recognised the power of the press and took to printing. And they made a vehicle of serious public debate, an instrument of social reform and a weapon in the struggle for political independence. Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, wrote in 1902 (when his journal "Kesari" was 21 years old):

"We consider it our duty to work for awakening the people, to teach them sincerity and the sense of duty. We write not for the rulers but in order that the, readers might imbibe our spirit and understand our thoughts, our agonies and our indignation."

INDIAN PRESS

Even before Tilak's time the British rulers had passed a Vernacular Press Act. The story of the Indian press is a Stirring saga of fight against authority, against any attempts to dictate to it how it should behave. Our recent national experience has confirmed us in our belief that for the kind of political System we have chosen, and the society we plan to build, total and unqualified freedom of the press is an indispensable prerequisite. We want newspapers in all our numerous languages to grow and flourish - not only the national but the local and regional, not only the metropolitan but the rural. We want them all to be channels of information and opinion. We do not want our newspapers to wear any uniform, or be subject to any special laws that do not apply to all citizens. It is true that we have, unfortunately, a few papers which are purveyors of gossip and sex. But we have confidence in the professional judgement of our journalists as a whole and in our people's ability to take care of themselves. The freedom of a few to go wrong is implicit in the freedom of the many to choose what they think is right.

The media report directly to the people. In this process in some countries they come into conflict with authority. Each country 54

has its own way of dealing with this problem, in the light of its own ideals and necessities. After all, communication policies have to be governed by the national priorities of countries becauce communication is an input for development and not merely a source of entertainment. We in India feel convinced that the media and the State need be neither sworn adversaries nor compulsory allies. By profession I am a journalist. Today I am a Minister. It is my conviction that critical cooperation is the best relation between government and the media.

EXPANSION OF EDUCATION

With the expansion of education and the growth of the citizens' intellectual and psychological needs, adequate outlets for self-expression become necessary. I am not here advocating any particular model for all nations. That would be presumptuous. I am not describing what the 640 million people of India have come to discover from their experience. Freedom has obligations on the part of everyone. The practioners of every calling must observe certain norms of performance and behaviour. But these should be evolved by themselves. Responsibility is truest when it is inner-directed and not imposed from outside.

Good government requires the State to observe a self-denying ordinance of tolerance. A state which thinks it knows best knows little. In the realm of the media the bureaucratic culture would inhibit true communication. It is in this spirit that our Government, which has owned and controlled radio for more than 50 years and television since

its introduction in 1959, is proposing decontrol of the media by the Government and involvement of the users in their management. We are of the firm belief that this step to grant autonomy to radio and television will lead to a growth of the two media and improvement in their standards of performance.

OBLIGATIONS

Governments in our part of the world have several obligations to fulfil in the area of communications if the people's right to knowledge, information and healthy entertainment is to be met. In technologically poorer countries, the state has to establish the infrastructure of communications and ensure the material requirements of the media - whether it is newsprint or the R & D effort in the media industries. Where the media cannot grow on their own strength, they should be strengthened in order to grow. This is specially true of small newspapers. In India we are taking a number of measures to ensure that freedom does not mean freedom for the big man or big unit at the cost of the small man and small unit. The yardstick is not personal profit but social gain.

We developing countries differ in our political systems. But we are united in our objective of speedy development to make up for the neglect of our colonial past. Our endeavour is to see that more and more people are gainfully employed, to ensure the satisfaction of their minimum needs. At the same time, the aim of development is to build the economic strength of the nation and safeguard its national personality. The cultural dimension of development is no less important than the economic. Development is both nation-building and man-building. As we lay roads to villages and channels to fields, we must construct roads and channels to people's minds.

BASIC FUNCTIONS

This is what mass communications do. Books, newspapers, films, radio, television all these perform three basic functions. They inform. They educate. They entertain. At their best the three processes are not separate but integrated. The best entertainment educates by refining taste and deepening sensibility. Information is best assimilated when it is entertaining. When they do their work well, the media extend the individual's productive skill and earning capacity, deepen his judgement and broadens his culture - thus making him a better citizen. Also in a society like ours they promote involvement of the people in the task of development. For instance, the rural health service and the national adult education programme being undertaken in our country require involvement of the community, of millions of men, women and children.

In India the press is entirely in private hands barring a few publicity journals of Government and state-owned industries. Films, too, are in the private sector, although the state has pioneered and supported an extensive documentary movement. Private film producers, especially the smaller ones, turn to state aid for initial capital. And there is widespread recognition of the crea-

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tive explosion in our regional, small-budget films. As I remarked earlier, we are about to transfer our radio and television, to autonomous organisations. Radio in India has made a cntribution to rural development by telling farmers about new crop varieties and new agricultural techniques and stimulating their overall desire for progress. Television, although it is still in its initial stages and is confined to a few areas of the land and a few hours of the evening, has proved its power to hold attention and persuade. We are confident that the link between the two media and the development effort will be maintained and enhanced when our radio and TV become autonomous.

DIVERSION

Electronic media, it has been said, have ravenous appetites. People's own hunger for diversion is insatiable. When programmes cannot be indigenously produced fast enough, the tendency is to import them. The bad

drives out the good in this bargain. The glitter and novelty of the life depicted in imported television programmes (or magazine features) further carry forward the process of alienating the viewers, especially the young, form their milieu. Expectation grows and, with it dissatisfaction. The modern media, although called mass communications, increase the isolation of the individual. A music concert, a street drama, a stage play bring people together. Television cuts them off.

Being in the early stages of media development, we can avoid this isolation. The remedy is to be sought by turning not to the west but to our own treasures of indigenous art. Most countries of our region are fortunate in having ancient and highly evolved forms of classical music, dance and drama as well as vigorous, myth-inspired and earthnurtured folk dances and songs. The growth of our modern media affords a great opportunity for the revivial of these traditional media for a marriage between the two. In the process the distance between town and country can also be bridged. The visual quality and zest and appeal of these folk forms is such that we can profitably undertake a greater exchange of such programmes among countries of our region. quires reduction in the costs of transmission between our countries. We, in India, have done so. Secondly, since transmission through the satellite is the quickest and most reliable we have to deploy this technology in the service of our common objective of greater communication exchange.

NATIONAL POLICY

It is in such of the elements as described earlier that India's own national communication policy is built. We regard communication as an instrument to support and subserve our national development proggramme. We are in the midst of elaborating our national plan for the next five years. Our objective is to transform the economic and social life of the vast population that lives in the countryside. In this process, we not only regard communication as an aid to our development but also actually as an element of our deve-

lopment plan itself.

The low level of literacy in India has impelled to give primacy to inter-personal communication, with electronic media providing the complementary support. Our villagers have been observed to imbibe quickly developmental and motivational messages through the entertaining media of old folk forms employed by our Song and Drama Troupes. Our army of field-based extension workers and developmental communicators have effectively been engaged in imparting knowledge and training to farmers and artisans. Inter-personal contacts provide a platform for a two-way communication which is unthinkable with the mass media. At the same time, alive to the possibilities and practical economies of the electronic media, we have not hesitated to throw our doors open to them. We have recently undertaken a vast experiment in exploiting the satellite for transmitting educational programmes by the help of television tubes located in several thousand villages widely dispersed over our expansive sub-continent. Our Satellite Instructional Television Experiment, popularly "SITE" as it was called, has won wide international acclaim. I do not claim that the SITE experiment was an unqualified success. Its software content could have been improved considerably. But it made us proud that India could produce sophisticated technology. Marked improvement was noted in the level of knowledge on nutrition and hygiene, family welfare and agriculture amongst the community viewers as a result of the SITE experiment. Guided by the experiences we have gained in the operation of communi-

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cation media during the past decades, we intend now to launch upon a comprehensive exercise for the optimisation of our communication efforts with due regard to our resources and to factors like cost effectiveness.

CENTRES OF MEDIA OPERATION

That this does not mean centralisation and control of the media is clear from our Government's policy to free our media from State intervention and bureaucratic control. We also want the centres of media operation to move closer to the people. At the same time our independence in 1947 we had six radio stations whereas today we have 84 of them in India. Indeed, we are planning for many more of them, the ultimate goal being. district level radio stations. Our country is rich in its variety with several cultures, languages, customs and geographical features. We, therefore, realise that communication should be area specific so as to be really effective and meaningful. Consequently, it becomes imperative for our communication planning to aim at democratisation of the media and for ensuring popular participation.

MESSAGE

We consider message to be more important than media. To produce message for unlettered massess is a complicated task. The sophistication required in developmental planning has to be transformed into a language that would guarantee comprehension and retention amongst the uneducated masses. Being a multi-lingual nation, communication is also a means of national integration in our country. Training of communicators in this context is of utmost significance. More than 25 universities in India provide for courses in communication. Our Indian Institute of Mass Communication has trained many scores of foreigners besides Indians and has attracted international attention. The Institute has recently launched a course in news agency journalism for professionals from various non-aligned countries. India shall venture to offer the facilities of this Institute to all those from the Asian region who have identical objectives and shared problems with us.

In the international field there is need for increasing cultural contacts and exchange of information. Correspondents and writers should have greater opportunity to see things for themselves and report facts. The present media map of the world is marked by a dominance of the affluent countries. We continue to depend on their books, their news agencies, their journals, their radio, their television and their films for our knowledge (not of

their countries, which is understandable) but of the world and of our own next-door neighbours. It is good that the recent Paris session of UNESCO adopted an agreed programme to correct this unequal partnership. Particularly welcome is the fact that the threatened confrontation was averted. There is no need for confrontation when the task is cooperation. We should devise greater exchange on bilateral, regional and international basis in the UNESCO spirit. We in India have always been glad to share our experience and training facilities with others in the region and are ready to learn from their experience. I reiterate this desire.

POSITIVE GAINS

India attaches great importance to this regional conference which follows close on the heels of the 20th General Conference of UNESCO in which the Declaration on the contribution of the mass media for understanding and peace and a resolution on the international information order, were passed. Our deliberations in this conference should be designed towards achieving positive gains in the areas of national communication systems and international communication exchanges and cooperation. In the national sphere, we should invent ways to improve man's awareness, protect his culture, and remove distinctions and disparities amongst people belonging to different religions, ethnic groups and sub-culture. At the regional level we should explore the possibilities for exchange of knowledge about each other with a view to improving our culture, trade and economic conditions. We may also think of setting up a bank for television and radio programmes of our different countries. As the region with the largest population and in the process of intense development, lot us strive jointly-to accomplish the tasks which unites us, transcending the division in the

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MALAYSIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE

Date: Feb 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Agreement to Avoid Double Taxation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on February 24, 1979 on the agreement between India and Zambia to avoid double taxation:

A comprehensive agreement between India and Zambia was signed here today providing for the avoidance of double taxation on income.

The agreement was signed by Shri V. V. Badami, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Union Ministry of Finance, on behalf of India and Mr. L. W. Bwalya, Commissioner of Taxes, Zambia, for his country.

The agreement provides for the removal of tax obstacles that hinder the flow of capital, technology and personnel between the two countries.

Earlier, an Indian tax delegation visited Zambia in November, 1978 to initiate discussions on the subject. The New Delhi discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality.

After the agreement was signed, Mr. Bwalya said that Zambia always had the best of relations with India and today's Agreement would help both countries by a greater flow of trade and commerce. Shri Badami reciprocated the sentiments.

ZAMBIA INDIA USA

Date: Feb 01, 1979

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: EXTERNAL PUBLICITY DIVISION GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

USA INDIA PAKISTAN JAPAN POLAND

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Vajpayee's Statement in Rajya Sabha on Aerial Survey of Tri-Junction Points

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, made the following statement in Rajya Sabha on March 6, 1979 while replying to a Calling Attention by Shri Sadashiv Bagaitkar and nine others regarding the reported permission granted to the Chinese authorities for aerial survey by Chinese aircraft over the India-China-Nepal tri-junction points:

As the House is aware, the Government of the People's Republic of China and His Majesty's Government of Nepal had signed. a Boundary Treaty on October 5, 1961. Article I of this Treaty described in detail the Sino-Nepalese boundary. The Treaty also appointed a Joint Boundary Committee with Me responsibility to set UP permanent boundary markers "as necessary on the boundary line between the two countries and then draft a protocol setting forth in detail the alignment of the entire boundary line and the location of the permanent boundary markers". In pursuance of the above understanding, the two countries signed a Protocol on January 20, 1963 which described the total length of the Sino-Nepalese boundary to be 1111.47 kms. with 79 boundary markers fixed in serial numbers 1 to 79 from west to east. They also agreed that they would periodically inspect the boundary markers.

We had examined the position of the two tri-junctions points in east and west soon after the conclusion of the Sino-Nepalese Border Treaty. The Government of India had then made the position clear in Parliament on 16.3.1962 in reply to questions that "the Government of India have no reason to believe that the two tri-junctions with which they are concerned have in any way been erroneously depicted. The Treaty as well as the alignment shown on the maps attached to it broadly follow the traditional high watershed boundary with minor mutual adjustments". It was further clarified that "no action on the part of the Government of India is considered necessary".

The first perodic joint inspection of the Sino-Nepalese periodic joint inspection in the 1963 Sino-Nepalese Protocol, started last year in May.

The Chinese authorities at Peking took the initiative to voluntarily inform us on June 15, 1978, that consequent on agreement between the two Governments of China and Nepal to carry out joint inspection of the Sino-Nepalese border, Chinese aircraft would be undertaking survey flights in areas of Chinese and Nepalese territory, across the Sino-Nepal border. As these survey flights did not involve Indian air space, the question of giving permission by the Government of India for over-flights did not arise. The aerial survey has since been completed and, on careful checking, it can be stated that, in fact, no violation of Indian air space took place.

CHINA INDIA NEPAL USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The following is the text of a press release of the speech, by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, while inaugurating a seminar on 'International Struggle Against Apartheid' prganised in connection with the observance of the U.N. International Anti-Apartheid Year in New Delhi on March 16, 1979:

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies and Friends, we live in an era of growing opposition throughout the world to all forms of dis-

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crimination, and exploitation of man by man. The practice of Apartheid in South Africa, and its wilful extension to Namibia and Zimbabwe represent a clear violation of the UN Charter, a denial of fundamental Human Rights, and a major impediment to international peace. Racial discrimination, segregation, and exploitation by a racist minority, institutionalised as apartheid comprise a total affront to our values of human liberty, equality of man, the dignity of the individual, and the unity of mankind.

We have assembled here in this seminar at a time when the UN International Anti-Apartheid Year is being observed to reinforce the struggle against this evil. A world mobilization against apartheid is essential since its inhuman laws pose a clear threat to international peace and security. While commemorating the courage and valour of the freedom fighters whose struggle against this pernicious doctrine has been long and arduous, the international community must realise that their struggle requires concrete assistance, and not merely verbal support. It is also imperative that all countries must forthwith terminate all contact with Pretoria and Salisbury, and impose an effective embargo on arms supplies and trade.

OPPRESSION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The fountainhead of oppression in Southern Africa is the racist regime of South

Africa. They have maintained an illegal minority regime in Salisbury through subterfuge, treachery and defiance of world opinion. They have retained their illegal control over Namibia through betrayal of a sacred trust and through repression.

The exploitation of the peoples of Southern Africa by the White racist regimes has ensured the plunder and expropriatation of the rich and vast natural resources of these countries. Millions of people toil in abject misery and deprivation in subservience to the ethos of 'settler-colonialism.' However, the brave peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, have with courage and fortitude, risen against the tyranny of their self-appointed 'masters'. Their rising tide of anger can no longer be frustrated. They have the unflinching support of the peoples of the world. They have on their side, the lessons of history.

The sanctions on the illegal Ian Smith regime imposed by the Security Council resolution 253 (1968) have been broken by an illicit alliance of the South African regime and vested interests with enormous economic stakes in Southern Africa. They have abetted and assisted Salisbury in increasing its offensive capabilities.

In Namibia, South Africa has converted the territory into a threatre of repression and brutality, suppressing the spirit of black consciousness. The extension of apartheid to the territory has resulted in economic exploitation, asphyxiation of the rich and variegated culture of the black community, denial of opportunities for education, and denudation of natural resources.

ILLEGAL INTERNAL SETTLEMENT

The termination of the illegal Internal Settlement Government in Salisbury is a matter of the highest priority. There must be an immediate international effort, spearheaded by the UN through effective sanctions under Article 41 of the UN Charter. These must be applied stringently and equally to both Salisbury and Pretoria, in order to take care of the apartheid connection. These

efforts must also be made concertedly by the colonial power responsible for Southern Rhodesia. All possible political and material support must be afforded to the courageous fighters of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, and to the indomitable frontline states who have borne with fortitude the senseless violence inflicted upon them by Rhodesian and South African forces.

India has long supported the liberation struggle of the Namibian people. Our support for SWAPO, both political and material requires no elaboration. Today as events gain momentum towards the establishment of majority rule under UN supervision and control, the intentions of the South African Government are not clear, but suspect. It is evident that they have deliberately sought to create difficulties by making unreasonable demands such its the monitoring of SWAPO bases outside Namibia. That these moves are only a cover for their real motives, i.e. to legitimize the puppet DTA regime the socalled 'Democratic Turnhalle Alliance' illegally installed last December, none can doubt. Should South Africa thus frustrate the Security Council sponsored effort to bring majority rule to Namibia, the General Assembly, with its near universal membership, must

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act. in keeping with the UN Charter and its various resolutions, it must unite to terminate South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia.

ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA

The situation in Zimbabwe and Namibia has direct relevance to the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. The establishment of majority rule and the death throes' of racism in these two countries would inevitably quicken the international campaign against this evil doctrine.

India has long opposed and unequivocally condemned the practice of apartheid in South Africa. It was at India's insistence that the policies of racial discrimination in South Africa were inscribed in the agenda of the UN General Assembly. We have broken all trade

contact with the apartheid regime since our independence and boycotted it in all fields. We severed diplomatic relations in 1954. on numerous occasions, in concert with likeminded Afro-Asian countries we have sponsored and supported resolutions in the UN and other forums calling for the complete isolation of the Pretoria Government.

It is in pursuit of this approach that we have sought the urgent enforcement of an international boycott of South Africa, the cessation of all forms of military and technological collaboration, and the stringent application of the mandatory embargo enforced by the Security Council resolution No. 418 (1977). We have called for revoking of all existing licences for arms manufactures, the cessation of activity by trans-national corporations and the stoppage of all investments in and financial loans to South Africa. No sanction would be complete without a mandatory embargo on petroleum supplies, and we have stressed this aspect also forcefully. As a member of the Special Committee against Apartheid, we have called for better and more humane treatment for political prisoners in South Africa.

Within the limits of our capacity, we have tried to render all possible assistance to the victims of apartheid in South Africa, to South African students and refugees exiled from their country and to the cause of the African National Congress of South Africa.

INTERNATIONAL ANTI-APARTHEID YEAR

The current commemoration of 1978-79 as International Anti-Apartheid Year has, I am happy to say, made our countrymen even more aware of the evils of apartheid. The National Committee of eminent public personalities which has been set up to implement the programme for the Year has done commendable work in this direction.

We welcome the presence in this Seminar of a distinguished South African freedom fighter of the African National Congress of South Africa, Mr. Stephen Tlamini. His presence here lends more immediacy and validity to the issues this International Seminar on Apartheid will consider.

It is my fervent hope that the Seminar will through its deliberations suggest even more effective means of strengthening the international campaign against apartheid and reinforcing our support for the victims of apartheid and those who fight it. I would like to conclude by expressing the hope that this Seminar will make a seminal contribution to the international struggle against apartheid in South Africa in particular, and against domination and subjugation everywhere.

SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA USA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA RUSSIA

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Vajpayee's Statement on Reported US Proposal to Station New Naval Fleet in Indian Ocean

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on March 20, 1979, regarding the reported proposal of the United States of America to station a new naval fleet in the Indian Ocean and to forge a new, military alliance with Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. He was replying to a Calling Attention by Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan and two others:

On March 12, I had expressed our concern in this House over reports of the US Government despatching a carrier-led naval task force to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf area. I Ion. members are understandably con-

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cerned at this move, especially in view of some indications that after the recent events, in Iran and Afghanistan, the US Government is considering the option of increasing US military presence in the region.

We are maintaining a close watch over the developing situation in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf area. We have, however, so far not received any confirmation of the reports that a new military alliance involving Saudi Arabia and Pakistan is being forged. Recent trends, like the disintegration of the CENTO, would suggest that military alliances, involving developing countries, do not serve the declared purposes. On the contrary, such arrangements invite counter-efforts, create instability and come in the way of cooperative relations. Moreover, they also tend to distort internal politics with resultant upheavals as happened recently in some countries of this region.

In this connection it can be reiterated that stability can only be achieved through regional, functional and economic cooperation between countries acting in consonance with their national interests. **Problems** which exist, can best be resolved with mutual respect through peaceful dialogues as has happened recently with the Arab League mediation between the two Yemens. Increased presence by any major foreign power would inevitably bring forth rival build-up and is bound to result in further tension. We firmly believe that the best way to ensure normal peaceful maritime commerce, including the flow of oil, through this region, is to help the countries of the region to develop their economies and resolve their mutual problems.

Recent events have made it more than clear that increased military and naval strength in the area and enhanced super power presence could have adverse consequences, and add to the tensions in the region, which would be of concern to the entire world.

The United Nations is already seized of this problem of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. A conference of littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean and the Gulf is to be held in the coming months.

In keeping with the declared purpose of extending detente to all regions of the world

and what we believe is the considered inclination of the countries around the Indian Ocean and the Gulf, we cannot but caution against any new military arrangement involving super powers Or non-regional countries. We recognise this as a vital area for the world economy. Enlightened policies would Point to defusing tensions rather than adding to them by new forms of multi-lateral mill-tarism.

USA INDIA SAUDI ARABIA PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AFGHANISTAN IRAN YEMEN

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Vajpayee's Statement in Lok Sabha on Reported Situation Arising out of Pakistan Going Nuclear

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on March 30, 1979, regarding the reported situation arising out of Pakistan going nuclear with the help of China and other foreign countries. He was replying to a Calling Attention by Shri Yadvendra Dutt and four others:

A number of reports have come to the attention of the Government regarding the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to purchase equipment which could be used for a programme to develop Nuclear explosive capability.

As the House is aware, Pakistan concluded an agreement with France in January, 1976 to secure a nuclear reprocessing plant. It was reported that US Government had urged that the Pakistan-French programme for reprocessing should be suspended. Some months ago reports appeared that the French

Government had decided to suspend further supplies under the agreement. It is not known what equipment and design had already been supplied. In addition, it was reported that the Government of Pakistan also imported from United Kingdom "Variable Frequency Inverters", an equipment which is used both in synthetic fibre manufacture as well as in gas centrifuges for uranium enrichment. This matter was brought up in the House of Commons in July 1978. We understand that the UK Government

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have taken steps under the Export Control regulations to stop further supplies to Pakistan. We have, however, no information of china giving assistance for Pakistan's nuclear programme.

In any case, in the light of these reports. it was felt that the matter was grave enough to be brought to the attention of the Government of Pakistan. The Prime Minister accordingly took the initiative to write to President Zia on February 8, 1979 expressing India's concern over Pakistan's efforts for acquiring nuclear technology to the point of explosion capability. A reply to this letter has since been received from the President of Pakistan. In his reply dated 3rd March, President Zia has stated that Pakistan's entire nuclear programme is geared to peaceful uses of atomic energy and that Pakistan has no intention of acquiring or developing nuclear weaponry.

POLICY OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

The policy of the Government of India on the nuclear question is well known and has been reiterated on several occeasions in this House as well as outside. We have unilaterally announced our intention to gear our nuclear programme only for peaceful purposes. The possibility of Pakistan developing explosion capability is of understandably grave concern to India. We earnestly hope that the assurance given by President Zia in his letter to the Prime Minister would be adhered in the acquisition of nuclear technology.

PAKISTAN CHINA USA FRANCE UNITED KINGDOM INDIA

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Aid to India as Debt Relief

The following is the text of a press release issued in Now Delhi on March 17, 1979 on exchange of notes concerning Japanese grant aid to India as debt relief measure:

The Government of Japan agreed today to extend a grant aid to India in yen equivalent to Rs. 12.5 crores approximately as a debt relief measure.

Notes to this effect were exchanged between Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, in the Ministry of Finance, and His Excellency Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The grant has the effect of reducing the interest paid by India during 1978-79 on all loans extended by Japan since 1958 to a rate of 3 per cent per annum, which is the interest rate currently being charged by Japan on its latest loans to India. The earlier loans had been extended at a higher rate of interest.

The grant aid is generally untied and will be used to cover payments by India for imports of goods like machinery, components, attachments, spares, raw materials, steel products, chemicals, fertilisers and such other items as may be mutually agreed upon.

The grant aid is extended in compliance

with Resolution 165, on debt relief measures, of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD.

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JAPAN INDIA USA

Date: Mar 01, 1979

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POLAND

Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on March 17, 1979 on India signing a Cultural Exchange Programme with Poland:

An Indo-Polish Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1979 and 1980 was signed in New Delhi on March 17, 1979. The signatories were Dr. D. N. Misra, Joint Educational Adviser in the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, and Mr. Stefan Staniszewski, Joint Secretary, Division of Press, Cultural and Scientific Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland.

The present programme, which is eighth in the series, envisages cooperation in the fields of education, art and culture, sports, radio, television and films. The programme also provides for continuation of existing cultural exchanges as also to further strengthen the common fields of cooperation between the two countries.

Both sides will explore the possibility of recognising and establishing equivalence of degrees and diplomas awarded by the universities and institutions on higher learning in the two countries, besides providing a number of scholarships to the students of each other's country.

In addition to promote exchange of book exhibitions and of contemporary art, direct cooperation between the national museums of the two countries will be encouraged. Visits by the performing artists to each other's country will be arranged.

In the field of film and mass media, India and Poland will promote organisation of film weeks and participation in the international film festivals to be held in each other's country.

Both sides will also encourage cooperation between the press agencies, journalists associations and editorial offices of newspapers of their two countries.

As part of the International Year of the Child programmes, the two countries will promote exchange of children's literature; works of art, toys and dolls, besides encouraging translation of children's books in each other's languages.

The programme has been signed in pursuance of the Cultural Exchange Agreement between India and Poland which was signed 22 years ago.

POLAND INDIA USA

Date: Mar 01, 1979

POLAND Joint Commission Session

The following is the text of a press re-

lease issued in New Delhi on March 24, 1979 at the conclusion of the Sixth Session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission:

The Sixth Session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held in New Delhi from March 19 to 24, 1979. The Indian delegation was led by Shri P. Ramachandran, Minister of Energy and the Polish delegation by H. E. Mr. W. Lejozak, Minister of Mining of the Polish People's Republic.

The leader of the Polish delegation was received by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai, Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri Biju Patnaik, Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Shri D. T. Lakdawala. The leader of the Polish delegation and some members of his delegation visited industrial units in Delhi, Faridabad, Talcher, and Bangalore.

The implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Session of the Joint Commission held in Warsaw in October 1977 was

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reviewed at the plenary meetings and the progress was found to be satisfactory. The joint Commission constituted itself into five Working Groups which covered subjects such as trade exchanges, shipping and fisheries, training and mining machinery, industrial cooperation, chemical industry and science and technology. The Working Groups agreed upon time-bound action oriented programme of cooperation between India and Poland.

In the Protocol of the Sixth Session, which was signed today, it was agreed that in the field of trade exchanges, both sides should encourage greater contacts between Indian and Polish firms and enterprises under the aegis of Indo-Polish Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The Indian side laid special emphasis on their requirements of Urea and sulphur and the Polish side emphasised the need for increasing their exports of engineering goods to India.

COAL MINING

India and Poland have had a long standing cooperation in mining, particularly in coal mining. During the Sixth Session, discussions for further expansion of the cooperation in this field took place. A contract for sinking two shafts in the Jharia coal field has recently been concluded.

In the area of industrial cooperation, the main sectors identified for the expansion and furthering of cooperation related to woollen textile machinery, machine tools, electronic components, components for the automotive industry, construction equipment, mining machinery, components for power projects and design and construction of different kinds of vessels. A new dimension of industrial cooperation between the two sides has been identified for promotion of the small scale sector in India in fields related to manufacture of textile machinery components, handlooms, electronic items, spare for coal mining equipment and agro-based industries.

Several projects of cooperation have also been identified in the chemical industry during the Sixth Session. These relate to transfer of technology in the manufacture of Teflon, furfural from bagasse, cyanuric chloride, gibberilic acid, hydrogenation catalyst and drugs and pharmaceuticals.

The Programme of cooperation in Science and Technology for the period January 1979 to December 17, 1980 was also signed today.

COOPERATION IN SCIENCE

India and Poland will co-operate in the fields of mining equipment, building industry and designing of cement and glass industrial plants. A programme of co-operation was signed by Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, and Director-General Council of Scientific and Industrial Research on behalf of India and His Excellency Mr. J. Czapla, Ambassador of Poland on behalf of the Government of Polish People's Republic. Exchange of know-how for organic intermediate and pesticides, irrigation and water resources, plant cultivation and acclimatization, diseases of potatoes and

futurology are some of the other areas identified in the programmes.

The programme of co-operation emerged from the detailed discussion of the Working Group on Science and Technology during the sixth session of the Commission. This new programme covers the period from January 1979 to December 1980.

The Agreement between the two governments for co-operation in the fields of science and technology was signed in 1974 and activities under this Agreement have been undertaken by signing specific programmes of cooperation for two years.

New items included in the programme are exchanges of scientists between the Indian National Science Academy and Polish Academy of Sciences. The two sides have also agreed to initiate co-operation in the field of high temperature materials and components for plasma research and coal gasification for Magneto Hydro Dynamic power. plants. The two sides will co-operate in the field of water pollution and water quality control.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

The Working Group on Chemical Industry for the Commission has been able to identify a wide range of possibilities for mutual collaboration between India and Poland in the field of chemical industry.

At a meeting in New Delhi on March 24 of the Working Group to sign agreed minutes of discussions, the two sides expressed the hope that an earnest effort would be

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made to pursue and concretise proposal which came up during discussions between the two countries.

The agreed minutes of discussions were signed on behalf of the Department of Chemicals and Fertilisers by the Joint Secretary, Shri N. Varadarajan and on behalf of the Polish side by the Deputy Minister of Chemical Industry, Mr. Jan Sidorowicz.

The Polish side said that it will be possible for them to offer technology and technical assistance, participation in joint ventures, help in modernisation of existing projects and supply of machinery and equipment in respect of identifiable projects.

They also presented a list of technology available with them for various drugs including technology for Binazine, a drug for treatment of hypertension, and also for a new cardiac drug already marketed in Poland

The Indian side indicated keen interest in technology for a number of drugs and pharmaceutical items like Rifampicine, Vitamin B-6, Cephalosporine, Toxoids and Vaccines as well as for chemicals like Toflon, Furfural (from bagasse), Bisphenol-A, Phenol Cuemens, Cyanuric Chloride, Gibberilic Acid, hydrogenation catalysts, etc.

In case technology for Furfural was found acceptable and a project could be established in India, it was agreed that Poland would buy back the product.

The Polish side also Offered technology for petrochemicals like Caprolactam and DMT and it was agreed that the Polish side will pursue their proposals with the concerned Indian Public Sector companies. The Indian side supplied a list of Petro-chemical which would be available for exports from India and also indicated the items that could be imported. The Polish side agreed to examine this in depth.

The Indian side also presented a list of drugs and pharmaceuticals and dyes and dye intermediates for which technology would be available with India. The Polish side agreed to examine the possibilities in respect of these and other items in which they might be interested.

A list of drugs and pharmaceuticals which could be exported to Poland or imported by India was also presented and the Polish side agreed to examine the proposals, particularly the one regarding supply of Streptomycin and Tetracycline to India this

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POLAND INDIA USA RUSSIA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Shri Morarji Desai's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Mr. A. N. Kosygin

The following is the text of speech by Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai at the banquet given by him on March 9, 1979 in honour of the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr. A. N. Kosygin:

On behalf of my Government and of the People of India I extend to you and members of your delegation a sincere welcome. We look upon You as an old and valued friend of our country who has helped in diverse ways not only in the promotion of our mutually beneficial relationship but also in the projection and implementation of many projects in which USSR has cooperated with us. We do not therefore meet as strangers but as friends whose interest in the welfare of each other's country is the common objective. We recall with particular pleasure the historic talks at Tashkent in the wake of a serious conflict between us and Pakistan which ended in the tragic circumstances of the death of the then Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. In all our mutual dis-

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cussions you have shown a deep comprehension of our problems and aspirations. The wealth of information and statistics at your command has always commanded our admiration and the comprehension of our prob-

lems and aims which you have shown has been a notable feature of our discussions.

Indo-Soviet friendship is based on mutual interests and respect for each other's national personality and has withstood changes in the international environment. No two countries can have the same view on every matter of international concern. In our case even where there have been differences we have respected each other's point of view and tried to allow for it in shaping our course of action. I have little doubt that here in Delhi and in the places which you will visit you will sense the warmth of our people's regard for your country which would be a reflection of the conviction and confidence in Indo-Soviet friendship.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

India and the Soviet Union can look back to the history of almost a quarter of a century of steady and growing friendship which has virtually never been doubted or has suffered setbacks. Ever since the foundation of that friendship was laid nearly 25 years ago both of us have realised that notwithstanding different social systems we could forge a relationship of trust and cooperation. Together we heralded an era of peaceful coexistence based on the principles of Panch Sheel. You have appreciated fully our policy of non-alignment not only as an assertion of independence so essential for development but also as a significant contribution to an objective assessment and easing of internation tensions.

The quality and richness; of our collaboartion in the economic field has been a prominent feature in the promotion of our partnership so useful in creating the infrastructure of India's industrial base, particularly in steel, heavy industry and heavy electrical equipment. Bhillai, Bokaro, the Heavy Engineering Corporation and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. are the standing monuments of Indo-Soviet Collaboration. Our annual trade turnover has grown over the years and promises to touch the Rs. 1000 crore mark. Our scientific exchanges range from the exploration of space to the eradication of disease and our cultural and educational liaison has become a smooth and easy process.

Both our countries have a substantial problem of agricultural production. Today we have a sizable agricultural surplus, a growing and self-reliant industrial base, a diversified trade pattern, the availability of trained manpower and technological expertise and a foreign exchange position which is not under pressure. These are the trends of economic activity in which the collaboration of your country has played quite a significant part. It is not only material gain that we have secured through this gigantic economic effort but we have also acquired national confidence and faith in ourselves and in our future. It is a shining example of the benefits which genuine international cooperation can achieve supplemented by well-organised national effort. What is more, India's commitment to a policy of non-alignment has not been an impediment but a positive factor in this development. We can safely presume that neither India nor the Soviet Union would allow any other power to affect the quality and content of our bilateral relationship. Your Excellency will recall that on many occasions we have assured you that our relationship with any other country will not be at the expense of our relationship with yours. That is why, convinced as we are that national policies as well as diplomacy must be true and consistent with honest and moral principles, we have kept Indo-Soviet relationship beyond any question or doubt.

CORDIAL RELATIONS

Looking at the world I cannot but note how when all logic stresses the imperatives of easing tensions and taking the world forward to an era of peace and mutual cordial relations, extending detente and working for nuclear and conventional disarmament, international tensions are on the increase and threaten to multiply and indeed have occasionally led to dangerous developments. The United Nations held a special session on disarmament and strove to deal meaningfully with some of these important problems. Nevertheless the world does not seem to be

wiser either for the experience of the past or for those and similar debates. Today whether it is Africa, whether it is the Middle Fast, or whether it is South East Asia, or for that matter whether it is the Indian Ocean, a feeling of uneasiness and apprehension continues to prevail. Until a few months ago

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there was hope of new bridges of confidence being built to bring about peace and stability in different regions where they were threatened but these hopeful trends have suffered a serious setback. In South-West Asia the people raised their voice for their political rights even at the cost of exchanging stability for a degree of uncertainty. Elsewhere too the situation continues to cause anxiety and the region has yet to establish a basis of internal and regional stability.

I am happy to say, however, that in our own sub-continent south of the Himalayas there is a farmer trend towards good neighbourliness based on equality, non-interference and mutual respect and substantial efforts to resolve mutual differences. India has tried to promote with its own neighbours peace and cooperation and to resolve problems through dialogue rather than the use of force by the equation of power. Our Government has achieved a breakthrough with most, if not all, of our immediate neighbours. Convinced that this is in our own interests and those of the other countries in the region as a whole we intend to pursue this policy with vigour and seek to build on it. It has been a source of satisfaction, to us that this trend has been welcomed by the entire international community. I have no doubt that given stability in this region it may serve as a stimulant and example for other regions. At the same time it may enable us to concentrate on the much greater problem of securing the welfare of many of the countries in this region in which poverty and unemployment are dominant feature of the landscape.

Though our priority is to work for removing misunderstanding and exploring improvement, we can never resile from the basic principles of non-alignment and international cooperation. When a situation developed

recently, which seriously threatened international peace, we came forth spontaneously and vigorously to deplore the situation and asked for urgent ceasefire, a withdrawal of foreign forces, peaceful resolution of any problem, and a resumption of the attempts to build a relationship of trust and cooperation amongst countries in the area. It is our firm faith that peace cannot be stable anywhere if it is not grounded in respect for the independence, integrity and personality of other nations.

I believe that Indo-Soviet relations illustrate the kind of relationship which can and should exist between nations - a relationship which no one need fear because it is motivated by mutual understanding and which all must respect because it is guided by the principle of peaceful co-existence and commitment to peace, detente, cooperation and the outlawing of war. Even while being vigilant in safeguarding our interests and remaining true to our obligations, both our countries have demonstrated the wisdom of restraint. In this context I cannot but express my admiration that even in the face of a dangerous situation President Brezhnev has shown statesmanship and focussed on negotiations for an early SALT Agreement with the United States and a general policy of detente and reduction of armouries and armed forces.

SALT AGREEMENT

Mr. Prime Minister, whilst I am on this subject, I cannot help referring to the urgent need for USSR and USA concluding an agreement on Test Ban Treaty, the SALT Agreement and on the problem which intimately affects us, namely, that of the Indian Ocean, Countries which are dedicated to peace and disarmament in the world, as we are, cannot but be unhappy about the delays that have taken place in bringing these matters to a satisfactory end. Thereby the opportunity to create confidence in the global efforts to achieve these most desirable objectives and to give to the world at large a message of hope and faith has been lost. I have no doubt that an agreement on these issues can be a real forerunner of further agreements which will eventually lead to nuclear and conventional disarmament and enable the world to settle down to an environment in which it can devote itself wholeheartedly to ridding the countries of the evils of poverty and backwardness. It was my privilege to address a Special Session of the United Nations on Disarmament last year in which I ventured to suggest a time-bound programme to achieve nuclear and conventional disarmament through definite stages. That pronouncement proclaims our faith in these aims as an insurance for peace and progress in the whole world. I do hope, Your Excellency, that through persistence in, and dedication to, these efforts we can succeed in creating conditions in which pen and plough share, or shall I say computer and tractors, will help us attain for mankind at large a better stan-

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dard of living and an ennobling richness and quality of life.

We have already had useful exchange of views today. In the next few days, I hope to have fuller and extensive discussions on national and international problems. As always, I have no doubt that these discussions will be based on respect for each other's points of view and will be frank and cordial. I have also no doubt that we will agree on ways and means to strengthen our bilateral relations. Since my Government took over office, our relations have moved to higher level of confidence and cooperation. We have, for the first time, planned for long-term economic cooperation which has been embodied in an agreement which we shall sign before the end of your visit. Thus, we can look forward to the promise that this many-stranded bond of friendship will get closer and stronger, not just this year but in the decade ahead.

I think it would be befitting to quote from our epic poem, the Mahabharata, to describe the nature of Indo-Soviet friendship:

Freely translated, this means, 'Years do not wither nor custom stale the friendship of whose minds meet, ideas converge and perceptions coincide.' Indo-Soviet friendship corresponds to this classic description.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to joint me to drink to the health of His Excellency the President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, His Excellency the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Mr. Kosygin, and to the ever strengthening Indo-Soviet friendship.

INDIA USA UZBEKISTAN PAKISTAN

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Joint Communique

The following is the text of Indo-Soviet Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on March 15, 1979:

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of India, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, His Excellency Mr. A. N. Kosygin, paid an official friendly visit to India from March 9 to 15, 1979.

During their stay in India, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and members of the party visited Ranchi, Anand and Bangalore to acquaint themselves with India's achievements in industry and agriculture.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, His Excellency Mr. A. N. Kosygin, had meetings and discussions with the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the Vice-President, Shri B. D. Jatti, the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of

Finance, Shri Charan Singh, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, Shri Jagjivan Ram, Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and other Ministers of the Government of India.

His Excellency Mr. A. N. Kosygin and members of his party paid homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri by laying wreaths at Rajghat and Vijay Ghat.

On behalf of the citizens of Delhi, the Mayor of Delhi gave a civic reception in honour of the distinguished visitor and members of his party at the historic Red Fort.

Wherever they went, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, His Excellency Mr. A. N. Kosygin was accorded a cordial welcome reflecting the close and friendly ties between the peoples of India and the USSR and the high esteem in which the Soviet leaders were held in India.

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The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, His Excellency Mr. A. N. Kosygin had official discussions with the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai. During these talks which were held in a traditionally friendly and warm atmosphere, the two leaders were assisted by:

INDIAN SIDE

Shri Charan Singh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; Shri Jagjivan Ram, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence; Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs; Shri George Fernandes, Minister of Industry; Shri Biju Patnaik, Minister of Steel and Mines; Shri Mohan Dharia, Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation; Shri H. N. Bahuguna, Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers; Shri Samarendra Kundu, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri V. G. Rajadhyaksha, Member, Planning Commission; Shri I. K. Gujral, Ambassador of India to USSR; Shri V. Shanker, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary; Shri U. S. Bajpai,

Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri A. R. Deo, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs..

SOVIET SIDE

H.E. Mr. B. A. Ashimov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic; H.E. Mr. S. A. Skachkov, Chairman of the State Committee of Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR; H.E. Mr. V. F. Maltsev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; H.E. Mr. Y. M. Vorontsov, Ambassador of USSR to India; H.E. Mr. M. R. Kuzmin, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of the USSR; H.E. Mr. N. N. Inozemtsev, Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR; H.E. Mr. B. T. Batsanov, Head of the Secretariat of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; H.E. Mr. D. D. Venedictov, Deputy Minister of Health of the USSR; H.E. Mr. N. G. Sudarikov, Member of the Collegium, Head of the South Asian Department of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of the USSR; Col. General N. A. Zotov, Director of the Chief Department of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR.

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The two sides reiterated the importance of mutual exchanges of high level visits and recognised the value of continuing this practice on a regular basis. In this context they noted that the visit of His Excellency Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to India in November 1973 and the visit of the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai to the Soviet Union in October 1977 made a special contribution to the development of still closer relations between the two countries.

Growing from strength to strength, Indo-Soviet friendship had stood the test of time and continued to serve as an important factor for peace and stability in Asia and in the whole world. As testimony to these principles, both sides noted with satisfaction the consolidation and the continuing development of Indo-Soviet relations in the spirit of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of August 1971. In recent years a number of major initiatives were taken which have enlarged the scope and enriched the content of friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation in diverse fields. The strengthening of Indo-Soviet relations on the principles of peaceful co-existence is an immutable factor in the foreign policy of both countries. They expressed their determination to further deepen Indo-Soviet cooperation in the interest of the peoples of both countries, detente, international security and world peace. Indo-Soviet friendship bears eloquent testimony to flow relations between countries with different socioeconomic systems can develop constructively when they are based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, strict observance of sovereignty and non-interference in each others' internal affairs.

LONG-TERM PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

The Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai and the Chairman of the Coun-

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cil of Ministers of the Soviet Union, H.E. Mr. A. N. Kosygin signed a Long-Term Programme of Economic, Trade. Scientific and Technical Cooperation for 10-15 years as envisaged in the Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration of 26 October, 1977. In accordance with the Long-Term Programme, cooperation will be further expanded in the field-, of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, machine building. oil and coal industries and agriculture. The two sides will in particular cooperate in further expansion of the steel plants in Bhilai and Bokaro, in the design and construction of a new steel plant in Vizakhapatnam, the agreement on which will be signed in the near future, in the setting up, on a compensation basis, of an alumina plant in Andhra Pradesh and other important projects, modernisation of existing technology and introducing new ones in the projects constructed in the framework of Indo-Soviet cooperation.

The two sides also identified new areas of cooperation in the food, pulp and paper and light industries, in the manufacture of building materials. irrigation and in other fields. New forms of cooperation will be developed including production co-operation and specialization, joint participation in designing and constructing industrial projects in third countries, and cooperation in the sphere of planning. The programme provides that India and the USSR will promote the further growth of mutual trade through diversification of the product-mix and seeking new forms of trade with due regard to the possibilities and needs of the economies of both countries. The Programme also envisages expansion of cooperation in the fields of technology, applied and fundamental sciences.

During the visit the following documents were also signed:

- 1) Agreement on co-operation in the field of Medical Science and Public Health.
- 2) Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1979 and 1980.
- 3) Protocol on supply of agricultural machines and Motor vehicles as a gift for the State Farm in Suratgarh.
- 4) Agreement on additional reciprocal deliveries of some commodities in 1979

Special note was taken on the great significance in the development of Indo-Soviet cooperation in the field of Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy with the signing of an agreement on 22nd January 1979 between the competent authorities of the two countries.

Both sides expressed confidence that the implementation of the Long Term Programme and other agreements signed will raise the mutually beneficial and equitable cooperation between India and the USSR to a still higher level and give it a more dynamic character.

II

INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Reviewing the international scene, the two sides noted with satisfaction the wideranging coincidence of their views on major, international problems. They reaffirmed their determination to continue joint and active efforts bilaterally and in international forums towards the strengthening of international peace and security, the elimination of hot-beds of tension and the prevention of the threat of war and affirmed their conviction that all peoples have a legitimate right to independent development without ouside interference.

India and the Soviet Union noted with satisfaction the relaxation of tensions in Europe and reiterated their desire that this process should be made irreversible and extended to other parts of the globe. The two sides agreed to continue their cooperation bilaterally and together with other countries to promote detente in the world convinced that today more than ever before mankind had no alternative to pursuing the policy of detente.

The two sides are convinced that the cessation of the arms race and the implementation of effective disarmament measures was the most urgent task before the community of nations. They considered that the goal should be the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control with the highest priority being accorded to nuclear disarmament. They were convinced that at least part of the resources released in the process of disarmament should be channelled, first of all, into giving assistance to developing countries.

India and the Soviet Union agreed that the Special Session of the United Nations

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General Assembly on Disarmament held in 1978 had yielded positive results. They emphasised the need to cooperate closely with each other and with other states with a view to implementing the decisions and recommendations of that Session.

Both sides expressed their readiness to cooperate with each other and with other

states in the interests of achieving success in solving such fundamental questions as measures for nuclear disarmament. complete and general cessation of nuclear weapon tests. prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, prohibition of the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction, including the neutron weapons, reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments, and the reduction of military budgets.

The two sides considered that an expeditious conclusion of the talks presently being held between the USSR and the USA on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons, and the signing of an agreement on this subject would make a major contribution to the ending of the arms race and the strengthening of detente. They also agreed that the successful conclusion of the ongoing negotiations on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty would constitute an important step in the direction of nuclear disarmament and ultimately in the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons.

India and the Soviet Union reiterated their determination to seek an early conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations as this would constitute an important step towards lessening the threat of war and creating favourable conditions for making progress towards the goal of general and complete disarmament.

INDIAN OCEAN

The two sides reiterated their firm support for the idea of converting the Indian Ocean into a Zone of Peace in accordance with the wishes of the people of the region. They regretted that the talks on the Indian Ocean between the USSR and the USA had been suspended. India highly appreciated the readiness of the USSR to resume these talks. Both sides expressed themselves in favour of their immediate resumption and successful conclusion, which would contribute to the implementation of the United Nations declaration on the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Reviewing the situation in South Asia, the two sides welcomed the recent positive developments in the region, including the resolution of long-standing problems through bilateral negotiations. The Indian side explained the various initiatives taken by India to normalise relations with the countries of the region in the spirit of shared sacrifices and in the interest of mutual benefit. The Soviet side expressed high appreciation of the initiatives of the Government of India.

The two sides expressed the hope that peoples of the countries of the region would continue to live in an atmosphere of peace and good neighbourliness. They were convinced that increasing regional cooperation would serve the interest of the peoples of South Asia by contributing greater stability and opportunity for economic development and thus serve the cause of peace in Asia and the world.

Having reviewed the situation which has developed in South East Asia in connection with the massive armed attach by China on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam India and the Soviet Union demanded an immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Chinese troops from the territory of Vietnam.

The two sides considered it necessary to exert further efforts in the interest of strengthening peace in the Asian continent, of developing cooperation among all Asian countries on the principles of sovereign equality and independence, non-use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of states, non-interference into internal affairs and on other generally recognised principles of inter-state relations. Acceptance of these principles in interstate relations would contribute to the transformation of Asia into a continent of durable peace and to strengthening of world peace.

India and the Soviet Union expressed their deep concern over the continuing serious threat to peace in West Asia and pronounced themselves once again in favour of a comprehensive and just settlement of the problem on the basis of the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories

occupied in 1967, the securing of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to establish their won state as well as the ensuring for all states in the area the right to independent existence

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and development. A Just and durable settlement in West Asia could be reached only in accordance with the UN resolutions providing the participation and protection of the rights of all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The two sides expressed their-support for the just struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa against colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination. They resolutely condemned the racist regimes of Pretoria and Salisbury and the illegal occupation of Namibia by the South African regime. They fully supported the demands for the unconditional and immediate transfer of power to representatives of the majority of the people of Zimbabwe, the granting of genuine independence to the people of Namibia and an immediate end to the policy of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa. The two sides demanded the total and immediate withdrawal by the Republic of South Africa from the entire territory of Namibia including Walvis Bay. In the light of the organised breach of UN sanctions against the illegal racist minority regime in Rhodesia they called for the strict enforcement of the sanctions by all members of the international community.

India and the Soviet Union believed that the non-aligned movement was a positive factor in international relations and greatly contributed to the cause of maintaining world peace, the struggle against imperialism and aggression and the elimination of the remnants of colonialism, racialism, and apartheid, and the establishment of just and equitable economic relations among all states.

Both sides considered it necessary to work for restructuring international economic relations on a democratic basis which would facilitate a more rapid development of developing countries, the progress of entire mankind and the establishment of a, new international economic order based on respect for national sovereignty, on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. They expressed the hope that the forthcoming Fifth Session of UNCTAD would contribute to this goal.

India and the Soviet Union agreed that they would continue to cooperate further towards enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations in ensuring lasting peace and strengthening international security. They would extend support to all measures to implement these goals in strict accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

III

CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS

Expressing their satisfaction at the results of the visit of the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers to India, the two sides noted that the fruitful and constructive talks which were held between them contributed greatly to the development and strengthening of Indo-Soviet friendship and all round cooperation. The two sides were convinced that the visit has further deepened mutual understanding and confidence between the two countries.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR expressed his sincere gratitude to the Government and the people of India for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and the members of his party during the stay in friendly India.

On behalf of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, extended invitations to the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and the Vice President, Shri B. D. Jatti, to pay official friendly visits to the Soviet Union.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, on behalf of the Soviet leadership, invited the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai, to pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union.

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INDIA USA RUSSIA LATVIA MALI CHINA VIETNAM ISRAEL NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister's Statement in Parliament

The following is the text of statement by the Prime Minister in Lok Sabha Rajya Sabha on March 26, 1979 reqarding the recent visit to India of the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr. Alexei Kosygin:

As the House is aware, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of USSR, His Excellency Mr. A. N. Kosygin paid an official visit to India from March 9 to 15, 1979. Since his last visit to India in 1968, there had been several changes in the face of Indian economy and agriculture. We therefore thought that it would be appropriate for us to acquaint him with the pace and quality of Indian development. His programme accordingly included three days of stay in Delhi and two days for visits to outside places. He visited the Heavy Engineering Corporation palnt in Ranchi, spent some time at Anand visiting a typical Indian village, the Amul dairy plant and the National Dairy Development Board. lie also visited the Hindustan Machine Tools plant and the Indian Space Research Organisation Centre at Bangalore. Wherever he went he showed keen appreciation of the institutions he visited and the warmth of his reception.

During his stay in Delhi, he had several

long discussions with me and with the Deputy Prime Minister (Finance) and Deputy Prime Minister (Defence), the Minister of External Affairs and the Minister of Industry. We had two plenary meetings with some members of our Government and the senior members of his delegation. The joint communique, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House, gives a summary on the important points arising out of the various discussions. Since the communique contains the important conclusions we reached during our discussions I am refraining from repeating them here.

Indo-Soviet relations are a vivid demonstration of how two countries different in their socioeconomic structures can work together for bilateral advantage and on the basis of Panch Sheel. Cooperation between our two countries has gathered new momentum and constitutes an important factor for peace and stability in Asia, indeed in the world.

Soviet Union recognises the validity of India's policy of non-alignment which is reflected in our independence of judgment and action. We on our part recognise what Soviet Union has done to ensure detente and promoting cooperation in Europe. We would like to see this process of detente extended to other parts of the globe. It was therefore natural that we viewed with some concern the disturbed situation in South East Asia and also in our West. We agreed that the people of a country should be allowed to develop themselves without outside interference, in a manner of their choice and in a way suited to their own genius. We also agreed that relations between countries must be governed on basic principles such as respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty and non-use of force. We recognised that for peace and stability in Asia it was necessary for all countries in, the region to cooperate with each other for mutual benefit and on the basis of equality and respect for sovereignty.

I am very happy to say that there was a very wide ranging similarity of views between our two countries. As the House is aware, the mutually beneficial cooperation between India and the Soviet Union extends to a very large number of fields. It is a happy tradition in Indo-Soviet relations that the leaders of the two countries periodically meet and exchange views on a number of subjects covering both bilateral relations and the international situation. The present visit has once again demonstrated the great value of such contacts since they serve to bring the, two countries even closer together. We are confident that as a result of the discussions held during this visit, Indo-Soviet cooperation will receive a further impetus and the degree of understanding which prevails between us will grow as time goes by.

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INDIA USA

Date: Mar 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Co-operation in Information Sciences

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on March 1, 1979 on the signing of a protocol between India mid Soviet Union:

India and the Soviet Union will have a long term and broad-based cooperation in the field of scientific and technical information. A protocol to this effect was signed in New Delhi on February 28, 1979. Mr. N. P. Turtanov, Deputy Chief, Department of Scientific and Technical Information, USSR State Committee on Science and Technology, and Mr. N. Appukuttan, Director, Department of Science and Technology signed on behalf of their respective countries. Prof.

M-. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology was also present.

The two sides have agreed to exchange scientific and technical information, documentation and translated documents of mutual interest in science and technology. In the context of the development of National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT) in India and the State system of STI in the USSR, there will be visits of information scientists in both directions. Periodical Organisation of joint seminars, inter library loans and training of information scientists are a few of the areas identified for cooperation.

It was agreed that a joint working group on scientific and technical information would be established. The working group will draw up plans for co-operation; ensure smooth implementation of agreed projects and prepare proposals for further co-operation.

The Department of Science and Technology in India and the State Committee for Science and Technology in the USSR will be the nodal points responsible for the implementation of the recommendations.

The agreement was signed at the end of the 10-day visit of a Soviet Delegation on Information Sciences to India. The visit was part of the agreement between the two countries in the field of applied science and technology signed in October 1972.

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INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Mar 01, 1979

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The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on March 21, 1979 on the signing of an aid agreement between India and United Kingdom:

India and the United Kingdom signed here today an agreement for a British grant of Rs. 33.75 crores (& 20.089 m) for local costs of agreed Indian projects and programmes.

Shri R. N. Malhotra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Mr. M. K.. Ewans, British Deputy High Commissioner in India signed the agreement on behalf of their respective countries.

The grant is in pursuance of the agreement signed on January 25, 1979 for annual commitments by U.K. of local costs aid in lieu of debt relief to India, and represents the first-ever commitment by UK of this aid.

The amount of Rs. 33.75 crores is to be utilised for covering a part of refinance disbursements of the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation and for meeting

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local costs associated with the installation of gas turbines by the West Bengal State Electricity Board.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Malhotra thanked the Government of the United Kingdom for this generous grant. He added that the relationship between India and the United Kingdom was much deeper than economic ties and hoped that cooperation between the two countries would grow even further in years to come.

Mr. M. K. Ewans, said, "The growth of our normal aid programme to India and the decision to make local cost funds available demonstrate the British Government's continuing commitment to India's development programme, and reinforce Britain's position as the largest bilateral aid donor to India".

This is the first of 22 annual grant agreements to be signed between now and the end of this century, which will make available in total & 565 million, (Rs. 949 crores), to help finance the rupee costs of Indian development projects and programmes. The British Government's decision to make these funds available to India was announced by Mrs. Judith Hart, the British Minister for Overseas Development, on July 31, 1978, and is part of a move to relieve a number of countries, including India, of the debt burden arising from past official loans from Britain.

Today's agreement is in addition to the grants totalling & 145 million, (Rs. 239.25 crores), pledged by the Government of U.K. at the last Consortium meeting in Paris and signed on January 25 by Sir Peter Preston Permanent Secretary of the British Ministry of Overseas Development, and Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India.

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Date: Mar 01, 1979

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Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

ALGERIA

Memorandum of Understanding Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 23, 1979 on the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Algeria:

India and Algeria have identified several industrial projects in Algeria for participation by Indian firms. A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed here today between Shri George Fernandes, the Minister of Industry and H.E. Mr. Mohamed Liassine, the Algerian Minister for Heavy Industry.

An impressive beginning has been made recently with Indian firms securing contracts for a value of Rs. 40 crores covering the fields of consultancy, electricity, machine tools, meter manufacture and engineering construction. The project being implemented by the Hindustan Machine Tools in Algeria for manufacture of meters is for a value of about Rs. 9 crores.

The framework of further cooperation agreed to by both the Ministers envisages participation of Indian firms and their assistance in several projects in Algeria, e.g. in manufacture of cutting tools, electronics, electrical equipment, setting up a spare parts design bureau for the El Hadjar Steel Complex, erection, civil construction, design and production of steel structurals, coal mining projects and production of components and accessories for large industrial complexes in Algeria. Another important area of cooperation relates to participation by HMT in setting up of training centres for mechanical and other engineering disciplines in Algeria.

It has been agreed that negotiations would be taken up between the countries for long-term contracts for supply of petroleum oil to India, and of engineering components from India to Algeria.

The framework of cooperation also establishes preferred relationship in respect of Indian cooperation in all sectors of Algerian economy. The projects in which India would participate also include services, consultancy, deputation of Indian personnel and training of Algerian personnel.

The value of identified projects to be negotiated further by Indian counterpart organisations, chiefly HEC, HMT, MECON, Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd. (HSCL), Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels, Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. comprise a value in the first stage of about Rs. 200 crores.

Time bound programme for submission of detailed commercial offers by Indian firms and negotiations have been laid in the Memorandum of Understanding and the progress will be reviewed periodically by the two Ministers.

INVITATION TO SHRI FERNANDES

The Algerian Minister has extended an invitation to Shri George Fernandes to visit Algeria. This has been accepted and the visit would provide an opportunity to review the further progress of Indian participation

and assistance in important large value projects in Algeria.

The Algerian Minister, accompanied by the Directors General of SN Metal, an Algerian Public sector enterprise which is concerned with engineering and structural industries, and SONELEC which is concerned with manufacture of electricals and electronics, arrived in India on April 17, 1979 on an eight-day visit. He had detailed discussions also with Shri Biju Patnaik, Minister of Steel and Mines and Shri Mohan Dharia, Minister of Commerce.

The Algerian delegation visited and had detailed discussions with the Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC), Ranchi, Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation of India Ltd. (ECIL), Hyderabad, HMT Limited, Bangalore and Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, Indian Telephone Industries (ITI), Bangalore, Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd. (BHPV), Visakhapatnam.

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ALGERIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in Dacca

The following is the text of the return speech made by Shri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India, at the Banquet on April 16 1979 given in Dacca in his honour by President Zia-ur-Rahman:

Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies an Gentlemen, may I first of all express my gratitude for your gracious hospitality an your words of welcome to me and the members of my party.

Let me say how happy I am to be in Bangladesh today, a day after you celebrated the Paila Baishakh. In many parts of India also, we celebrate the day as a festive occasion. My visit to your country could not have been on a more joyous occasion.

Mr. President, I have come here not merely to return your very significant visit to India in 1977. I do believe that being such close neighbours we should endeavour to meet more often. It is through such exchange of visits that we can build up our relationship in the true spirit of mutual cooperation and good neighbourliness.

With our commitment to the democratic way of life and functioning, we are particularly glad that you, Mr. President, have recently held Parliamentary Elections in your country and formed your Council of Ministers only yesterday. I should like to congratulate Your Excellency on the felicitous consummation of your efforts to democratise your country's set up and to extend my best wishes to your Prime Minister and Council of Ministers to whom the welfare of your countrymen has now been entrusted. I need hardly assure Your Excellency that in securing the betterment of your people, we will be happy to extend our fullest cooperation. Let me also say that in the welfare of your people, as indeed of the people of India ultimately rest the promise of ensuring the peace and stability in the sub-continent.

WARMTH OF GOODWILL

Mr. President this is my first visit to your great country. I am happy that the ravages and sear., of the recent past are no longer visible to the eye. During my journey from the airport today I was happy to see cheerful faces especially of children in the multitude which gathered along the path. We trust that your efforts to give them better life and better opportunities will bear fruit in the years to come. The warmth of your

goodwill has generated in me an abiding faith in the future of cooperation and goodwill between our two countries.

Mr. President, it is not only geography which has brought us together in close neighbourliness, it is also the shared history and common heritage of culture, philosophy, religion and thought. The community of problems which both of us have faced adds enhanced emphasis to geographical contiguity. The economy of your country and a significant part of ours depend on the waters of the Ganga-Brahmaputra river system which, passing through India, find their way to the sea through Bangladesh. For both of as the river waters are a source of sustenance and richness as well as, when in fury, a threat to life and property of the vast numbers that inhabit their banks. It is upto both of us to expedite the benefit that they confer and provide against the dangers they threaten. In one of the resultant problems, namely Farakka, we have already made a breakthrough.

JOINT RIVERS COMMISSION

We have set up a Joint Rivers Commission which has been continuously engaged in dealing with many other problems that have arisen from time to time. The problem of river waters has been notoriously difficult one throughout history, not only in our two countries but almost, everywhere in the world. I have every hope that the spirit of the Ganga Waters Agreement continues to guide the Joint Rivers Commission and the two Governments. I realise that for both of us, the course of these rivers compel us to follow a cooperative approach for the optimum utili-

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zation of these rivers waters for the mutual benefit of our peoples. I should like to urge in all earnestness, however, that our primary consideration should first be to study together our own conditions and circumstances before turning to other countries for their help and assistance. The path of prudence lies in arriving at a common approach as a result of the study of relevant factors in the Joint Rivers Commissions and to work out

the lines of study and thinking on which we may have to seek cooperation of others. It is only thus that we can reach a final solution, both expeditiously and effectively.

WIDER CO-OPERATION

The problem of utilization of river waters is important enough, but let me say in all sincerity that the field of wider cooperation in the economic sphere is no less. Our own Government and, I am sure, our own people, would do whatever we can to promote the economic well-being of your people through expansion of trade and technical cooperation and technical assistance in industry and providing access to your industrial and agricultural output to the Indian market. In this connection, I particularly mention the potential that lies in joint cooperation in the manufacture of cement, fertilizers and sponge iron, the products of which could find a negotiated market in India itself. We can also try to meet some of your requirements out of our own industrial and agricultural output and thereby promote expansion of trade between our two countries to the common benefit of both. I cite these only as instances of the manner in which we can so regulate our relationship that we can dwell on factors which unite rather than circumstances that may divide our thoughts and actions.

In such an environment, should we not derive inspiration from the great Bengali poet, Kazi Nazrul Islam, who has spoken the fundamental equality of man, in hi words:

"Of equality I sing,

Where all barriers and differences

Between man and man have vanished

Where Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and Christians

Have mingled together,

Of equality I sing."

These are noble ideas which must find

an echo in the hearts of both of us and our people. The sentiments embodied in these words constitute an inescapable commitment if humanity is to achieve progress, prosperity and peace. These are also indispensable conditions for peoples of diverse creeds, religions and cultures to live together in this world of ours in which tension and conflicts seem to prevail over amity and goodwill. So far as I am concerned, I fully and sincerely subscribe to the governing principle of international relationship so aptly embodied in the Panchsheel doctrine. I have faith and confidence that these ideas would inspire and govern the relationship between India and Bangladesh.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency President Ziaur Rahman of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Mrs. Rahman; to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, His Excellency Mr. Shah Azizur Rahman, and Mrs. Azizur Rahman; and to the continuance and strengthening of bonds of friendship, understanding and mutually beneficial cooperation between the people of India and the people of Bangladesh.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Prime Minister's Statement at Press Conference in Dacca

The following is the text of the statement of the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, at the press conference in Dacca on April 17, 1979:

Friends, I am very happy that my first Visit to your beautiful country has been so well timed. Only two days ago, you celebrated the festival of Paila Baishakh, while today, eight years ago, Bangladesh declared itself as the Republic of Bangladesh. I see in this coincidence the hand of providence in strengthening the bonds of friendship and understanding between our two countries. It looks

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as if your worthy President followed some inner instincts in suggesting these dates for my visit. I am grateful to him for the great honour fie has done to me by inviting me to come here. In my visit to the National Martyrs' Memorial at Savar yesterday and the Rice Research Institute at Joydebpur today, I symbolically salute your past and your future.

HAPPY COINCIDENCE

Another happy coincidence is that my visit follows the conclusion of your Parliamentary elections and the induction into office of a new elected Government. We, who are committed to the democratic way of life, derive particular pleasure in feeling that our good and worthy neighbour has chosen the same path. India and Bangladesh have many things in common. We share with you not only history, language, culture and traditions, but also literature and ideals of tolerance, compassion and brotherhood. In addition, the same important rivers, which bring down to our land the wealth of waters from the Himalayas, ultimately shower their blessings on your land. When our destinies are so intertwined, it is tragic to think that situations have arisen in the past which kept us apart. At the same time, it is heartening to reflect that past is no more and both our countries and also leaders have dedicated themselves to a future of friendship, understanding, cooperation and closeness. That closeness is not the exclusive beneficiary of the one but the blessing of both.

POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP

Since my assumption of office, I have, time and again, expounded our policy of friendship with all countries but in particular with our neighbours. During the last two years, we have given ample evidence of the meaningfulness, genuineness and sincerity of this approach founded on the principles of Panchsheel. With your country, in particular, I have seen to it that with the cooperation of your President, who shares the same approach, we charter our course of the future with trust and confidence in each other. We have removed many irritants and resolved important old problems which had bedevilled our relations. It is in that new spirit that we could make a breakthrough in the problem of Ganga waters at Farakka which had defied us over the previous thirty years. On that basis and in that spirit, we are determined to solve many other problems connected with the river system which both of us share. The visit of your President a year-and-a-half ago marked a prominent milestone in this process of mending our fences and giving a new turn to the wheels of progress. Here I should like to pay a tribute to the great stride which Bangladesh has made in the development in various directions, particularly in the economic field.

As neighbours, there are bound to be problems which many come up from time to time. India is a country tolerant of all religions and, in the spirit of our Constitution, we are enjoined to give to every citizen and every community equal rights, equal protection and equal opportunities to enable everyone to make a contribution to our national progress. If one community should have a sense of insecurity, we look upon it with grave concern. We seek to build confidence based on toleration so that all citizens may rejoice in the national progress. I am assured that your Government also seeks to ensure equal rights and opportunities for all its citizens. On this basis, we must facilitate the flow of ideas and experience and permit cultural intercourse and prevent illegal movement of people to each other's lands. This, too, would become part of the endeavour to build our friendship.

UNDERSTANDING

During this visit, what has impressed me very intimately is the warmth of the reception that I have received everywhere, whether at the official or non-official levels. I cannot forget the long rows of men, women and children which lined the streets during my journey from the airport to Bangabhaban and all along every route that I covered during my other outings in your capital. I can assure you that during our discussions with your President at the personal level and with the Members and officials of your Government at the official level we have been able to reach understandings on many important problems which affect the destinies of our two countries now and in future. We are agreed that there is great scope to explore new avenues, of cooperation and mutual assistance and forge new sinews of development which can fit into our respective plans. Working together we can make the best use of the resources particularly the river system which we share in common. We can expand our trade both qualitatively and quantitatively.

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We can collaborate in mutually beneficial industrial ventures which would build up your economy and at the same time give your products access to Indian markets. We can thus truly become equal partners in each other's progress to the mutual benefit of millions of our citizens. Ravages of time have brought us face to face with problems of poverty and unemployment. These are the problems which among neighbours can be settled only by mutual help and collaboration. It is only thus that we can bring about in our respective countries a spirit of contentment that will give meaning and content to the sense of security.

CLIMATE OF RELATIONS IN SUB-CONTINENT

Both of us recognise that we have to live at any rate for the time being in a troubled world. South Africa, West Asia and South-East Asia, are areas of tension and conflict today. I am happy that in our own subcontinent and in the region in our neighbourhood, the climate of relations has so improved that we can devote ourselves peacefully to the urgent task of economic progress. The call of suffering humanity is always impossible to resist and whether in our own lands or elsewhere, whether it is war or conflicts or

whether it is natural calamities, the task of administering relief and limiting threats and dangers is always paramount. I am very happy to feel that whenever such situations have arisen in our region we have always tried to help each other. It is this spirit of mutual help which should guide us in following the path of peace and progress. Regional cooperation in matters of development, particularly among developing countries, is, therefore, the sine qua non of peace and stability. I have no doubt that as neighbours we shall bend our energies in that cause and through success in our efforts we shall promote the same elsewhere.

I am greatly encouraged by my visit and my discussion with your leaders. As I shall take leave of you and your country tomorrow morning, I shall be doing so with the conviction that the visit of your President to India and my visit to your country have undoubtedly strengthened our bonds of friendship. We are both committed to non-alignment in our attitude to the rest of the world. Our friendship does not, therefore, claim any exclusiveness and I have no doubt that both of us in our relations with other countries emit the same spirit of friendliness and goodwill.

Finally, I would like to convey my greetings and good wishes to the Government and people of Sonar Bangla for a happy and prosperous future.

BANGLADESH USA INDIA PERU SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India-Bangladesh Joint Communique

The following is the text of the India-Bangladesh Joint Communique:

At the invitation of His Excellency President Ziaur Rahman of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Shri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, paid an official goodwill visit to Bangladesh from April 16-18, 1979.

The Prime Minister laid a wreath at the Jatiyo Shaheed Smriti Shaudho (National Memorial for Martyrs) at Savar. He also visited the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute at Joydebpur.

On behalf of the citizens of Dacca, the Mayor of Dacca presented a Key of the City to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister of India had discussions with the President of Bangladesh. Discussions were also held between the delegations of the two countries, at which the Prime Minister of India was assisted by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, Shri V. Shankar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri J. S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary and other senior officials. The President of Bangladesh was assisted by His Excellency Mr. Justice Abdus Sattar, Vice-President, His Excellency Shah Azizur Rahman, Prime Minister, His Excellency Dr. A. Q. M. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Senior Deputy Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr. Moudud Ahmed, Deputy Prime Minister, His Excellency Prof. Muhammad Shamsul Huq, Minister for Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Mr. Saifur Rahman, Minister for Commerce, His Excellency Capt. (Retd) Nurul Huq Minister for Ports, Shipping and

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Inland Water Transport, His Excellency Mr. S. A. M. S. Kibria. Foreign Secretary and other senior officials of the Government of Bangladesh.

These discussions. were held in a spirit of great cordiality and mutual understanding and covered bilateral, regional and international issues. The talks confirmed their common desire to consolidate and further

strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries.

The two leaders re-affirmed that the role of the Non-Alignment Movement was an important factor in promoting peace and understanding among nations. In this respect they stressed the need to preserve the unity and solidarity of the non-aligned countries.

The two leaders reviewed the international situation and emphasised that peace and stability could be ensured only by strict adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, especially respect for sovereign equality and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, non-use of force and peaceful settlement of all disputes.

The President and the Prime Minister expressed their conviction that beneficial cooperation among the countries of South Asia in a climate of mutual respect and equality and the resolutions of all bilateral problems through peaceful negotiations would contribute towards durable peace in the region.

The President and the Prime Minister reaffirmed their commitment to raising the quality of life of all their peoples regardless of their economic, social, religious and other differences.

The President and the Prime Minister reiterated their firm commitment to take all necessary steps for the optimum utilisation of the water resources available to them. It was agreed that a mutually acceptable solution for the long-term augmentation of the Ganges waters should be found as quickly as possible. The problems relating to some of the border rivers were discussed. It was agreed that the Joint Rivers Commission initiate immediate actions to resolve these problems to the mutual satisfactions of both the countries. It was decided that the Joint Rivers Commission would also work out an agreement on the sharing of the waters of Teesta at an early date.

The two leaders discussed the delay In the implementation of the Land Boundary

Agreement of 1974 and agreed that all necessary measures be taken to overcome the difficulties in order that the Agreement could be implemented as speedily as possible. It was agreed that the two sides would resume negotiations at an early date to resolve the question of the maritime boundary on a mutually satisfactory basis.

The two leaders agreed that great possibilities existed for increasing cooperation in economic, trade, agriculture, shipping and technical fields, including the establishment of joint ventures. In that context, some specific export-oriented projects such as the manufacture of cement, sponge iron and urea fertilizer were identified.

The two sides stressed the need for augmenting and diversifying trade between the two countries, particularly with a view to reducing the existing trade imbalance. It was agreed that infrastructural facilities including transport and telecommunication should be improved.

Cooperation in the fields of education, culture, information and science and technology was also discussed. It was noted that there was considerable scope for expanding such cooperation.

Bound as the two countries are by ties of geography, history, traditions and culture, the leaders reiterated the importance of mutual exchange of high level visits, and recognised that such periodic visits were necessary for maintaining and further developing close and friendly relations between them. Both sides noted with satisfaction that the visit of the President of Bangladesh to India in December 1977 and of the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh in December 1978 had made an important contribution to developing friendly cooperation and enhancing mutual understanding between the two countries.

Expressing their satisfaction at the results of the visits of the Prime Minister of India. the two sides noted that their fruitful and constructive discussions had contributed greatly towards increasing mutual trust and

friendship between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of India expressed his sincere gratitude to the President, the

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Government and the people of Bangladesh for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and the members of his party during their stay in Bangladesh.

The Prime Minister of India extended invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to visit India. The invitations were gratefully accepted.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA PERU RUSSIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Prime Minister Morarji Desai's Statement in Lok Sabha on His Visit to Bangladesh

The following is the text of the statement by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai in the Lok Sabha on April 19, 1979 regarding his visit to Bangladesh:

Sir, at the invitation of the President of Bangladesh I visited the People's Republic of Bangladesh from April 16 to April 18. I was accompanied by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister for External Affairs.

A copy of the Joint Communique issued after my visit is placed on the Table of the I louse.

The Joint Communique speaks for itself and I have only to highlight some of the important items which we discussed and on which we reached satisfactory agreements and to supplement the communique in regard to certain matters. The House will recall that when President Ziaur Rahman visited Delhi in 1977 we had finalised the agreement with regard to Ganga waters at Farakka and also considered certain trade and other matters of economic interest. I am happy to say that during this visit of mine we were able to carry the matters much furher.

On the question of river waters while the process of final solutions to our problems by the Joint Rivers Commission would continue we have agreed that the attempt should be made to secure optimum utilisation of the waters not only of Ganga but also of other waters available in common to both the countries. We have therefore decided that Joint Rivers Commission should set up a local machinery to resolve problems of local nature such as construction oil spurs on the rivers loading to erosion of banks. It would also take further steps to reach an agreement on sharing of waters of River Teesta and undertake further studies on the problems arising Out of its great river basin of the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Barak. I am confident that in this manner we shall succeed in removing some of the more difficult irritants in the relationship of our two countries.

SPECIAL PRIORITY

Since the Janata Government came to power, we have been giving special priority to the building up of better relations with our neighbours. I am happy to say that the response to our efforts has been more encouraging than what we could have envisaged two years ago. My experience of this visit confirms it. We received a warm welcome not only from the President and the Government but also from the people of Bangladesh as was evident from the large crowd of people which thronged the roads in the capital of Bangladesh. I could not but feel that this was evidence of the wide and growing desire for improving relations based on mutual respect and good neighbourliness between the two countries.

President Ziaur Rahman and I both

agreed that such efforts in improving mutual beneficial bilateral relations must continue and in such efforts periodic high-level meetings such as this one could play an important role in resolving difficulties and giving momentum to mutual cooperation that must mark a common effort to promote cordial and mutually helpful relationship between our two countries.

ENLIGHTENED CO-EXISTENCE

With two countries so closely connected because of geography, language, race and culture, it is essential that the people on both sides must share this feeling of enlightened co-existence. In our conversations, we discussed the concern for and damage to the process of building and preserving such relationship on account of the circumstances which lead to trade barriers, a sense of aloofness, economic disparities and illegal migrations across the frontiers. It was re-

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cognised that if any group of citizens bemuse of cultural or social status should have a sense of insecurity it cannot only create economic problems but also vitiate the atmosphere of cordiality of our relations. Confidence and trust can be built only on tolerance so that all citizens can feel the glow of national progress of their country. I was assured by the President and the Bangladesh Government that it was the policy to ensure equal rights and opportunities of all communities and that efforts would continue to be made to promote the climate of confidence and security.

The difficulties in implementing the land Boundary Agreement were considered in some depth. It must be recognised that we have been unable to complete the ratification and implementation of this Agreement concluded five years ago. At the same time we felt that in some cases such as Tin Bigha, the rights and the access of the people living in the areas had to be preserved. We fully recognised the need to settle the problem quickly.

Turning to economic relations, we found that while trade had been expanding it was

resulting in a growing imbalance. Both sides felt that efforts must be made to reduce this imbalance while at the same time increasing overall trade. We have agreed to take a series of steps to provide greater access for Bangladesh commodities to Indian markets. The existing machinery for discussing trade is being strengthened and will meet whenever required.

It was also recognised that certain facilities such as transport and telecommunications between the two countries should be considerably improved to facilitate trade. We will take necessary steps to build up this infrastructure on our side of the border.

We also briefly discussed various possibilities of providing assured and more efficient transport facilities between various parts of India through Bangladesh. Again we hope these facilities will be expanded and made more effective.

As the communique points out we have identified Cement and Sponge Iron, Chittagong Urea Plant and the purchase of its output by India as problems which would be given urgent attention. For this purpose it has been agreed that discussions will be held by a delegation to be headed by our Industry Minister, Shri George Fernandes and their counterparts in Bangladesh. The delegation would also consider the question of infrastructure facilities relating to communication, transport, power etc. required for the implementation of these projects.

The question of cooperation for the development of Machine-tools, Agro-based rural industries, Mini-Textile, Agricultural implements, Bio-gas projects and other small scale industries were discussed and it was agreed that in these fields collaboration between the two countries could be forged and we could extend our helping hand to Bangladesh Government for securing the economic development of their country. An important gain is the agreement to promote Joint Ventures and consequently to negotiate expeditiously an agreement for avoidance of double taxation.

FOODGRAINS

In order to meet certain difficulties immediately faced by Bangladesh, in response to their request we have agreed to provide them immediately with 200,000 tonnes of foodgrains. The details of this transaction are being discussed. It is, however, anticipated that a large proportion of these foodgrains will be returned to us in kind.

Consistent with our policy to improve our relations with the neighbours I am encouraged to think that in Bangladesh not only have we succeeded in extending the range and quality of cooperation but also in giving it more meaning and content. I am also happy to convey to this House the assurance of the President of Bangladesh that there would be no question of giving any assistance to the Mizo National Front. We both have agreed that local machinery would be set up to ensure that both sides make adequate arrangements to deal with any trouble-some elements which may create border problems in that area.

By a happy coincidence I not only visited Bangladesh on the anniversary of the declaration of the Republic of Bangladesh but also as their first official guest after a Government responsible to the newly elected Parliament had been sworn in. The House will notice that the visit gave me several opportunities to discuss with the President and Ministers of the Government of Bangladesh a very wide range of bilateral subjects and also

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to exchange views on the regional and international situation.

Finally I would like to place on record my feeling of gratitude to President Ziaur Rahman and the members of his Government for the cordiality, friendship and spirit of understanding which they displayed during the entire visit and the hospitality extended to us. I have also extended an invitation to President Ziaur Rahman and Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman to visit us and will be looking forward to welcoming them as our guests.

BANGLADESH USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU INDIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Kundu's Statement Condemning Execution of Solomon Mahlangu

The Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Samarendra Kundu, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on April 6, 1979 on the execution of Solomon Mahlangu:

The Government of India has learnt with profound shock and horror that in callous defiance of world wide protests, the South African authorities have executed today, the 22-year old South African patriot and freedom fighter, Solomon Mahlangu. When we had received the news of the impending execution, we had condemned the action in the strongest terms and the Foreign Minister sent a message on behalf of the Government and the people of India to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to use his personal influence and that of the world organisation to prevent this horrible act.

While expressing Our shock and condemnation, we are convinced that as the intransigence of the Pretoria regime grows so will the determination of the South African Freedom fighters to fight this intransigence, to end apartheid and to establish majority rule, be strengthened. The case of Solomon Mahlangu gives us further irrefutable evidence that the continuance of the minority regime in Pretoria is based on rule of oppression and brutal exploitation of the majo-

rity of the people in South Africa. I should like to take this opportunity to, once again, express the total commitment of the Government and the people of India with the heroic freedom struggle of the people of South Africa to end the inhuman system of apartheid and achieve their long cherished freedom.

INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Aid Raids against Freedom Fighters in South Angola and Zimbabwe Criticised

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 26, 1979:

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Samaredra Kundu, affirmed in the Lok Sabha today that he was aware of the fact that the Governments of South Africa and the white racist Government of Rhodesia were carrying out incessant air raids against South Angola and strongholds of Zimbabwe freedom fighters.

He said that India had consistently and publicly condemned such raids involving a clear violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Frontline States of Southern Africa and constituting a threat to international peace and security.

RACIST REGIME

Shri Kundu added that as regards the raids by the illegal racist regime of Southern

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Rhodesia, India fully supported the U.N.

Security Council Resolution No. 445(1979) March 8, 1979, condemning such raids. India had declared its full support both for a review of the existing sanctions against Southern Rhodesia with a view to tightening and extending them under Chapter VII of the Charter. The Minister of External Affairs had condemned the most recent Rhodesian raids involving inter-alia the bombing of the "Liberation Centre" in Lusaka.

As regards the latest South African raids against Angola, Shri Kundu said India fully supported the U.N. Security Council Resolution No. 447(1979), March 28, 1979 which inter-alia condemns strongly "South Africa's utilisation of the international territory of Namibia as a springboard for armed invasions and destablization of the People's Republic of Angola". In this context, India had urged the Security Council that it should begin seriously the process of considering the application of selective enforcement measures under Chapter VII of the Charter.

He further stated that India had been providing and will continue to provide all possible material assistance to the freedom fighters of Southern Africa.

The Minister gave this information in a written reply to a question.

ANGOLA ZIMBABWE INDIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA ZAMBIA NAMIBIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Kundu's Statement on Incidents in Southall in London

The Minister of State in the Ministry of

External Affairs, Shri Samarendra Kundu, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on April 27, 1979 in reply to a Calling Attention on the incident in Southall in London on April 23, 1979:

We have noted with deep concern the reports on the clash in Southall, London, on April 23. I personally spoke to our High Commissioner as soon as I heard about the incident on April 24. I again contacted the High Commission on April 25 to ascertain the latest position. Our High Commissioner had gone to Southall to meet the members of the Indian community, including some who had received injuries during the incident.

ELECTION MEETING

As the House is aware, the incident arose from an election meeting held by the National Front in the Town Hall of Southall on April 23. The National Front is a racist neo-Nazi organisation which advocates hatred against coloured settlers and their compulsory repatriation. Asians in Southall had resented permission being given by the local authorities to the National Front in view of its obnoxious ideology and programme. The Indian High Commission had advised the British Government on April 19 that such a meeting would affect the racial environment in the area and even provoke some untoward incidents. These fears came true. The police blocked access to people approaching the Town Hall from the afternoon of April 23. Serious clashes between the police and the demonstrators occurred during the evening. It was not only the Asians in Southall but also British people opposed to the Fascist policies of the National Front who took part in the demonstration to express their feelings. The police alleged that the demonstrators had launched attacks on them. On the contrary, the Asian and other organisations blamed the police for their high-handed use of force. In the disturbance several people were seriously. injured and one of them, a New Zealander, belonging to the Anti-Nazi League, died from the injuries. About 40 people of Asian origin are reported to have sustained injuries. About 340 people were arrested and most of them released on bail. Our High Commission has asked the British authorities to indicate precise figures of the Indians arrested and charged. It is understood that the British Government are making their own inquiry into the incident under the Police Act of 1976.

The latest reports from our High Commission indicate that the tension has been reduced in Southall. Our High Commissioner has repeatedly advised restraint on the part of the Indian community in the interest of racial harmony.

We are in touch with the British Government, both here and in London, regarding the follow up measures. We are glad to note

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the condemnation by the British Prime Minister and other British political leaders of the racist National Front "reminiscent of Nazis", as Mr. Callaghan has said. Without in any way minimising the magnitude of the task, we hope that everything will be (lone to restore confidence among the affected communities.

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UNITED KINGDOM INDIA USA NEW ZEALAND

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Cabinet Committee for Follow-up Action

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 11, 1979 on the setting up of a Cabinet Committee for follow-up on Indo-Indonesian Cooperation: The Government has set up an ad-hoe Cabinet Committee to process follow-up action on the Memorandum of Understanding signed recently between the Governments of India and Indonesia on mutual cooperation for future industrial and economic development.

The six-member Committee, headed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Shri Charan Singh, includes the Minister for Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri H. N. Bahuguna, the Minister for Steel and Mines, Shri Biju Patnaik, the Commerce Minister Shri Mohan Dharia, Industries Minister Shri George Fernandes and the Minister for External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission would also be associated with the work of the Committee.

AREAS OF INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION

The Memorandum of Understanding signed during Shri Patnaik's visit to Indonesia as also the discussions held earlier during the visit of the Indonesian Industries Minister to India with his Indian counterparts had envisaged wide-ranging mutual cooperation between the two countries in various sectors of industry.

The areas of collaboration identified included ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, engineering industries with particular reference to the manufacture of machines and machine tools, geological exploration, development of mineral and other natural resources, development of technical manpower and cooperation in design, engineering and technology for the development of cement, paper and small-scale industries.

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INDONESIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

ITALY

Co-operation in Science and Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 4, 1979 on Indo-Italian cooperation in science and technology:

India and Italy have agreed to co-operate in several areas of science and technology. These include new energy sources, agricultural sciences, materials research, seismology and seismic engineering, hydrology and water resources management, soil conservation and medical sciences. Documents to this effect were exchanged here, today, between Dr. R. D. Deshpande, Director, Department of Science and Technology and Prof.

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Alberto Boscolo, leader of a five-member delegation from the Italian National Research Council.

These areas were identified after discussion held by the Italian delegation with Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and officials of several scientific organisations.

Co-operative activities in the identified areas will be taken up for implementation under the Indo-Italian Agreement on Science and Technology signed in April last year. Expert teams from the two countries will work out specific projects in these areas.

The Italian delegation visited the National Physical Laboratory, the Indian Institute of Technology, All-India Institute of Medical Sciences and the Indian Council of Medical Research during their stay in Delhi. **Date**: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Visit of Minister of Economic Planning

The following is the text Of speech by Minister Of External Affairs Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the dinner given by him in honour of His Excellency Mr. Rabindrah Ghurburrun, Minister for Economic Planning and Development of Mauritius in New Delhi on April 2, 1979:

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you this evening. You are no stranger to our country. But, your mission is new. You have now come, Excellency, to chair the First Session of the India-Mauritius Joint Commission. our first meeting delineated the new perspectives and dimensions which need to be given to our cooperation and now our officials are engaged in examining various specific proposals.

It is a truism to say that the bonds of friendship between India and Mauritius are unbreakable and eternal. What we are, however, determined to accomplish this week is to work out a blueprint for an enduring, fruitful and mutally beneficial relationship in economic, cultural and technical fields. This would reinforce the traditional bonds and affection between our peoples and give further substance to the ties of special relationship between our two countries.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

I am happy to recall that there is already a significant ongoing programme of technical and economic cooperation between our two countries. Mauritius is the biggest recipient of our technical assistance under the programme of Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation for developing countries. It is also one of the largest participant in the scheme of education and vocational training in India for nationals of other countries. A few years ago, our two countries cooperated in establishing the Mahatma Gandhi Institute in Mauritius, a centre for studies on Indian culture and tradition. There is a Cultural Agreement between our two countries and I am happy to note that the Cultural Exchange Programme for the year 1979-80 would be shortly signed by Your Excellency and my colleague, Dr. P. C. Chunder, Minister of Education and Social Welfare.

There is excellent scope for development of trade between India and Mauritius. Already, an agreement has been concluded by which we would be supplying rice to Mauritius. I would like to assure Your Excellency that we would always endeavour to ensure that the requirements of Mauritius in regard to food products, consumer durables, engineering goods, etc., are met by India to the greatest possible extent. We feel that in this regard it is important for us to consider various trade promotion measures as well as the possibility of establishing a joint venture in shipping.

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Tourism represents another significant sector. In the case of our two countries, there are several plus factors for promotion of tourism because of linguistic, cultural and religious bonds between our two peoples.

The geographical locations of India and Mauritius are such that they make it imperative for our two countries to establish meaningful cooperation in fields such as climatology and meteorology, prediction and early warning system in connection with monsoons and cyclones, development of marine resources in and around our countries etc. I trust that in due course we will be able to have action oriented cooperation in these areas.

Our two countries are both members of the Group of Seventyseven committed to

bringing about the new international economic order. We have important stakes in establishing the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. it should equally be our endeavour to ensure that the cooperation betwen the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean would result in concerte benefits to the peoples of this region. I trust that the first steps our two countries are taking will contribute towards movement in this direction.

May I now request you all to join me in proposing a toast to the health of His Excellency Rabindrah Ghurburrun and Madame Ghurburrun, to the well-being and prosperity of the friendly and brotherly people of Mauritius and to the ever strengthening and unbreakable friendship between our two peoples.

MAURITIUS USA INDIA PERU

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Cultural Pact Between India and Mauritius

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 4, 1979 on the signing of a cultural agreement between India and Mauritius:

India and Mauritius today entered into a programme for educational and cultural cooperation for the years 1979 and 1980.

The programme, which envisages cooperation in the fields of education, art and culture, sports and mass media, was signed by the Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture, Dr. P. C. Chunder, and the Mauritian Minister for Economic Planning and Development, H.E. Mr. R. Ghurburrun.

In addition to the exchange of academics, youth leaders, journalists, performing delegations and experts in various fields of art and culture, the two sides will promote cooperation between the museums, libraries and archives of their respective countries.

India has offered assistance in the development of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute at Port Louis, besides collaboration in the preparation of teaching and instructional material in Hindi in Mauritius.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Chunder referred to the 'sweet relations' between the two countries. For the first time, Indian experts would be sent to Mauritius for developing drama workshops to train local talents, he said.

Highlighting the age-old relations, the visiting Minister recalled the migraton of their Indian ancestors to Mauritius and the spread of the message of Ramayana, Mahabharta and the Gita. "We have kept the lamp burning", he said. Hindi and Urdu, he said, are being taught in primary schools. The two languages will be included in the secondary school curriculum also.

MAURITIUS USA INDIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Joint Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 6, 1979 on the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission: Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister for External Affairs of India and His Excellency Mr. Rabindrah Ghurburrun, Minister for Economic Planning and Development of Mauritius co-chaired the first session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on Economic, Technical and Cultural Cooperation which finished its work today. Indo-Mauritian relations have entered a new phase as a result of the Joint Commission having laid down guide-lines for strengthening cooperation in

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trade and trade promotion measures, small scale industries, agriculture and rural development, public transport, medical facilities. mateorology and tourism.

The Projects and Equipment Corporation of India would assist the Mauritian authorities in securing supplies of machinery and equipment from India. A delegation of FICCI is expected to visit Mauritius to identify areas in which joint ventures may be established there. India has offered to provide consultancy services to Mauritius in connection with the setting up of a National Shipping Corporation and a National Transport Corporation in Mauritius. India would cooperate with Mauritius in the construction of a 100-bed hospital. Technical cooperation between the two countries would be further strengthened through deputation of Indian experts to Mauritius and provision of training facilities for Mauritian nationals in India. The two countries have decided to establish cooperation in the field of planning. India may assist Mauritius in carrying out a survey of its mineral and geological resources.

Cultural cooperation has also been strengthened with the signing of the Cultural Exchange Programme for 1979-80 which ineludes cooperation in diverse fields such as links between universities and educational institutions of the two countries; exchange of academicians in the fields of fundamental sciences, technical education, social sciences and humanities; exchange of text books, curricula and other publications; films and other radio visual material; exchange of children's books in Hindi other Indian languages; exchange of photographs and pub-

lications; exchange of documentation between the Departments of Archaeology and National Museums; provision of sports equipment to Mauritius and deputation of Indian coaches to the National Sports Training Centre, Mauritius, and exchange between radio and TV organisations of the two countries. The two countries will foster closer cooperation in the field of youth development and sports promotion. India and Mauritius would also examine how tourism between the two countries can be promoted and facilitated, particularly in view of the close cultural, religious and linguistic bonds which unite the peoples of India and Mauritius.

During his stay in Delhi, Minister Ghurburrun called on the President, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister and several other Ministers He renewed invitation to the Prime Minister to visit Mauritius. The Prime Minister expressed the hope that he would be able to visit Mauritius at an early date.

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MAURITIUS USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SENEGAL

Protocol on Economic Co-operation

The following is the text of a press release issued in Yew Delhi on April 30, 1979 on the signing of a protocol on economic cooperation between India and Senegal:

India will participate in a wide range of projects which have been given priority by Senegal in its developmental programme.

A protocol to this effect was signed here today by Mr. Cheikh Hamidou Kane, Minister of Industry, Republic of Senegal and Shri George Fernandes, Union Minister of Industry. The protocol incorporates a framework of industrial and economic cooperation which is oriented towards results and whose implementation will be time-bound.

The main areas identified for cooperation are manufacture of agricultural implements, agricultural pumps, light tractors, automotive spares, and setting up of general engineering workshops, industrial estates, common facility centres, development of labour-intensive industries like electronics

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and textiles, fertilizers, manufacture of phosphoric acid from phosphates, development of handicrafts particularly those relating to marble, ivory, glass, wood, leather. basket weaving, cane and jewellery and also porcelain. Indian experiences would be availed of in the utilisation of raw materials for industries and training of artisans and craftsmen for rural, cottage and small scale industries.

The Senegal side desired to be apprised of the development in India regarding rural energy systems, utilisation of non-conventional sources of energy particularly solar energy and bio-gas.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Indian assistance will also be availed of in the fields of food technology, fruits and grain processing, preservation, de-hydration and canning industries. Indian consultancy, supply of equipment and participation in civil construction have also been discussed in relation to large projects to be taken up in Senegal in the irrigation and hydroelectric sectors, and river basin development.

The programme of cooperation envisages participation of several firms and organisations in the private and public sectors -- HMT, Handicrafts Board, National Small Industries Corporation, STC, MMTC, CFTRI. Contacts have been established between

FICCI and the Association of Indian Engineering Industry with the Senegal Chamber of Commerce, and, assistance will be provided by India for market surveys to be taken up in Senegal.

Another important area identified in the context of Senegal's eminent position in the cine industry relates to the training facilities to be provided to Senegal personnel at the Film Institute in Pune and also export of Indian cine films to Senegal.

India has agreed to the deputation of experts covering several important fields like biogas, soil chemistry, water management, breeding of grains, livestock breeding, forestry, horticulture, canning and preservation of tropical fruits, biochemistry, nutrition, storage structures and storage equipment and for setting up management training facilities in Senegal. Students from Senegal would also be trained in Indian Institutions particularly in those relating to agriculture, food technology and agricultural engineering and for post-graduate courses in agricultural sciences and engineering.

In follow up of these discussions, Senegalese Minister of Rural Development and the Minister of Equipments also in charge of Irrigation and Transport of Senegal are visiting India shortly.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

A team of Indian experts would also be visiting Senegal in the next few months to follow up India's participation in the projects indicated in the protocol. India shall participate in the International Trade Fair to be held in Senegal in Nov.-Dec. 1980.

The Union Minister of Industry has been invited by the Senegal Minister of Industry to visit Senegal and the invitation has been accepted. During the visit, the Industry Minister will avail of the opportunity to review the progress of implementation of the protocol and to give further direction to strengthen the industrial and economic cooperation between the two countries.

DETAILED DISCUSSIONS

The Senegal delegation arrived in India on April 23, 1979, and during its 10-days stay visited important projects in various parts of India and also had detailed discussions with their management. The scientific and industrial establishment visited by them included industrial estates, the Pusa Agricultural Research Institute, the Santacruz Electronic Export Processing Zone, the Central Water and Power Research Station in Pune, the Tata Engineering and Locomotice Company Limited, Pune, Kirloskar Cummins Limited, Pune, HMT Limited, Bangalore, the Central Food Technology Research institute, Mysore, Jessop and Company, Calcutta, the Bhakra Nangal Hydro Electric Project, the Agricultural Research Projects at Hapur and Karnal and the Factory of Eicher Tractors in Faridabad.

The Senegal delegation, which included top level management of the Senegal National Company for Assistance to small and medium scale sectors, the Institute of Food Technology, the Institute of Agricultural Research, the Senegalese Chamber of Commerce, Electrical and Industrial Company, Senegalese Centre for Foreign Trade, etc., had detailed discussions with representatives of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, the

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Association of Indian Engineering Industry and the Federation of India Chambers of Commerce and Industry for the purpose of encouraging joint venture enterprises in Senegal.

Mr. Kane bad discussions also with Shri Mohan Dharia, Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation, Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation and Shri Madhu Dandavate, Railway Minister. Mr. Kane called on the Prime Minister of India, who assured full support from India in the progrmmes of industrial cooperation agreed to by both the sides.

The resolve of both the countries in establishing their cooperation on a pre-eminent basis of the brotherhood of developing coun-

tries and the gist of discussion between the two delegations, the framework of industrial and economic cooperation and the implementation schedules agreed to by both the delegations were conveyed by H.E. Mr. Cheikh Hamidou Kane to the President of the Republic of Senegal H.E. Mr. Leopold Sedak Senghor when he passed through Calcutta on April 25, 1979 en route Senegal. Opportunity was also taken in conveying to the President of Senegal the respects and friendly sentiments of the Indian people.

SENEGAL INDIA USA RUSSIA LATVIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SOMALIA

Shri Vajpayee Hosts Dinner for Somali Foreign Minister

The following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee when he hosted a dinner in honour of His Excellency Dr. Abdurahman Jama Barre, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Somali Democratic Republic, in New Delhi on April 1, 1979:

I am indeed happy to welcome this evening His Excellency Dr. Abdurahman Jama Barre, the distinguished Foreign Minister of the Somali Democratic Republic and other members of the Somali delegation. I recall with pleasure our meeting in New York last year during the UN General Assembly Session.

India and Somalia have enjoyed close cultural and economic ties. It is worth remembering that in the early sixties, the first programme under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Scheme of my Ministry was started in Somalia. At present, I believe a number of professors, school teachers and doctors from India are contributing effectively to numerous programmes of development being implemented in your country. We feel happy to be able to participate in your development activities, since we too face the enormous challenge of drawing upon the benefits of independence and modernisation in order to achieve social and economic progress for the welfare of our population.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Excellency, both our countries are members of the Non-aligned movement, a movement that today represents two-thirds of mankind. The validity of Non-alignment, based as it is on independence of judgement and a common faith in cooperative interdependence, has today come to be universally acknowledged. It is the diversity of convictions, ideologies or the social systems of countries making up its membership that, in fact, gives this Movement its inner strength and resilience - to pool the will of nations in unity and cooperation, to overcome discord and divergence.

At this crucial stage of its development, however, there is need to recognize the strength of this moral force. Now, more than ever before, we must re-affirm our commitment to the resolution of disputes by peace-

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ful negotiation and to abjure the use of threat of force as an instrument for achieving ends. It is only by remaining steadfast to the basic principles spelt out in 1961, that we can maintain the unity cohesiveness of the movement. The challenge of contemporary international situation demands the non-aligned to adhere faithfully to these basic postulates, to stress the areas of agreement and to avoid highlighting differences, especially bilateral ones, that only serve to weaken the solidarity and the collective purpose of our movement.

NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

As members of the community of deve-

loping nations, Excellency, our two countries are agreed on our common concern for the demand for a New International Economic Order. It is our considered assessment that this alone can usher in a more just and equitable world system. Eliminating economic domination wherever it exists, is a shared imperative of all developing countries. We would like to bring home, to the entire international community, the threat to world peace posed by the enormous chasm that divides the rich from the poor of this world.

There are extant in our times even more serious and repressive manifestations of inequality and discrimination. I refer to the grave danger to humanity posed by the intransigence of the racist regimes that oppress the peoples of Southern Africa. Sensible people all over the world are observing the worsening situation in Southern Africa with concern and mounting despair.

While the racist bigots of the White regimes continue to subject the majority populations to the most inhuman forms of repression and torture, we stand firm in our determination to support the freedom struggle there in every way, in full faith and confidence that majority rule will come to the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. Towards this just and imperative end, the non-aligned countries have made determined efforts over the past decade and a half. They have pledged their support and united will to the fulfilment of this just cause. The opportunities for reasoning together to forge a peaceful solution in Southern Africa are fast fading and there is only a little time left to take effective corrective action to avert a frightful calamity.

Excellency, I am looking forward to exchanging views with you on bilateral as well as international issues in the next few days. I am not only confident but sanguine that your visit will contribute to further cementing the relations that bind our two countries and result in appreciation of each other's points of view on matters that are of interest to our nations.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Dr. Abdurahman Jama Barre; to the progress and prosperity of the people of the Somali Democratic Republic.

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MALI SOMALIA USA INDIA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SOMALIA

India and Somalia Sign Cultural Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 2, 1979 on the signing of a cultural agreement between India and Somalia:

A Cultural Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Somali Democratic Republic was signed here this evening.

The Agreement envisages cooperation in the fields of art and culture, education, public health, mass media and information and education, sports and games and journalism with a view to developing better understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

The Agreement was signed by Dr. P. C. Chunder, Union Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture on behalf of the Government of India and Dr. Abdurahman Jama Barre, Minister of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Somali Democratic Republic.

Earlier, the visiting dignitary called on

the Union Education Minister, Dr. P. C. Chunder. The two leaders agreed that education have a major role to play in the socio-

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economic life of a country. Somalia expressed a desire to have some Indian teachers in their country. India agreed to give a favourable consideration to the suggestion.

An invitation was also extended to the Education Minister by Dr. Barre, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Somalia, to visit their country.

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MALI SOMALIA INDIA

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SYRIA

Air Agreement between India and Syria Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the signing of an air agreement between India and Syria on April 23, 1979:

An Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Syrian Arab Republic relating to air services, was signed here today. The Agreement provides for the operation of two services per week by the designated airlines of India and Syria on the specified routes.

Shri Purushottam Kaushik, Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation signed the agreement on behalf of India and Dr. Salim Yassin, Syrian Minister of Transport now on a state visit to India, signed on behalf of his Government.

Syrian Arab Airlines which has been operating a weekly service between Damascus and Delhi operated its inaugural flight between Damascus and Bombay on April 18, 1979 with Syrian Minister of Transport on board. Air India which has been overflying the territory of Syria on its scheduled services has not yet commenced operating its services to through Damascus.

Syrian Arab Airlines commenced its first service to Delhi on May 3, 1966.

Both the Ministers expressed the hope that this agreement will further strengthen the bonds of friendship between the two countries.

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SYRIA INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

New Areas Identified in Indo-Soviet Cooperation for Non-ferrous Metals

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 16, 1979 on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between India and USSR:

New areas of scientific and technical cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in the field of non-ferrous metals have been identified following discussions between Indian officials and the Soviet, delegation which visited India recently. These include cooperation in the development of ore beneficiation processes, recovery of rare metals in smelters and exchange of information on measures for environmental and pollution

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control in metallurgical plants and processes.

A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed here recently by the leader of the Soviet team and Chief of the Scientific and Technical Department of the Soviet Ministry for Non-ferrous Metallurgy, Mr. A. P. Snurnikov and Shri R. Ganapati, Additional Secretary, Department of Mines, in the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

RECOVERY OF RARE METALS

The Memorandum envisages exchange of information on the recovery of vanadium pentoxide from the intermediate products of alumina, integrated treatment of metallurgical dusts to recover valuable elements, recovery of Zinc oxides from wastes of synthetic fibre production, as also exchange of information on high-strength alumina alloys and the recovery of rare metals in smelters.

Besides the exchange of information on pollution control measures in metallurgical plants, it also mentions exchange of information on the application of polymer-concrete for the construction of electrolytic cells and allied equipment and exchange of experience on the operation of copper flash smelters. It also provides for the reciprocal visits of specialists to metallurgical plants in India and the USSR, organisation of joint symposia on scientific and technical problems relating to non-ferrous metals in the two countries and the elaboration of working programmes for each of the identified areas of cooperation.

In the field of ore beneficiation, the two countries will cooperate in developing processes for the selective flotation of copper and lead minerals, investigation of mineral and chemical composition of ores having a low content of valuable constituents, application of Computor Technology for planning of experiments and evaluation of research results and exchange of information on the

design and operation of multi-purpose pilot plants for ore beneficiation.

GOOD PROGRESS IN AREAS IDENTIFIED

During the recent discussions between the Indian and the Soviet teams, the two sides reviewed the progress so far on the items of cooperation covered in the first Conference of the Non-ferrous Working Group of the Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation held in Moscow in October, 1978. It was noted that satisfactory progress had been achieved in respect of the proposed alumina plant in Andhra Pradesh, the Sukinda nickel project, recovery of cobalt and nickel from converter slag of the Ghatsila copper smelter in Bihar and the development of methods for the concentration. of complex ores.

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USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Joint Commission

The following is the text of the Indo-United States Joint Commission Communique:

The fourth session of the Indo-United States Joint Commission was held in Washington on April 24, 1979. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs and the United States delegation was led by Mr. Cyrus R. Vance, Secretary of State.

Recognizing that both Governments welcome collaborative efforts in the agricultural field and have already initiated Agricultural Programmes within the Joint Commission framework, the Joint Commission directed that a Fourth Sub-commission - the Agricultural Sub-commission - be established in the year ahead. The Joint Commission feels that the establishment of an Agricultural Sub-commission will help in promoting

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joint agricultural activities between the two countries.

The Joint Commission heard, discussed and approved reports of its three Sub-commissions - Economic and Commercial, Education and Culture and Science and Technology - all of which met in 1978-79.

Noting that the joint discussions of bilateral Trade, Investment and International Economic issues which have taken place have contributed to the understanding of the respective positions, the Joint Commission endorsed the Sub-commission's plan to continue its wide ranging dialogue. The Joint Commission reviewed the activities of the Subcommission's agricultural inputs and associated technology working group and commended the group's initiative in expanding its scope to include broader agricultural economic policy issues in its discussions. The Joint Commission noted that the actvities of the working group would provide effective support to the work of the new Agricultural Sub-commission.

The Joint Commission welcomed the establishment of the Sub-commission's industrial technology working group and endorsed the Group's agreement on guidelines for ongoing cooperation in this vital field.

The Joint Commission reviewed the activities of the India-US Business Council, which has served as a valuable adviser. The Joint Commission noted the continuing value of the frank and open discussions of trade and investment issues of mutual concern which business and industrial leaders of both countries have conducted within the council. The

Joint Commission commended and endorsed the council's project on Indo-US commercial cooperation in the third countries.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The Joint Commission reviewed the programmes and activities of the Sub-commission on Education and Culture and received a report on the Sub-commission's March 1979 meeting in New Delhi. The Commission commended the Sub-commission for its success in promoting the expansion of Indo-US cooperation in the Cultural and Educational spheres and approved the Sub-commission's plans for future activities.

The Joint Commission noted the success of the Exhibition on American Technology which opened in India in January 1978 and expressed keen interest in plans for an Exhibition of Indian Classical Art in the United States. The Joint Commission endorsed the suggestions for future exchange of exhibitions on items of interest to both sides which were formulated during the last meeting of the Indo-US Sub-commission on Education and Culture in New Delhi in March 1979.

The Joint Commission endorsed the successful expansion of the Sub-commission's Fellowship Programme and considered it as an important link which binds the Academic Communities of India and United States. It also commended the Sub-commission's initiative in establishing a Visitorship Programme and in organizing two Academic Seminars in 1978. The Commission approved the subjects for future seminars.

The Joint Commission reviewed the work of the Sub-commission's Joint Commit tee on film and broadcasting noting that productive workshops and exchange visits of media personnel have taken place. The Commission noted with satisfaction that five Indian films are being shown on American Public Television in 1979 and that a package of sophisticated television documentaries from the United States has been presented to the Film and Television Institute in Pune, India. The Commission endorsed plans for

an Indian Film Festival which would bring some twenty Indian films to several American cities.

The Joint Commission agreed with the general recommendation of the Sub-commission that a periodical review of Indo-US cooperation in the field of educational exchanges should be undertaken with a view to assess its long-term impact and to draw up plans for these exchanges on practical and useful lines for the future. The commission also endorsed the suggestion that possibilities for closer cooperation between the Sub-commission on Education and Culture and Sub-commission on Science and Technology should be explored.

The Joint Commission confirmed the continuing interest of both countries in intensifying their cooperation in scientific and technological research and received a report of the fourth meeting of the Sub-commission on Science and Technology which took place in New Delhi in November 1978. It noted with satisfaction activities already underway

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in agreed priority areas and approved the Sub-commission's suggestions for newer areas of collaboration within the field of agricultural sciences, energy, material sciences and electronics, natural resources, medical and health sciences and institutional exchange.

The Joint Commission noted with satisfaction the Grant Agreement signed by the United States and Indian Government in August 1978 under which the U.S. Agency for International Development will provide two million dollars to fund the Sub-commission and other projects that stress operational research on projects of potential benefit to the Indian rural population.

The Joint Commission endorsed the Subcommission's plans to establish approved guidelines and procedures and urged that Sub-commission redouble its efforts to reach agreement on other concrete projects in priority areas.

The Joint Commission endorsed the

work in the agricultural research area carried out under the Sub-commission's auspices and noted that these activities would provide a useful base for the work of the new Agricultural Sub-commission.

The Co-chairman agreed that the work of the Joint Commission and its Sub-commissions has widened the area of understanding and facilitated progress on a wide range of specific issues in bilateral relationship. They confirmed that it was the intent of both, Governments to continue to expand the scope of the Joint Commission through annual meetings, joint projects and individual exchanges under its sponsorship.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Apr 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Shri Vajpayee's Statement on Visit to U.S.A.

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on April 30, 1979 following statement regarding his visit to the United States of America from April 20 to 25, 1979:

As Hon'ble Members are aware, I visited the United States of America from April 20 to 25, 1979, to participate in the Fourth Meeting of the Indo-US Joint Commission. I utilised the opportunity to have discussions on Indo-US bilateral relations and other matters of mutual interest. During the visit, I was received by President Carter and I had an extensive exchange of views with Secretary of State Mr. Cyrus Vance and President Carter's Adviser on National Security Affairs, Dr. Brzezinski. Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee dealing

with Near-East and East Asia affairs also had an informal meeting with me during my stay in Washington. Naturally, we saw some problems differently, but I found a similarity, if not, identity of views on many bilateral and international questions of importance.

The objective of discussions in the Joint Commission was to review the progress of work and exchanges that took place between India and the United States in the spheres of economic and commercial relations, education and culture, science and technology. The Joint Commission received reports from its three Sub-commissions dealing with these subjects as well as proposals for programmes of exchanges in all these fields for the next year.

ANOTHER SUB-COMMISSION

The most significant decision taken by the Joint Commission was to establish one more Sub-commission under its aegis to deal with cooperation in the field of agriculture between India and the USA. Issues relevant to agriculture had hitherto been dealt with by other Sub-commissions but in view of the importance of the subject it was felt that they could be better dealt with in a separate Sub-commission. This Sub-commission has been formed to evolve a purposive and detailed programme of cooperation between the two countries to improve our agricultural productivity by means of inputs in terms of technology and agricultural management techniques.

Several projects for scientific and technical cooperation were approved for implementation during the year 1979-80. Included were satellite communication systems for the monitoring of climatic conditions, the utili-

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sation of modern techniques in geology and mineralogy and the development of electronic audio-visual techniques for economic and industrial purposes. Also approved were a diversified programme for the exchange of visitors and fellows, and the holding of seminars on agricultural, social, legal and economic subjects.

The report by the Economic and Commercial Sub-commission underlined the growth in and prospects for increased bilateral commercial relations and joint projects in third countries. We emphasised that so far as Indo-US trade was concerned, a liberlisation of US rules and procedures in its Generalised Scheme of Preferences would be helpful. We felt that there was further scope for development in the field of investments in industrial cooperation taking a realistic view of Indian potentials and priorities. It was agreed that the Joint Commission had performed useful work and we expressed confidence for further mutually beneficial cooperation.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION

As the House is aware, the question of continued cooperation between India and the United States in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy has been under discussion between the two Governments for a long time and particularly since the enactment by the Untied States of the Nuclear Non-Proleferation Act. We have consistently taken the position that domestic legislation in the United States cannot unilaterally change bilaterally contractual obligations. During my talks in Washington, I reiterated this position and said that the Government of India expected the US Government to continue to respect the contractual obligations particularly that relating to the supply of enriched uranium for the Tarapur Station. While expressing our satisfaction at the approval of the licence for 16.8 tonnes, I stressed the necessity to ensure the continued supply of enriched uranium for the uninterrupted and effective functioning of the Tarapur Station. On the basis of the discussions I had in Washington, I can inform the House that I am satisfied that the US Government would strongly support the release of the pending licence application for 19.6 tonnes. In fact, the US State Department has already referred the matter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with a strong recommendation for its approval.

As the House is also aware, the pro-

visions of the US Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act will come fully into force in March 1980 Under the provisions of that Act, the continuance of supplies of fuel for Tarapur would depend on our acceptance of fullscope safeguards, that is, safeguards on all our nuclear activities. On this question, I conveyed to President Carter and the US Secretary of State our consistent stand in the matter of safeguards. I said that while we shared the US goal on the subject of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, it was our strong view that safeguards, if they are really meant to check the proliferation of nuclear weapons, should apply to both horizontal and vertical proliferation. This would involve the application of safeguards to the nuclear activities in both non-nuclear-weapon States as well as nuclear-weapon-States. I made it quite clear to them that India would never accept a safeguards system which would be discriminatory.

While appreciating the Indian point of view, the US side maintained that they had to contend with strong Congressional and public opinion in their country on this issue. President Carter emphasised that they were not discriminating against India in the application of US laws. I pointed out that the US Government should explore the possibility of amending the Nuclear Non-Proliferation. Act so as to permit the U.S. to respect existing contractual obligations.

In the above context, I conveyed to President Carter and his colleagues our concern and anxiety about Pakistan's efforts to acquire nuclear capability. I pointed out that there was no justification for Pakistan to acquire nuclear weapons capability. Pakistan's pursuit of reprocessing and uranium enrichment projects could bear no other interpretation. The President and his senior colleagues shared our concern. I, therefore, suggested that the United States should exert all its influence on Pakistan to desist from starting a nuclear weapons race in the region. India had made a firm and public commitment not to manufacture nuclear weapons and to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. Despite many years of nuclear weapons testing and development by China,

we had restrained ourselves. As such, India's bonafieds could and should not be suspect. President Carter and Secretary of State Vance said that the United States was al-

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ready trying every means to curb Pakistan and suggested that joint efforts should be made by both India and the US as well as other countries to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation.

SALE OF ARMS - DANGER TO PEACE

I mentioned the danger to peace and stability in the region which the new sale of arms poses in the present situation of ferment, all over Asia. It was our view that programmes for economic development, social reform and political stability were a better guarantee of security than feverish rearmament.

The example of Iran was too recent to be ignored. The US side indicated that they agreed with this assessment and that their policy would be to cooperate with all countries in the region for peace and stability, within the framework of US perceptions of the developing situation in the region.

In the context of nuclear problems and disarmament, Secretary of State Vance said that there was every hope of the Salt II Agreement being signed in the near future.

Welcoming this prospect, I pointed out that India lays great emphasis on a true comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Mr. Vance agreed that achieving of CTBT was important, but it might take some more time since a large number of technical and procedural issues connected with verification were outstanding.

LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS

We also discussed recent developments in West Asia, Southern Africa and South-East Asia. The United States authorities agreed that there would be no comprehensive peace settlement in West Asia which ignored the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The recent Agreement signed between Egypt and Israel, however, constituted a first step and they hoped they would provide a basis for other Arab countries to gradually normalise their relations with Israel. Secretary Vance and Dr. Brzezinski expressed concern about developments in Iran and Afghanistan, particularly the threat posed to global economic requirements. We, on our side, pointed out that the build up of US naval forces in the Indian Ocean would inevitably lead to an escalation by other countries of their naval presence in the area. Secretary of State Vance said that there was no decision to establish a Fifth Fleet for the Indian Ocean and addition to US naval strength were temporary In reply to me, Mr. Vance expressed the hope that the talks on the Indian Ocean with the Soviet Union could be resumed soon.

In the context of the situation in Southern Africa, we discussed recent developments in Namibia and Zimbabwe. We agreed that every effort should be made to implement the proposals involving UN-supervised elections. On Zimbabwe, I said that the so-called elections recently held there in disregard of the UN resolutions declaring them as. illegal, null and void would only thwart the objective of genuine independence and majority rule there. In particular I expressed concern at the possibility of the so-called elections being used as a pretext for the lifting of UN mandated sanctions against Rhodesia and added that it was important now more than ever to take steps for the effective implementation of the sanctions.

DEVELOPMENT IN S. E. ASIA

Recent developments in South-East Asia were also discussed. These had been a source of anxiety to both the United States and India as well as other countries in the region. I reiterated our policy with regard to different countries in the region.

During the brief visit, I was able to have a comprehensive exchange of views with the leaders of the United States. All the discussions were open and frank and, marked by genuine interest in and friendship for India. I would particularly like to express my appreciation to President Carter for the extended discussion with me for which he took time from many of his pressing pre-occupations. He especially mentioned the importance that he attaches to the exchanges that he has been having with our Prime Minister. I feel that as a result of this visit, the understanding between our two countries has deepened and prospects of future cooperation have improved.

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USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA PERU PAKISTAN RUSSIA CHINA IRAN EGYPT ISRAEL MALI AFGHANISTAN NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date: Apr 01, 1979

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ALGERIA BANGLADESH INDIA NAMIBIA MEXICO PHILIPPINES USA VIETNAM YUGOSLAVIA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

ALGERIA

Memorandum of Understanding Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 23, 1979 on the signing of a Memorandum of understanding between India and Algeria:

A Memorandum of Understanding on

Indo-Algerian Co-operation in the field of Railways was signed here today by the Secretary General, Ministry of Transport, Government of Algeria, Mr. Smail Kerdjoudj, and the Chairman, Railway Board, Shri K. S. Rajan.

Taking into account the experience, the know-how and the capabilities of India, the following areas have been identified in the field of Railway technology under the Agreement:

Carry out feasibility studies and construction of an underground urban line, to form part of the future railway network of the suburb of Algiers (Tafourah Bab Eloued line).

Assistance in the setting up and the functioning of an organisation for achieving modernisation of operations of the existing network including extension of loop lines, remodelling of marshalling yards, construction of special sidings, etc.

Assistance in the setting of and operation of a cell for investigations of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnic problems including stability of embankments and the foundations of bridges.

India has agreed to give Algeria within the framework of the proposed Indo-Algerian Railway Co-operation Agreement, technical assistance in the form of providing to the Algerian National Railways, highly qualified personnel, particularly in the field of railway operation and management, signalling and maintenance of track.

India will assist Algeria in conducting a system study for increasing the capacity of the single line sections of the Algerian Railway network on the lines of the methodology adopted on Indian Railways. Besides, various other relevant documents, literature and technical and economic study reports shall be exchanged between India and Algeria.

Algeria shall invite bids from the concerned Indian Railway Companies in matters relating to execution of the infrastructure works and procurement of railway equipment and materials and process them in accordance with the procedure for finalising international contracts.

The finalisation of an Indo-Algerian Cooperation Agreement in the field of Railways which will determine the modalities of implementations of the operations mentioned above will be effected during the next meeting of the two parties at Algeria at a date to be mutually agreed upon by the two parties.

The Algerian delegation also met Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Minister for Railways, and officials of Indian Railways, Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. and Indian Railway Construction Company Ltd. under the control of the Ministry of Railways.

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ALGERIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Agreement to Supply Two Lakh Tonnes of Foodgrains to Bangladesh by India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 4, 1979 on the signing of an agreement between India and Bangladesh for supply of 2 lakh tonnes of foodgrains:

India has agreed to supply 50,000 tonnes of wheat and 1,50,000 tonnes of rice on a Commodity Loan basis to Bangladesh. The wheat is to be delivered in May this year and rice during June and August. An agreement to this affect was signed here today by the

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, Shri Surjit Singh Barnala on behalf of India and Mr. Abdul Momen Khan, Food Minister of Bangladesh on behalf of his Government.

The agreement is in pursuance of the request made by the President of Bangladesh to the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai during later's visit to Bangladesh in April this year and the Prime Minister agreeing to supply two lakh tonnes of wheat and rice to Bangladesh to meet the present difficult food situation in that country. Negotiations were held in New Delhi from April-May, 1979 between the official delegations of the two countries resulting in the reaching of this agreement. Wheat will be delivered partly by rail and partly by sea, and the commodity loan is free of interest, repayable by the Government of Bangladesh within a period of eight months after the completion of delivery. Delivery of rice will be through sea and the commodity loan is for a period of two years and six months from the date of completion of delivery.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, Shri Surjit Singh Barnala said that the signing of the agreement was only the latest among the innumerable examples of friendship, cooperation and understanding that had marked the relations from the beginning nearly a decade ago.

Shri Barnala said that India had been fortunate in that self-sufficiency in foodgrains was no longer a mere wish or a dream. This was largely the result of a happy combination of the valiant efforts of the farmers and scientists. good weather and the policies pursued. It had enabled the country to press forward with employment opportunities for its rural population through innovative schemes like food for work, and for raising the per capita availability and the nutritional level of hitherto deprived sections of its population.

Shri Barnala added that India was happy, to be able, in its own modest way, to share with friendly countries who might suffer temporary setbacks in agricultural production. He assured the Bangladesh Food Minister

that India would continue to do the maximum to strengthen the links already existing between two countries and peoples and to share the fruits of it experience with Bangladesh in the spheres of economic cooperation. resources management and industrial and agricultural development.

In his reply the Bangladesh Food Minister, Mr. Abdul Momen Khan appreciated India's gesture in taking immediate action to implement the commitment made by its Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai during his visit to Bangladesh last month. He said that he regarded the supply of foodgrains by India to Bangladesh as a timely assistance rather than a commercial deed. It was another bold and significant step towards further strengthening the relations that already were very good. He expressed the hope that these relations - economic, political and others - would further grow. Referring to an achievement of self-sufficiency by Bangladesh as regards food production, Mr. Khan stated that he was hopeful that his country would also achieve food self-sufficiency soon, because between two good neighbourly countries, he regarded the strength of one country to be an asset to another.

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BANGLADESH INDIA USA LATVIA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Joint Press Statement on Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 12, 1979 on the 17th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission: The seventeenth meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission was held in Delhi from May 8 to 12, 1979.

A joint press statement issued simultaneously from New Delhi and Dacca today afternoon says that it was decided that the Joint River Commission will set up a committee which will study the question of approaching Nepal in relation to the Bangladesh proposal for augmenting of the Ganga Ganges flows and make recommendations regarding the method and manner of doing so.

Discussion on other issues viz. the Tista Waters, the Khowai river and border rivers will be continued at the resumed session of the 17th meeting of the Joint River Commission which will be held in Dacca at a mutually convenient date.

The meetings were held in an atmosphere of great cordiality and friendship.

The Bangladesh delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Moudud Ahmed, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister-incharge of Ministry of Power, Water Resources and Flood Control of the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation of the Government of India.

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BANGLADESH INDIA USA NEPAL LATVIA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Vajpayee's Message on Proclamation of International Year of Solidarity with People of Namibia

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, issued the following message on the occasion of the proclamation of the International Year of Solidarity with the people of Namibia:

On occasion of the proclamation of the International Year of Solidarity with the people of Namibia, the Government and people of India reaffirm their wholehearted support and commitment to the heroic cause of the Namibian people in their just and legitimate struggle for the liberation of their country.

The United Nations bears direct responsibility towards Namibia - a responsibility to ensure that national independence is established there. Despite the concerted efforts of the United Nations to fulfil that responsibility, the racist South African regime, together with its collaborators inside Namibia, has consistently shown callous disregard of the aspirations of the Majority of the Namibian people.

In recent weeks the world has had news of the ominous intentions of the so-called Constituent Assembly established as a result of the sham elections held by the Pretoria regime in Namibia in December, to set up an "interim government" under DTA auspices and thus add another chapter to the long catalogue of repression, intimidation, humiliation and terrorisation of the people of Namibia. it is only inevitable that under such circumstances, the liberation struggle in Namibia, led by the heroic freedom fighters of the SWAPO should intensify.

This liberation struggle has the unremitting support of the people of India. At the

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same time, vigorous efforts are called for on part of the United Nations to assist the people of Namibia in securing their inalienable right to freedom in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 385(1976) and 435(1978) and to bring effective pressure to bear on the South African Government so as

to prevent it from going ahead with the implementation of its illegitimate and unjust plans regarding the future of Namibia.

NAMIBIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No Danger from Nuclear Device Lost on Nanda Devi - Committee of Scientists Submits Report

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 18, 1979:

The committee of scientists set up by the Government of India to study and assess the problem created by the nuclear device lost on Nanda Devi has unanimously expressed the view that the hazards of radiation because of release of plutonium from the device to the public at large are "negligibly small in magnitude and should not be a matter for alarm." The Report of the committee was placed on the table of Parliament today.

The committee, with Dr. Atma Ram as Chairman, was set up in May last year to study and assess the problem and recommend necessary action to safeguard against future hazards to the environment and the people. The other members were: Dr. H. N. Sethna, Prof. M. G. K. Menon; Dr. Raja Ramanna; Dr. V. Ramalingaswami; Prof. A. K. Saha of the Saha Institute Calcutta; Dr. K. T. Thomas of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre acted as Secretary of the Committee. The decision to set up the committee was announced by the Prime Minister in Parliament on April 17 last year as members had expressed concern at the possible hazards to the environment and the people from radiation

from the device.

The committee studied the relevant material available, held discussions with the persons concerned with the project and with specialists in field of relevance to the problem. Details relating to the device (including that of the fuel), the environment including geohydrological details, attempts at installation and of retrieval, the routes taken, the varying climatic conditions at site etc., were analysed in sufficient detail. The committee took into consideration the results of analysis of samples carried out from 1966 to 1970 and in early 1978.

On the basis of the account given by the members of the original mission, one of whom was the leader of the search party and after examining the routes and detailed discussions, the committee felt that there were six possibilities. These were: (a) that the device could have fallen on the south west, face of the mountain; (b) that though damaged outwardly as a result of the fall from where it was left, it could still be intact: (c) that it could have been buried in the glaciers in the mountain; (d) that it could have been buried in the debris on the slopes of the mountain; (e) that it could have fallen into the mountain streams and finally reached the gorge of Rishi Ganga; (f) that as a result of multiple impacts during the fall the device might have been very badly damaged disassembled and thus scattered all over, in which case the radioactive material would have got released into the environment.

The committee did a hazard evaluation in relation to these possibilities. It came to the conclusion that none of the credible accident conditions can lead to airborne contamination due to plutonium. In some of the conditions, contamination of the soil and water was possible but even there the estimated level is far below the permissible concentrations. It also considered the incredible situation of the capsule(s) being expelled by hard impact and causing contamination of the air. The probability of such an accident was as low as 3 in 10 million, and the risk to the population even then would be its low as 1 in 2000.

Analysis of the likely conditions of fall based on topography, conditions of fall, etc., indicate that, whether the device has fallen on glacier ice or is buried under rock, it may result at the most in local contamination of

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soil and is not likely to present any significant contamination problems for water or air. If one considers the safety features incorporated in the device as regards its capabilities of withstanding pressures and shocks, the actual position is likely to be very safe.

The committee therefore concluded after detailed analysis of hypothetical accident conditions - that Pu-238 source lost near Nanda Devi hills is not likely to present any radiation hazard, and the future hazard potential, if ever any, due to radioactivity in the water route, would be such as to involve concentrations which are one thousand times less than the permissible concentrations.

PRECAUTIONS SUGGESTED

However, the committee took note of the fact that the report of the loss of the device had caused considerable alarm among the public. It, therefore recommended a continuing programme of monitoring the environment to watch for any significant radioactive cotamination. This monitoring should be of all elements - air, waters, local flora and fauna, soil and cross-sectional samples of sediments in the water beds. Also authentic information about release of radioactivity should be made available to the people in the vicinity as quickly as possible and follow-up measures taken. New techniques for locating the device should be pursued.

The committee has also considered the possibility of the device being still in tact but lying buried somewhere. It has pointed out that even in this case there was no hazard unless the device was disturbed or disintengrated. It said that in order to avoid the remote possibility of some unsuspecting persons tampering with the device and exposing themselves to radiation hazards, it was desirable that the people living in the region

should be informed that if someone comes across or sees an object corresponding to the description of the device, he should not tamper with it but should immediately inform the local authorities. The committee has observed that recovery of the device was the most obvious way of setting at rest all apprehensions and continued thought should be given to it.

BACKGROUND

In October 1965, an expedition consisting of Indians and Americans was to instal monitoring equipment on top of Nanda Devi. The equipment included a nuclear powered device fuelled with an alloy of plutonium and zirconium. The fuel was divided in seven capsules. The U.S. authorities said that the integrity of the fuel capsules and of the device was ensured by adopting stringent fabrication procedures and subjecting it to vigorous tests, some of which were more rigorous than those prescribed by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The team had to retreat from Camp IV due to extremely bad weather conditions. Before leaving this camp which was about 609 metres below the peak, the climbers had to leave behind at Camp IV, one box containing electronic equipment and accessories and separately, a nuclear power generator on a carrying frame. Both the box and the generator were suitably secured on the ledge where Camp IV was established.

Almost immediately on return of the team, plans were initiated for recovery of the equipment left behind as soon as conditions permitted it. It was realised this could not be done earlier than May 1966.

In May 1966 an All Indian Recovery Expedition with four experienced mountaineers was organised to recover the equipment. It reached the site but could recover only some electronic equipment and antena wires. There was no trace of any other equipment as the entire rock where these things were kept seemed to have broken and swept down thousands of feet. Search operations were also conducted in June and July 1966 with air support and in 1967 using

various techniques. These were aimed at recovering the lost equipment and also finding if there was increase in the radiation in the area.

There was no indication of either enhanced infra-red, neutron, or alpha, radiation anywhere in the area.

As soon as the loss was discovered, Indian and American scientists began assessing the degree of hazard by possible breaking of the casing of the generator and exposure of the radioactive material. The likelihood of the capsule containing the plutonium having breached was considered negligible and it was recommended that while every effort should be made to recover the generator, the hazard of radioactive contamination of the water was negligible.

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Upto 23.9.1966, 271 samples were collected from the nullahs and glacier. All of them were tested for radioactivity and showed negative results. Monitoring of the Rishiganga waters continued in 1966 and 1967. Tests indicated that the radioactivity was several thousand times below the permissible limits. No trace of contamination was detected in 1970. Tests of samples of silt and water collected in April 1978 from the upper Ganga and from the Sharada also showed that there was no radioactive contamination in the water and soil.

MEMORANDUM OF ACTION

The Government of India has accepted the findings of the committee of scientists headed by Dr. Atma Ram on the radiation hazards from the nuclear device lost on Nanda. Devi. The recommendations will be processed appropriately by the Departments concerned. This was stated in a Memorandum of Action placed in Parliament today.

Following is the text of the Memorandum:

"The Committee of scientists headed by Dr. Atma Ram has submitted its unanimous report dated 22nd April, 1979. The Committee has come to the conclusion that the radia-

tion hazards arising from plutonium release from this device to the public at large are negligibly small in magnitude and should not be a matter for alarm.

The Committee has also made the following recommendations:

i) A programme of monitoring the environment on a continuing basis should be undertaken, to watch for radio-active contamination of any significance. The exact location of the sampling sites, quantity and number of samples to be taken, the frequency of sampling, the laboratories to undertake analysis, the analytical procedures to be adopted and the approach to consider the various results obtained, may be worked out by a specialist committee apppointed for the purpose. Monitoring should be of all elements of the environment (air, waters, local flora and fauna as well as of soil and cross sectional samples of sediments in the water beds).

Also, it is essential to ensure that authentic information about the possible release of radioactivity to the environment and resulting in a hazard to the public, is made available as rapidly as possible. On the basis of such information, prompt and appropriate measure should be taken.

- ii) Study of possible new techniques for locating the device may be pursued. in laboratory and field conditions and applied for a search of the devcie in the relevant areas. For this purpose it is recommended that a committee of specialists may be appointed by the Government to decide on the methodology and the agency agencies to carry out this work.
- iii) As a measure of precaution to prevent any person who may come across the device and tries to examine or break it without realising attendant consequences of severe radioactive hazard,

it is recommended that the local authority authorities of the area may, by suitable methods but without creating a sense of panic keep the population of the surrounding area informed, (this is not particularly difficult, since the number of villages and number of inhabitants of the concerned area are not large), that if anyone comes across or sees an object with the given broad description type, he she should not tamper with it, but should immediately inform the local authorities, who will ensure that it is taken into custody.

The Government has accepted the findings of the Committee and the recommendations made which will be processed appropriately by the Departments concerned."

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INDIA USA MALI PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

India and ECA Agreement

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1979 on the signing of a basic agreement between India and E.C.A.:

A Basic Agreement covering grants made by the Government of India to the United Nations for the use of the Economic Commission for Africa was initialled here this evening.

The Agreement which is valid for a period of three years and provides for grants by the

Government of India totalling upto Rs. 50 lakhs was initialled by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, on behalf of the United Nations, and Shri C. R. Krishnaswamy Rao Saheb, Commerce Secretary, on behalf of the Government of India. The Agreement will be finally signed in Addis Ababa sometime in October 1979.

The Basic Agreement will provide a framework for India's cooperation, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, with the African countries in their effort to accelerate economic and social progress. The purpose of the Agreement is to lay down the basic provisions which will apply to future grants made by the Government of India for the development of the African continent through the Economic Commission for Africa.

India is the first developing country with which the Economic Commission for Africa has signed such an Agreement. the Basic Agreement will provide anew window for our cooperation with African countries. It will supplement our present bilateral cooperation with many of these countries and assist in forging new links of cooperation with them. It will also provide a basis for continuing dialogue with the Economic Commission for Africa which will assist us in identifying further areas and scope of cooperation. By initialling this Agreement, India has given a concrete and comprehensive institutional shape to its commitment undertaken at the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries held in Buenos Aires to take new initiatives and adopt additional measures for promoting technical cooperation among developing countries.

There are immense complementarities between the Indian economy and those of the African countries. Our development experience and particularly our technical and technological capabilities are eminently suited to the conditions prevailing in Africa because of the prevalence of similar socio-economic situation and, in many respects, common factor endowments. The areas selected for

carrying out activities under the grants to be provided within the framework of the Basic Agreement include: Transfer, adaptation and development of technology, including non-conventional sources of energy, with particular reference to solar energy; Industrial designs, surveys, feasibility studies, plant and equipment; Agro-industries and smallscale industries; Transport and communication; Integrated rural development projects; Institutional infrastructure; and Management services.

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INDIA USA ETHIOPIA ARGENTINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: May 01, 1979

1995

MEXICO

Volume No

More Exchanges between India and Mexico

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 19,1979 on the signing of an agreement between India and Mexico:

India and Mexico are to intensify their exchanges in the fields of education, art and culture, and mass media. A Cultural Exchange Programme with these provisions was signed here today for the period 1979-80 between the representatives of the two countries. The signatories were Shri S. N. Pandita, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education, Social Wel-

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fare and Culture, and H.E. Ambassador Luis de La Hidalga, Director-in-Chief of Cultural

Affairs and Publications, Mexico.

In the field of higher education, the two countries will, inter alia, exchange academics to develop collaboration between institutions in this field. They will offer to each other four scholarships for post-graduate or higher studies and research.

India will send to Mexico a group of performing artistes and soloists to participate in the International Cervantes Festival, next Mexico, in its turn, will send a folk dance ensemble to this country. Also in the sphere of art and culture, an exhibition of Indian costumes and jewellery will be held in Mexico this year. In exchange, India will hold an exhibition of paintings by modern Mexican masters or of ancient Mexican art.

The two countries are to negotiate a long-range project for exchange of archaeologists, museologists and middle-level personnel in archaeology. In the field of mass media, the two countries will exchange a journalist each for two to three weeks. They will also exchange programmes depicting various facets of life in each country.

MEXICO INDIA USA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

PHILIPPINES

India and Philippines Sign Trade Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 29, 1979 on the signing of an agreement between India and Philippines:

India and the Philippines today signed

in Manila an agreement to develop and strengthen direct trade and economic relations.

The accord was signed by Shri Mohan Dharia, Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies & Cooperation, on behalf of India and by Mr. Troadio T. Quiazon Jr on behalf of Philippines. Shri Dharia had arrived in Manila on Sunday specially to sign the agreement.

The agreement accords the most favoured nation treatment to each other in accordance with provisions of the GATT and covers customs duties and charges of any kind including the method of levying such duties and charges imposed on or in connection with importation or exportation or imposed on the transfer of payments for imports and exports. It also covers rules and formalities connected with customs clearance; all internal taxes or other internal charges of any kind imposed on or in connection with the imports and exports and the issuance of import and export licences.

With a view to further developing mutual trade the two countries will encourage and facilitate exchange of visits of commercial and technical representative groups and delegations and participate in trade fairs and exhibitions.

The agreement also provides to merchant cargo bearing vessels of either country the most favoured nation treatment in respect of entry into, stay in and departure from the ports. The trade agreement will come into force on ratification or approval in conformity with the respective laws of India and the Philippines. It shall remain in force for one year and shall continue in force there after unless terminated by either party through a three-month prior written notice.

JOINT TRADE COMMITTEE

At the signing ceremony the two sides also exchanged letters setting up a Joint Trade Committee. The committee will consist of representatives of the two countries and shall meet alternately in India and the Philippines. It will review and keep under

consideration the implementation of the provisions of the agreement. The committee will also examine measures for the solution of problems which may arise in the implementation of the agreement and consider proposals for further expansion and diversification of trade.

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Speaking on the occasion Shri Dharia said that India would hold an exclusive exhibition in Manila next year. India, he Added, was making every effort to give a boost to its trade with the ASEAN nations and in 1978-79 the exports from India to the region rose by 15 per cent. He hoped that it would go still further. Referring to the agreement concluded Shri Maria said that both India and Philippines had agreed not only to reduce trade imbalances but also to considerably enhance the trade.

Commerce Minister invited his Philippines counterpart M. Quiazon Jr to visit India.

PHILIPPINES INDIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Agreement Signed for Collection of Data During MONEX 1979

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1979:

An Agreement was signed here today with the United States of America for carrying out scientific programmes for collection of data during the Monsoon Experiment (MONEX-79). The data which will thus be-

come available will lead to improved understanding of the Southwest monsoon and could bring immense continuing economic benefits.

Shri S.M.L. Bhatnagar, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation and Chairman of the MONEX management signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Robert F. Goheen, U.S.A. Ambassador to India signed on behalf of his Government.

The Agreement provides that three aircraft - Convair-990, Electra and P-3 belonging respectively to the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA), National Centre for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States of America will gather a large variety of Meteorological data of great scientific value principally over the oceanic areas around India, which are the source regions of the southwest monsoon. The majority of research flight missions performed out of Bombay during May-June 1979 will obtain information on atmospheric conditions over the Arabian sea, western and central India before, during and after the onset of the southwest monsoon.

The research flight missions planned out of Calcutta in July 1979 will concentrate on studying formation of monsoon depressions. The first aircraft Convair-990 has arrived in Bombay and the research flight mission is due to commence shortly. The other two aircraft are expected to come in the next fortnight and commence flight missions immediately thereafter.

SATELLITE PICTURES

Satellite pictures will also be received four times daily at Bombay from the geostationary satellite launched by USA over the equator at 60(degree)E. These pictures will facilitate planning of research flight and other operations during MONEX-79. India will provide logistic and technical support at Bombay and Calcutta for the conduct of research flight missions.

Indian scientists and representatives who will accompany all the research flight missions and actively participate in the data gathering effort will become familiar with advanced technology. India is to obtain copies of raw and processed data collected during the aircraft flights and other scientific programmes of USA. Joint research programmes will be

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organised between India and USA to conduct investigations on the vast volume of data gathered during MONEX-79.

Data gathered over tropical oceanic areas of the world during the two special observation periods of the Global Weather Experiment combined with the data obtained during MONEX-79 would enable meteorologists study global aspects of the monsoon circulation especially the interaction of weather between the tropics and extra-tropical latitudes. The impact of the global circulation on the factors governing the southwest monsoon in the oceanic regions around the Indian sub-continent could also be studied

Already four Indian MONEX ships are recording meteorological and oceanographic observations over the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. These ships are recording, for the first time upper wind observations upto great heights over the sea areas around India. Besides, India is expanding the number and frequency of the existing upper air observations over land stations, enhancing the quality of radar observations, maximising marine weather reports from merchant ships and upper air reports from commercial aircraft.

BACKGROUND

The southwest monsoon rains are the most important natural bounty of the Indian sub-continent. These rains, which come year after year with some regularity, are in a sense inexhaustible, unlike other natural resources like coal or oil. Agriculture and power production in India depend mainly on the monsoon rains. The benefit of the mon-

soon is enjoyed by the whole of the south Asia, parts of China and Japan. Improvement in prediction of monsoon rainfall would considerably benefit Indian agriculture and country's economy.

In earlier years, two international meteorological Expeditions were conducted for gathering valuable data over the oceanic regions surrounding India. They were the International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE:1963-1965) and the Indo-Soviet Monsoon Experiment (ISMEX-1973). Study of data gathered during these expeditions revealed many features of the monsoon, which were not known till then. Yet, there are many facets of the monsoon, such as conditions leading to monsoon onset, formation of monsoon depression and strengthening of monsoon activity as well as causes for prolonged breaks in the monsoon, which are till incompletely understood.

A Global Weather Experiment was, therefore, organised by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) to be carried out during 1979. The first special observation period of this Experiment was conducted from January 5, 1979 to March 5, 1979. The second special observation period of this Global Experiment commenced from May 1, 1979 and will end on June 30, 1979. The Monsoon Experiment (MONEX-1979) is an important regional subprogramme of the Global Weather Experiment, and will extend beyond the second special observation period, lasting till mid August 1979.

The Monsoon-77 Experiment was conducted by India in collaboration with USSR during May-August 1977. Data collected during Monsoon-77 has already started yielding useful scientific results in meteorological and oceanographic research in various institutions in India.

Shri Bhatnagar said Monex 1979 observations are expected to be vital as they will help in confirming results of the research of Monsoon-77 data and also possibly throw new light.

Shri Bhatnagar said that India and the U.S.A. were collaborating for the second time in a major international meteorological data collecting efforts. Earlier during 1963-1965 under the meteorological programme of the International Indian Ocean Expedition, India had established an International Meteorological Centre at Bombay and had also provided technical and planning support.

Speaking on the occasion the U.S.A. Ambassador to India Mr. Robert F. Goheen who signed the Agreement on behalf of his Government said that MONEX Experiment which was being undertaken on a large scale should permit scientists throughout the world to analyse and understand the onset and structure of the Monsoon which determine the course of Agriculture. The Experi-

ment should also help scientists in the equally vital task of predicting annual disasters caused by the Monsoon winds and rains and enable Governments to cope with such situation better.

The Ambassador said that the Indian and American Scientists will be working in close collaboration with each other and will share the data and the other information collected through this experiment.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA JAPAN

Shri Vajpayee's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Madame Binh

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No 1995 VIETNAM

The following is the text of the speech

by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, at a dinner by him in honour of Her Excellency Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, Education Minister and Special Envoy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in New Delhi on May 9, 1979:

Excellencies and dear friends, it is indeed a pleasure for me to welcome tonight the great patriot and freedom fighter, Her Excellency Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, the Education Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The people of India, Your Excellency, have always shared a sense of pride and fulfilment in the unique struggle of the people of Vietnam to attain their rightful independence and sovereignty against almost impossible odds. Your own contribution, Madame, in this brave struggle will find its place in the annals of freedom and liberation. It is therefore, an honour and privilege for me to welcome you to this country, to which you are no stranger and to exchange views with Your Excellency on the grave and urvent issues which are facing not only the peoples of Asia, but impinge on the destiny of the whole mankind.

The world today, Excellency, is faced with a heightened sense of uncertainty in the quest and prospects for peace and stability. There have been grave developments in your part of the world, and we still feel a keen sense of anxiety over the continuing tensions that prevail in that region. The serious and ominous implications of these developments should infuse a sense of urgency to efforts to find ways and means of defusing the present dangerous situation so as to bring about a permanent end to tensions and hostilities and usher in a climate of peace and harmony in the area. It is only in such a climate that the countries of the region can re-dedicate themselves to improve their socioeconomic conditions and promote the welfare of their peoples.

FIRM CONVICTION

India is of the firm conviction, Excellency, that the developing countries have a more pressing interest in and a deeper commitment to peace, since peace is essential for

our progress. To secure peace, however, developing countries, facing gigantic problems of reconstruction after the exploitation which they suffered under imperialism, will have to make every effort at not becoming unwitting pawns in the chess game of Big Power rivalry.

On its part, India has always striven to promote a climate of trust, friendship and good neighbourliness and has indeed sought to assuage suspicions and remove misunderstandings, sometimes entertained by our smaller neighbours. We shall continue to work along this path.

In a sense similar problems face South-East Asia. The challenges for the countries are also to develop cooperative relations in the vast region. Fear and violence can be removed between nations if relations are based on equality, national independence and

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sovereignty, and respect for established frontiers so that national personalities can find their fulfilment in trust between neighbours, big or small.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

India and Vietnam are members of the Non-aligned Movement. Non-alignment enjoins upon us to keep out of big power rivalries and its offshoot in the form of military blocs, and judge international issues within the framework of national independence and sovereignty. There is need to reiterate these basic tenets of non-alignment which have been fully vindicated in these two decades since the principles were enunciated. Strength and unity in non-alignment in the spirit which motivated our principles are assets for us all. We must not allow this solidarity to be weakened through disunity or deflected through divisions.

I have no doubt that the spirit of genuine non-alignment will prevail over the ephemeral winds of drift or divisiveness. We shall strive for the success of the Summit of the Nonaligned and are determined to give further strength in the direction of peaceful co-existence between nations and the peoples of the world, irrespective of their individual national ideological commitments. The solidarity of the Non-aligned Movement will enable us to make further strides in our common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid and racism. It will also provide us the strength and vigour to work for the achievement of the New International Economic Order to assure a better tomorrow for the millions of have-nots of today.

May I now request you, Excellencies and Ladies and Gentlemen, to raise your glasses in a toast to the health and long life of His Excellency Ton Duc Thang, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; to the health and happiness of Her Excellency Madame Nguyen Thi Binh; to the continuing successes and prosperity of the people of Vietnam; and to the everlasting friendship and cooperative relations of the Governments and peoples of India and Vietnam.

VIETNAM INDIA USA PERU

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Shri Vajpayee's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Yugoslav Federal Secretary

The following is the text of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, at a dinner he gave in honour of His Excellency Mr. Josip Vrhovec, Federal Secretary of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in New Delhi on May 5, 1979:

It gives me immense pleasure this even-

ing to welcome in our midst my colleague and friend His Excellency the Federal Secretary of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the distinguished members of his delegation. Mr. Federal Secretary, your visit is yet another manifestation of the close and cordial friendship that has traditionally existed between our two countries. We value and cherish this friendship the foundations of which were laid by two great leaders and visionaries, India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru and Yugoslavia's great son and indomitable fighter for freedom, President Josip Broz Tito. In India, we hold the government and the people of Yugoslavia' in the highest esteem.

Even such a well established friendship as exists between India and Yugoslavia requires a continuous dialogue at a high level and in this respect our two nations have not

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been found wanting. In interational forums and on each other's soil, we have met frequently to consult and exchange views with the purpose of furthering the common goals and objectives that our nations pursue in international relations. And it is in this context that we attach great importance to your visit to India at this time.

Our relationship, founded upon a unity of purpose and commonality of interests, derives its strength from mutual goodwill and confidence. Over the years, we have established a fruitful partnership which encompasses such diverse fields as commerce, industry, culture, science and technology. On our part, we are determined to consolidate and expand our relations with Yugoslavia in every field.

MOMENTOUS DEVELOPMENT

Your Excellency, you are visiting us at a time when momentous, indeed turbulent developments are taking place in our neighbourhood in Asia. We look forward to sharing with you our perception of these developments, since we have a vital stake in the stability of this region.

You are familiar with the efforts our government has made during the last two years to promote actively a climate of harmony and goodwill in our neighbourhood. I think that we can take some satisfaction at the success of these efforts. Sometimes the very size of our country has led some of our neighbours to nurture unfounded misgivings about our intentions in the region. We have demonstrated that we have no ambitions of assuming any role of dominance, that we are committed to the development of relations with neighbouring countries in the region in an equitable manner, to maximise the advantages which flow from cooperation and trust between nations.

Mr. Federal Secretary, we appreciate very highly the contribution of your country in promoting security and cooperation in Europe. There is no alternative to the process of detente for ensuring a climate of stability and peace and therefore we welcome it.

While a great deal has been achieved in the relaxation of tensions in the European continent, there is much that still remains to he done. At the same time, we reiterate our conviction that in order to be meaningful detente must be extended to other parts of the world. And in order to make it durable. detente must be underpinned by effective and complete disarmament.

Excellency, we are particularly happy that your visit to India comes at a time which is crucial for the Non-Aligned Movement, as founder members of this Movement, both our countries stand by the principles on which it is based and firmly believe in its continued validity. Non-alignment came into being at a time when cold war was at its peak and alignment with one military bloc or the other was held out as the only guarantee for a nation's security. The concept of non-alignment questioned this very hypothesis. The spontaneous response which the philosophy of non-alignment has evoked from the newly independent states of Asia and Africa is an eloquent testimony to its soundness and relevance. From a modest gathering of twentyfive, the Non Aligned Movement today has

the proud privilege of counting among its members 89 fully sovereign independent nations. Its validity and success have been amply demonstrated by its near universality. However, the success of this Movement has not been altogether untainted by problems. We still recall now, in the earlier years, relentless pressure was brought to bear upon the newly independent non-aligned nations to abandon their freely chosen path. We can take justifiable pride that we withstood these pressures well and remained united in our commitment to independence of judgement.

UNITY

It is therefore not without sorrow when we see today that this unity is at times under strain from within, as a result of acute differences which at times have no direct bearing with non-alignment. Some of these have been allowed to go too far and have come dangerously close to seriously jeopardising the very unity of the Movement. One way to ensure the movement's unity would be to refrain from using the non-aligned forum to ventilate bilateral questions.

The problems facing the non-aligned nations do not invalidate the principles of non-alignment. If anything, they bring out in starker relief the need for a genuine adherence to the principles accepted by all non-aligned nations such as respect for territorial integrity, national sovereignty and non-inter-

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ference in each other's internal affairs. We are convinced that only by adhering strictly to these principles will the necessary conditions be created for an effective resolution of the continuing problems whether they are in South East Asia, South West Asia, Africa or for that matter in any other part of the world. An unambiguous commitment to these principles by all nations will enable the non-aligned movement to preserve its strength, ensure its continuity and give it a new dimension.

This is the challenge before the representatives of non-aligned nations when they meet in Colombo and in Hayana.

Excellency, your visit here conics at a most propitious moment since it provides us with an opportunity to share our thoughts with you on a wide range of subjects. Our only regret is that your visit is of so short a duration that we cannot acquaint you with some parts of our country.

May I therefore once again extend to you all, our dear friends from Yugoslavia, a most cordial welcome? I hope that whatever discomforts you might have to suffer from our rather inclement weather, will be compensated for by the warmth and goodwill that you will experience for your national and your people in this country.

Friends, may I now invite you to join me in drinking a toast to the good health of His Excellency the President of Yugoslavia, Marshal Tito, His Excellency the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, Mr. Bjuranovic and His Excellency Mr. Josip, Federal Secretary of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and members of the delegation and to the further enrichment of the friendship between our two countries and peoples. Thank you.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA PERU CUBA SRI LANKA

Date: May 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Joint Communique

The following is the text of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Communique:

At the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri A. B. Vajpayee, the Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the

Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, His Excellency Mr. Josip Vrhovec paid an official visit to India from May 5-7, 1979. During his stay in Delhi, the distinguished vistor was received by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy. He also called on the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai, to whom he conveyed a personal message from the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, H.E. Mr. Josip Broz Tito. The Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Josip Vrhovec renewed the invitation of President Tito and the President of the Federal Executive Council, Mr. Veselin Djuranovic to Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and it was agreed that the visit will take place in June this year.

During his stay in Delhi, His Excellency Mr. Josip Vrhovec held talks with Shri A. B. Vajpayee on a wide range of subjects of mutual interest. The two Ministers were assisted by:

INDIAN SIDE: Shri Samarendra Kundu, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri J.S. Mehta, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri U. S. Bajpai, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri N.P. Jain, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri A.R. Deo, Joint Secretary Ministry of External Affairs; Shri M. Dubey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri S. V. Purushottam, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

YUGOSLAV SIDE: Mr. Ignac Golob Assistant Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Anjelko Blazevic, Ambassador of Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in India; Mr. Dragoslav Pejic, Head of the Division for South and South East Asia, Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; Mr, Cvijeto Job, Head of the Group for the Multilateral Activities of non-aligned countries, Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; and Mr. Dusan Litvinovic, Minister-Counsellor, Embassy of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in New Delhi.

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The two sides expressed their satisfaction at the steady development of Indo-Yugoslav relations which serves the interests of their two peoples. They reaffirmed their determination to consolidate further these relations by strengthening the existing ties in the economic, commercial, cultural, scientific, technical and other fields. They also expressed their satisfaction with the recently signed agreement on the peaceful uses of atomic energy which would contribute to the further development of cooperation between the two countries.

They exchanged views on international problems and noted that their views were identical or similar on various important issues. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the continuing struggle of the peoples and nations of the world for full emancipation and independence. They, however, expressed their serious concern over the worsening crises in various parts of the world, the increasing resort to the use of force and foreign interventions, the continuing arms race and the widening gap dividing the developed countries from the developing countries. They believed that the spirit of detente must be universalised through the active participation of all nations and extended to all parts of the world. They believed that some of the most important challenges facing mankind today were hunger and poverty, ignorance and disease.

The international situation underlined the need for adherence to and consistent implementation of the UN Charter and the principles of non-alignment and the establishment of the New International Economic Order. They recognised the importance of strengthening the role of the United Nations in this regard. In particular, they stressed the need for strict respect for the principles of independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity of nations and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries in the conduct of international relations.

They also reviewed the tense situation in West Asia and expressed their belief that a just and durable peace in that region can be achieved only through a comprehensive solution of all outstanding problems. They accordingly called for the vacation by Israel of all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the recognition of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people including their right to an independent state of their own.

They fully supported the struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa against imperialism, colonialism, apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination and called for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the Ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries held in Maputo in January 1979. They held as invalid the so-called elections organised recently by the illegal regime in Salisbury and called upon the members of the internantional community to strictly enforce the UN sanctions against the illegal regime. They fully supported the demand for unconditional and full transfer of power to the true representatives of the people of Zimbabwe.

They also demanded the grant of full independence to the people of Namibia and the total and immediate withdrawal by South Africa from the entire territory of Namibia including Walvis Bay.

They expressed concern at the situation in South East Asia. The international community and especially the region as a whole had a vital interest that problems should be resolved peacefully with full respect to the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of established frontiers and non-interference, so that cooperative relations based on mutual respect can be developed between independent nations of the area.

India and Yugoslavia appreciated each other's policies and efforts in the quest for stability and good neighbourliness in their respective regions. The two Ministers emphasised the necessity for the renewed efforts in declaring the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from big power rivalries. They also reaffirmed their support to the proposal of transforming the Mediterranean into a

Zone of Peace and cooperation.

The two sides recalled their continuing and close cooperation in the non-aligned movement and other international forums and discussed the subjects likely to come up at the forthcoming meetings of the Coordinating Bureau and the Sixth Summit Conference of the non-aligned countries. They agreed to work together and with other non-aligned countries for the successful outcome of these gatherings.

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They expressed their belief that today, more than ever before the basic principles and objectives of non-alignment were valid and appropriate for the resolution of international problems and strengthening of world peace. Taking note of the contribution made by non-aligned countries in serving the cause of peace and stability, they regretted that in recent years, disputes between non-aligned countries were sometimes sought to be resolved through armed conflicts. The two sides expressed their conviction that bilateral problems should be settled peacefully and through negotiations.

They recalled that non-aligned countries pursued independent policies based on the universal application of principles of peaceful coexistence. They were convinced that nonaligned movement should continue to lend its full support to struggle against imperialism colonialism, racism, apartheid and all forms of foreign domination and exploitation, They agreed that policy of nonalignment can play its positive role by continuing to be against multilateral military alliances, power blocs and concept of spheres of influence of great powers. They were also convinced that strict adherence to the well recognised principles of the non-aligned movement would preserve and strengthen its unity. They emphasised the determination of their Governments to work together for preservation of the independent character and established principles of non-alignment and for the strengthening of solidarity, unity of action and cooperation among non-aligned countries.

They recalled that non-aligned and other developing countries had striven over the last several years towards the establishment of the new international economic order convinced that through the fulfilment of this objective alone could they hope to strengthen and give substance to their independence. They were confident that in the forthcoming non-aligned gatherings the movement would pursue this objective with renewed vigour.

They recalled the significant initiatives taken by nonaligned countries in the field of disarmament and called for an early implementation of the decisions contained in the final document of the special session of United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

The two sides found this exchange of views valuable and reiterated their determination to continue to keep in close touch with each other and with other non-aligned countries to strengthen unity of the movement.

His Excellency Federal Secretary of Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia Josip Vrhovee thanked Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee for hospitality extended to him and to members of his delegation during their stay in India. He extended an invitation to Vajpayee to visit to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

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YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA ISRAEL MOZAMBIQUE ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA

Date: May 01, 1979

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Date: Jun 01, 1979

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BULGARIA

Trade Protocol Signed

The following is a press release issued in New Delhi on June 27, 1979 on the visit of Shri Mohan Dharia to Bulgaria and the signing of a Trade Protocol:

Shri Mohan Dharia, Indian Minister for Commerce and Civil Supplies accompanied by Commerce Secretary Shri C. R. Krishnasawamy Rao Sahib and Indian Ambassador Shri S. H. Desai called on President Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria last weekend. in a meeting lasting over 50 minutes, President Zhivkov expressed great satisfaction at the steadily developing political and economic relation between Bulgaria and India. He said that there was great scope for expansion of economic and trade relations between the two countries on the basis of the many complementarities in their respective development pattern. He added, he was most happy at the recent many high level visits from India to Bulgaria. The Bulgarian President was eagerly looking forward to the visit of President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy to Bulgaria later this year.

Shri Dharia thanked President Zhivkov

for receiving him on a holiday and said that in his discussion with the Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Hristov, they have agreed to expand trade and cooperation in many economic fields. He assured the Bulgarian President of India's full efforts to achieve the goals set and also explained India's position on international economic issues facing the developing countries and emphasised the need for utmost cooperation between the socialist countries of Europe and the developing countries for achieving a better world economic order.

The meeting which was attended by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Mr. Hristov, was held in an atmosphere of cordiality, friendship and goodwill. President Zhivkov recalled his visit to India and recounted experiences from Bulgaria's recent history of development and problems faced.

Earlier in the day Shri Dharia and Mr. Hristov signed a protocol in which they agreed in principle on:

- i) new forms of cooperation including third country joint ventures;
- ii) long-term arrangements for mutual deliveries of different commodities and products, including fertilisers and electronic goods from Bulgaria, and iron ore, leather and leather goods and heavy earth moving equipment from India; and
- iii) time-bound programme for doubling in volume of Indo-Bulgaria trade between 1980 and 1985.

During his stay in Bulgaria the Commerce Minister Shri Dharia accompanied by his delegation visited Verna, on the Black Sea, where he inspected the largest Bulgarian "Arnas one-yard complex" and various tourist complexes.

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BULGARIA INDIA USA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Trade Protocol Signed

The following is a press release issued in New Delhi on June 23, 1979 on the eighth session of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee:

The eighth Session of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee concluded today in Prague with the Commerce Minister Shri Mohan Dharia signing a protocol with Mr. Andrej Bareak, Foreign Trade Minister of Czechoslovakia. The signing ceremony took place at the famous Zbraslav Castle near Prague.

SALIENT FEATURES

The protocol sets out the salient features of the discussions that took place at the four-day meeting of the Joint Committee. On the suggestion of Shri Mohan Dharia, the Committee agreed to adopt a target of doubling of trade flows between the two countries during the five-year period 1981-85 as compared to the levels reached by 1980. In order to work towards this target, negotiations would be started immediately to draw up a diversified list of commodities with long term potential of exchange between the two countries to be finalised before the middle of 1980.

The Czechoslovak Government agreed to extend the period for utilisation of third Czech credit upto the end of 1980. Cement, metallurgical, chemicals and fertilizers plants were identified as areas for which this credit could be utilised.

Another important decision taken by the Joint Committee was that concrete mea-

sures should be adopted by both sides to exploit opportunities for collaboration in third country projects. For this purpose, identified organisations on both sides would devise procedures of consultation to facilitate tendering and sub-contracting in third tries.

The eighth Session of the Joint Committee recorded significant advances in the field of industrial cooperation. The collaboration between Polytechna and H.E.C. Ranchi would be finalised early for the manufacture of high capacity cement plants. Technical cooperation from Czechoslovakia for the manufacture of heavy machine tools such as horizontal and vertical boring machines has also been agreed to In addition a number of other promising areas for industrial collaboration. between the two countries have been identified. It was agreed that proposals for the supply of machine tools including special purpose machines from H.M.T. and equipment for coke oven plants, rolling mills and structurals by H.E.C. to Czechoslovakia would be finalised early.

In the field of electronics, a number of areas of cooperation were identified. The possibilities discussed included technical collaboration in the field of manufacture of radar equipment transmitters and transmitting tubes as well as computer peripherals. At the same time, supply of computer soft ware from India to Czechoslovakia was also envisaged.

The existing arrangements for cooperation in the field of science and technology were reviewed and a new programme of action covering the period June 1979 to December 1980 was approved.

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NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

EGYPT

Bilateral Cooperation in the Field of Energy

The following is a press release issued in New Delhi on June 14, 1979 on the visit of Shri P. Ramachandran, Minister of Energy to Egypt:

The Energy Minister, Shri P. Ramachandran was warmly received by President Sadat of Egypt, when he called on the President in Alexandria yesterday. The President spoke of the long standing ties of abiding friendship between the two countries and in this regard welcomed the increasing cooperation in the economic and technical fields including that of energy resources. President Sadat expressed his deep appreciation of India's principled stand in the context of recent developments in the nonaligned movement.

The Energy Minister's call on the Egyptian President formed a part of his weeklong official visit to Egypt during which he held several discussions with his Egyptian counterpart on extending bilateral cooperation in the field of Energy.

A Protocol on bilateral cooperation was signed by Shri P. Ramachandran and the Minister of Electricity and Energy of Egypt, Engineer Mustafa Kamal Sabry.

According to the Protocol, India will assist Egypt in the rural electrification of that country. The Protocol also provides for services of Indian experts for maintenance and rehabilitation of thermal power stations in Egypt, joint ventures for manufacture of electrical equipment and exchange of experts and information in the field of solar energy and bio-mass.

India had submitted a project report on rural electrification in the selected areas of Kafr El Sheikh and Assiut in Egypt, which has been found generally acceptable. The Protocol provides for the procurement of certain materials for the rural electrification from India. Egypt will indicate the quantity of various items they would like to procure from India and specifications will be finalised by the two sides. The work connected with the supply of equipment from India would be carried out by the Rural Electrification Corporation.

It was also agreed that senior engineers of the Rural Electrification Authority of Egypt would be deputed to India to study the various economic, technical and managerial aspects of lift-irrigation. India would depute senior experts to help Egyptian authorities in finalising their proposals in this field.

JOINT VENTURES

The Egyptian delegation expressed terest in establishing joint ventures for manufacture of transmission towers, high-voltage switch gears and insulators. A team of experts from India will visit Egypt for exploring the possibility of establishing such ventures.

The Egyptian delegation also expressed interest in securing from India services of experts for the maintenance and rehabilitation of thermal power stations specially in the fields of boilers, turbines, soft water plant and demi water plant. India agreed to extend assistance in this field and a detailed programme will be drawn up by the two countries.

The two sides also agreed to exchange information and expertise in the field of solar energy and bio-mass.

India has agreed to depute three experts, one each in the field of solar energy, rural electrification, construction and design, and bio-mass research and development. India would also train Egyptian engineers in power engineering and research.

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Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Desai's Speech at Moscow Banquet

The following is the text of Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai's speech at a Banquet in Moscow on June, 11, 1979:

It is indeed a pleasure to be amidst old friends again. Our close and cordial relations demand that we meet often so that a continuous exchange of views can provide a fresh impetus to our multi-faceted co-operation.

I fully share your optimism over the current state of relationship. In the last 2 years, my Government has consistently pursued a policy of further deepening and enriching our relationship with, the Soviet Union. The signing of the long term agreement, the proposed agreement on the 'Visakhapatnam' Steel Plant and the launching of the second Indian satellite as an example of joint endeavour between Indian and Soviet scientists are a testimony of our mutual resolve to widen the horizons of our partnership. Our recent deliberations have once again demonstrated that our bonds are cemented by an irreversible progression of ever expanding common interests and shared objectives. I can assure you that in India the Soviet Union has a steadfast friend whose policies are not guided by or founded upon the shifting stands of transient considerations and temporary advantages, but are based upon a bed-rock of warmth, goodwill and recognition of mutual interests. I have no doubt that this journey of mine will provide further nourishment to the meaningful sentiments.

I am particularly glad that during my present visit I have had the opportunity to gain an insight into the Asian part of your great Union of Socialist Republics, This has stirred in me the memories of our historic links with Central Asia and deepened the consciousness that the Soviet Union is not merely a distant European Nation, but a close friend which has a vital stake in the stability, well-being and prosperity of its friends

As Your Excellencies are aware, India has remained firmly committed to the principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence. We seek to preserve the cohesion and unity of the non-aligned movement in the face of differences and divisions which alas threaten to weaken its effectiveness. In the lost two years, we have been fortunate in witnessing considerable relaxation of tensions in relations between the nations of our region. You are aware of the concerted efforts made by my Government to create a climate, of confidence and good neighbourliness in the Indian sub-continent. We are gratified that our efforts have ushered in an era of peace and cooperation in the subcontinent. Much remains to be done to remove suspicions accumulated over decades of colonial rule. The realisation of the futility of confrontation as an instrument of policy by countries of our region is by itself no mean achievement.

In consonance with our primary objective of creating harmonious relationships in our immediate neighbourhood, a dialogue has started with the Peoples Republic of China in the hope that the possibility of normalisation of relations can be explored. I find that a dialogue is also proposed to be initiated between China and the USSR. We have always believed that any effort towards peaceful resolutions of disputes and easing of tensions must be welcomed in the context of global peace and cooperation.

ABSENCE OF CONFLICTS IN EUROPE

We continue to live in disturbed times

and the absence of conflicts in Europe in three decades should not lull us into complacency or make us ignore the danger which continues to threaten our globe. It is true that much has been achieved since the days of the cold war, in laying the foundation of a climate of understanding and cooperation and we deeply appreciate the personal contribution of President Brezhnev in bringing this about. It is also true that the world is

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less threatened now by the damocles sword of nuclear holocaust than it was only a few years ago. We are happy to learn that through the personal interest and initiative of President Brezhnev and President Carter the Salt II Agreement will be signed in Vienna in the coming days. Without detracting from the notable achievement, however, we must not weaken our resolve to bring about a meaningful disarmament and permanent solution of those problems which continue to lurk dangerously just beneath the surface. We have just witnessed large scale conflicts in South East Asia, where there has been a tragic loss in human life and the promise of development for these countries has suffered a setback. The countries of Indo-China have only recently emerged from decades of violence and bloodshed and it is a great pity that they have once again been subjected to outside interference.

The increasing threat towards conflict in Asia and Africa causes us deep concern. There must be a greater international commitment to eradicating the existing hot-beds of tensions, for only then, will we be truly liberated from the fear of a global conflict. Whether in Indo-China or in West Asia or in Southern Africa, we still remain perilously close to the possibilities of dangerous conflagration. I will never tire of emphasising that in the resolution of these outstanding problems, the great powers are invested with special responsibilities to create among themselves, and strengthen among others, a climate of trust and confidence.

COMMON COMMITMENT

Our two countries have long cherished

a common commitment to wiping out a vestiges of colonialism and racialism and yet it is regrettable that our efforts and those of other like-minded nations have so far proved to be inadequate. The ugly head of racism still remains high in the African continent. We must take sterner measures to combat this evil, which is an insult to and an assault on the dignity of the human family as a whole. New tensions in Africa have further escalated as a result of the developments in Rhodesia. Unless genuine majority rule is established, a defiant unrepresentative organ would hold sway in constant danger of being manipulated by internal and external forces. The international community must work towards an acceptable solution of the problems in Rhodesia. The problems in, Namibia also demand a more strenuous effort because any further delay in their resolution can only be at the cost of further aggravating tensions.

INDIAN OCEAN

It is also a matter of deep concern to us that in spite of the unequivocally expressed desire of the littoral States, the Indian Ocean is witnessing increasing tensions and military rivalry among the Great Powers. We would urge the Soviet Union and the United States to resume the dialogue to bring about a successful. implementation of the United Nations' General Assembly resolution which calls for the creation of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace free from great power military rivalry.

With the rapid disappearance of the colonial empires and the emergence of the erstwhile colonies as sovereign independent nations, the concept of territorial conquest is fast becoming obsolete in today's international environment. However, there are disconcerting signs of the possible emergence of neocolonialism designed to bring about greater economic domination of the poorer and less fortunate nations. As the industries of the erstwhile colonial empires have been choked off from the traditional supplies of cheap and captive raw materials, there is increasing evidence of a rejuvenated effort towards the economic penetration and control

of the national resources of smaller nations.

UNCTAD

As we have witnessed during the recent UNCTAD Conference in Manila, the developed and industrialised nations are still unwilling to accept and recognise the need for a drastic re-structuring of international economic order or to participate in meaningful efforts to create an international economic environment which will allow a more equitable and just distribution of the global wealth. Patronage and charity only create dependence which violates selfrespect, dignity and pride. What the newly emerged nations seek is not the humiliation of begging for alms but the creation of conditions which will allow them to improve their trading opportunities and to ensure complete control of the resources and thus bring about the establishment of the new

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international economic order which will grant them a fair deal and facilitate development of their self reliance as independent nations. The history of Asia and Africa is the history of exploitation. It is tragic that even today when there is a new awakening among emerging nations in Asia and Africa, nations continue to seek unilateral advantages at the expense of the less fortunate nations.

As we have once again reaffirmed during this visit, our bilateral relations are resilient and strong. We both have faith in the future of our close cooperation and expanding collaboration. Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation has made significant contribution to world peace and stability and I am confident that it will continue to do so in the years to come.

RUSSIA USA INDIA PERU CHINA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRIA NAMIBIA PHILIPPINES

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indo-Soviet Joint Statement

The following is the text of the joint statement signed by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai and H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CC of the CPSU and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, at Moscow on June 12, 1979:

The Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Reaffirming their determination to consolidate peace, strengthen international security, and develop cooperation between States on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence,

Noting that the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between India and the Soviet Union as well as other Indo-Soviet agreements reflect the high level of traditional friendship of the peoples of the two countries and their weighty contribution to the struggle for peace and international cooperation,

Recalling with satisfaction that their traditionally close and cordial relations and mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation have developed rapidly in the recent years and opened up favourable prospects for expanding ties between them,

Reiterating their firm conviction that Indo-Soviet relations, which are based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, serve as an example of now sovereign nations irrespective of the diversity of their political and socioeconomic systems may develop their bilateral relations and make an important contribution to maintaining universal peace, stability and security,

Conscious of the responsibility which rests on them for the preservation of peace and faithful to their international obligations, in particular those under the United Nations Charter,

State their resolve to strengthen further their close cooperation which serves the interests of their two peoples, the cause of strengthening peace and international cooperation.

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India and the Soviet Union note with, satisfaction that Indo-Soviet relations, are developing dynamically and fruitfully in a friendly atmosphere with strict observance by both sides of the principles of respect for sovereignty, equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Meetings and talks between the Indian and Soviet leaders in Moscow held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual respect reaffirm the coincidence or similarity of views of India and the Soviet Union on key international problems and will serve the cause of further widening the many-sided cooperation between India and the Soviet Union, the deepening of mutual understanding and confidence, elaboration of agreed steps aimed at consolidating universal peace and cooperation.

The Long-Term Programme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation of March 1979, the Agreement on Cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of Nuclear Energy, the Fifth Session of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission held in Moscow in June 1979, the cooperation of Indian and Soviet scientists in the launching of the second Indian artificial earth Satellite Bhaskara by a Soviet rocket

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and the Agreement on the setting up of the Vishakhapatnam Steel Complex are new manifestations of tire determination of the two sides to expand their economic and other cooperation.

The two sides welcome the process of detente which continues to gain in strength particularly in Europe and call for multiplying efforts with a view to making detente a continuous and comprehensive process to embrace all continents, including Asia. They deprecate all attempts to halt and reverse the process of detente as being against the interests of humanity and world peace.

The two sides hold the conviction that relations between states should be governed by well-recognised principles of international law and peaceful coexistence such as renunciation of the threat or use of force, respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of frontiers and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other. They recognise that each nation has the right to choose its own political and socio-economic system as well as the right to live in peace, good-neighbourliness and cooperation.

The two sides are convinced that without disarmament the process of detente cannot be lasting. Therefore, the most important task facing mankind today is the cessation of the arms race and the implementation of effective disarmament measures, first and foremost nuclear disarmament with the ultimate goal of achieving general and coomplete disarmament under effective international control.

The principal danger to peace stems, however, from the spiralling nuclear arms race. The two sides reaffirm their readiness to cooperate with each other and with other, countries for achieving success in the elaboration of measures aimed at the cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradual reduction of their stockpiles until they are completely destroyed. In particular, they agree that the successful conclusion of the on-going negotiations on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty will constitute an important step in the direction of nuclear disarmament and ultimately in the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons. Both sides favour also prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons,

prohibition of the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction including neutron weapons, reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments.

India and the Soviet Union attach great importance to the completion of the work on drafting a new Soviet-American Treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms and believe that the conclusion and entry into force of this Treaty will create a more favourable atmosphere for making headway towards the cessation of the arms race and disarmament.

It is also the view of the two sides that an effective step towards disarmament is the reduction of military expenditure of states. A part of the funds released as a result of disarmament and reduction of military budgets should be channelled to tender assistance to developing countries.

The two sides are convinced of the urgent need for restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis providing for equal and mutually beneficial economic cooperation and the strengthening of economic self-reliance of the newly independent countries.

The two sides express their concern over the current situation in South-East Asia which continues to remain complicated. Both sides favour the establishment of peace in South-East Asia on the basis of respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of frontiers and cessation of interference by outside forces in the internal affairs of the states of the area.

India and the Soviet Union declare their desire to develop friendly relations and cooperation with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. They express themselves firmly in favour of the aspirations of the people of Afghanistan for the preservation of their national independence and for their development. They oppose any interference by outside forces in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

India and the Soviet Union express their

deep concern over the continuing serious threat to peace in West Asia and pronounce themselves once again in favour of a comprehensive and just settlement of the problem on the basis of the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, the securing of the legitimate

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rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to establish their own state as well as the ensuring for all states in the area the right to independent existence and development. A just and durable settlement in West Asia can be reached only in accordance with the UN resolutions providing for the participation and protection of the rights of all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm their readiness to cooperate for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. They call once again for dismantling the foreign military and naval bases existing in the area and preventing the creation of such new bases Were, and condemn any attempts to build-up foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean wider any pretext whatsoever. The Indian side highly appreciates the readiness at the Soviet Union to resume bilateral talks with the USA on the question of the Indian Ocean.

The Indian and the Soviet sides recognise the valuable contribution which is being made by the non-alignment movement as an independent and positive factor in world politics to deepen the process of detente and extend it to all continents, to strengthen universal peace, to We struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and all forms of discrimination and in support of the respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, and the establishment of a New International Economic Order based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm their determination to continue cooperation in the United Nations and other international forums for strengthening universal peace and international security.

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India and the Soviet Union are convinced that the strengthening of universal peace and detente will make easier the solution of urgent problems facing mankind today such as the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, meeting the energy and raw material needs of the economies of all countries, saving mankind from the threat of famine, poverty and pestilence, making rational use of the wealth of the world oceans and the peaceful exploration of outer space. They realise that these tasks require tireless efforts, energy, initiative, and vision and, above all, goodwill of all nations.

India and the Soviet Union call upon all states of the world irrespective of their political, economic and social systems, their size, geographical situation or level of economic development to join hands in the constructive endeavour to build the edifice of durable peace for the present and for the future generations.

RUSSIA USA INDIA AFGHANISTAN ISRAEL

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet, in Warsaw

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai at the Banquet given in his honour in Warsaw on June 14, 1979:

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude for the warm welcome and cordial

hospitality extended to me and to the members of my delegation and for the friendly sentiments expressed this evening for my country and my people. I consider it a great privilege and honour to be in the midst of a proud, industrious and courageous people whose mettle has been tested by history. As I stand today on Polish soil, I cannot help but recall with anquish the many tragedies that history has inflicted upon the Polish people in the last and present century. That your people have faced these with exemplary fortitude and reasserted themselves, is a tribute to their endurance and genius.

Your country has risen from the ashes and some of the debris of the last world war lies scattered over your land, a bitter reminder of the wanton destruction an all-out war can cause and bring about the distress and misery of millions. Having experienced the anguish of this bloody chapter of history it is but natural that your people have been anxious to ensure an era of peace and staility to spare further generations what they themselves had to suffer in their own life time. All religions and philosphies embody the hu-

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man need and desire for peace. At the same time peace has been eluding man's grasp. Humanity's beneficent achievements cannot thrive except in peace-time and the manner in which your country has not only rehabilitated itself but has even built upon them almost a new world of its own exemplifies the truth of that.

NON-VIOLENCE

Our commitment to peace is not only unequivocal but is embedded in centuries of tradition and national outlook and culture. We believe and have shown that non-violence can conquer entrenched foreign authority and in the process can serve to provide a base for national reconstruction. Gandhiji also made us deeply aware of the urgent task of removing want and poverty from our land. That task is a demanding and ardous one which can only be pursued in an atmosphere of harmony, understanding and peace.

We live in an age of strange contradictions. On the one hand, man is more than ever passionately craving for peace; on the other some nations have acquired means to wipe out civilization in a nuclear holocaust. It is profitless to point accusing fingers at each other and apportion blame in an environment where peace is on the lips but tensions prevail on the ground. We must act collectively to bring about a meaningful effort to promote and attain peace and put a stop to the methodical and scientific madness. However some encouraging trends are visible on the political horizon.

There has also been a positive tendency among super powers to limit their arsenals. The message of Helsinki has its adherents despite some evaporation of its spirit. We are on the eve of a significant step that is being taken in Vienna to limit nuclear arms. While these and other developments have contributed to some positive environment of understanding and cooperation, they have still not freed us from the spectre of wholesale destruction. We have to ask ourselves "How long will the world live in the shadow of this omnipresent fear?" How long must we exist on the hope that this fragile and delicate balance of terror is not ignited by an accidental spark? We must therefore ensure a more permanent structure of peace and stability. We cannot remain content until the nuclear threat is banished completely as an option in the imposition of international relations of a country's own choice. The tragedy is that this wastefulness of efforts makes people ignore the patent face of areas of affluence far outstretched by vastness of poverty and want. Mankind could well afford to utilise the resources released through the process of disarmament by channelling them in the task of economic development of the more needy people.

Another glaring paradox of our times is that while science and technology has propelled mankind to unprecedented feats, a large portion of humanity still remains outside the benefit of those achievements, seemingly oblivious of miraculous advance of man in the last few decades. It is as if time has stood still on much the larger part of the

planet and progressed with acceleration on other parts. Unless the fruits of man's achievements are more equally distributed or equitably shared, the rising tide of irustration threatens to wash away all the gains humanity has made so far. It is the moral duty of the more fortunate nations of this world who have attained their present affluence at the expense of the less fortunate ones to think meaningfully and with a sense of fellow feeling of their needy brethren elsewhere. Even though we ourselves are not an affluent nation we are prepared to share our experience with others and contribute in our own humble way to the solution of this imbalance of economic development.

Your country has made its own contribution to the art and literature of the world. Poland's cultural history despite its vicissitudes of fortunes has been an example to the world. It has enriched the cultural history of other countries. Your people have migrated to countries far beyond and have proved valuable citizens of those countries.

During my visit here, we have had an opportunity to review extensively our bilateral relations. I think we both agree that these have progressed well and that the future prospects for our cooperation are excellent. We do attach great importance to our relations with the Polish Peoples Republic. We are confident that in the coming years our cooperation will grow in scope and continue to be beneficial to both our peoples.

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POLAND USA FINLAND AUSTRIA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indo-Polish Joint Communique

The following is the text of the Joint Communique issued on the conclusion of the visit to Poland by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai:

At the invitation of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Mr. Edward Gierek and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, H.E. Mr. Piotr Jaroszewicz, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, H.E. Shri Morarji Desai paid an official visit to Poland from 14 to 16 June 1979. He was accompanied by the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier in Warsaw.

The Prime Minister of India and the members of his delegation visited historical monuments, housing districts, a children's health centre and the Polish Fiat factory to acquaint themselves with the historical heritage and contemporary accomplishments of the people of Poland in different fields.

During the visit the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai held talks with the First Secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party, H.E. Mr. Edward Gierek. He was also received by the Chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, H.E. Mr. Henryk Jabonski and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, H.E. Mr. P. Jaroszewiez. These meetings and talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The official talks between Shri Morarji Desai and H.E. Mr. Edward Gierek were attended on the Indian side by: Shri A. B. Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, Shri V. Shankar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India, Shri S. K. Bhutani, Ambassador of India in Poland, Shri V. Y. Tonpe, Special Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of India, Shri H. S. Shah, Joint Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Shri A. R. Deo, Joint Secretary to the Govern-

ment of India, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri P. Shah, Joint Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Shri A. Mubayi, Special Assistant to Foreign Minister, Shri T.P. Sreenivasan, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs and Kumari Savitri Kunadi, First Secretary (Commercial), Indian Embassy, Warsaw, and from the Polish side by: Mr. E. Babiuch Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the PUWP, Mr. M. Jagielski, Member of the PB of the CC of the PUWP and Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. J. Szydlak, Member of the PB of the CC of the PUWP and Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. R. Frelek, Secretary of the CC of the PUWP, Mr. E. Wojtasyek, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. J. Waszczuk, Head, Chancery of the Secretariat of the CC of the PUWP, Mr. W. Piatkowski, Head, Foreign Department of the CC of the PUWP, Mr. E. Kulaga, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. A. Karas, deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping, Mr. J. Czapla, Ambassador of Poland in India, Mr. S. Glowniak, Director-General in the Planning Commission at the Council of Ministers, and Mr. R. Fijalkowski, Director of Department II, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The two leaders made a comprehensive review of the development of Indo-Polish relations over the last 25 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. They expressed their satisfaction that these relations, based on the principles of equality, partnership and mutual benefit continued to grow dynamically and constituted a good example of peaceful co-existence between States with different socio-economic and political systems. They felt that these relations were given an added impetus by the high level dialogue between the leaders of the two countries. In this connection, they recognised the importance of the visit of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, H.E. Mr. Edward Gierek to India in 1977 as well as the present visit of the Prime Minister of India, H.E. Shri Morarji Desai, to Poland.

Both sides emphasised the need and de-

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and diversification of bilateral economic and trade relations guided by the long term agreement on economic, industrial and technological cooperation between the Governments of India and Poland. In this context, they expressed their particular satisfaction over the substantial growth of cooperation in the fields of mining and power, shipbuilding, machine building and aviation industries. They welcomed the favourable development of cooperation in culture, science and technology and other fields. During the visit, an agreement was signed providing for cooperation in the field of health.

While reviewing the international situation, the two sides noted with satisfaction the similarity of their views on major international questions. The two countries welcomed the progress in the process of detente in Europe and ex-pressed their hope that the nations of the European continent will further enrich the content and scope of detente by building durable bridges of understanding and cooperation towards the full implementation of the Helsinki Final Act. Both sides agreed that in order to be truly meaningful and effective, the process of detente should be universalised, extended to other parts of the globe and made irreversible. They deprecated any attempt to undermine it as being against the interest of world peace.

The two sides stressed that the disarmament was the most vital task facing mankind and all nations should direct their efforts to achieve major progress in disarmament, the first priority being given to nuclear disarmament. In this connection they called for the early and full implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the special session of the U.N. General Assembly devoted to disarmament and reaffirmed this desire to cooperate in various international forums on this issue.

The two sides called for early implementation of the U.N. declaration on "preparing societies to live in peace" adopted at the 33rd session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The two sides welcomed the latest agreement between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. on the limitation of strategic arms. The two sides recognised that this was an important step for creating a more favourable climate for achieving comprehensive universal disarmament objectives and hoped that towards this end efforts would continue.

Both sides expressed their support for the early implementation of the U.N. General Assembly resolutions on the establishment of the zone of peace in the Indian Ocean.

In reviewing the situation in South East Asia, the two sides expressed their deep concern at the complicated situation in this region. They noted with regret that after suffering decades of devastation and conflict, Indo-China had once again become the theatre of outside interference, violence and bloodshed. The two sides called for establishment of peace in South East Asia, with the strict observance of the principales of non-interference in internal affairs and a respect for the sovereignty, equality and territorial integrity of all nations of this region to allow them conditions for continuation unhampered the vital task of economic reconstruction and development.

Both sides expressed their concern at the continuing threat to peace in West Asia and reiterated their conviction that a comprehensive and just settlement of the problems can only be based upon the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967. The full recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish their own state and the guarantee to all States in that region of their right to independent existence and development. A just and durable settlement in West Asia can be reached only in accordance with U.N. resolutions providing for the participation and protection of the rights of all parties involved, including the P.L.O.

The two sides expressed their firm support to the people of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe in their struggle against impe-

rialism, colonialism and racial discrimination. They stated their firm opposition to the illegal elections in Zimbabwe and reiterated their support to the patriotic front and SWAPO as the only recognised and authentic representatives of the people of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Both sides welcomed the substantial contribution made by the Non-Aligned Countries towards the struggle against colonialism, imperialism, racialism and in the establishment of a just equitable new international economic order. They agreed that the Non-Aligned

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Movement was a positive factor in shaping just international relations promoting detente and world peace. Both sides noted with satisfaction that the Indian Prime Minister's visit to Poland had made an important contribution to the development of bilateral relations, and strengthening of Indo-Polish friendship.

The Prime Minister of India conveyed his warm appreciation to the government and people of Poland for the hearty welcome and hospitality extended to him reflecting the profound friendship cherished by the Polish people towards the people of India and their leaders.

The Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai, extended invitations to H.E. Mr. E. Gierek, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Worker's Party and H.E. Mr. P. Jaroszewicz, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic to visit India officially.

On behalf of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai extended an invitation to H.E. Mr. Henryk Jablonski, Chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic to pay an official and friendly visit to India. The invitations were accepted with pleasure. **Date**: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Speech in Prague

The following is the text of the speech made by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai at a banquet given in his honour in Prague on June 16, 1979:

I am very grateful for the warm words which you have expressed in welcoming me and proposing the toast. I am very happy to be in Czechoslovakia at this moment and as you know, Excellencies, my visit to your country is an expression of the very cordial, close and friendly relations that exist and have existed for a long time between our two countries. My last visit to Czechoslovakia was in June, 1960 and it is, an unusual historical coincidence that I have returned almost to a day 19 years later as the Prime Minister of my country.

I therefore know something of your great capital, full of centuries of history and of the beautiful countryside of Czechoslovakia which is now interspersed with industrial projects constructed for the welfare of your people and the prosperity of the nation.

ARCHITECTURE OF PRAGUE

I am sure, Excellencies, that the many visitors you receive in Prague have told you of the beauty of the city's mediaevel architecture. I agree with them, but I would like to add that your Government is to be congratulated for the manner in which the ancient buildings and institutions have been preserved and the efforts Your Government has

made to maintain these buildings, churches, cathedrals and castles and restore them in their original authentic character. We have also been impressed by your housing schemes where the new multi-storeyed buildings have been constructed on the periphery of the city leaving the ancient part of the town convincingly historical in its character and retaining its personality.

The relationship between our two countries has a very long history. There is evidence that the Kings of Bohemia traded with India and purchased precious stones, jewellery and carpets from our country as early as the 14th and the 15th centuries. Some of the precious stones in the crown of Charles IV came from India. In the more recent past the famed Charles University encouraged Sanskrit studies in the early decades of the 19th century.

VISITS OF TAGORE AND NEHRU

Indeed by the middle of the 19th century your University was one of the important centres in Europe for Sanskrit. We are happy to know that at present besides Sanskrit, the University has faculties for the study of Hindi, Tamil, Urdu, and Bengali. Contacts between the savants of our two countries helped the two peoples to develop an approach of sympathetic friendship. The

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great Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore paid a visit to Prague in 1927-28 and invited Professor Lesny to join at Shantiniketan for the teaching of Sanskrit.

In 1938, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru also visited Prague to sympathise with the Czechoslovak people in the aftermath of the Munich Agreement when he warned the world that it was facing disaster as a result of this agreement.

The people of India have always sympathised with the Czechoslovak people in their national aspirations.

Since our independence, our relations have grown in strength. We recall with par-

ticular satisfaction the valuable assistance given to us by the Czechoslovak Government in our developmental strategy of setting up an industrial infrastructure. Today there are more than 50 projects in India which bear eloquent testimony to our cooperation.

WORLD PEACE

Excellencies, there are many international questions on which our two countries hold closely similar views. We both believe that the maintenance of world peace is vital for the very survival of humanity in a world where the slightest miscalculation in the handling of weapons capable of unforeseen destruction could annihilate mankind once and for all. We therefore welcome the process of detente in Europe. Yet we also recognise that in order to be stable, lasting detente must be extended to other regions of the globe.

Detente without disarmament can best be an unstable phenomenon. We therefore attach the greatest importance to universal and complete disarmament and call upon the nations of the world to make every effort in that direction. We take note with happiness that the Presidents of the USSR and the United States of America are presently meeting in Vienna and are discussing ways and means of strengthening international peace. We welcome their decision to sign the new Treaty on Limitation of Strategic Weapons. At the same time we do hope that the Big Powers will not remain satisfied with piecemeal arms control measures but will take steps towards real disarmament beginning with nuclear disarmament. This alone will strengthen the process of detente and make a real contribution to world peace.

Ever since its independence, the Government of India has remained outside the entanglement of multilateral military alliances. This policy of non-alignment was a direct expression of our historical experience and the heritage of our national independence struggle. On assumption of office in March 1977, my Government reaffirmed India's commitment to the policy of genuine non-alignment and has adhered strictly to it. We desire to

maintain and develop peaceful and friendly relations with all countries of the world irrespective of their political ideologies or economic systems. We believe that countries with different socioeconomic systems can develop their relations to mutual advantage by adhering strictly to the principles of peaceful coexistence which include respect for territorial integrity and national sovereignty, strict equality and reciprocity and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As a country committed to the task of economic development for the uplift of its people as will so by tradition, philosophy and history, the Government of India cannot but be committed to the policy of disarmament. We have also called on every possible occasion for a complete ban on the manufacture of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction of life and property and we would like to see an eventual destruction of the existing arsenals of such weapons that have been built up since the Second World War. We believe and remain committed to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purpose to better serve our people.

The domestic priority of my Government has been to imporve the standard of living of millions of our people who live in rural areas. Our aim is to provide better education, medical services and housing facilities for the large majority of India's population which lives in villages and small towns. It is our objective to provide them with employment throughout the year and it is for this reason that my Government has decided to set up employment oriented industries in the rural areas for the benefit of the masses. The industrial development of rural India will however not be at the expense of the industrial infrastructure of India which has been laid down so far.

We have fought for our independence and we continue to support all those who are

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fighting for their independence and freedom from domination and exploitation. We are,

therefore, committed to the elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism in the World and we remain unambiguously opposed to the practice of racial discrimination and apartheid. The practice of racial discrimination is abhorent to civilised human nature and an early end must be put to it wherever it is practised as in South Africa.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Excellencies, there are no problems which separate our two countries. Our bilateral relations are close and cordial and we are confident that there is even greater scope to strengthen them further through the extension of our cooperation in various fields such as education, science, arts, films, television and sports.

Although we are still engaged in the process of industrial development, we are proud to say that we have developed a sophisticated enough infrastructure of industry in our country to claim that we offer an attractive partnership in economic and commercial relations to other countries. This is a field which I hope will be explored particularly during the forthcoming meeting of the Joint Commission which will be held when our Commerce Minister visits your country.

Excellencies, in your warm welcome and cordial hospitality you have not only treated us like your welcome friends, you have almost made us feel as members of a family. We are grateful to you and I have every hope that these feelings of friendship and cordiality will continue to remain the abiding characteristics of Indo-Czechoslovak relationships.

Your excellencies and friends, may I request you to join me in a toast to the health of the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, His Excellency Dr. Gustav Husak, to the Health of the Prime Minister, His Excellency Dr. Lubomir Strougal, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Czechoslovakia and to the growing and everlasting friendship between our two peoples and our two countries.

CZECH REPUBLIC NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GERMANY AUSTRIA RUSSIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Communique

The following Communique was issued at the end of the visit to Czechoslovakia by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai:

At the invitation of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak and the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Lubomir Strougal, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Morarji Desai, paid an official visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic from June 16 to 18, 1979. He was accompanied by the Minister for External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

During his stay in Czechoslovakia, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai laid a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Prague. The Prime Minister of India and the members of his delegation visited some cultural and historical monuments in Prague.

The Prime Minister of India held official talks with the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

The following took part in the talks:

On the Indian side: Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, Shri V. Shanker, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Shri Surendra Sinh Alirajpur, Ambassador of India in Czechoslovakia, Shri V. Y. Tonpe, Principal Private Secretary to Prime Minister, Shri H. S. Shah, Joint Secretary to Prime Minister, Shri A. R. Deo, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Prakash Shah, Joint Secretary to Prime Minister, Shri A. Mubayi, Special Assistant to Minister of External Affairs, and Shri T. P. Sreenivasan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

On the Czechoslovak side: Mr. Vasil Bilak, Secretary of the Central Committee of We Czechoslovak Communist Party, Mr. Rudolf Ronncek, Deputy Prime Minister, Mr.

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Bohuslav Chnoupek, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Andrej Bareak, Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Vratislav Vajnar, Head of the Secretariat of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Mr. Frantisec Salda, Head of the of lice of the President of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Mr. Pavol Kanka, Ambassador of Czechoslovakia in India, and Mr. Josef Kruzla, Member of the Secretariat of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

During the talks, which were held in an atmosphere of friendship, warmth and mutual understanding, the two sides reviewed their bilateral relations. They noted with satisfaction that the many sided cooperation between the two countries was developing successfully and that the results achieved so far provided a firm foundation for its further development. The two sides took note of the considerable progress already achieved in economic, commercial, scientific and technical cooperation and agreed to add yet another dimension to it through new features such as production cooperation and collaboration in third countries.

Both parties valued highly the role of the Joint Committee on Economic, Commercial and Technological cooperation and were confident that the deliberations of the Committee's forthcoming 8th session would make a concrete contribution to the strengthening of all-round cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides recalled the rich traditions of their cultural cooperation and reaffirmed their determination to enrich it in the coming years.

Both sides reaffirmed that the successful development of mutually beneficial Indo-Czechoslovak cooperation contributed to international harmony and understanding.

During the visit, the Minister of External Affairs of India and the Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia exchanged the Instruments of Ratification of the Consular Convention between the Republic of India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Having reviewed the international situation, the two sides noted with satisfaction a close similarity of view of the two countries on major international problems.

India and Czechoslovakia welcomed the consolidation of detente in Europe and expressed their hope that this would usher in a new climate of understanding and cooperation leading to the development of security and trust among the nations of Europe. The two sides, however, noted that in order to be truly effective, detente must become universal.

The two sides noted with serious apprehension the continuing arms race in the world and called for urgent measures to halt it. They emphasised the need for cooperation among all countries of the world with a view to implementing the various decisions of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament. They resolved to extend further their efforts towards the achievement of complete and general disarmament, including nuclear disarmament under effective international control. In this context, India and Czechoslovakia wholeheartedly welcomed the Agreement on the Limitation of Strategic Arms

and expressed the belief that this would prove to be an important factor in the lessening of tensions in the world. They hoped that this agreement would usher in an even more productive era of cooperation in the field of disarmament.

India and Czechoslovakia expressed themselves strongly in favour of the establishment of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean in accordance with the wishes of the littoral States. In this context, the two sides called for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the conversion of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. They called for dismantling of existing foreign military and naval bases in the area and preventing the creation of such new bases there. They condemned any attempt at building up foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean under any pretext whatsoever.

The two sides expressed their dismay at the continuing tensions and threats to peace and stability in the South-East Asia Region. They regretted the fact that the countries of Indo-China, which had only recently emerged victorious alter decades of bitter struggle, had once again been subjected to a traumatic ordeal of bloodshed, violence, destruction and outside interference. The two sides stressed that the countries of Indo-China

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must not be deflected from their primary task of reconstruction and economic development and there must be strict adherence to the established principles of non-interference in each other's internal affairs and respect for equality, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations.

Reviewing the situation in West Asia, the two countries noted with deep anxiety the continuing threat to the peace and stability of the region and pronounced themselves strongly in favour of a just and comprehensive settlement of all outstanding problems on the basis of the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on the subject. They called for the complete withdrawal of Israel from Arab territories occupied in 1967, recognition of the legitimate rights of

the Palestinian people including their right to establish their own State and a guarantee for all States in the area of the right to independent existence and development.

India and Czechoslovakia expressed their full support for the peoples of southern Africa in their struggle against colonialism, imperialism and racial discrimination. They demanded complete withdrawal of South Africa from the territory of Namibia, including Walvis Bay. They also rejected as invalid the recent elections held in Zimbabwe and demanded strict eniorcement of UN sanctions against the illegal regime in Rhlodesia by all members of the international community.

India and Czechoslovakia positively assessed the contribution of the non-aligned movement towards the relaxation of international tensions and the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racialism and all forms of foreign domination and exploitation. Both parties agreed that the solution of a number of international economic problems must proceed from the consistent application of the principles of sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit of all countries regardless of their social and economic systems and expressed their determination in this respect to assist in the reconstruction of the international economic relations and establishment of a new international economic order proceeding from the interest of all countries, serving the strengthening of the political and economic independence of the developing countries and creating favourable prerequisites for development of economic cooperation among all countries.

India and Czechoslovakia reaffirmed their determination to cooperate in the United Nations and other international forums in the cause of world peace and international security conscious of their international obligations, particularly those under the UN Charter.

Expressing their satisfaction at the results achieved during the visit of the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, the two sides reaffirmed that the deliberations held

in Prague had further strengthened bilateral relations and opened new vistas for closer and more fruitful cooperation.

In this context, the two sides recognised the importance of visits at high level in giving an impetus to all round and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, conveyed his sincere thanks for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to him and to his delegation during their visit to Czechoslovakia which reflected the friendship and understanding between the peoples of India and Czechoslovakia.

The Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai, on behalf of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and on his own behalf, extended an invitation to the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the President of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak to pay an official visit to India.

The Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai also extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Lubomir Strougal, to pay an official visit to India.

The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

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NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC PERU CHINA ISRAEL NAMIBIA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Banquet Speech in Belgrade

The following is the speech of the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai at the Banquet in his honour given by His Excellency Mr. Veselin Bouranovic, President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on June 18, 1979:

I am greatly touched by the warm sentiments which you have expressed in welcoming me and the rich tribute you have paid to my country. Although historically, culturally and geographically India is an old country, as an independent country ordering its own affairs it is young-only thirty-two years old. If we have during these years achieved something to deserve the kind words you have expressed, we have reason to consider ourselves fortunate indeed.

I am very happy to be once again in the friendly non-aligned Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. I am no stranger to your land, my last visit to your beautiful country having taken place in 1960. It is nice to be back again among one's friends. Your hospitality and consideration for me and my entourage have, therefore, a value of their own.

COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE

Relations between our two countries have grown in strength and diversity over the last three decades. They have now acquired a unique value for both of us. We are jointly committed to work for a peaceful world of nations living in harmony-a world free from conflict and tension and power bloc rivalries. We are together engaged in promoting collective self reliance of the nonaligned and developing countries. In your distinguished President we have not only a venerable world figure but also an inspiring leader whose views we greatly value. Marshal Tito as a pioneer of non-aligned movement is respected as an elder Statesman of the world.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

The people of my country, as they

emerged from bondage into freedom, reaffirmed their allegiance to the true spirit of India, which is its unity in diversity its tradition of tolerance and its unwavering commitment towards peace and cooperation and friendship with all. This was the spirit that animated our revered leader Mahatma Gandhi in our struggle for independence and this remains our constant lodestar. It has also guided the shaping of our foreign policy founded on the conviction that a stable peace can be assured only through peaceful co-existence and that real independence must justify itself through service to the world community and must be nourished through joint action with like minded nations to create a new world order in which cooperation, rather than conflict and mutual help rather than confrontation, inspires the community of nations.

KINSHIP WITH YUGOSLAVIA

Ever since the early years after our independence we came to have admiration for your country and a sense of kinship with your people. Yugoslavia has blazed its own new trail, in asserting the indomitable will of the people for independence as well as their determination to seek cooperation with others on the basis of equality. The brave Partisans of Yugoslavia led by Marshal Tito, waged what has now become an exemplary war of liberation. Your people defied and eventually frustrated the powerful military machine of fascist aggression. Again, with courage and faith in his unerring leadership, you chose your own independent path of socialist self-management and have achieved an impressive record of development and rising standards of living.

It was also here in Belgrade 18 years ago that the leaders of Non-aligned nations-at that time only 23 in number-met to proclaim that military alliances were not a prescription for national defence and that the division of the world into hostile power blocs was not conducive to international peace.

Even such a well established friendship as exists between India and Yugoslavia needs to be enriched by continuous dialogue. We have met frequently to consult and exchange views and cooperated in international forums with a view to furthering the common goals and objectives we both pursue in international relations. Our talks today have demonstrated the depth of understanding prevailing between us.

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The spirit of mutual goodwill inspiring our two governments and peoples has permeated such diverse fields as commerce. industry, culture, science and technology. Constructive cooperation between us is expanding in ever-widening vistas, to mutual advantage. We are determined to consolidate and further develop these relations. including joint cooperation in other countries of the developing world, with a view to promoting national and collective self-reliance. Our Ministers of Commerce will be meeting here in a few days for the next session of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee and will no doubt consider further ways in which we can give greater content to these relations.

MOMENTOUS DEVELOPMENTS

Excellency, we are living through momentous developments in the world, not all of which are encouraging. While on one side the world is reaping the benefits of modernisation on the other it is facing the tensions and conflicts arising out of failure to strike a balance between national interests and international obligations. The situation in West Asia will remain explosive until all occupied Arab territories are vacated and the Palestinians secure their national rights. In Southern Africa continuing conflict cannot be avoided if the rights of the majority continue to be flouted and cynically denied in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. The process of detente has slowed down and the goal of disarmament remains distant as ever notwithstanding the political impetus that the non-aligned countries were able to give at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly last year. Relaxation of tensions cannot be a mere function of the strategic equation between the great powers but must embrace the whole world consisting of big and small powers, developed and

developing countries and centres of affluence and poverty. What is needed is a message of hope to a tension-torn apprehensive world. The agreement on SALT II signed between President Carter and President Brezhnev is a significant step forward but only a step and other consequential steps will have to follow. Our objectives of world peace and universal security have to be achieved before the world tires of effort or gets disillusioned by lack of progress.

HELSINKI AGREEMENT

The agreement reached at Helsinki ushered in a new era of hope for stability and cooperative relationship in the European Continent. While something in that direction has been done much still remains to be accomplished to make this cooperation truly meaningful. We have watched with close interest the efforts that your Government is making towards that end, in cooperation with the other countries of Europe.

Like Yugoslavia, India has been assiduous in its search for stable and equitable relations with the rest of the world, and more particularly in our region. The determined efforts that my Government has been making during the last two years to create and maintain a climate of harmony and constructive cooperation in our neighbourhood is well known and I am happy to see that it is appreciated. I think we can take some satisfaction at the success that has attended these efforts. But the whole region is crying for the widening of the area of fellow-feeling and good neighbourliness.

HAVANA SUMMIT

Excellency, I referred a little while ago to some of the more disturbing stresses and strains in the world today. It is a matter for deep regret that they should have cast a shadow on the forthcoming Non-aligned Summit in Havana. Some simmering disputes have erupted into open conflicts. In other instances, acknowledged differences have been allowed to sharpen, resulting in the creation of an atmosphere of regrettable confrontation. The non-aligned movement

must stand ready to assist and to conciliate when required. But it cannot and should not be turned into a forum for ventilation of bilateral disputes. The non-aligned movement should similarly seek a true consensus through a process of harmonisation of differences and not through converting itself into an arena of internecine conflict.

In this grave hour, the challenge facing the founder members of this great movement is precisely this-to clear the air of mistrust and hurtful controversy and to bring a healing touch so that all the nations encompassed within the movement can re-affirm the continuing validity of the principles on which it is founded. The essence of genuine non-alignment is independece of choice and of action, free from any pre-ordained constraints imposed by adherence to military bloc alliances or ideological factionalism.

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Non-alignment stands for democratic equality in a world characterised by a plurality of great power interests and influences.

The problems facing the non-aligned nations today do not invalidate the principles of non-alignment. If anything, they bring out in sharper relief the need for genuine adherence to the principles accepted by all Non-aligned nations such as respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. We are convinced that only by adhering strictly to these principles will the necessary conditions be created for an effective solution Of current problems whether they are in South East Asia, South Asia, Africa or elsewhere. An unambiguous and firm commitment to these principles by all will enable the non-aligned movement to preserve its strength and to become a more vital factor for promoting world peace and cooperation.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health and happiness of His Excellency President Josip Broz Tito, a seasoned leader and the undisputed architect of the well-being of his people.

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indo-Yugoslav Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued at the end of the visit to Yugoslavia of the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai:

At the invitation of the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, His Excellency Mr. Josip Broz Tito, and the President of the Federal Executive Council, Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, His Excellency Shri Morarji Desai, paid an official visit to Yugoslavia from 18 to 21 June 1979. He was accompanied by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs.

The Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai and President Tito held wide-ranging discussions covering bilateral relations, important international issues as well as matters relating to the forthcoming conference of the heads of States and Governments of non-aligned countries in Havana.

President of the Federal Executive Council, Mr. Veselin Djuranovic and Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai had an exchange of views on the current international situation and on further promotion of bilateral cooperation.

Shri Morarji Desai and members of his delegation paid homage to the memory of the unknown soldier at the Avala Memorial near Belgrade.

The assembly of the city of Belgrade, meeting in an extraordinary session, presented the golden plaque of the city of Belgrade to the Prime Minister of India in recognition of his contribution to the promotion of Indo-Yugoslav friendship and cooperation.

The talks between the Indian and Yugoslav leaders were held in an atmosphere of friendship and full understanding reflecting the traditional cordiality and closeness of relations and cooperation between the two countries in the non-aligned movement.

Participating in the talks were: Shri A. B. Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, Shri V. Shankar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri N. Krishnan, Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Shri V. Y. Tonpe, Special Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri H. S. Shah, Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri A. R. Deo, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Prakash Shah, Joint Secretary to Prime Minister, Shri S. N. Puri, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Belgrade, Shri Ashok Mubayi, Special Assistant to the Foreign Minister, Shri T. P. Sreenivasan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, and Shri S. M. Goval, Second Secretary (Commercial) Embassy of India, Belgrade. On the Yugoslav side: H.E. Mr. Josip Vrhovec, Federal Secretary of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Metod Rotar, Federal Secretary for Foreign Trade, H.E. Mr. Budimir Loncar, Under Secretary at the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Vojislav Pekic, Assistant Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, H.E.

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Mr. Andjelko Blazevic, Ambassador of the Socialist Federal Repbulic of Yugoslavia to the Republic of India, Mr. Nikola Cicanovic, Adviser to the President of the Federal Executive Council for Foreign Policy matters, Mr. Dragoslav Pejic, Director of the Department for South and South East Asia, Mr. Cvijeto Job, Head of Group for the multilateral activities of non-aligned countries, and Mr. Milutin Rogican, Head of Group at the Department for South and South Asia of the

Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the steady and substantial development of Indo-Yugoslav relations and expressed their conviction that frequent exchange of views at high levels would contribute to their further expansion, The two sides also reaffirmed their determination to advance bilateral cooperation in commercial, economic, industrial, cultural, scientific and technological and other areas for which favourable possibilities exist. The forthcoming meeting of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Commission should recommend appropriate measures for further strengthening and enriching techno-economic cooperation on a long-term basis. They took special note of the recently signed agreement on cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy as an example of diversification of Yugoslav-Indian coo ration.

India and Yugoslavia recalled their abiding and close cooperation in the non-aligned movement and other international forums and discussed the subjects likely to come up at the forthcoming Non-Aligned Summit. The two sides emphasised in particular that the objectives and principles of the policy of nonalignment are important today more than ever before for the promotion of constructive international cooperation, for the settlement of all major international issues and the consolidation of world peace and security. They re-emphasised the significance of the nonaligned movement as a positive and independent factor in internatioal relations, free of all power bloc rivalry and influence, which is consistently and emphatically opposed to imperialism, colonialism, racism and apartheid, and all other forms of domination. They recognised that the non-aligned movement has played a consistent role in promoting more just and equitable world order, both political and economic.

The two sides stressed that the genuine character of the movement could be maintained by a strict adherence to the basic principles and objectives of the movement. They expressed their regret that in recent years some non-aligned countries sought to resolve outstanding bilateral questions through armed conflicts rather than through

peaceful negotiations. Besides placing a serious strain on the unit of the movement this had facilitated interference by outside forces. They appealed to all non-aligned countries to refrain from taking recourse to arms for solution of bilateral problems.

The two sides were convinced that the non-aligned movement which had successfully resisted the onslaught of divisive forces in the past would continue to do so in the future in order to maintain its distinctive identity and independence of all blocs. They emphasised the need to maintain the unity, and solidarity of the non-aligned countries so that their energies could be channeled to achieve the objectives of consolidating political independence and securing economic self-reliance.

The two sides underlined that the recently held ministerial meeting of the co-ordinating Bureau of Non-aligned Countries in Colombo constituted a significant contribution to the further strengthening of the role of the non-aligned movement and to the preparations for the forthcoming Summit Conference in Havana. They agreed to co-operate bilaterally and with other like-minded countries to ensure the success of the next summit.

India and Yugoslavia expressed their resolve to impart a specific economic thrust to the future progress of the non-aligned movement. Recognising that a broad consensus on a political basis was a pre-condition to greater and more effective economic cooperation among non-aligned countries, they agreed that the principles and objectives of non-alignment provided the basis on which a good beginning could be made. They agreed that the different members of the nonaligned movement had differing degrees and rates of economic development and believed that the sharing of expertise by diffrent countries of the movement on a just and equitable basis would support the consolidation of the unity of the non-aligned countries. India and Yugoslavia reiterated that the resolution of international economic problems would significantly contribute to international stability and consequently world peace and security. They emphasised that these problems could only be resolved with the full and equitable participation of all countries in the decision-making process concerning the world economy and by facilitating the integration of developing countries in the world economy on a more equitable basis. Both sides stressed the need for fundamental structural changes in existing economic relations through the establishment of a new international economic order.

While reviewing the world situation, the two sides noted with satisfaction that their views on major international questions were close.

The two sides noted that the aspirations of the peoples of the world for full national independence and emancipation constitute an essential feature of the present time.

They expressed their concern at the continuance of old and emergence of new hotbeds of tension and at the increasing trend towards outside interference, foreign intervention and the use of force in various regions of the world. The two sides unequivocally called for strict respect for the established principles of independence, national sovereignty, equality and territorial integrity of all nations.

Recalling the Helsinki Final Act, the two sides expressed the hope that it would be fully implemented in the interest of detente in Europe. However in order that detente may yield lasting results and contribute to world peace and security, it must be comprehensive and extended to all parts of the world.

Believing that without disarmament, detente cannot be effective, India and Yugoslavia expressed their deep concern over the continuing arms race, which caused a wasteful drain on material and human resources. They emphasised their commitment towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament including nuclear disarmament under effective international control. The

two sides emphasised the need for an early implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the special session of United National General Assembly on disarmament convened at the initiative of the non-aligned countries.

In this context, they welcomed the recent conclusion of the strategic arms limitations Treaty-II between the Soviet Union and the United States. However, recognising that this is only one step in the right direction both sides urged the Soviet Union and the United States to make new efforts with a view to further reduction and eventual elimination of the existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

The two sides felt that, in keeping with the wishes of the littoral States and in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution, the Indian Ocean should be turned into a zone of peace, free from foreign military presence, conceived in the context of great power rivalry. The two sides also reiterated their support to the proposal of transforming the Mediterranean Sea into a zone of peace and cooperation. The two sides expressed serious concern at the continuing tensions and the complexsituation in South East Asia. They considered that all outstanding problems of the region should be resolved peacefully and through negotiations by strict adherence to the principles of U.N. Charter and non-alignment including respect for national independence, equality, sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of established international frontiers and non-interference in internal affairs. This would open prospects for constructive cooperation among the countries of the region for the benefit of their peoples.

In reviewing the complex and inherently dangerous situation in West Asia, both sides believed that a just and lasting peace could be achieved only through a comprehensive settlement on the basis of a complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, the securing of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish their own State and the recognition of the right to

independent existence and development of all States in the region. The two sides expressed the view that a durable solution to the problem could not be achieved except with the participation of all parties concerned including the PLO, as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides expressed serious concern with the situation in Southern Africa, as a gross violation of human rights and dignity and a source of permanent danger to peace in that part of the world. They fully supported the struggle of the peoples of Southern

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Africa against imperialism, colonialism, apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination. They held as invalid the elections organised recently by the illegal regime in Salisbury and called upon all nations to strictly enforce the UN sanctions against the illegal regime. They felt that without the participation of the patriotic front, there could be no Truly Representative Government in Zimbabwe. The two sides also demanded the granting of full independence to the people of Namibia and the total and immediate withdrawal of South Africa from the entire territory of Namibia, including Walvis Bay. The two sides emphasised the importance of the decisions adopted at the Ministerial meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-aligned countries held in Maputo in January 1979 for bringing the liberation struggle to a victorious end.

Expressing their satisfaction at the results of the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Yugoslavia, the two sides reaffirmed that the constructive talks which were held between the Indian and Yugoslav leaders contributed greatly to the development and enriching of traditional Indo-Yugoslav friendship and cooperation and strengthening the role of non-alignment in world affairs.

The Prime Minister of India expressed his sincere appreciation to the Government and the people of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and to the members of his party during their stay in Yugoslavia.

On behalf of the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and on his own behalf, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai extended an invitation to the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, His Excellency Mr. Josip Broz Tito, to pay an official visit to India.

The Prime Minister of India also invited the President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, His Excellency Mr. Veselin Djuranovie, to pay an official visit to India.

The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA CUBA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA FINLAND ISRAEL ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA MOZAMBIQUE

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Rs. 74 Crores Project Loan to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on June 21, 1979 on a Rs. 74 crores Japanese loan to India:

The Government of India and Japan exchanged here today notes concerning the Japanese project loan to India amounting to Yen 20 billion (equivalent to Rs. 74 crores at the current exchange rate) for the Surat Fertilizer Project in Gujarat State.

The notes were exchanged between Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and His Excellency Mr.

Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The salient features of the notes are as follows: -

- (1) The loan will be made available for the implementation of the ammonia plants part of the Surat Fertilizer Project.
- (2) The interest rate of the loan will be 3.0 per cent per annum and will be repayable in 30 years, including-race period of ten years.

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(3) The loan can be used to purchase goods and services both from Japan and from developing countries including India.

This loan is extended in response to the request made by the Government of India and in accordance with the pledge made by the Government of Japan at the Aid-India Consortium meeting in Paris in June, 1978 with a view to further contributing to the economic development of India.

The total commitments to India by Japan for the year 1978-79 would thus amount to Yen 30.7 billion (equivalent to Rs. 113.59 crores at the current exchange rate), including Yen 6 billion of commodity loan and Yen 4.7 billion of grant.

JAPAN INDIA USA FRANCE

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

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NON-ALIGNMENT

The following is the text of statement by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of External Affairs, at the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned countries in Colombo on June 8, 1979:

Mr. Chairman, it is a special pleasure for me to be in this beautiful city of Colombo at this time. It is all too well-known that Sri Lanka and India are bound by historical and cultural links from time immemorial. With the independence of our countries, a fresh vitality was given to these ancient ties as both countries embarked on development and progress. From the very beginning, there was identity in our approach to international relations and we both readily chose the path of Non-alignment. President Jayewardene and Prime Minister Morarji Desai, who have recently exchanged visits, have both affirmed that our relations have never been better.

INDO-SRI LANKA RELATIONS

When Sri Lanka assumed the chairman ship of the Non-aligned Movement, in both our countries a different leadership and different, parties were in power. Democracy changed the governments, but it speaks volumes for our relationship and our common approach to international problems that the change only brought our countries closer In discharging the inherited obligations as current Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, the new Government in Sri Lanka under President Jayewardene and you as Foreign Minister, was quick to gather the reins of-responsibility and bring to its affairs fresh inspiration and vigour.

TRIBUTE TO SRI LANKA

This meeting may be the last to be held before Sri Lanka in turn hands over the gavel of chairmanship to Cuba. With Sri Lanka's abiding dedication to the philosophy of our Movement, and your sagacity and diplomatic skill, we are confident that our deliberations in this Conference will overcome difficulties and prove a resounding success and we shall go forth from Colombo to Havana with renewed commitment to the principles of Nonalignment and confidence in our solidarity.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The applications for full membership by Pakistan, Iran, Grenada, Suriname and Bolivia are a further confirmation of the steadily incecasing appeal of Non-alignment. The applications of Iran and Pakistan are of special significance to us. Pakistan is a neighbour and Iran a near neighbour, and both are a part of the same stream of Asian civilisation. In these two cases, their applications represent a deliberate change of previous policies and attitudes.

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So much of the unhappy story of Indo-Pakistan relations may not have been if Pakistan, like India, had also chosen the path of Non-alignment instead of linking herself to a multilateral military alliance system. Both our countries have, I believe, come to learn that our interests and independence are best safeguarded in friendship and cooperation and in the will and commitment to resolve any problems through bilateral negotiations.

The membership of the Non-alignment Movement of Pakistan and Iran will provide a new link of association when our nations will share a common commitment to the same criteria and the well-established principles of peaceful co-existence. We have always believed that this forum should never be used as a platform to air and project bilateral disputes. On the other hand, as part of our pledge to our philosophy we shall intensify our efforts towards stability in our region based on respect for the independence of all countries in South Asia.

UNITY AND STRENGTH

Time is past when it was necessary to recall how our Movement was born defying pressures which sought to belittle it or smother it. With such a large membership today, the Movement has indeed come of age. Our present problems are not so much of resistance and suspicion, but whether in our success we can sustain the faith and the determination which inspired our Movement in its unity and its approach. The challenge is whether we can muster the wisdom of maturity so that the Movement will not degenerate into complacency. How can we safeguard against the strength of the Movement being debilitated by divisions and dissensions or fall prey to the direct or indirect pressures of militarism, alien idealogy or foreign-dominated exploitation?

Non-alignment was evolved by our founding fathers to preserve our right of independence to choose our domestic, political, economic and social system. We sought to make Non-alignment a stabilising influence for peace and cooperation in a world divided in armed confrontation. We resisted compulsions to become involved in Great Power rivalries. The prophetic message of Non-alignment was that even in the diversity of nations, we can and must cooperate with other nations regardless of ideology for mutual benefit and for peace and progress in a world of growing interdependence.

In these noble purposes, we have succeeded in a measure beyond the expectations of our critics. From a small minority, our fraternity represents today nearly twothirds of the community of nations and Non-alignment is acknowledged as the wave of the future.

A CHALLENGING TASK

The challenge now to our unity and vitality, strangely enough, is not from the outside, but from within our ranks. We all recognise that none of us could wield the same influence towards the direction of international politics without unity in independence or solidarity in diversity. But while we pay homage to our solidarity, the test is whether we are prepared to exercise restraint in the pursuit of aggressive national advantage when it jeopardises the unity that we cherish. We have seen armed conflicts between Non-aligned nations; we have witnessed attempts to change established fron-

tiers; we have seen violations of the principles of non-interference and peaceful co-existence between neighbours and even distant nations.

Such conflicts and violations within our, ranks are not just an embarrassment to us, but weaken our capacity to play an effective role and contribute to the solution of international problems. We cannot hide these weaknesses. All the world is, in fact, watching this open-ended gathering and wondering whether Non-alignment, as a movement and as a force, will be totally emasculated by its divisions even while its appeal is progressively increased and its numbers are being enlarged.

How are we going to preserve our cohesion and act so that we do not consciously or unwittingly undermine the strength of the Movement?

CODE OF SELF-DISCIPLINE

We must recall and reaffirm the code of discipline which flows from the original principles and criteria of our Movement:

- (i) Reassert our right of independence of judgement, steering clear of blocs and Great Power rivalries:
- (ii) Reaffirm our commitment to peaceful co-existence;

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- (iii) Scrupulously respect the independence and territorial integrity of all nations and notably our neighbours. If we hold our established frontiers to be sacred, we have to recognise the corresponding obligation of deference to the integrity and frontiers of others;
- (iv) Strictly abjure all resort to the use of force for settlement of disputes;
- (v) Refrain from intervention, direct or indirect in internal affairs of another. If we seek to obtain credibility in our rejection of military pressures and intervention from Great Powers, surely the spirit of Non-

alignment demands similar restraint on ourselves.

Our Movement can play the role of conciliation and even help resolve such problems with the consent of the parties to a dispute but only if we can eschew resort to arms and resist the temptation to propaganda. Clearly, intervention and conflict do not go in harmony with the letter and spirit of Non-alignment.

NON-ALIGNMENT FOR FREEDOM AND SOCIAL PROGRESS

Non-alignment, let me add, Mr. Chairman, does not, of course, provide a sanction for an inequitious status-quo. Our Movement has and must give full support to just struggles against colonialism and racialism. Defiance has a moral validity where freedom and liberation are denied or frustrated. There cannot also be any sanctity for the prevailing unjust social and economic dispensation in the world. Let it be clearly understood that Non-alignment does not stand in the way of change and progress, be it through constitutional or other means. Non-alignment only implies that change in the social order must be grounded in the soil of a nation and thrive with the support of its people.

Our Movement implicitly recognises that a nation derives its strength and resilience from its domestic political and economic body-politic. Dependence on foreign military or economic support may become unavoidable in certain circumstances. But, in the long term, it tends to weaken the national will to self-reliance. The philosophy of Non-alignment is based on the confidence that national security and progress is a national responsibility and the offer or acceptance of long-term stationing of foreign troops leads to dependence which is good neither for the giver nor for the recipient.

Our consistent and greater concern has been how to resist becoming a play-thing of the strategic ambitions and political pulls and pressures of Great Powers. Our capacity to do so will be enhanced if we ourselves adhere to the discipline of non-interference in our relations with other Non-aligned and developing countries. This is not a counsel of idealism, but of practical wisdom and in keeping with the quintessence of the principle we cherish in our Movement.

NO FORUM FOR BILATERAL PROPAGANDA

If we believe in Non-alignment, we cannot make it a forum of propaganda or load on to it intractable bilateral disputes. Given such discipline and code of international behaviour in profession and practice, our solidarity and unity will be safe against divisions. subversions, external manipulations and Great Power exploitation.

My purpose, Mr. Chairman, is to underline once again that the principles we hold in this Movement provide the best balance between independence and meaningful association and give maximum freedom of action and the wisdom and strength of collective action for common goals. What it requires is our steadfast loyalty and disciplined commitment not to endanger our unity by our own actions and ambitions. But if Non-alignment, is looked upon as a common heritage and not a convenience, each one of us will have to be true to the conditions of our association and the tradition of acting in unison on the basis of a broad consensus.

My concern for disciplined vigilance for our commitment is the greater because, notwithstanding our numbers and achievement, we still have a heavy agenda which demands our collective will and exertions.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

The situation in Southern Africa arouses grave concern and calls for more determined effort against the unjust policies pursued by the racist minority regimes which threaten to bring in unprecedented violence. It was in recognition of the seriousness of the situation that we met earlier in Maputo and the United

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Nations General Assembly at its resumed session. South Africa has reneged on its previous promises by installing a puppet re-

gime in Namibia. Any attempt overt or covert to impart a semblence of legitimacy to an unrepresentative government controlled by South Africa is bound to be doomed. SWAPO, as the sole representative of the people of Namibia, deserves our full moral, diplomatic and material support.

In Zimbabwe, we cannot recognise the fraudulent elections and the regime which has assumed office on the basis of these elections. So long as the people of Zimbabwe do not get real independence, the brave freedom fighters of the Patriotic Front will have no alternative but to continue their inexorable struggle until they achieve their final goal. While pledging them our full support, I would like to urge them to stand united in this moment of unprecedented crisis.

In South Africa itself, the abhorrent practice of apartheid continues and the rights of its non-White inhabitants openly trampled upon. If South Africa still does not take cognizance of the winds of change that are now blowing across the African continent, it will have its own action to thank for the fate that befalls it. It scarcely needs to be added that we must renew our commitment to the Maputo Programme.

WEST ASIA

The situation in West Asia is not just a bilateral or local problem but one which concerns all of us, involving, as it does, vital questions of international justice and peace. Our movement has always taken serious note of the problem and consistently recommended the ingredients for a durable solution. The position taken by the Non-aligned Movement is as valid today as it had been in the past. The question of Palestine was and is the crucial issue; it is for this reason that the Palestine Liberation Organisation is amidst us as a full member. We are fully committed to the fundamental position that the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including for a State of their own, must be fulfilled We had always unreservedly condemned Israel for its intransigence and demanded that it must fully vacate its aggression and withdraw from all Arab lands occupied since 1967, including the West Bank, Golan Heights, Gaza Strip and from the holy city of Jerusalem. Only if these elements are covered could the danger to peace be eliminated.

Even according to its protogonists, the Israel-Egypt Treaties signed recently are at best a partial solution. Our worst fears about Israel's intentions are coming true. Instead of creating the will towards a peaceful and comprehensive solution, the appetite of Israel to greater intransigence and persisting aggression by establishing new settlements has been whetted. It is intervening in Lebanon with impunity. There seems to be no intention to resolve the central question of Palestine and the rights of its inhabitants. The Non-aligned Movement must legitimately remain concerned at the crux of the problem and cannot but condemn, in the strongest terms, Israel's persisting defiance of international opinion.

No one can take comfort in the divisions among the Arab countries. It poses a threat not only to their own collective strength but also to the unity of our Movement. We hope, therefore, that such differences will be resolved as they have been in the past. For our part, in this forum, our whole weight. and strength must be directed against Israel and those who support it in its intrasigence.

The message must go out from Colombo, as it will from Havana, that the Non-aligned Movement is fully behind our Arab brethren in their determination not to settle for or accept partial accords that tolerate persistent armed action, defy Palestinian rights, but to strive for a just, equitable and comprehensive solution.

CYPRUS

In the unhappy island of Cyprus, an armed truce prevails and the suffering of the inhabitants continue almost five years after war ravaged the once prosperous republic. We cannot but welcome the prospect of the resumption of the intercommunal talks in Cyprus which are to take place shortly. Our consistent support for a united, Non-aligned

and independent Cyprus demand of us active interest so that these talks, based on the United Nations Secretary General's initiative, may succeed, thus promoting the principles which we have urged in our repeated Declarations.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Nearer home, in South East Asia, we have witnessed in unfortunate recourse to

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arms. We have long admired the courage and determination of the peoples of Indo-China who stoically suffered untold miseries and devastation for decades and crowned their struggle for liberation with a glorious victory. The advent of peace had raised well-founded hopes that the countries of the region, namely Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, will be left to pursue the task of their economic reconstruction without any hindrance. But these prospects received a setback when there were armed clashes and conflicts followed by a massive invasion which was proclaimed to have a punitive purpose.

We are committed to the Kuala Lumpur Declaration to make South East Asia as a whole a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality. It will require patient determination to overcome the chasms of divisions and suspicions which have estranged the countries of Indo-China on the one hand and ASEAN on the other. Cooperation and confidence between independent nations in the entire region are vital if peace and stability is to prevail and the pulls and pressures to establish influence or secure political, strategic or economic advantage by Great Powers are to be contained and eliminated. Ultimate strength and regional stability must be based on the fulfilment of the People's aspirations of national independence and progress with each nation showing scrupulous respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbours.

INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

The Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted by the United

Nations General Assembly needs to be implemented without any further delay. The littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean have the legitimate aspiration to ensure that their region is kept free of Great Power rivalry, which in its wake brings tension and avoidable conflicts. The proposed meeting of the littoral and hinterland States in July, for which the Ad Hoc Committee on Indian Ocean is currently preparing, should enable them to harmonise their views for negotiations with Great Powers and other major maritime users of the Indian Ocean to ensure their adherence to the Declaration. It is a matter of regret that the Great Powers have not so far shown themselves inclined to co-operate in the implementation of the Declaration. Even the talks between the USA and the USSR, confined to the partial aspect of reduction of their military presence in the Indian Ocean did not make much headway and have not so far been resumed.

WORLD ECONOMY

Mr. Chairman, the world economy continues to remain in the grip of the most serious crisis since the second world war. The policies adopted by the developed countries to deal with the symptoms of this crisis that is the problems of continuing recession, inflation and unemployment, are short-sighted and counter-productive. These countries have resorted to such short-term measures as shutting out imports from developing countries allowing the flow of financial resources to stagnate and even decline in real terms.

They have also sought to solve their problems in isolation from the problems of development of the developing countries. These short term measures have in fact only needlessly deepened the crisis besetting the world economy.

Mr. Chairman, we may well recall that it was the non-aligned countries which long ago asserted that the widening disparities among nations cannot be reduced and justice, equity and genuine independence for the developing countries cannot be secured unless their is a fundamental restructuring of international economic relations. It was indeed

the non-aligned movement, which is far back as at the Algiers Summit, gave the call for establishing a New International Economic Order.

UNCTAD-V

The UNCTAD - V which has just concluded failed to make any advance on most of the issues of a fundamental nature to the North South dialogue, such as, restructuring of the world economy, protectionism, reforms of the international monetary system etc. Consensus could be reached only on those issues which are of a formal character or of limited scope. The frustrating experience of the negotiations in the fifth UNCTAD and those in other for has made it necessary for us to undertake jointly an assessment as urgently as possible on the approach and method towards the negotiations with the developed world. We are perhaps not able to stand as unitedly and purposefully in these negotiations as we were able to do before. We have also to consider how we can streng-

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then our bargaining power in our negotiations with developed countries. I would suggest that we should investigate various aspects of our negotiating tactics and bargaining power with a view to taking appropriate corrective measures at the Hayana Summit.

ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

Mr. Chairman, we do have at our disposal a potent and effective instrument for strengthening our bargaining position through our programme of collective self-reliance, mainly through economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. Economic co-operation among developing countries has a critical and direct bearing on the most important aspect of our national endeavour, i.e. to improving the lot of our people, particularly those who are living below the poverty line.

COLOMBO ACTION PROGRAMME

The Colombo Action Programme for Economic Co-operation among non-aligned

countries provides the most concrete and comprehensive framework for collective Self-reliance. Unfortunately, during the last year or so, the implementation of the Action Programme has slowed down in most areas and is stagnating in certain important sectors. In order to give it a fresh momentum it may, perhaps, be necessary for us to re-establish an order of priority among the projects and programmes included in the Programme. Before the Havana Summit we should renew and revamp without institutionalising, the arrangements for implementing the programme.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FUND

So far as my own country's responsibilities in implementing the Action Programme is concerned, I would like to inform this Meeting that we have completed all the technical studies and made all the preparations for convening a meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries for giving effect to the proposal for establishing a Project Development Fund which has already been endorsed by the Nonaligned countries. We had to postpone the meeting that we had planned earlier because of the poor response from those invited to attend the meeting. I would like to request all the members present here to send their delegations to this meeting now scheduled in July, 1979 in order to ensure that a concrete proposal for establishing the Fund is presented for adoption at the Havana Summit.

We are also about to complete the study entrusted to us, on the fullest use of complementarities in terms of resources endowments and industrial and technological capabilities. The study would be ready for submission to all the non-aligned countries in July 1979. This could be a basis for taking decision on follow-up action at the forthcoming Summit Conference.

CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

We are taking steps to ensure that the Plenipotentiary Conference to adopt the Statute of the proposed Non-aligned Centre for Science and Technology in India is convened at the earliest possible date.

CODE OF CONDUCT ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

One of the areas in which the Fifth UNCTAD failed to make any forward movement was the adoption of a code of Conduct for the Transfer of Technology to Developing Countries. The non-aligned and other developing countries must ensure the success of the negotiating conference to be held later this year. The political direction to be given by the Havana Summit will be a crucial factor contributing to its success. As one of the Co-ordinating countries for co-operation in the field of Science and Technology, we offer to convene a meeting of non-aligned and other developing countries interested in this subject in order to clarify the technical and legal issues which can facilitate the task of our taking a decision at the Sixth Summit.

TRADE PREFERENCES AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Mr. Chairman, one of the important elements in the Arusha Programme of collective self-reliance among developing countries is the establishment at an early date of a global system of trade preferences among developing countries. The need for this has assumed even greater urgency in the light of the meagre results of the Fifth UNCTAD. At this conference, the Indian Delegation announced that India would be willing to participate in the negotiation for establishing such a global system immediately on the basis of upto 50% of across-the-broad tariff reductions on selected products of interest to developing countries and having a substantial trade coverage on a mutual advantageous

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basis. We sincerely hope that the non-aligned countries assembled here would endorse our suggestion and accept it as a point of departure for negotiations.

EFFECTS OF OIL PRICE RISE

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we are constrained to raise a point which is of great concern to my country and to a number of other

countries assembled here which, like us, are substantial importers of oil. The successive increases in the oil prices have hit our economy particularly hard by imposing a big drain on our foreign exchange reserves and by unsettling our development plants. What is even more disconcerting is that the prospects for the future are extremely uncertain. We condemn the moves of those countries which are seeking to create artificial tensions in international relations centred on the theme of the energy situation. We reject attempts designed to prevent the oil producing developing countries from exercising permanent sovereignty over their natural resources. We also cannot allow this situation to be used for weakening the unity and solidarity of the developing countries or for diverting attention from the main issues figuring in our negotiations with developed countries.

However, we have no other but the forums of the developing countries including the nonaligned forum, to bring to the attention of our friends from the oil-producing countries, the vulnerable situation in which we find ourselves, and urging upon them to discuss with us the measures which can in a spirit of solidarity and common interest be taken to alleviate it. The measures that we envisage will be in the nature of economic co-operation among developing' countries themselves and may include redirection of developing countries' investment towards development of energy sources in these countries, imparting a measure of stability to bilateral agreements which include provisions for oil supply, formulating and implementing plans and programmes for fully utilising mutual complementarities including prospects for the development of energy resources. My delegation sincerely hopes that it would be possible between now and the Havana Summit to reach agreement on initiating at the Summit a study of various proposals to be advanced on this subject and arranging a dialogue between the oil exporting and importine developing countries on the basis of such a study.

ENERGY RESOURCES

In the long run, there is no alternative

for the oil importing developing countries to enhancing the degree of their self-reliance on energy resources. This will among others call for undertaking research and development in new and renewable resources of energy. Since the gestation period for investment in this field is so long, it is important to initiate such research immediately. So far the bulk of research and development in new and renewable sources of energy is undertaken in developed countries, and it is equally important to facilitate developing countries' access to latest technologies in this field. We have. therefore, taken the initiative to suggest that the Non-aligned Co-ordinating Bureau should recommend that pending the convening of the proposed U.N. Conference on New & Renewable Sources of Energy. immediate arrangement should be made in the U.N. system for assisting the developing countries in undertaking research in the development of new and renewable sources of energy for ensuring their access to latest technologies in this vital area of interest to them and for mobilising resources for these purposes.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Chairman, having taken so much of your time, the one final thought I wish to leave with all of you is that the crisis before the world is more serious than before. It is a grim challenge to our national hopes as well as our international vision. No nation can afford to be complacent as no country can insulate itself from its consequences. Nonalignment, if it is to act as the conscience and the path-finder for mankind, will have to work earnestly and in reasoned unity for both peace and economic justice. Our enlightened national purpose will be best ensured by recognition of the fact that we must make renewed commitment to our common goal. Our slogan must remain:

Faith in our Philosophy, Unity in Our Purpose, and Confidence in Our Future.

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SRI LANKA INDIA CUBA GRENADA IRAN PAKISTAN SURINAME USA MOZAMBIQUE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL EGYPT LEBANON CYPRUS CHINA LAOS VIETNAM MALAYSIA ALGERIA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Agreement on Development Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on June 1, 1979 on an agreement on Development Co-operation between India, and Sweden:

An agreement on development cooperation providing Swedish aid of Rs. 110.69 crores (S. kr. 580 million) to India for 1979-80 and 1980-81 was signed here today.

Mr. S. O. Doos, Head of Development Cooperation, Royal Swedish Embassy in New Delhi and Shri A. G. Asrani, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

Out of the total assistance agreed to today an amount of Rs. 55.34 crores (S. kr. 290 million) has been made available for the year 1979-80. Against this, an amount of Rs. 20.04 crores (S. kr. 105 million) will be available for general imports. This portion of the aid is untied and can be used for financing imports from any part of the world.

A provision of Rs. 19.08 crores (S. kr. 100 million) has been made in the agreement to finance imports of goods and services from Sweden. As in the past, this amount will be used for import of bulk commodities and capital goods and services from Sweden.

The agreement also provides for programme and project support to the extent of Rs. 16.2 crores (S. kr. 85 million). This will

be used for the implementation of several programmes and projects in the fields of health and family welfare, forestry, fisheries, water resources development, non-formal education, etc.

The development assistance from Sweden is a grant. Sweden's aid assistance to India this year is more than rupees eight crores (S. kr. 20 million) over last year's.

SWEDEN INDIA USA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India to get 2.1 Million Tonnes of Soviet Crude in 1979

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on June 12, 1979 on the supply of Soviet crude to India:

The Soviet Union is to give six lakh tonnes of crude to India in 1979 in exchange for rice. A contract to this effect has been concluded. This crude will be in addition to the quantity of 1.5 million tonnes which would be supplied by the Soviet Union this year under an existing contract.

During the recent visit of the Minister for Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers to Moscow, a contract was concluded in regard to the supply of an additional quantity of 0.6 million tonnes of crude oil from USSR to India during 1979. The additional crude oil supplies would be in exchange for export of rice of equivalent value from India to the Soviet Union. It would be recalled that the contract for rice supply had already been concluded in New Delhi a few weeks ago.

It should be mentioned that these supplies would he in addition to the quantity of

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1.5 million tonnes which would be supplied by the Soviet Union during 1979 under an existing contract. Crude supplies from the Soviet Union have been forthcoming regularly in keeping with the contractual entitlements. Supplies of crude oil from Soviet Union commenced in 1977 in terms of an Agreement covering a total quantity of 5.5 million tonnes comprising one million tonnes during 1977 and at the rate of 1.5 million tonnes per annum during 1978-80. The provision for long term imports of crude oil from Soviet Union is incorporated in the Indo-USSR Trade Protocol.

INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date: Jun 01, 1979

Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

India and Yugoslavia to Expand Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on June 26, 1979 on the 12th Session of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation Meeting:

The 12th Session of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation opened in Belgrade yesterday under the chairmanship of Shri Mohan Dharia, Union Minister for Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperaton and His Excellency Mr. Metod Rotar Federal Secretary for Foreign Trade of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

At the opening session both the Co-Chairmen, while expressing their satisfaction at the very close political relations existing between the two countries called for greater effort in the field of economic cooperation keeping in view the desire expressed by Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai and President Tito for further strengthening and enriching bilateral Techno-Economic Cooperation on a long term basis during Shri Desai's recent visit to Yugoslavia.

In his opening speech Shri Mohan Dharia called for action to be taken for expansion of trade in order to achieve levels commensurate with the strong economic and political relations existing between the two countries. In this regard Shri Dharia directed the Joint Committee to identify items which could be covered by long term arrangements between the two countries with a view to doubling of trade by 1983 from the levels achieved in 1977. He said the Indian side would be prepared to accept any proposals for long term arrangements based on the principle of mutual benefit. Shri Dharia also emphasised that purely trade exchanges were not enough and possibilities of other forms of economic cooperation such as industrial cooperation, projects in third countries, etc. needed to be explored and exploited.

Earlier Shri Mohan Dharia called on Mr. Branislav Ikonic, Vice President of the Federal Executive Council in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Shri Dharia while reviewing trade and economic relations between the two countries stated that India and Yugoslavia should expand trade exchanges and intensify economic cooperation consistent with the good political relations subsisting between the two countries. He said that India and Yugoslavia being both developing countries should, in their bilateral relations set an example of economic cooperation among developing countries. He was confident that the 12th session of the Joint Committee would constitute a landmark in the development of economic relations between the two countries. Mr. Branislav Ikonic fully reciprocated the views of Shri Dharia. Shri Dharia

also invited Mr. Ikonic to visit India which was accepted.

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Date: Jun 01, 1979

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CUBA INDIA IRAQ ITALY LIBYA VIETNAM

Date: Jul 01, 1979

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CUBA

Trade Agreement

The following Trade Agreement was signed by India and Cuba in New Delhi on July 10, 1979:

India and Cuba signed a trade agreement in New Delhi on July 10, 1979. Besides developing and promoting economic and commercial relations between the two countries, the agreement provided for the setting up of a joint Indo-Cuba committee. The committee will periodically meet and examine the flow of commercial exchange between the two countries. The agreement was reached following discussions between the visiting Cuban delegation headed by Dr. Carlos Rafel Rodriguez, Vice President of the Council of State and the Indian officials. The Cuban side showed particular interest in buying from India sugar mill and textile machinery, railway wagons and coaches. It has also shown interest in joint collaboration on mass communication and industrial projects in third countries.

The exports from India include tyres, chemical and pharmaceuticals, sugar mill machinery, copper wires, electric and telephone wires and transport equipment. The exports from that country to India are mainly nickel oxide, cement, steel balls, industrial and agricultural implements and rayon fibres.

CUBA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Jul 01, 1979

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1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Visit to Eastern Europe

The following is the text of the statement made by the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, on July 9, 1979 in Parliament on his visit to Eastern Europe from June 10 to 21, 1979:

I visited the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia from June 10-21, 1979 at the invitation of the leaders of those countries. I was accompanied by the Minister for External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The main purpose of my visit was to strengthen India's bilateral relations with these countries and to discuss with the leaders important topical international questions. I am happy to report that in all the capitals I visited I found a broad similarity of views on most important issues. I place on the Table of the House a copy of the Joint Statement issued at the end of my visit to the Soviet Union and copies of the Joint Communiques issued at the conclusion of my visit to Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

In Soviet Union I visited, besides Moscow, the capital of Uzbakistan - Tashkent and the historic cities of Samarkand and Leningrad. In Moscow my discussions with President Brezhnev and Prime Minister Kosygin were marked by cordiality and warmth reflecting the close relationship between India and the Soviet Union. We had a free and frank exchange of views and the conclusions reached are contained in the Joint Statement.

In Poland I had discussions with the First Secretary of the Polish United Workers Party, Mr. Gierek and also with the President of Poland, Prof. Jablonski. I also called on the Prime Minister of Poland, Mr. Jaroszewiez, who was recovering from a serious illness and I had a useful, albeit brief, talk with him.

In Czechoslovakia I had detailed discussions with the President Husak and Premier Strougal on a wide range of subjects.

In Yugoslavia Prime Minister Djuranovie and I discussed bilateral relations and international questions in Belgrade. I also visited Brioni for official talks with President Tito, which I enjoyed greatly. My talks with him covered not only bilateral issues but also matters relating to the forthcoming summit of nonaligned nations to be held in Havana in September 1979. I was very glad when President Tito expressed his willingness to attend the Summit meeting.

Rather than recite the various issues we discussed in each of the capitals I visited I would like to sum up my impressions it what we agreed upon so far as the most important international issues are concerned. These are detente, disarmament, and questions connected with the economic development of newly independent and developing countries.

We welcome the process of detente in Europe but in order to be durable this process must be extended to other parts of the globe and made irreversible We also believe that without disarmament the process of detente cannot be truly durable. Disarmament is also indispensable to a questioned quickened

Pace of development which the world needs, whether politically or economically. Therefore, the most important task facing mankind today is cessation of arms race and the implementation of effective international control and a diversion of the funds and resources so released to increasing investment on the development of developing countries.

Although in the last three decades a number of colonies have gained political independence the fact remains that economically, and in several other respects, they still remain dependent on their former imperial authorities. Many of them have inherited problems and disputes from the colonial era. We are convinced that the political independence of these countries cannot be consolidated unless their economic emancipation is complete. For this emancipation we must recognise the urgent need for the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and dernocratic basis.

In all the countries I visited. I reviewed with my hosts important international questions. We were agreed that relations between states should be governed by well recognised principles of international law and peaceful coexistence. Each nation has a right to choose its own political and socio-economic system. Whatever problems a country may have with any country, neighbouring or distant solutions of such problems must be found through peaceful means. Nations must learn to respect each other's national sovereignty and territorial integrity. They must refrain from interfering in each other's internal affairs under any pretext whatsoever. They must settle their disputes peacefully and bilaterally. We were particularly concerned at the continuing tensions in South East Asia and West Asia.

In the field of bilateral relations all the countries I visited were keen to strengthen further their existing economic and commercial cooperation with India and discover new avenues for such collaboration. We on our part are prepared to do so.

On my way home I had a brief stopover in Frankfurt during the course of which I

had an hour long meeting with FRG Chancellor Herr Schmidt and also an informal meeting with the representatives of the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other important business interests keen on promoting collaboration in India or in joint ventures abroad. I am happy to report that my discussions with the FRG Chancellor revealed a broad agreement on the few important issues we could discuss within the time available. In my discussions with the

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representatives of the business interests I found a meaningful attitude towards collaboration in various fields and a keen desire to visit India for the purpose.

I should like to conclude by saying that today, more than ever before, India's foreign policy is better understood and appreciated as a policy in favour of world peace, detente and stability. My visit has served to strengthen India's relations with these countries and opened new avenues for further cooperation to mutual benefit.

I would like to take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to President Brezhnev and Prime Minister Kosygin, to First Secretary Gierek and Prime Minister Jaroszewicz, to President Husak and Prime Minister Strougal, to President Tito and Prime Minister Djuranovic for the cordial welcome and hospitality extended to us during our stay in their countries. I would also like to express my thanks to Chancellor Schmidt for having found the time to come to Frankfurt for a very useful exchange of views.

POLAND NORWAY SLOVAKIA YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA UZBEKISTAN RUSSIA CUBA

Date: Jul 01, 1979

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INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

The following is the text of the press release of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra, before his departure for Lusaka on July 31, 1979, to participate in the Meeting of Heads of Government of the Commonwealth:

In the pursuit of India's national interests, our Government will continue to follow, as the Prime Minister has stated. the policy of non-alignment.

I am greatly looking forward to meeting at Lusaka leaders from Africa, Asia and other continents where the Commonwealth has its members. I am sure my conversations with them will give me a better understanding of the urgent world problems and other important issues as well as the efforts being made to find solutions to them. It is our intention that we will participate vigorously wherever possible in these efforts.

The fact that the Commonwealth Summit is taking place in the capital of Zambia is of more than symbolic importance. The people of Southern Africa are in ferment having decided to cast away the yoke of colonial and racial domination, apartheid, and minority rule. Zambia, together with the other Front Line States, is in the forefront of this movement. It is only appropriate, therefore, that the Commonwealth, representing some forty sovereign and independent nations, a microcosm of the world, should be meeting at the Summit level in the capital of this brave country. India has a long tradition, perhaps the longest among the members of the Commonwealth, of opposing racial bigotry. My delegation would reiterate India's consistent support, moral, political and material, to the liberation movements in Southern Africa in their struggle to achieve national independence and majority rule.

There are many other troubled areas of the world, South East Asia and West Asia to mention but two. There are many problems the world community faces such as disarmament, finding resources for the development of developing countries, the state of the world economy, etc. It shall be our endeavour to address ourselves concretely to these problems and see whether we cannot find ways and means to move towards a better world. Of particular interest today is the Commonwealth effort to utilise the ex-

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Pertise acquired by developing countries in other developing countries.

Today's world is full of tensions and conflicts and yet technology and economics have made it ever more interdependent. It is only by strengthening the bonds of cooperation around the world on a pragmatic basis and on the basis of each other's experience that we can hope to achieve the peace and stability and the economic development that we all desire so deeply. The Meeting at Lusaka will, I am sure, contribute significantly in this direction.

INDIA USA ZAMBIA

Date: Jul 01, 1979

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

India Signs Space Treaty

The following is a press release issued in New Delhi on July 10, 1979 on India becoming party to Space Convention:

On July 9, 1979, India deposited its Instruments of Accession to two Agreements, namely,

(1) Agreement on Assistance to Astronauts, 1968 and

(2) Convention on liability for damage caused by space objects, 1972.

These Instruments were deposited with the US Government in Washington, UK Government in London and the USSR Government in Moscow simultaneously. India's accession has become effective on the date of deposit of these Instruments.

- 2. The Liability Convention, 1972 embodies a comprehensive set of rules and procedures concerning payment of compensation for damage caused by ultra-hazardous activities like space objects. 55 States had become parties thereto by 31st December, 1978.
- 3. As a result of intensive work done through the United Nations, the following four Conventions have been adopted in relation to outer space:
 - (1) Treaty on Principles governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 1967 (Outer Space Treaty).
 - (2) Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, 1968 (Astronauts Assistance Agreement).
 - (3) Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, 1972 (Liability Convention).
 - (4) Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space, 1975 (Registration Convention).

India has played an active role in the preparation and conclusion of these Conventions. India had signed the Outer Space Treaty, 1967, which it has yet to ratify.

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INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

Date: Jul 01, 1979

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IRAO

Indo-Iraq Agreement to Expand Economic and Technical Cooperation

The following is the text of the press note issued in New Delhi on July 26, 1979 on the inter-Sessional meeting Of the Indo-Iraq Joint Commission held in New Delhi from July 19 to 26, 1979:

India and Iraq agreed to make special efforts to expand economic and technical cooperation in the course of 1979.

The Iraqi delegation was led by His Excellency Mr. Farouk Dawood Salman, Director-General, Ministry of Trade and the Indian delegation was led by Shri V. K. Grover, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. At the conclusion of the Inter-Sessional meeting, the Agreed Minutes were signed by the two leaders.

The Trade plan for 1979 envisages export worth US \$150 million to Iraq. It was noted that over the last year and a half, Indo-Iraq economic cooperation has shown significant progress. Indian firms are presently executing 21 projects in Iraq valued at over Rs. 400 crores. These projects are in such diverse fields as construction of bridges, grain silos, fly-overs, water supply and sewerage schemes, housing complexes etc.

India has now emerged as the largest importer of Iraq's non-oil products like sulphur, urea and dates. Iraq will be supplying nearly six million tonnes of crude oil to India in 1979 - Iraq is now India's largest supplier of oil.

Discussions during the Inter-Sessional

meeting of the Joint Commission covered promotion of Indo-Iraq cooperation in the fields of trade, industrial collaboration and consultancy, transport, agriculture and irrigation, and technical services. These discussions were marked by mutual undertsanding and cooperation. Both sides felt that such cooperation between India and Iraq provided a shining example of how two non-aligned developing countries could work together for fostering greater self-reliance.

Important decisions were taken at the meeting to give greater fillip to economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. In order to encourage Indian participation in Iraq's industrial projects, it was agreed that Iraqi organisations would invite Indian firms to submit bids for projects, and other things being equal, Indian bids would be given preference.

Iraq has also agreed to give all encouragement to Indian consultancy organisations to prepare feasibility and consultancy reports for Iraqi projects. In the field of agriculture, the Iraqi side has sought Indian cooperation in the field of diary development and inland fisheries. The Indian side has expressed considerable interest in participating in Iraq's railway projects both for consultancy contracts and execution of projects.

It was recognised by both sides that India has now emerged as an important participant in Iraq's development programmes through the deputation of Indian experts to Iraq. There is presently in India a recruitment team from Iraq for recruiting 600 experts. Iraq has also requested for the services of 500 doctors.

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Date: Jul 01, 1979

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Indo-Italian Joint Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on July 5, 1979 on the Indo-Italian Joint Committee Meeting held in Rome:

In the Indo-Italian Joint Committee Meeting held in Rome on June 28 and 29, 1979, new procedure for utilisation of Italian credit was agreed to. It has been decided that instead of case-by-case approach, the Government of India will now send to the Government of Italy a statement showing the names of Indian companies, allocations of available Italian credits and the list of goods and commodities likely to be purchased by them over a period of time. On receiving such statements, the Government of Italy would indicate their agreement to the Indian proposals as expeditiously as possible. Thereafter, Indian companies will be free to enter into commercial contracts with Italian firms. The Italian Government also indicated that it would be favourably inclined to consider increasing the credit amount permitted in the Aid India Consortium, particularly for large purchases of plants and machineries in the framework of international discussions and Agreements.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri C. R. Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib, Commerce Secretary. Officials of the Departments of Commerce, Heavy Industry and Economic Affairs as well as some representatives of trade and industry took part in the Joint Committee meeting.

In the meeting the representatives of the two governments also felt that the present level of trade between the two countries was too small, considering the potentialities. To promote much bigger volume of trade as also diversification of the export product base, institutional arrangements for exchange of information between

the trade and industry on both sides have been finalised. The Italian Institute of Foreign Trade has been identified as the focal point in Italy through which information regarding capabilities of Indian firms in respect of production of quality products and undertaking construction and consultancy assignments would be disseminated among the businessmen and industrialists of Italy. The wed for cooperation in undertaking the third-country projects was also recognised, and it was felt that there was good prospect for such cooperation based on joint bidding, post-tender negotiations and sub-contracting.

The Italian Government also agreed to consider participation in the Indian International Fair to be held in Delhi in November 1979. They would be encouraging Italian firms to participate in this Fair.

In the meeting India's particular concern regarding restrictions on the export of textiles and jute in the EEC as also regarding problems of tariff on tobacco was stressed and the Italian side took note of these problems.

Date: Jul 01, 1979

Volume No

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LIBYA

Agreement on Double Taxation

The following is the text of the press release issued in New Delhi on July 6, 1979 on the signing of the protocol for wide ranging cooperation between India and Libya:

An agreement on avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion of

income has been finalised at a meeting of the Indo-Libyan Joint Commission which concluded on the 6th July, 1979. The agreement provided mutual taxation benefits to both countries and in so far as India is concerned it provides for taxation concessions

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for Indian enterprises in Libya, Indian personnel in Libya and Indian air and shipping enterprises operating in Libya.

The agreement will serve to promote greater participation of Indian firms in large value projects in Libya.

The protocol for the current session was signed by the Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission - Shri George Fernandes, Union Minister of Industry, and His Excellency Mr. Juma El-Arbash, Minister of Electricity of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamuhiriya.

The Joint Commission noted with appreciation the good work done by Indian firms in the construction of irrigation projects. Towards enlarging the scope of cooperation in the agriculture and irrigation sector, a team of Indian experts would visit. Libya soon for investigating the possibilities of implementation and management of agricultural projects specially in the Kurfa and Sarir areas.

Under the protocol, Indian firms would be negotiating for the construction of two electricity centres of the value of about Rs. 100 crores and they would also participate in tenders for construction of two labour training centres.

According to the protocol, Indian Railway Construction Company Ltd. and Rail India Technical & Economic Services would be participating in several railway projects in the Jamhuriya. IRCON would also be negotiating with the Libyan side for manufacture of railway sleepers.

Five hundred housing units at Orban in Libya are being constricted by National Building Construction Corporation at a cost

of about Rs. 42 crores. It was agreed that the balance of the housing units numbering about 3500 in the Orban and Nina townships would be progressively awarded to National Building Construction Corporation and Hindustan Steel Construction Limited (HSCL). Sites for construction of two hotels each with 100-beds capacity have been selected in Libya and NBCC would be negotiating for its Construction at an estimated value of about Rs. 35.5 crores.

Contracts have been awarded to NBCC and HSCL for construction of schools for a value of Rs. 50 crores. Because of the scope of construction activities in this sector, it has been agreed that Indian companies would enter into further agreements for similar projects in other parts of Libya.

The management contract for the Ell-HOMS-II cement factory has been awarded to an Indian firm.

LIBYA INDIA USA LATVIA

Date: Jul 01, 1979

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1995

VIETNAM

Programme of Cooperation

The following is the text of the press release issued in New Delhi on July 27, 1979 on the Programme of Scientific Cooperation between India and Vietnam:

India will train 15 Vietnamese scientists in survey techniques, railway technology, information sciences, water resource management and research in drugs and medicinal plants during 1979-80. Besides, ten Indian experts will be deputed to Vietnam for identifying areas of cooperation in

water management, pollution control, standardisation, metrology, traditional herbal remedies, highway engineering research, drugs from plants and agricultural waste.

A programme of co-operation was signed by Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology on

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behalf of India and Mr. Le Khac, Vice-Chairman, State Commission for Science and Technology on behalf of Government of Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Mr. Le Khac was leading a threemember delegation from Vietnam. The visit is a follow up of 1979 agreement for co-operation between India and Vietnam signed in February, 1979.

The Vietnamese scientists will be trained in techniques of satellite photo interpretation, sea bed geology and resources, and techniques of analysis of bauxite ore. In railway technology, they will cover technology of carriage fabrication, organisation in the production of diesel engines, management and exploitation of automatic and semi automatic signalling system and railway wire communication lines.

The next meeting between Indian and Vietnamese scientists will be held in Hanoi in 1980.

The programme of co-operation emerged from the detailed discussions which the delegation had with Prof. M. G. K. Menon and representatives of several Indian scientific institutions on widening of S & T co-operation between the two countries. During its twelve-day visit, the delegation visited research institutions in Delhi, Lucknow, Bombay and Hyderabad.

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INDIA AND THE COMMONWEALTH

Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Commonwealth

The following is the text of speech made by the External Affairs Minister, Shri S. N. Mishra, on August 2, 1979 in Lusaka at the Commonwealth Heads of State meeting:

The Government which I represent, has been formed through a process of quiet, smooth and orderly change within our democratic constitution. Far from being a crisis of democracy, it is part of the working of the democratic process to which we remain deeply attached.

If, in the given situation I have dared to participate in these deliberations it is largely due to the strength of the tradition of continuity in Our foreign Policy and the unmistakable national consensus behind it. I would like to affirm here in no uncertain terms that India remains true to its international commitments and in particular to our pledge to work for peace through international cooperation. I would like also to reaffirm our support to the struggle against colonialism and racism.

In attempting to survey and evaluate the world political scenario as it has emerged since the London Conference of Commonwealth Heads of Government, my contribution would be brief and my approach pragmatic.

It is obvious that the scene has changed much during the last two years after the London Conference. The old tensions have taken new forms and new crisis points have emerged, whether it is in South-East Asia, West Asia, Africa or the American continent. In Europe, the confrontation between East

and West is gradually giving way to detente and the developing situation in other regions seems to give an impression that the spirit of confrontations is now getting transferred to them at terrific speed. To my mind, all the regional conflicts in the world and crisis points have a common genesis, namely, insecurity, instability, economic stagnation or perhaps a combination of all these factors. We find that the more we seek security against one another, the less secure we become. Likewise, stability can neither be imported nor imposed from the top. Certain developments that have taken place have clearly demonstrated that a nation cannot ensure its security only through acquisition of arms. Nor can security be handed down as a gift from outside benefactors. We in India are of the firm view that security for nations has to grow from within. Security comes from the willing participation of the people in their economic, social and political development and so buttress national defence and safety.

ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE

We have been rightly laying stress on attainment of economic self-reliance. But I am afraid we are apt to ignore the need and imperative of political self-reliance. Whatever the depth and intensity of the political crisis, if the countries concerned are allowed to struggle with them, they will find a solution. For it is only by this process that the best in the national personality can be expected to come up and carry through. It is thus that the sinews of a nation are built. It is thus that enduring solutions can emerge. Countries which enjoy dependable and lasting security have done so by the parallel efforts towards economic and political selfreliance and in this the willing cooperation and participation of their people became crucial.

Another source of conflict lies in the fact that many ought to realise or are equipped to realise but fail to realise the implication of a democratised world order of 150 independent nations in all their depth and amplitude. If there was enough appreciation of or sensitivity to the sovereignty of nations,

to the demands of nationalism to the sense of equality, there would not have been the distortions that we find today. It is only when the nation in its nationalism is thwarted that the distortions or crisis appear.

Turning now to some of the regions where local conflicts can threaten to engulf wider areas causing turmoil and turbulence, I must first refer to Southern Africa. Here I would like to point to the discrepancy between the real meaning of words and the way they have come to be used. This often goes to the heart of the problem. There is a great histus between what is said and what is actually meant. For example, we all subscribe to the concept of "majority rule" in Rhodesia. There should be no scope for different interpretations about what majority rule means. It consists of certain ingredients and well-established criteria. If the constitution is warped from the start, where is majority rule? Since the Commonwealth has been always intimately concerned with Southern Africa, I would urge that instruments be set up or strengthened, e.g., the Commonwealth Committee on Southern Africa based in London, to make our role more effective.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

In South East Asia several changes have taken place which, unfortunately, have added to the tide of human suffering. We express our sympathy with Malaysia and other countries in the region who have been bearing the burden of the recent refugee influx. India, which has on several occasions been confronted with the problem of sheltering and caring for millions of refugees is familiar with the suffering entailed by the burden created and the responsibilities which it involves. We are glad that efforts are being made, through international consultations, to help the countries affected and to secure the cooperation of Vietnam to tackle the problem. We hope that the tensions in South East Asia will be gradually relieved through mutual reassurances among the countries in the region. ASEAN itself is a fine example of such cooperation. We must

give the process some time and meanwhile discourage confrontation. In South Asia, we have been promoting regional stability by building on mutual trust. We are happy that our neighbourhood has added little to world tensions in recent years. Indeed we believe we have eased frictions and resolved problems. We shall persist in our efforts to promote stability in the region.

The situation in West Asia continues to cause concern. We are convinced that no lasting and just solution of the Middle East problem is possible unless Israel vacates all the occupied Arab lands and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, their right to their own home land, including a State, are restored. We are of the view that the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty falls short of these basic requirements. It does not gainsay the need of a comprehensive solution if peace is to be secured and durable.

CYPRUS PROBLEM

We are concerned that in spite of efforts made by various parties the Cyprus problem is still not resolved. It is a matter of regret that UN Resolutions on the subject have not been implemented. India's position in regard to the question of Cyprus is well known and is in line with resolution passed by the United Nations General Assembly and the Non--aligned Group. We would like the question of Cyprus to be settled urgently by peaceful means, in accordance with the UN Charter. We reiterate our full support for the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus.

Finally, at the broad macro level, if I may say so, the question before us is no longer one of contest between two sharply distinct ideologies or military-industrial systems. The question is whether the whole of mankind can as it were constitute itself into a "Committee of the Whole" and demonstrate the will to cooperate in order to survive. if the international system continues in the present manner, with power contests, unbridled national selfishness and the rape of the earth, the world will be reduced to rubble in a few decades. The rich nations

can only get that much richer - the downward curve is inevitable if we depend upon gnawing at the vitals of the earth for its black gold, liquid gold, atomic gold etc.

There is no alternative except a moral-political one, of all mankind coming together to realise the true nature of our predicament and making more durable and sensible

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arrangements for survival of the human race and the animal and vegetable kingdoms on this plundered planet of ours. In spite of the conflict and violence that surround us, I feel there is no need for us to sink into a mood of dark despair.

INDIA USA ZAMBIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALAYSIA VIETNAM ISRAEL EGYPT CYPRUS

Date: Aug 01, 1979

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INDIA AND THE COMMONWEALTH

Minister of External Affairs Shri S. N. Mishra's Statement on Southern Africa

The following is the text of the statement of Shri S. N. Mishra on Southern Africa which was tabled during the Commonwealth Heads meeting on August 6, 1979:

The three problems of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, though each has certain special features, arise in essence from the defiant denial of equal political rights on grounds of race and colour. The international community must persist with determined efforts to establish democratic Governments based on respect for dignity, equality and fulfilment of aspirations of the people of Southern Africa. As far as India is concerned, we have always believed that the struggle against racism and colonialism was

part of the struggle of all humanity for independence and human dignity. We have sought to translate our deep seated political convictions into response and contribution through a programme of support for and cooperation with the Front Line States and the liberation movements, not because India is affluent but because we deem it our principled obligation and it is entirely non-political and non-ideological. We have established programmes of bilateral economic co-operation with Zambia and Tanzania. We have made beginnings of such co-operation with Mozambique. We have not hesitated within and beyond our means to provide material assistance to the Patriotic Front, the SWAPO and to other Southern African liberation movements. My Government is determined to continue such moral, material, political and diplomatic support in this principled struggle against racism and for true democracy for the Southern African liberation movements.

PROBLEM OF ZIMBABWE

The world's attention is focussed on this meeting of Heads of Government to see whether the Commonwealth in its collective wisdom and its resilient capacity for political adjustment can help to resolve the problem of Zimbabwe. This is not merely a regional issue but one of crucial importance to peace in this great continent. It is also a challenge to the Commonwealth. I had listened with the greatest interest to the presentations and analyses of various Heads of Government. Every speech was understandably permeated with a sense of urgency.

Some would like us to believe that we are meeting at a time when "new realities" have surfaced in Zimbabwe. This so-called "new reality" at the overall level is the new "internal settlement" and at the micro-level, it is pointed out, is the fact that an election had taken place in which the turnout of voters was about 64% of the electorate and further, this has led to the new feature of the constitution of a Government with a black Prime Minister and a black President. It is not necessary to remind this august body of the other realities behind these so-

called "new realities". There was a warped constitution which could not conceivably result in the establishment of a genuinely democratic Government. The elections took place under a regime of emergency and martial law upheld by security forces and with the presence of private armies under the dominant control of the white minority. It is not surprising that the "new realities" do not meet the legitimate aspirations of the people of Zimbabwe as a whole.

As against this, the "new realities" with which this Conference has to reckon are certain trends in Britain and the United States towards recognition of the Muzorewa regime and the lifting of sanctions. One can sympathise with the British Prime Minister in her predicament. But I hope she will excuse us if we sympathise more with the Rhodesian people who are undergoing untold misery and hardship in their legitimate struggle for genuine "majority rule" which has after all been endorsed by the world community through definitive pronouncements

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by the United Nations and the Commonwealth itself.

NEW REALITIES

On the other side the "new reality" to be acknowledged is the growing international support for the Patriotic Front and the prospect of this region being turned into an arena of larger confrontation involving great power intervention.

One must not forget that the most vivid reality of all is that the civil war continues; the liberation struggle has grown in intensity; and the brutality of the Rhodesian forces grows more desperate and daring as in the attacks on Zambia. Men, women and children are being killed and maimed; innocent activists and patriots are dying and behind it all is the economic damage and hardship hurting all the people of Zimbabwe and the countries around it.

So we are thus confronted with the pincers of two sets of "new realities". This

conference has to grapple with not the fake realities which are rabbits out of Mr. Smith's hat but the ultimate reality of the people's will for dignity and true independence. What is the duty of this Conference? Surely it would not be sufficient if we merely make and reaffirm the familiar declaration of our commitment towards the attainment of "majority rule". What we are facing today is nothing short of a new UDI brought about by the old overlord who still controls the new regime. Mr. Smith today is not only the de facto Prime Minister which he used to be but remains in overall control of the political situation in Zimbabwe.

We are aware that the heroic people of Zimbabwe, the directly affected Front Line States and the international community as a whole looked forward to this Commonwealth Summit as a unique opportunity which should not be lost. It certainly calls for the display of mature statemenship on our part calculated to provide a transition to genuine independence. It calls for a blueprint for the establishment of a just and lasting peace and a genuinely democratic Government in Zimbabwe.

FRAMEWORK OF AGREEMENT

We have now been presented with the framework of an agreement reached by some of our distinguished colleagues. We cannot question their sincerity or their wisdom. It is no doubt only a framework. It bears the mark and impact of President Nyerere's analysis and statesman-like contribution in our midst. The package has no doubt addressed itself to some of the fundamental aspects: the British Government has accepted its responsibility for bringing about independence under a truly democratic constitution which will ensure genuine black majority rule. It acknowledges that the constitution of the internal settlement is defective and that a completely new constitution will be framed through an all party conference. While the United Kingdom is to carry the responsibility for a free and fair election the Commonwealth is expected to provide observers.

The authors would acknowledge that

the package is only a scaffolding where details and body have yet to be filled in. Its success no doubt will be determined by the will, intentions and determination of many parties and above all of the United Kingdom. Cessation of hostilities, international recognition and ending of sanctions must be conditional on the step by step implementation of the goal of genuine majority rule. The consent and role of the Patriotic Front is crucial and cannot be presumed or ignored. It is obvious that until and unless various elements of a package settlement are implemented, the international community will insist on a binding responsibility to maintain sanctions against Zimbabwe. No international recognition can be accorded to a regime which has assumed power on the basis of a manifestly undemocratic constitution and of elections whose freedom and fairness have been placed in serious doubt by responsible and impartial observers. As members of the Commonwealth of Nations we will continue to watch the progress in the implementation of the understanding. The bloodshed in and around Zimbabwe must be brought to a speedy end. It is more than obvious that unless there is genuine transfer of power to the majority of the people under impartial observation, peace will be fragile. The Commonwealth commitment to majority rule was an accepted obligation. When we endorse this package, we cannot lose our commitment or sense of urgency for progress. I would give no more than three months to get

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it under way and to end the present illegality. I have acknowledged the difficulty of the British Prime Minister and recognise that her own supporters may seek to inhibit the implementation of the plan. The Commonwealth consensus and commitment is her support and this chance, this possible breakthrough, should not be allowed to be lost.

We have seen too many frauds and failures in the past and as I stated earlier a new failure could be a bitter and bloody event. But it may well be - let us hope so - that this Lusaka Summit may have truly given the momentum towards peace and true independence for embattled Zimbabwe and the Front Line States. Peace

may have a chance only if true democratic fulfilment is not allowed once again to be frustrated by reaction and racism. There is an urgency; I gave it three months which is all that can be allowed, to transform the superficial reality to the glorious reality of majority rule under a new constitutional legality.

If genuine majority rule triumphs in peace and the economic bur-dens will ease, the white minority may also be able to shed their fears and accept and work under democratic black rule.

If in Lusaka Heads of Government have written a new chapter for Zimbabwe, it should have its own positive impact in Namibia. SWAPO in co-operation with the United Nations supervision could equally obtain the framework for democratic rule through free elections in Namibia. South Africa's intransigence should not be permitted to obstruct progress towards majority rule and independence.

Our conference may have a historic significance but only if it is seen as part of the crusade against racism and colonialism.

INDIA USA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA TANZANIA ZAMBIA MOZAMBIQUE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA

Date: Aug 01, 1979

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Agreement on Improved Storage Facilities

The following is the text of Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 21, 1979 on improved storage facilities to India: Under an agreement signed in New Delhi on August 21, 1979, the FAO is to assist India in establishing an efficient and economic handling and storage system for fertilisers in India.

The agreement for a Technical Co-operation Programme (TCP) Project, "Fertilisers Storage Improvement and Training", was signed by Dr. A. S. Alwan, FAO Representative in India on behalf of FAO and Shri A. J. S. Sodhi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, on behalf of the Government of India.

A training programme for Storage and Transport Managers is also to be formulated and the upgrading of knowledge of persons handling the storage and transportation work is to be undertaken under this Project.

Fertiliser consumption in India has been rapidly rising for some years. It was around 2.5 million tonnes in 1974-75 and crossed the 5 million tonnes mark, in terms of nutrients in 1978-79. In terms of fertiliser material, the quantity is estimated to be of the order of approximately 12 million tonnes.

The bulk of fertilisers is produced in about 30 major plants in India, many of which are located at or near port towns. The balance of fertilisers needed are met through imports, which again arrive at major and minor ports of the country. The consumption of fertilisers takes place in widely-dispersed locations and its timing is also season specific.

The movement of fertilisers in the interior and its proper and adequate storage is becoming increasingly a critical issue in the fertiliser handling system of the country.

The major objective of the Government is to reach the right type of fertiliser at the right time and in the right quantity, as close to the door steps of the farmer, as possible. Hence, meticulous planning of a suitable net-

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work of storage warehouses of various sizes is an absolute necessity. This problem is already receiving close attention of the Government of India.

The TCP Project will enable experts from FAO to assist local experts to examine closely the fertiliser unloading methods and equipment used at the ports as also to help in establishing an efficient transport and storage system in selected areas. Under the Project, experts will assist in designing specifications for storage structures for bagged and bulk fertilisers and in finalising specifications for equipment for mechanised handling, among others, of the bagged and bulk fertilisers.

INDIA USA

Date: Aug 01, 1979

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NON-ALIGNMENT

Minister of External Affairs, Shri S. N. Mishra on Non-alignment

The following is the text of the statement made by the External Affairs Minister, Shri S. N. Mishra on August 27, 1979 at New Delhi before his departure for Havana to attend the Non-aligned Summit:

India is committed to the ideals and principles on which non-alignment is based. Our commitment has always been clear and unequivocal. Our ideals and principles in this regard are part of our rich heritage. World peace, economic development through global cooperation; total and complete disarmament; categorical rejection of colonialism, racism and apartheid; these are India's policies, and those of all non-aligned nations. India is amongst the founder-members of the non-aligned movement. Nehru's role as a principal architect of non-alignment is acknowledged the world over. We persevere

in what he set out to achieve. He wanted to help fashioning an international system built up on equal economic and political opportunities for all; equality of sovereignties; greater cooperation amongst the developing, as also between developed and developing States; and above all ever-expanding mutual faith and trust in our world. He wanted all countries to be free in exercising their independent judgment on specific world issues, as they arose, without pressures from military alliances and power-blocs. We live in an ever-shrinking world. We need to consult and take counsel often, with representatives and leaders of other countries. Earlier this month, the Commonwealth Heads of Government met in Lusaka. Now we go to the Havana Summit of the nonaligned. Later in September the UN General Assembly Session will commence. It has fallen to my lot to represent India at these important international gatherings. The real source of India's strength and confidence in important international meetings is derived from the national consensus on India's continuing commitment to the basic tenets of its foreign policy, particularly the policy of non-alignment. The continuity of our foreign policy and our constancy to certain ideals and principles in themselves provide us strength. As long as our faith in these remains unshaken, our effectiveness and resilience would also remain undiminished, irrespective of any change that may occur in the national sphere.

I am very pleased to be going to Havana, capital city of friendly Cuba. One feels particularly at home within the non-aligned family of nations. We must, however, remember that the very success of the concept of non-alignment has resulted in its growth and expansion. Growth and expansion of any organisation or unit, even one's own family, normally produces some problems. I should not be surprised if during the Havana Summit some such problems do surface. But given goodwill and mutual trust, I have no doubt, we shall overcome these problems, through sincere adherence to the fundamental principles of non-alignment.

Consistent with India's heritage and

principles, we shall do all we can, to ensure that the unity and solidarity of the move-

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ment remain unimpaired as they have remained all these years. Some issues, when viewed from a distance, tend to look difficult, even forbidding. Considering the maintenance of the collective strength of themovement paramount, I have no doubt that we shall surmount all these problems. We in India appreciate that solid and unshakable unity of the non-aligned movement can be forged only be recognising and not by denying the dynamism, vitality and beauty of diversity.

USA CUBA INDIA ZAMBIA

Date: Aug 01, 1979

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NON-ALIGNMENT

Statement on the Representation of Kampuchea

Following is the text of Foreign Minister, Shri S. N. Mishra's statement on August 31, 1979 in the Plenary of the Ministerial Conference on the Kampuchean question:

My delegation has no intention to get involved in the current controversy about the representation of Kampuchea particularly as it has taken an undesirable turn. It is a matter of regret that so much heat and passion have been generated in the debate, which would almost give an impression that what is now at stake is not the representation of Kampuchea but the unity and solidarity of the movement itself.

The representation of Kampuchea in the

Non-aligned conference has been exercising our attention since the beginning of the year. We have before us the results of the deliberations of the Ministerial meeting of the Bureau at Mozambique, of the Bureau and plenary meetings at New York and of the Ministerial meeting of the Bureau at Colombo last June. I have now been informed of the very extensive and high level debate over this question in the meeting concluded on Monday at the level of Ambassador's and senior officials. At this Ministerial meeting also considerable discussion on the issue has taken place. Thus all view points have been ally set out and ably defended. But it is clear that we are nowhere near bridging the difference of opinion that exists. So we find that an obdurate stalemate has been dogging us all the time. Even the Colombo arrangement was no solution. It was indeed a confirmation of the impasse and if I may say so, also of our puzzlement.

May I say that matching this situation, as it were, has been our (India's) position in relation to Kampuchea. We have had to relations with the Government headed by Pol Pot. We have not recognised the Government of Hengisamarin. We are carefully following the development in Kampuchea.

It is our delegation's view that our immediate and primary concern should be the need for maintaining our unity and solidarity and to be able to proceed with our conference in a constructive spirit so that important political and economic issues on our agenda can be appropriately considered. Guided by this consideration we think that the most practical way out of the present impasse we have reached would be to leave the seat of Kampuchea vacant while we continue informal consultation among ourselves.

The crux of the problem is how to break this stalemate in a much more real way and without getting addicted to it since we all agree that the arrangement emphasised at Colombo was not a solution to the problem. I submit this state of affairs has to be ended by the constructive statesmanship and wisdom of the conference. However to repeat

till an honourable way out is found by the conference, it is our opinion, on a balance of considerations, that the interests of the country and our movement would be best served in the given situation by keeping the seat vacant.

We have no doubt that a vacant seat for the country would constitute a greater challenge to us to find a solution urgently and expeditiously.

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Date: Aug 01, 1979

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SRI LANKA

Indian Credit to Sri Lanka

The following is the text of the Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 22, 1979 on an Indian credit to Sri Lanka:

An agreement to extend a credit of Rs. 10 crores to Sri Lanka to finance the export of capital and intermediate goods from India to Sri Lanka was signed in New Delhi on August 22, 1979.

Shri R. N. Malhotra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of India, and Mr. T. B. Panabokke, High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in India, on behalf of Sri Lanka.

The credit will carry a rate of interest of five per cent and be repayable over a period of 15 1/2 years, including a grace period of three years. It will finance purchases in India by Sri Lanka of a variety of capital

and intermediate goods like vehicles of all kinds and related items, electrical and telecommunication equipment, industrial, agricultural, construction and general purpose machinery and railway equipments.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Aug 01, 1979

Volume No

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of the inaugural speech of the Vice-President, Shri B. D. Jatti at the conference an "New Perspectives of Indo-US Economic Cooperation", at New Delhi on August 20, 1979:

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to be with you today. I understand that a number of distinguished scholars and experts from both India and the USA, including some nobel laureates from the USA, have gathered here to discuss the important issues and the problem-areas relating to India-U.S. economy and trade relations in a long term perspective.

At the outset, I should like to present a brief background against which the present dialogue between both the countries in this field may be placed. In the changing environment of the world trade, which is characterised by increasing constraints and pressures for protectionist trade policies around the world. India is pursuing a liberal policy and is making sincere efforts to improve its trade and economic relations with both the developing and the developed countries. As a developing country, India is trying its best to diversify its export pro-

ducts and export markets with a view to upgrading its export structure and taking advantage of the growing export markets.

EXPORT STRATEGY

Export efforts have been intensified by the Government since the beginning of the fourth five year plan (1969-70). Keeping in view the growing needs of the national economy, Government's approach towards export efforts for the 1970s was summed up in the Export Policy Resolution - 1970. India's export strategy centres essentially around two principal parameters, namely, augmentation of domestic supply of export-

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ables and expanding demand for these ex-Portables in the growing markets abroad. The phased Programme of industrialisation during the earlier five Year plans had created an essential base in terms of both industrial capacities and human capital, so as to provide India a competitive edge in the most dynamic sector of world trade, i.e. manufactures, especially manufactures which require relatively large inputs of skilled and unskilled labour like textiles, leather manufactures, steel and metal based products and the like. India being a marginal exporter of these items, external markets represented possibilities of considerable magnitude in both short and long runs. The new policy represents a more liberal and positive approach to the development needs of the country.

It is against this background that India's trade with USA has to be evaluated. From small beginnings, India-US trade has grown steadily over the past years and USA has emerged as India's largest trading partner. A welcome feature in the pattern of India's trade with USA is that there is a favourable balance of India's trade with USA. The favourable balance in 1977 was US Dollars 6.85 million and in 1978 US Dollars 31.60 million. During the five months of 1979 (Jan-May) the balance stood at US Dollars 39.80 million in favour of India.

SPECIAL EFFORTS

Indo-US trade relations point to certain issues which are to be taken into consideration in promoting and strengthening them further. Firstly, India has to intensify its efforts to export to this market in order to expand trade in view of the liberalisation of the import policy by the Government of India. Some special efforts would be necessary to balance India's trade with USA at a higher level in future. Secondly, there has been a shift of emphasis from the export of traditional items from India to non-traditional items. Although the dependence on the traditional items will continue, perhaps at a lesser level, exports in such non-traditional categories as engineering goods. leather goods, gems and jewellery and marine products have to be given more importance. Thirdly, India has become one of the more important trade partners of USA, and an important Supplier of certain commodities to that country. India supplies over 60 per cent of US jute carpet backing requirements, around 33 per cent of its cashew nuts and nearly 25 per cent of raw shrimps. Besides, India has a significant share of the American market in textiles and handicrafts. Similarly, USA is supplying almost 60 per cent of India's earth moving equipments, 50 per cent of specialised machine tools, 30 per cent of special steels, nearly 25 per cent of scientific, industrial and processing instruments, 70 per cent of imports of electronic computers and related equipments and 40 per cent of oil field prospecting and drilling equipment.

India's exports to USA, however, have not increased in proportion to the increase in total US imports. Increase in India's exports to USA in 1976-77 was only 8.3 per cent as compared to India's global exports growth of 24.7 per cent.

There are a few problem areas in India diversifying its commodities structure and increasing its trade level with the USA. Since the latter part of 1977 there have been indications of growing protectionism in the USA. India's stand has been that as a developing country having only 0.5 per cent of the US export market, it should not be

bracketed with the major exporting developed countries. Happily, at the highest executive level in both our countries, the desirability of fighting protectionism and working towards a more open and fair global trade system through a successful conclusion of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations has been understood, recognised and stressed.

The generalised system of preferences (GSP) has been introduced by the USA with effect from, January 1, 1976. The scheme provides for duty free entry to all products covered by beneficiary countries. The scheme also contains a competitive need formula according to which if exports of a product from a beneficiary country reaches the level of Dollars 25 million in a year or enjoys more than 50 per cent of US market, that product is excluded from GSP benefits, for the following year. The US GSP provides for certain Procedures for review of the product coverage of the scheme. These reviews are held once a year on the basis of petitions for additions and deletions from the scheme. Experience has shown that there are several

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areas where improvements are needed, and are possible in the operation of the US GSP system.

MAJOR THRUST

In recent years, the major thrust of import policy in India has been the liberalisation of both import policy and procedures to ensure a more rational system of working in the industrial, agricultural and commercial sectors in order to improve and maintain their efficiency. An integrated approach in the direction of automatic licensing, a common set of lists of banned I restricted and canalised items applicable to both actual users and exporters, replacement of free licensing by a system of open general licence, providing a further fillip to research and development efforts to institutions and individuals and simplification of procedures are the main features of import liberalisation process being undertaken in India.

India's imports amounted to Rs. 6,762.61

crores in 1978-79 as compared to Rs. 6,070.13 crores in 1977-78. The massive liberalisation also indicates the extent to which the importing community is being encouraged by the Government's new approach. In this context, it has to be appreciated that if India's programme of import liberalisation, is to endure, countries like USA should further strengthen their efforts to establish and maintain an open and liberal trading environment. Efforts at the level of Indo-US Economic and Commercial Sub-Commission, trade Missions of both the countries, Indo-US Joint Business Council and other bodies have to be concentrated in this direction in such a way that the trading environment in USA becomes more and more congenial and liberal for expansion of global trade in commodities and countries on a mutual advantageous basis and oriented to benefit all developing countries in general and India in particular. These efforts have to be made on the basis of the process of mutual casuality that exists between economic growth and trade liberalisation. Much needs to be done on these lines both by India and USA for expanding and strengthening their economic and trade relations in future.

EXPORT PROMOTION

India is taking several steps in order to promote trade and economic relations with the USA. Our US based officers of various private sector organisations and export promotion houses have been asked to intensify growth areas of mutual interest in close cooperation with the trading agencies of USA. It has also been decided by the Government of India to open some offices of exports Promotion on the West Coast of USA. Other promotional measures include exchange of delegations, participation in the organisation of fairs exhibitions, buyer seller meets, conducting of market surveys etc. The Indo-US Joint Economic Commission met for the fourth time in Washington in April, 1979. Several important areas of Indo-US trade relations came up for discussion and review in this meeting. The Indo-US Joint Business Council which provides a forum for private industrialists in India and U.S.A. met for the fourth time in Washington in May-June 1979. Current issues of Indo-US trade have been discussed at this meeting. And now, the Association of Indians in America is organising the present conference.

All these measures would, I trust, pave the way for greater, closer and more intensive economic and commercial cooperation, between both our countries. You have animpressive galaxy of talent and expertise drawn from diverse profession assembled here. Out of your deliberations, I am sure will emerge a closer understanding, greaterappreciation and a warmer relationship.

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Date: Sep 01, 1979

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Agreement with FAO

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 3, 1979 on Food and Agricultural Organisation's assistance to India in setting up a Centre for International Cooperation and Training in Agricultural Banking:

Under an agreement signed on September 3, 1979 the Food and Agricultural Organisation is to assist India in setting up a Centre for International Cooperation and Training in Agricultural Banking at Pune.

The agreement for a technical cooperation programme (TCP) was signed by Dr. A. S. Alwan, FAO Representative in India on behalf of FAO and Mrs. Satyabhama, Joint Secretary (Credit), Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The Centre will meet the growing need for sharing information and developing training facilities for the personnel involved in agricultural banking in the developing countries. It will also facilitate re-orientation of existing training institutions to step up and improve training of personnel for financing rural development in the countries of the Asian and African regions. Facilities will be available for the international training seminars on harnessing financial system in support of rural development at the Centre.

As a first step towards setting up of the centre, a Mission consisting of an Indian Expert on agricultural banking as the Chairman and an African banker and non-Indian Asian Banker as Members will be appointed by FAO to study the existing training facilities and to formulate the arrangements to be made by the proposed centre for training and conduct of seminars on agricultural banking and for designing and development of national system on the training in the countries of the Asian Region. The Mission is expected to its work within four months.

The FAO will provide a financial assistance of 100,000 US dollar for the project. The Government of India will provide necessary office accommodation, training staff and meet part of the local cost of the trainees from other countries.

INDIA LATVIA USA **Date**: Sep 01, 1979

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Prime Minister's Address to SEA Regional Conference of W.H.O.

The following is the text of the inaugural address of the Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh on September 18, 1979 in New Delhi at South-East Asia Regional Conference of the World Health Organisation.

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, it is my privilege to welcome you to my country. You have taken the trouble to travel to New Delhi from distant places in order to participate in this Conference. It is a measure of the importance all of us attach to the health needs of the people. We, the people inhabiting the various lands, are all limbs of one corporate body. If one limb of this body is weak, it is bound to affect the other parts. It is gratifying to note that there is greater awareness of this fact today than at any other time in recent history. It is necessary that this awareness should grow and spread further.

As I stand before you, I am reminded of a statement of Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest man of our times, who restored to us the gospel of truth and non-violence in

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man's struggle for emancipation. Two weeks from now, on October 2, we will be celebrating the Mahatma's 110th birth-day. With your permission, I recall the statement I have referred to:

'I will give you a Talisman. 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 to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to Swaraj (freedom) for the hungry and spiritually starving millions? Then you will find your doubts and your self melting away.'

POOR AND WEAK

I believe this statement is appropriate

to the Conference we are holding today. Where does the poorest and the weakest man we saw last, live or exist? We have seen him in all the countries represented here. We see him every day. He lives in a village lane, in a dilapidated hut and in shattered health, unaware of what is happening around him. He has been enduring the pain of his existence for too long. He is conscious of this pain. He raises a subdued cry. People look at him and pass by. Some halt and pause and think: 'is this what freedom means? What is the crime that this man has committed that he should have been reduced to such a situation? Is there no remedy for it?'

I request you to keep this man in mind as you discuss the various items on your agenda. He epitomizes the mass of the people living in South-East Asia and other parts of the world whom we have to help urgently.

What are the reasons for the pathetic condition of this man? To my mind he is the victim of a conspiracy of circumstances, national as well as international. At the national level, poverty with all its accompanying ills, including bad health, has been his inheritance. Unfortunately, poverty is measured more in terms of price indices, per capital incomes, G.N.P., purchasing power and all that, than in terms of the principal ingredients of health-physical, mental and spiritual. We are more concerned about the national gains from the green and the industrial revolutions than about the health of the man who brings them about. The vast distance that separates the adequately developed areas from the villages, the slums in cosmopolitan towns and all other areas of neglect, wherever these may be, relegates this man to a situation in which the development of his personality is well nigh impossible.

DESERTS OF POVERTY

At the international level, the mosaic is hardly different. Whatever you and I may claim to have done during the last 30 years and more the harsh fact that continues

to stare us in the face is that the world is divided into the haves and the have-nots. There are vast islands of affluence and endless deserts of poverty. Some do not know what to do with their money; others do not know how and where to earn it. More resources go into a single nuclear device than may be needed to establish a hundred thousand health care centres in the rural areas. The armament race continues unabated. I do not know whether those involved in it are aware of the fact that fourfifths of the world's population have no access to any organised form of health care and that half a million women in Asia and Africa die every year while delivering babies.

If we keep the poorest and the weakest man in mind in the course of our deliberations at this Conference and take even a few practical decisions to lift him from the morass into which he has been sinking, we will really be taking a historical step forward.

I take this occasion to pay tribute to the World Health Organisation for the magnificent work that it has been doing to promote health as a vital investment in man's development. It is largely due to the efforts of the W.H.O. that small-pox has been eradicated from the globe. The success we have been achieving, even though gradually, in combating other diseases, has brought into sharp relief the very great importance of regional and international cooperation in health care programmes. Again, it is due to the sustained efforts of the W.H.O. that national planners and administrators have

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begun to recognise health as an input in the overall process of development. If the New International Economic Order is accepted as 'a state of international just redress of the present imbalances between developing and the affluent countries', it is imperative that, apart from other things, there should be greater collaboration and give-and-take amongst all the countries to liberate the man in the dilapidated hut from the tyranny of his present situation. He has to be made conscious of his basic health needs. He has

to be encouraged to participate in programmes designed to meet these needs. And those responsible for administering nations have to give greater and urgent recognition to the fact that economic development without simultaneous health development is an infructuous activity.

IMBALANCES IN UNIVERSE

In some countries infant mortality is as high as 122 per one thousand live-births. In some others, it is 15. The maternal mortality rate per 10,000 live-births ranges between 0.5 and 177. Can there be a more devastating commentary on the imbalances that prevail in our universe in the field of health? The New International Economic Order must take cognizance of these imbalances. This cognizance should find reflection in the regional and global strategies for health care and these strategies must be implemented with greater speed and vigour, through the joint efforts of the developed and the developing countries.

In this context I welcome the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978. 'Health for all by the year 2000 A.D.' - this is a very laudable goal. If this Declaration is given the same importance as has been given to the philosophy of the nuclear deterrent in recent years and if it is implemented sincerely and urgently, generations to come will look back at it as the Health Magna Carta. We are a signatory to the Declaration and, on our own, we have taken several very important steps to organise health care services and bring them to the doorstep of every village in our country.

I trust that some of you may have heard of our Rural Health Scheme. We launched this Scheme in 1977, and its objectives harmonise with the aspirations of the Alma Ata Declaration. The basic ingredient of our Rural Health Scheme is to place people's health in people's hands. More than 100,000 community health volunteers and 200,000 traditional birth attendants have been trained in villages under this scheme. This band of over 300,000 workers are not Government servants. They live in the villages in which

they function. We are also simultaneously trying to integrate all health and family welfare services in order that those health officials who until the other day were responsible for administering just one programme, e.g., malaria, should be able to give their attention to all the basic health care needs of the community. Consequently, a new force of multipurpose health workers has now come into being. Nearly 100,000 such workers have already been trained. Currently we are engaged in perhaps the largest ever training programme of health workers organised anywhere in the world.

INDIGENOUS SYSTEM

The larger significance of our Rural Health Programme is that it seeks to reduce the enormous imbalances that mark the health scene in our country. Our Health Policy seeks to give importance to the indigenous systems of medicine which have their roots in villages but which had languished in the past because of the absence of adequate support from the Government. We are also planning to modify the system of medical education in order to make it more responsive to our needs.

In the expansion of our resources in manpower development and training, in enlarging our drug industry and strengthening our drug delivery system, in research and, in general, in the implementation of the Alma Ata Declaration, we wish to establish greater collaboration with all the countries within and outside our region. We have always appreciated the help that we have been receiving from the W.H.O. From our side, we are most keen to render whatever assistance we are capable of to all the countries within and outside our Region. Our efforts should be to help each other and thus strengthen the W.H.O. which must continue to play its pivotal role in the harmonious, healthy development of man. There are areas in which greater technical collaboration is called for. I am sure that as a result of this Conference the role of mutual

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collaboration will increase, to the benefit of

the common man. This collaboration should not, however, lead to the strengthening of the existing multinational monopolies in the drugs and pharmaceuticals industry. It is necessary that the countries of our Region should be enabled to exploit their resources and establish their own drug industries. On our part, we shall be most willing to help in this venture.

I am thankful to Dr. Gunaratne, Regional Director, for providing me the opportunity of being in your midst today.

I wish you all success in your deliberations.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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IRAQ

Agreement on Joint Ventures

The following is the text of a Press release issued in Now Delhi on September 29, 1979:

India and Iraq have mutual cooperation and will jointly undertake designing and execution of civil turnkey projects in the two countries as well as joint ventures in third countries.

An agreement of cooperation was signed between the National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), a premier construction company, in the public sector, under the Ministry of Energy and the State Construction Contracting Company (SCCCO) of Iraq. The. agreement was formally signed by Shri D. R. Sikka, Chairman and Managing Direc-

tor, NPCC and His Excellency Adnan Ali Al-Qassab, President, SCCCO, during the recent visit of the former to Iraq.

This agreement serves to strengthen the existing cooperation between India and Iraq and provides for design and execution of suitable civil turn-key projects in Iraq and India as well as taking up joint ventures in third countries on mutually acceptable terms and conditions for individual projects.

The two companies shall meet as often as possible to decide on issues of mutual interests with a view to strengthening the cooperation.

The agreement shall be within the framework of the protocol provisions under the joint Indo-Iraq Commission. It is expected to initiate intensive deliberations on joint ventures for construction of projects like power stations, bridges, roads, water supply sewerage schemes, industrial structures and other civil works.

IRAQ INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1979

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NEPAL

President Sanjiva Reddy's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet given in honour of their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal in New Delhi on September 20, 1979:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Majesties and the other members of your party here this evening. Since Your Majesty's last visit to India in April 1977 much has happened both in Nepal and in India. While in Nepal Your Majesty has ordered a democratic referendum, we in India will soon choose once again representatives to our Parliament which, in turn, will establish a government reflecting the democracy, expressed will of the people.

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Our two countries have already demonstrated that domestic political changes and vicissitudes notwithstanding, the underlying rationale and permanence of Indo-Nepalese relations is well understood, unchangeable and reinforced by the passage of time. Our relations are built on immutable bonds of shared history, geography, culture and above all, mutuality of interest. In the contemporary context, we have provided an example of how with mutual respect for each other's personality and territorial integrity relations between neighbours can be evolved to our beneficial mutual cooperation. It is not with idle hope but reasoned confidence that I can make bold to assert that our relations must and will grow from strength to strength in the future. We have developed the tradition of consultations and, I believe, recognised that our interests are common in the promotion of stability, peace and cooperation in our region in the best spirit of inter-dependence.

As members of the international community, we share a commitment to nonalignment and the principles of co-existence and common interest in a more just New Economic Order. With the conclusion of the Treaties of Trade and Transit and Agreement on Inter-governmental Cooperation for the control of unauthorised Trade, our economic relations have been placed on a sound and rational basis. We could endeavour to bring about increase in our own bilateral commerce without harming and hindering our respective national policies. India has long considered it a privilege to respond and join with Nepal in its plans for economic and social development. The challenge of development for our countries is both immense and urgent and we have to work in

harmony and to our respective and common advantage. The harnessing of waters, for instance, is a great source of potential wealth for Nepal and we have considerable interest in cooperating with you to make your projects viable and in purchasing the surpluses that cannot be utilised within Nepal. We have also a common interest in prevention of soil erosion and control of floods.

Altogether, talks between Your Majesty and my government have again confirmed that we have a shared vision: an interest in working together in friendship for peace and progress and in pursuit of our national goals.

I should like to conclude by proposing a toast to the health of Their Majesties the King and the Queen of Nepal; to the progress and prosperity of Nepal; and to the further growth of the multifaceted Indo-Nepal friendship and cooperation.

NEPAL INDIA USA **Date**: Sep 01, 1979

Volume No

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NEPAL

King Birendra's Speech at President's Banquet

Replying to the toast of the President, His Majesty the King of Nepal said:

Allow me to thank, you, Mr. President, for your kind words of welcome and also for the warm hospitality accorded to us and the members of our entourage.

Enroute to Nepal from Cuba we are indeed happy to have this opportunity, once again, to visit the friendly country of India and to exchange views with Your Excellency and other leaders of the Government. During this visit we also look forward to the opportunity to pay homage to some of the holy shrines and renew our acquaintances with, many of our friends and well-wishers in India.

Your Excellency, you have appropriately referred to the multiple bonds existing between our two peoples since time immemorial. I need not, therefore, elaborate on these aspects. I merely wish to add that it should be our earnest effort to make the best use of these natural affinities. In this context I am happy to say that we are satisfied with the current state of our relationship. The

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joint interests and initiative shown by the two Governments, I am confident, win positively contribute not only to consolidating our traditional ties but also to adding new dimension and dynamism to them in the light of the needs and aspirations of today. I believe that among the important factors which facilitated us to move in this direction, have been the recognition of mutuality of interests and our common adherence to the principles of mutual respect for sovereign equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. I strongly believe that the exchanges of views which we have had with Your Excellency and other leaders will further help in accelerating the pace and process of beneficial relations between our two countries. This, in my view, is what our two peoples want, and this is what our two countries need.

I need to reiterate here that a country like ours with the manifold problems of under-developed could hardly afford to pursue any policy other than the policy of peace, development and good neighbourliness. The cause of peace and development has, therefore, become our overiding concern both in our external policies and domestic priorities.

Mr. President, since we are returning after participating in the Sixth Non-aligned Summit in Havana, it was very encouraging to see in the Movement a close identity of views that our two countries have followed

not only in our commitment to the principles of non-alignment but also on many other issues of international importance, including the urgent need to establish a new international economic order. In this context, may I take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Government and people of India who, despite their own domestic needs, have been generous in extending meaningful cooperation to Nepal.

May I now propose a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency the President of India and Mrs. Reddy, to the peace, progress and happiness of the people of India and to the ever growing friendship between India and Nepal.

NEPAL USA CUBA INDIA

Date: Sep 01, 1979

Volume No

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NON-ALIGNMENT

Prime Minister Greets Havana Summit

The following is the text of Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh's letter of greetings to the President of Cuba, Mr. Fidel Castro, released in New Delhi on September 3, 1979:

After assuming office as Prime Minister, I was hoping to participate in the Sixth Non-Aligned Summit due to be held next week in Havana. I was looking forward also to making your personal acquaintance and visiting your great country. We were touched that you sent a Special Envoy to extend your personal invitation to me. In these circumstances, it was a considerable disappointment for me to have had to decide not to attend the Summit. My many pre-occupations here

at the present moment, prevent me from going to Havana.

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

I am, however, extremely conscious of the momentous and historic nature of the Non-Aligned Summit over which you will be presiding with such distinction. The Non-Aligned Movement has gone far and achieved much since it was founded. Both Cuba and India are founder members of the movement. We have cooperated to strengthen it. The principles and objectives of the movement. are now found attractive by an ever increasing number of nations and peoples. This very expansion and growth of the movement. has brought all of us great satisfaction, even if it has also caused certain problems to surface. I have no doubt that, committed, as we are to the principles and objectives of Non-Alignment, which bind us together, we shall be able with your advice and guidance, and that of our many collaborators within the Non-aligned world, to find ways to resolve these problems. The unity of the movement must be maintained. The objectives of greater and more rapid economic development of the non-aligned nations

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through cooperation amongst themselves, as also by their cooperation as a group, with developed and industrialised societies must be taken forward. I know how deeply committed you and your country are to the concept that this should be achieved consistent with self-respect for all of us.

STRENGTH OF MOVEMENT

Let us hope that under your stewardship over the next three years the movement will get strengthened. Your own wisdom, dynamism, patience and leadership, I have no doubt, will help the movement to emerge stronger and more united in the pursuit of its objectives.

Our Foreign Minister, Shri S. N. Mishra, who in my absence is leading the Indian delegation, will cooperate fully with Your Excellency and your delegation, as indeed

with all the other delegations, at the summit, and I trust this cooperation will lead towards the achievement of our common goals.

Excellency, I Wish you and through you the Non-Aligned Summit meeting in Havana, all success in your deliberations. May your labours enhance peace and stability for which all mankind yearns so much.

With assurances of my highest consideration.

CUBA INDIA USA

Date: Sep 01, 1979

Volume No

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NON-ALIGNMENT

Foreign Minister's Speech at Havana Summit

The following is the text of speech made by Shri S. N. Mishra, Minister of External Affairs and leader of the Indian Delegation to the Havana Summit of Non-Aligned countries, on September 6, 1979:

Mr. Chairman, for reasons more than one we are happy that our turn has come in the middle of the debate. This is the best position from where we can both look backward and forward and take a balanced view. We come in company with the distinguished President of Pakistan. Both of us, almost jointly, hand in hand, have ensured that the flag of non-alignment has been unfurled on the entire Indian sub-continent.

On behalf of my delegation and on behalf of the people of India, I would like to felicitate you not just as Chairman of our conference, but as the person whom Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in his first meeting in

1961, greeted simply as "a brave man". You led a people's revolution against an oppressive tyranny. You faced intervention and defeated it. You now preside over the well-established Socialist Republic of Cuba. Your Chairmanship of our enlarged community is a tribute to your leadership and the importance which Cuba commands in international affairs. We salute you and Cuba for the manifold achievements of your people and express gratitude for the generous hospitality of your country.

May I also offer grateful thanks to President Jayewardene for the universally admired manner in which he guided the movement as its Chairman?

In 1961, Cuba alone, from this continent, joined the movement as a member and, since then, and notably at this meeting, Latin American participation has grown steadily. This Summit in Latin America is symbolic of the revolutionary appeal of the movement.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

May I warmly welcome, once again, four new members to our fraternity from Latin America - Surinam, Granada, Bolivia and Nicaragua? May I also welcome as a full member the brave Zimbabwe Patriotic Front? I would particularly like to felicitate Pakistan and Iran, who join us after a long association with blocs which have now happily been dissolved. This augurs well for reinforcing the ongoing search for good neighbourly cooperation and trust and, in turn, should, no doubt, contribute to stability in the region.

Owing to his preoccupations in India, our Prime Minister could not come and I was asked to lead our delegation. I bring his message that his absence would not mean less interest in the Movement and India would continue to march with you all with unfaltering steps and unflinching faith in our ideals.

Within our constitutional system, the people of India are shortly going to elect Open-

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ly and democratically representatives to our Parliament and to give themselves the government reflecting the will of the people. But let there be no mistake. Just as our nation is committed to democracy, the entire spectrum of Indian political opinion is unreservedly committed to the letter and spirit of the philosophy of nonalignment. Government and leaderships have changed in India and, no doubt, will continue to change. What will not change, however, is our faith in the right of independent national judgement and our determined opposition to alliance systems based on multilateral miiltarism. Nor will India ever relent in its determined opposition to all forms of domination and every manifestation of racism, colonialism and imperialism.

NON-ALIGNMENT: BEDROCK OF INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

Since independence, India made non alignment the bedrock of its foreign policy. We always saw in nonalignment the fulfilment of Gandhiji's hopes that our freedom must be part of the struggle for emancipation for all peoples. In the spirit of the philosophy of Gandhi and Nehru, non-alignment signified respect for the individuality and personality of other nations; it recognised their right, like ours, to choose their own social and economic systems and, in this spirit permitted dignified and beneficial cooperation between nations. The five principles of peaceful co-existence and the ten principles evolved in Bandung which we proclaimed as the guide in our relations with nations reinforced the spontaneous spirit of nonalignment. Non-alignment was never a policy of equidistance or of neutrality for us. It was something inestimably more positive, vital and vibrant. It enabled us to support decolonisation and liberation movements and take principled stand on issues which confronted the world.

ARCHITECTS OF NON-ALIGNMENT

Since the small but historic gathering in Belgrade in 1961, the vision of non-alignment of our founding fathers - and here I would like to pay a special tribute to their

sole survivor present here amongst us, the ageless President Tito - has established and vindicated itself. We recall with pride that, along with President Tito and President Nasser, Prime Minister Nehru, the architect of our foreign policy, worked to formulate the Principles and criteria which gave us strength and direction. As President Jayewardene reminded us it was Nehru who first used the word 'non-alignment'. Today, we have become a large family of nearly 100 nations encompassing four continents symbolising both unity and diversity.

The process of growth has its own problems and challenges, its own trials and tribulations. Our response to these challenges must be true to the ethos of our movement; It must be according to the law of our origin, and to the values and ideals we are pledged to uphold. We cannot have one foot in non-alignment and another in alignment. Tragedy occurs in life when there is a hiatus between the law of one's being on the one hand and one's actions and behaviour on the other.

As our family has grown, it is not unnatural that differences and difficulties should occur. But it is disturbing that disputes between us should have erupted into armed conflicts. We have to remember that if we let such divisions erupt or fester, we are prone to intervention from outside powers. We must not allow ourselves, even unwittingly, to subserve their ulterior ends and act in a manner inconsistent with the fundamental principles of our movement.

PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT REDEFINED

Precisely at this moment, when our Movement is at its zenith, the need for introspection is the greatest. It is, I believe, timely to remind ourselves of old principles and new priorities which flow from them. Let me endeavour to define them briefly and pertinently:

(1) The non-aligned movement, independently and through support to the United Nations, seeks to safeguard international peace and pro-

mote universal relaxation of tensions. It aims at the continuous reduction of cold war suspicions, the dissolution of great power military alliances and foreign military bases, and the creation of an environment to facilitate conventional and nuclear disarmament in the world.

(2) Non-alignment remains steadfastly opposed to imperialism, colonialism,

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neo-colonialism and every manifestation of racism, domination, hegemony and exploitation. It supports national liberation movements and must seek to preserve and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms everywhere.

- (3) Non-alignment calls for respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security for all nations and their right to exercise independence of judgement and action. Given this respect and adherence to the principles of peaceful co-existence between different socio-economic systems, the movement can remain an effective non-bloc factor in world affairs.
- (4) Non-alignment endeavours to find the balance between the efflorescence of national personality based on the genius and cultural heritage of each nation and the inexorable logic of international interdependence and cooperation amongst nations. It recognises the responsibility of national exertions in the resolution of national problems of growth, development and security; at the same time, it seeks to create an international climate where such national fulfilment can be obtained along with rectification of international imbalances.
- (5) These principles and objectives led the non-aligned movement to a firm

commitment for the establishment of the new international economic order which must narrow the widening gap between the developed and developing countries and thus obtain the eradication of poverty, sickness, hunger and illiteracy. The movement, through a programme of mutual cooperation, must forge the sinews of complementarities among the developing world in general and non-aligned nations in particular and thus promote both national and collective self-reliance which, in turn, would contribute to the resolution of world economic and trade problems. These goals and objectives emerge from the declarations of the successive summit conferences at Belgrade, Cairo, Lusaka, Algiers and Colombo and have become the touchstone which can provide the beaconlight for our deliberations at Havana.

There is reason for continued and added confidence in our faith, if only we recall our achievements. We anticipated detente and the logic of co-existence. We foresaw that in modern technology, interdependence cannot be confined to one or another social system. We recognised that international commerce must grow and this would further bind the nations together in peace and cooperation. We cautioned, from the very beginning, against the spectre of human and material national resources being diverted to nuclear and conventional armaments and means of destruction. These achievements and our current goals reinforce the logic of unity in our diversity.

The question, however, is: as our membership grows, does it give strength, or does it dilute our principles and cohesion? We chose non-alignment in defiance; the situation and the circumstances may have changed and yet can we, when nonalignment is not at bay, preserve it for continued positive purpose? Are we to lose our solidarity merely because some of our adversaries have been overwhelmed, or because the countervailing pressure from the philosophy of alliances has eased?

If we recognise the imperative of our solidarity, we must, with consistency, sub-ordinate to it everything which undermines our capacity to work and cooperate together.

There should be no complacency that this great movement has reached its plateau, even if some of the initial objectives have been achieved; nor should there be any apprehension that the movement is on a declining curve. Much still abides for our united efforts.

THE COLOMBO DECLARATION

The Colombo Conference in 1976, clearly pointed to the new terrain on which the Non-aligned Movement has now to function. It envisioned a new horizon opening up before it - a horizon no less stimulating and

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challenging than the previous ones, and a horizon in keeping with the basic urges and ethos of our movement.

It would be apt to recall the Colombo Political Declaration. I quote from it:

"...As a result of recent developments, the importance of ensuring the genuine and complete independence of states as distinct from merely formal sovereignty, had been enhanced. The problem of unequal relations between states, often amounting to domination, continues to be a disturbing phenomenon, even negating the hard-won freedom of some states. Today, one of the principal tasks of the non-aligned remains the combating of unequal relaions and domination arising from neocolonialism and similar forms of domination."

The Economic Declaration of Colombo made it clear that the developing countries would not be able to solve their urgent economic problems and pursue their plans of development without the establishment of the new international economic order. The economic declaration further warned that the new international economic order, which

we seek to establish, must recognise the inter-connections between the present political and economic forces.

The Colombo Declarations, political and economic, called for the opening of the economic dimension of the movement in its full vigour and amplitude if the process of unfoldment of the movement's personality was to continue unabated. But, to the Colombo Conference, even, this stress on economic aspect, crucially important as it was, was not enough. It recognised, for example, the right to untainted knowledge and information which it thwarted, could negate much of our efforts in political and economic fields. So the political declaration, inter alia, affirmed that a new international order in the fields of information and mass communications was as vital as a new international economic order.

Thus, we can readily see that, we do not find ourselves on a declining curve, but we are actually on an ascending curve. I have no doubt the movement would suffer not only arrest and retardation of its personality but inevitably face serious distortions and contradictions, even decline and disintegration, if it does not accept the challenges of its further growth and efflorescence.

The historic role of the Havana Summit lies in concretising the tasks on the new terrain and operationalising our ideas for their accomplishment.

NON-ALIGNMENT AND GREAT POWERS

It appears that there is a certain correlation between the relationships among the great powers and the situation that exists in the non-aligned movement, so that the unity and character of the latter get affected by the situation in respect of the former. If we are reduced to a registering machine for the rise, fall or even stagnation in the great power relationships, and do not seek to act as a correcting mechanism, of any distortions that might occur in these relationships, it would lead to the downfall of a great movement. It would be the very negation of the objectives and principles for which we stand

and we would become a new arena for cold war, more dangerous because of its deceptive facade. Against such threats we must exercise more alertness and vigilance.

WEST ASIA

The play of these forces is evident in many troubled regions of the world. The situation in West Asia continues to cause grave anxiety. India has a deep and historical relationship with the Arab world. We are therefore, seriously concerned about the recent developments which have further increased tensions in the region. The Egypt-Israeli treaties have caused fears and misgivings which have led to the exacerbation of the situation particularly by dividing the Arab world. It is for Egypt to take steps to remove these misgivings. One thing is clear; Israeli intransigence has hardened and the prospects of a just and durable settlement have receded. Any solution which ignores the fact that Palestine is at the core of the issue, stands no chance of success. Peace, if it is to be lasting, must be based on the principle of the inadmissibility of conquest by force. Israel must, therefore, vacate all Arab territories occupied since the 1967 war. The inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, whose sole representative is the PLO, including the right to their own state is central to a satisfactory settlement. We must continue to exert unrelenting pressure on

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Israel to move it from its present obstinate persistence in occupying illegally Arab lands. We are quite clear that any arrangement that bypasses these basic facts, or serves to weaken Arab unity, can only prove to be self-defeating.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

In Southern Africa, the danger is still from entrenched racism standing in the way of majority rule and equal rights for all the peoples. The monstrous system of apartheid continues in South Africa. We welcomed the Lusaka Agreement on Zimbabwe, hammered out by the Commonwealth Heads of Government, but made bold to caution that

it must be pressed with time-bound urgency. It must not prove another fraud on the people of Zimbabwe involving the acceptance of weighted advantage to the White minority. The Patriotic Front, now a member of our movement, must be allowed to have full part in formulating a new constitution.

In neighbouring Namibia, the outlook remains gloomy. All the efforts of the Western Five seem to be floundering or stagnating. The people of Namibia cannot be blamed if, in their frustration, they turn, under the undisputed leadership of SWAPO, to other possible means to liberate their homeland. We, for our part, must morally, materially, individually and collectively assist the SWAPO.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

South East Asia is once more troubled and threatened by foreign involvement. The people of Indo-China have suffered enough in their struggle for freedom because of intervention and destruction. The complexity and gravity of the situation in Kampuchea and the sharp divisions which it has created was reflected. during our discussions last week. The seminal fact that stands out is that the region calls for a return to the search for stability through mutual confidence and regional cooperation. Such stability will never come unless there is respect for the personality and independence of every state and willing cooperation amongst them.

CYPRUS

Cyprus, a member of our movement, continues in the unhappy situation of its territory still remaining occupied. A settlement of the Cyprus problem based on the dialogue between the two Cypriot communities, free from any outside interference, must be encouraged within the framework of the resolutions of the United Nations and the decisions of the non-aligned movement.

INDIAN OCEAN

Mr. Chairman, it is also a matter of deep regret that the objectives of the dec-

laration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace adopted by the United Nations in 1971 have remained unfulfilled. On the other hand, despite the reiterated wishes of the littoral and hinterland States, great power military presence in the Indian Ocean, instead of decreasing, has actually been on the increase. In particular, the strengthening of existing military bases, such as Diego Garcia, cannot but cause concern over further intensification of the arms race and a setback in the relaxation of international tensions in the area. We were disappointed that the talks between the United States and the Soviet Union relating to the Indian Ocean were interrupted, we would strongly urge that the dialogue between the two sides be soon resumed. We would further urge all great powers to cooperate effectively with the Ad-Hoc Committee in the United Nations, in pursuance of the call reiterated by the recently concluded meeting of the littoral and hinterland states.

SALT-II TREATY

While we welcome the SALT-II treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union, Mr. Chairman, we cannot accept it as anything more than a partial step toward halting the arms race. It is a step, however, in the right direction.

BILATERAL ISSUES

Let us frankly acknowledge that the dangers to our movement flow not only from external factors but often from bilateral disputes within our fraternity. India has always carefully sought to avoid burdening the movement with any bilateral problems of its own. If we do not speak about them today, it is in keeping with the stand we have taken. Fortunately, we have come a long way in resolving problems with our neighbours and can take pride that the climate of confidence in South Asia has improved significantly.

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We are convinced that if we continue this process, we can release our energies for development and beneficial cooperation on a bilateral and regional basis.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

Political problems catch our attention by dramatic headlines. But equally insidious and pervading problems come from the economic malaise facing the world. The global economic situation is today characterised by insufficient growth and growing disparities amongst different groups of countries. Our meeting takes place on the eve of the special session of the United Nations in 1980 to be devoted to economic issues. A development strategy for the 1980s is to be considered. discussed and hopefully adopted at that time. We do not, however, approach, this session with much expectations not because we have no demands, nor because nothing more needs to be done, but because of our dismal experience in the first two development decades.

One can list many examples of the malaise that afflicts the global economic scene. We recognise that the developed countries are also facing their own problems today. But it is regrettable that they fail to perceive that a lasting solution to their problems lies in ensuring the economic development of the developing world and in pursuing a path of growth which involves the harnessing of the potential effective demand and the productive capacities of the developing countries. Wider acceptance of this inter-relationship between the growth of the economies of the developed countries and prosperity of the developing countries can impart a new momentum to the international negotiating process. If, therefore, a beginning has to be made towards solving the problems of the world economy on the basis of genuine inter-dependence, it is vital that the developing countries should fully and effectively participate in the decision-making process related to the international economy.

The recent breakdown of the negotiations on the safeguards code at Geneva is a further evidence of the lack of political will on the part of the developed countries to move towards a restructuring of the world trading system. It is more distressing that, in spite of the anti-protectionist sentiments expressed by every nation and duly reflected

in many international declarations, agreement on the "safeguards" should have been frustrated on account of the intransigence of a handful of developed countries. What we seek, Mr. Chairman, is not charity but an opportunity to earn our way in the world. If therefore, our staple exports are subject to wide price fluctuations and our newer products are abruptly and unilaterally prevented entry in developed country markets, this makes a mockery of developed countries professed faith in free trade.

A connected issue is the participation of developing countries in tendering for award of contracts for executing projects in other developing countries. Further, some of the current institutional arrangements between a group of developed countries and that of developing countries, for example, under the Lome Convention, restrict access in this regard to firms of member-states. Such restrictive provisions need to be reviewed in the context of the accepted need for untying aid and promoting economic co-operation among developing countries.

COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE

Mr. Chairman, all this underscores the need for fully realising the potential of collective self-reliance among 'the non-aligned and other developing countries by imparting vigour and dynamism to the programme for mutual economic co-operation. Collective Self-reliance is neither a political slogan nor an attempt to substitute north-south cooperation. It has a rationale of its own based on the complementarities, the surplus resources and skills in the developing countries that remain to be harnessed and are frequently wasted or misdirected. At the same time, collective self-reliance is an essential element in the structural re-adjustments necessary in the international economy.

The full potential of collective self-reliance can be realised only if it is pursued in an enlightened manner and is based on a radical departure form the basic motivations and features characterising north-south relations. Collective self-reliance should also be seen as a dynamic process which not only

involves the fullest utilisation of the existing capacities but also creates new complementarities and capacities, forges new links and finds new ways of solving the common problems of the developing countries.

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National development plans provide the most useful, If not Indispensable, basis for identifying complementarities among the non-aligned and developing countries. Therefore, the strengthening of the planning process and machinery in our countries can make a significant contribution to the promotion of economic and technical co-operation amongst us.

The Colombo Action Programme for Economic Co-operation had imparted a new dimension to the non-aligned movement and opened a new chapter in its history. During the Colombo summit, and soon thereafter, a number of new initiatives were taken and new ideas were advanced. These included the Non-aligned Solidarity Fund, Association of Council of Producers' Associations, Nonaligned Information and Research System, the Project Development Fund, etc. Unfortunately, in spite of the laudable efforts of the coordinators, most of these and other schemes and proposals included in the Action Programme are languishing for lack of political will on the part of the member-countries. By far, the greatest contribution that the Summit can make to the strength and viability of the Movement is to revive its Action Programme for Economic Co-operation. It is time for us to demonstrate that collective self-reliance is not just a cliche to be used from time to time, but that it can be translated into a concrete time-bound dynamic programme of mutual economic cooperation, to the implementation of which we are all committed.

India has come to this Summit prepared for taking any initiative that may be needed for revitalising the Action Programme. India has already called, at the fifth UNCTAD for the launching of a new round of tariff negotiations among the developing countries and indicated its willingness to participate on the basis of upto 50% tariff concessions in such

negotiations. Recently, we held a highly successful meeting in Delhi of experts from consultancy organisations of non-aligned an other developing countries which has made concrete recommendations for setting up a Project Developing Facility. I hope that it would be possible for the Summit to take a positive decision for the establishment of this facility, which is urgently needed for taking full advantage of the existing complementarities among the non-aligned countries.

We have also submitted for consideration by the summit conference, a study prepared by a leading consultancy organisation of India on the fullest use of complementarities among non-aligned and other developing countries. The scope and extent of possible co-operation that is revealed in this study should be an encouragement and a challenge to all of us.

Mr. Chairman, we have left for some time that the hiatus that has prevailed between the programmes for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries and the actual performance has, in large part, been due to inadequate or ineffective instrument of enforcement. We, therefore, think that it is important to consider the establishment of a small ad-hoc committee at a high political level which can monitor the implementation of such programmes.

ENERGY ISSUE

Mr. Chairman, I now turn to another issue, namely, energy which is of vital concern to most non-aligned and developing countries and the solution of which is of critical importance to us all. The worst sufferers from the current energy situation have been the oil importing developing countries. In the case of India, half of our total imports were accounted for by oil. The increase in oil prices effected this year imposed an additional burden of about 1.4 billion dollars. What is more, the non-aligned and developing countries are also facing the problem of securing the bare minimum levels of supply of oil from the world market in which they have to compete with the developed countries. The present situation has seriously undermined our development efforts and made the prospects for the future even more uncertain.

We do not question the right of our friends, members of the OPEC to take steps to obtain just and remunerative prices for their raw materials and dispose of their national wealth in a manner they deem fit. But, one thing which must be clear to them is that while the developed countries have their methods and means of making up for what they have to pay, the developing countries have to face a critical situation which may bring to a complete standstill their deve-

lopment plans. We hope that there is no lack of desire on the part of the members of the OPEC to take such steps as may enable us to overcome what has become a major impediment to our development We are encouraged by the announcement of President of Iraq to provide relief by converting all surcharges on oil prices from 1st June 1979 into interest-free long-term loans. We are also encourage by the recent initiatives of the non-aligned countries in this field culminating in the unanimous report submitted by the Consultative Group which was convened by the Government of Guyana prior to this summit conference. It should be possible for the conference to take the necessary action towards implementing the major recommendations of the group. It is our humble submission that nothing will contribute more to the strength of the movement and to the collective self-reliance of its members than concrete actions for mitigating the acute sufferings of many of its members.

ULTIMATE ANALYSIS

To conclude, we have ground for confidence, and no cause for despair about our unity and utility. Our strength in the ultimate analysis depends on our political and economic self-reliance and adherence to our principles and goals. The odds indeed are heavy and the pressures against our movement continue. But, if we can, with maturity and wisdom, act together as we did in dethroning colonialsm, we can make non-alignment the motor for establishing a new world

order.

Mr. Chairman, to be non-aligned is to be aligned with truth, and as our national motto confidently proclaims: "Satyameva Jayate - Truth Alone Triumphs."

CUBA INDIA PAKISTAN USA BOLIVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA ZIMBABWE IRAN INDONESIA YUGOSLAVIA PERU EGYPT ZAMBIA ALGERIA SRI LANKA ISRAEL SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA CHINA CYPRUS SWITZERLAND TOTO IRAQ GUYANA

Date: Sep 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Lord Mountbatten's Death - Government's Gazette Notification

The Government of India issued on September 4, 1979 a Gazette extraordinary with black border on the tragic death of Lord Louis Mountbatten, former Governor General of India. The Gazette said: In the tragic death, at sea, off the Irish Coast, on 27th August, 1979, of Earl Mountbatten, India has lost a genuine friend, who, in a short period of 15 months during 1947-48, succeeded remarkably in winning the love and affection of the people of India.

Born on 25th June, 1900 in a royal family, Louis Mountbatten was educated at Locker's Park, Osborne, Dartmouth and Christ's College, Cambridge. He joined as a cadet in May, 1913, and had a most distinguished career in the Royal Navy. He was the Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia Command, during the Second World War.

In February, 1947, the British Government announced "their definite intention to take the necessary steps to effect the transfer of power into Indian hands by a date not

later than June 1948". Lord Mountbatten was chosen as the Vicerov of India in succession to Lord Wavell to accomplish the task. On 24th March, 1947, he assumed office as the Viceroy and Governor General of India. He came to India with a high reputation. living through a period of great difficulty and crisis. His reputation unlike many others which foundered in India, only became greater. He himself did not wish to be remembered as the last Viceroy winding up the British Raj but as the first to lead the way to new India. It was his irresistible charm, his indomitable energy, perseverance, optimism and the unwavering friendship for India that made his wish come true.

History is witness to the role Lord Mountbatten played in bringing about the transfer of power on 15th August 1947 within a period of six months of his assumption of office. When India became independent, he

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had the unique honour of being invited to remain as the first Governor General of Free India. His profound understanding of the strength and sincerity of purpose of the leaders of the Indian freedom movement enabled him to bring about one of the greatest reconciliations of history in the field of Indo-British relations. Mahatma Gandhi's secular humanism moved him to pay his tribute to Gandhiji as the "one-man boundary force" bringing hope and cheer to a nation smitten by senseless hatred. What Lord and Lady Mountbatten achieved in the way of friendship and goodwill during their 15 months' stay in India has become an unforgettable chapter in the history of the country.

On relinquishing the Governor Generalship of India on 21st June, 1948, Lord Mountbatten returned to active naval service and further success awaited him in the Royal Navy. In April, 1955, he was appointed the First Sea Lord and in 1958, the Chief of the Defence Forces in the United Kingdom. He was not, however, spared human sorrows, and on 21st February, 1960, his beloved wife, Lady Edwina Mountbatten died in Borneo in the course of an exhausting tour devoted to the affairs of the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Brigade. Lord Mountbatten himself left active service in 1965, but continued to maintain his close and active interest in India.

The people and the Government of India pay their grateful homage to the memory of Earl Mountbatten, whose death they mourn with profound sorrow, and whose charm, and love and friendship for India they will cherish for ever.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LATVIA

Date: Sep 01, 1979

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Agreement on US Development Aid to India

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 28, 1979 on United States development assistance to India:

India and the United States on September 28, 1979 signed an agreement for \$ 22 million (Rs. 176 million) as part of development assistance to India for US financial year 1979.

The agreement was signed by Shri S.V.S. Juneja, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance and Mr. Robert F. Goheen, Ambassador of the United States in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The agreement is for a loan of \$ 22 million for fertilizer promotion. The loan funds are intended to finance imports of ammonium sulphate, di-ammonium phosphate and urea. The amount is a part of \$ 150

million, which may be authorised by the US Government during the three years (1979-81) to assist the Government of India in financing the importation of fertilisers as part of the Government of India's overall programme for increasing fertiliser consumption throughout the country and for broadening the basis of participation in fertiliser use in remote areas and among small farmers.

The loan is repayable in forty years, with a ten year grace period, and carries an interest rate of two per cent during the grace period and three per cent thereafter.

It may be recalled that on June 30, 1979, Government of India had signed two other agreements with USAID for a value of \$ 68 million (Rs. 544 million) for two projects, namely, rural electrification and malaria control. With the signing of the present agreement, the total assistance authorised by USA under their programme for US financial year 1979 amounts to \$ 90 million (Rs. 720 million).

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Address at United Nations General Assembly

The following is the text of speech made by Shri S. N. Mishra, Minister of External Affairs and leader Of the Indian delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, on October 3, 1979:

Mr. president, to greet you on your unanimous election is, indeed, an honour and a privilege. For, you bring to this high office not only Your outstanding skills and rich experience, but also something of the idealism and moral loftiness that characterise your country's role in international affairs.

It is also no mere formal words when I express our great appreciation of His Excellency Mr. Lievano of Colombia for the leadership he provided as President of the 33rd General Assembly. The zeal and stability he displayed in discharging his responsibilities has enhanced his reputation as well as the prestige of his country.

Also, in our Secretary-General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim's exemplary dedication to duty and practical wisdom we have the assurance that the challenging task ahead would be met with faith and fortitude, vision and constructive statesmanship.

Our family grows with St. Lucia joining us as the youngest and newest member. We wish the people of Lt. Lucia prosperity and assure them of our goodwill and cooperation in the responsibilities that await them.

INDIAN HERITAGE

India comes to this august Assembly with the strength of a tradition more than four thousand years old, when our vedic ancestors had the insight to declare: "Mata Bhumi: Putroham Prithivya": ("the soil is my mother, I am the son of the earth"). It was in germ, the thought of "one world", a world whose unity was to be ensured by peace: Om Shantih Shantih has been my country's constant invocation.

I stand here today conscious of this

rich heritage and aware of its reflection in the continuing national consensus that obtains in the pursuit of international objectives. Independent Indias policies and attitudes to international problems have, a continuity and consistency of which we are proud.

Since 31 years ago, when India's first Foreign Minister and Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, declared in this Assembly, "that we adhere completely and absolutely to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter", in our expressions of support to the UN and its Charter every year there has been a repetitive rhythm which should not be mistaken for ritual or formality. The UN symbolises unmistakably the best balance between the right to independence and the compulsion to work together. It is a warning that we can survive only in good neighbourliness. If international problems have been aggravated at times during the last 34 years of the career of this organisation, it is because of the fact that we in our national perspectives have overlooked that we are one world and not only 154 big and small ones. Despite all the lessons of history behind us, we are still bogged down in the short-term problems and are still overlooking the long inter-twined destiny which must be safeguarded.

CO-EXISTENCE AND CO-OPERATION

If we look back over the decade of the seventies now drawing to a close, we find

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repeated confirmation that the world's political problems arise from the short-term perspectives of many of the powerful nation states, virtually distorting the long-term imperatives. If there still is recalcitrant imperialism, malevolent or defiant racism, persistent habits of intervention, manipulation, domination and even aggression, it is because there are forces that seek to hold back the tide of history. So many world and regional problems are the result of obdurate refusal to accept the logic of coexistence and co-operation.

Even as this Assembly meets after a year, the world has been moving fast. It has not been more tranquil nor less dangerous. It continues to hang precariously between war and peace, development and stagnation domination and justice. Many of the old myths have died but not the belief in them. The time when the world order could be kept structured on the strength of military establishments is gone. While military power is still seen by many as supreme, the political consequences often render it unusable. No doubt, there is fleeting intellectual realisation of the transformation, but it has not kept pace with the formulation of foreign policy by important countries.

The days of an imperial role are gone; nor is there any scope for imperial management. Even "crisis management" can no longer be the function of a few great powers although they have an important responsibility. Countries may vary in power, wealth and beliefs, but the world community cannot be managed now without the voluntary participation and equitable involvement of the largest number of countries.

STRENGTH OF NON-ALIGMENT

It is also clear that the leverage of the weak is a factor to be reckoned within the emerging international order. Military power may have remained concentrated in a few hands but "popular power", if one may use that phrase, has been more broadly dispersed. Recent events have again demonstrated that given the will power and determination, even a small power can hold a big power at bay. The strength of the nonaligned movement is really the collective leverage that the weak exert on the global scene. This collective leverage, reflected in the demand for a new international economic order, is in essence, a call for democratisation of world power.

We are indeed in an era of increasing plurality. Just as the managerial revolution has replaced family management, the transformation of the world situation has brought about diffusion of the power to shape and influence events. This requires a new awareness, a new approach and a new adjustment which would facilitate the evolution of a more just and equitable world order.

May I underline in this context the growing revolutionary significance of a factor that has been emerging over the last two decades in the UN. The fact that well over 90 members of the United Nations have joined the movement of non-alignment has effected a quiet revolution in the functioning of international Organisation. This constitutes a guarantee against the misuse of the United Nations or, for that matter, of any inter-governmental Organisation.

PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT

The fundamental problems of today arise from not accepting the natural and the inevitable. We have seen resistance and delay in the process of decolonisation and fulfilment of the will of all peoples for freedom and national emancipation. Even today, this important historic poreess is not complete. The war in Vietnam arose from attempts to frustrate the national aspirations of the Vietnamese. We failed to recognise and perhaps still often deny in action, if not in affirmation, that each nation has the right to choose its own pattern or political system for social and economic fulfilment. Today, we see the vindication of the notion implicit in the first principles of the United Nations Charter, that differing ideological and socioeconomic systems have to co-exist. As an Indian, I cannot but recall that the principles of co-existence were first enunciated in the middle 50s and enshrined in the Bandung Declaration of 1955.

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Detente was enthusiastically acclaimed by some, much wished for by many. But in its realisation we find that the effects of the cold war years have been effaced neither in the functioning of this organisation nor in the various regions of the world. There is even a danger of detente becoming a facade behind which the role of the world Organisation stands reduced in the priorities of the Great Powers and, paradoxically, regional wars and conflicts also flourish.

Surely, if detente means the mere normalisation of bilateral relations among the Great Powers, then the vast majority of members of the international community will have little interest in it. Though normalisation among Great Powers is essential, an honest detente has to be global and universal and this indeed is our goal.

It would also be wrong to assume that the process of even this limited detente is irreversible. The stalemate in the ratification of SALT-II, the deepening crisis in West Asia, the hardening of attitudes in relation to Southern Africa, the polarised postures in South-East Asia and the disturbing trend towards the formation of destabilizing political combinations are ominous portents.

Consequently, reinforcing the fabric of peace must remain the primary concern in our discussions. Progress on disarmament in all its various aspects has to be seen as the touchstone of our commitment to peace. Lasting world peace can stand only on the foundation of effective disarmament.

We must remind ourselves that the United Nations was established to save succeeding generations of mankind from the scourge of war. For, Mr. President, as long as nuclear stockpiles exist in the world, there is a definite threat of a nuclear holocaust. Nuclear war is possible due to accident, miscalculation, mis-preception and impulsive or irrational behaviour under tension. The most urgent task facing humanity today is to delegetimise nuclear weapons, to dismantle the hierarchical international order that supports the present military system and to replace it by an alternative security system based on peaceful co-existence and acceptance in practice of equal sovereignty of all nations and of the right of each nation to choose its national and international policies.

SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT

The Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to disarmament laid down a programme of action for nuclear disarmament. This programme consisted of steps for freezing the present nuclear arms race and for initiating reduction leading to the eventual elimination of all existing stockpiles of such weapons. It is a matter of deep regret that despite consensus behind this programme, there has been no progress towards its implementation. We are particularly concerned to note that the draft of 'the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty is not yet ready and the negotiations continue at a glacial pace. We strongly urge that the draft of the treaty be finalised without further delay.

We welcome SALT-II. But it is only a beginning, though an important beginning, which must be formalised and implemented so that the world may move further towards real nuclear disarmament. At the same time we cannot but note with regret that SALT-II does not incorporate any measure for the reduction of nuclear arsenals that the growing and deadly sophistication of nuclear weaponry presents an ever greater danger to mankind.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

Mr. President, much is being said, and rightly, about the problem of proliferation of nuclear weapons. I think it would be pertinent to remember that it was India which brought this issue to the attention of the United Nations when in 1964, it specifically asked for the inscription of an item entitled "Non-proliferation of Nuclear weapons". Our approach was based on the premise, borne out of bitter historical experience, that both horizontal and vertical proliferation were integral parts of the problem which needed to be dealt with as a whole. The General Assembly accepted this concept and Resolution 2028 stated that "the treaty should embody acceptable

balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of the nuclear and non-nuclear weapon powers". Unfortunately the nonproliferation treaty concluded in 1968 deliberately sought to alter this concept. It addressed itself only to the aspect of horizontal proliferation, and if the treaty has become an unworkable document, it is only because of this narrow and illogical approach. The protagonists have been trying to buttress their position by cartel type arrangements and further discriminatory measures, such as the establishment of the so-called London Club of Nuclear Suppliers and the attempted imposition of full scope safeguards, on the peaceful nuclear activities of non-nuclear weapon States, something that the nuclear-weapon States are themselves not prepared to accept.

In a world where we now grapple with evolving the methodology of a new international economic and political order based on justice and equity, it would be nothing short of anachronism for some Powers to play the role of barons and overlords in a system of nuclear feudalism. Such an attitude, Mr. President, might tend to make non-sense of national independence, equality of nations and the very concept of peaceful co-existence that is at the heart of the United Nations.

It might be recalled that during the Special Session on Disarmament held last year, India took two significant initiatives: One, seeking the non-use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances and the other, calling for a suspension of nuclear weapons testing pending a complete ban. We are gratified at the endorsement the 33rd Session of the Assembly gave to these initiatives. We would urge the nuclear weapon states, on whom the primary responsibility lies, to take meaningful steps in this direction.

DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR

One further initiative I have in mind is the dissemination of public knowledge and, through it, the creation of enhanced awareness and popular will against the use of nuclear weapons. Efforts to build world public opinion would assist the concerned governments to turn away from the path of nuclear competition in the direction of practical measures of avoiding nuclear war. The UN has achieved significant successes in the past in helping to rouse the conscience of mankind on a number of humanitarian issues through a variety of special observances. Would it not be appropriate that this vital question, on which depends the future and fate of Man himself, should receive similar attention? It is only fitting that the second Disarmament Decade should begin next year by measures aimed at mobilising world opinion for international cooperative actions to consolidate world peace. The year 1980 could be the commencement year for laying the foundations for eliminating forever the danger of nuclear war.

If, Mr. President, I have spoken at length of nuclear disarmament, it is because of the overwhelming fact that nuclear weapons with their mind-boggling destructive capacity and their increasing degree of "overkill" constitute the greatest danger to mankind.

The relationship between disarmament and development has been stressed by many earlier speakers and I need not dwell upon it at any great length. The point has often been made, Mr. President, that the total annual world military expenditure, now exceeding 400 billion dollars, is equivalent to half the combined gross domestic product of all the third world countries. It exceeds the global Government expenditure on education, and is more than twice the expenditure on public health services. In a world seriously afflicted by energy crisis, inflation, unemployment, mass poverty etc., it is surely criminal that our dwindling resources should be expended in this extravagant fashion for military purposes. In this, the International Year of the Child, is it not revolting that one Trident submarine costs as much as would be needed for the schooling of 16 million children in developing countries? What is the legacy we shall be leaving for our children if we were to continue in the present insane manner in the name of safeguarding security?

APARTHEID AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Another problem that threatens civilized existence is the criminal combination

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of racist policies and colonial ambition which adds up to apartheid. A minority regime continues to violate openly and flagrantly the resolutions, decisions and sanctions of the United Nations and to subject the majority of the South African people to extreme forms of degradation, repression and torture. This situation is a reflection of the barrenness of our ritualistic reiteration of opposition to apartheid, without being able to ensure effective and comprehensive action against it. We have to mobilise the entire world community, without exception, if the opposition to this outrage is to be credible and effective. We would like to reaffirm our continued support to the measures to implement mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa. We also reiterate strongly our opposition to the economic and military, including nuclear, collaboration between certain western countries and other states with South Africa.

In Namibia, the action of the UN General Assembly and Security Council over the last decade and more constitutes a history of lost opportunities. This continuing inefficacy casts serious doubts on the prospects of success of the UN plan on Namibia. SWAPO on its part, has displayed a consistent willingness to accept UN supervised elections for the transition to majority rule and independence in Namibia. As long as South Africa continues her illegal presence inside Namibia, a just and peaceful change over would be well nigh impossible. My delegation fully supports the adoption by the Security Council of concrete measures to compel South Africa to end its illegal occupation of Namibia.

In Zimbabwe, the liberation struggle continues with great cost in human suffering and ominous portents of escalation. The

London Conference currently considering the problem of transfer of power to the majority oscillates between hope and despair. We had welcomed the Lusaka agreement and had cautioned that the implementation should be a matter of time bound urgency. We hope that a constitution acceptable to the Patriotic Front would be evolved in the conference.

In West Asia, developments in relations between certain states should not obscure consideration of the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories and Southern Lebanon.

India believes that nothing but a comprehensive solution of the problem will bring about peace in the area. Central to this settlement is the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights, including the right to establish an independent state in their own homeland, the total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied. Arab territories, including the Holy City of Jerusalem, and finally the right of all States in the region, including Arab Palestine, to live within secure borders. Full and equal participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in any peace negotiations is a sine qua non of a final settlement. The growing threat to international peace and security resulting from Israeli policies and partial solutions can no longer be ignored. The continued Israeli acts of aggression in Lebanon also bear testimony to their belligerent intention.

CYPRUS

It is also painful to note that Cyprus continues to suffer foreign occupation of a sizeable part of its territory. We welcome the 10-point agreement reached in May 1979, and we urge the parties concerned to recognise the legitimate rights and interests of each other and to display a spirit of mutual accommodation. Let us hope that the talks would lead to a just and peaceful resolution of the problems between the two communities within the framework of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and

non-alignment of Cyprus.

SOUTH ASIA

The South Asian region, earlier plagued by war and dissension is now freer from tensions. We have been able to respond to each other's interests and concerns in a spirit of accommodation. My country feels a sense of satisfaction at the resolution of some intractable problems. The improved environment provides scope for greater contacts and co-operation which

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will benefit the countries of the region. We rejoice that at last the entire sub-continent is now committed to principles and policies of non-alignment and of peaceful co-existence. All this should augur well for peace and stability in the region. If, however, I advert to Jammu and Kashmir, which is an integral part of India, it is because there has been reference to it by the Foreign Affairs Adviser to the President of Pakistan in his statement to this Assembly on 1st October. We have repeatedly made it clear that the UN Resolutions have ceased to be relevant and the Simla Agreement holds the fleld. So the issue has to be bilaterally settled in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

We are happy that in the region of South East Asia, economic co-operation and efforts to establish a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality on the initiative of ASEAN have been making progress in spite of the many pressures operating in the area.

We had thought that the retreat of foreign troops from Vietnam over four years ago would usher in a new era of peace and co-operation in Indo-China and in the whole region of South East Asia. This expectation was unfortunately short-lived. Foreign intervention and foreign involvement in Indo-China continued in new forms distorting the entire situation in this strategic area. Distrust and suspicion are rife in the region including the apprehension of

the involvement of the great powers. In consequence, the countries of Indo-China have not been allowed to settle down in peace for the reconstruction and development of their economies.

The Sino-Vietnam border remains tense and there is no peace in Kampuchea as yet. We ardently hope that the tension between China and Vietnam will not be allowed to escalate, and we believe that boundary questions and other problems between two great neighbouring Asian countries, can and ought to be resolved, through peaceful and friendly negotiations.

The brave people of Kampuchea, with whom we in India have age-old cultural ties, have been subjected to untold misery and deprivation. Mr. President, the present situation demands statesmanship from all parties so that peace, stability, mutual confidence and co-operation could be restored and respect for the personality and independence of every state strictly observed.

There have been some indications that at least the humanitarian problems could be mitigated through goodwill and a constructive approach. We would like to congratulate the Secretary-General for the success of the UN sponsored Geneva Conference on the Indo-China refugees. It is gratifying to note that after this conference the exodus of refugees has dropped to a trickle.

The spectre of famine however looms large over Kampuchea. We welcome the recent understanding for extending international emergency relief and assistance. India would be ready to make its modest contribution in this regard.

ZONE OF PEACE

India is firmly committed to the creation of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean as envisaged in the Declaration of the General Assembly. The increase over the year in great power military presence in the Indian Ocean and the further strengthening of military bases, such as Diego Garcia, are

a matter of serious concern. On the most important issues pertaining to the implementation of the declaration, the majority of the littoral and hinterland states were able to adopt a common position at the meeting held in New York in July this year.

We would invite the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad-hoc Committee with a view to convening a conference on Indian Ocean.

It was a disappointment for us when the negotiations between the Soviet Union and U.S. for the reduction of their military presence in the Indian Ocean were abruptly suspended in March, 1978. We welcome the agreement reached at the Vienna summit to resume the dialogue and would urge early and meaningful negotiations.

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In the field, of human rights, it is immensely important to realise that in the ultimate analysis, individual human right must rest on the foundation of collective human rights. National liberation creates the framework for the latter and only after achieving it' can one think of ensuring human rights for individuals. The stability of freedom newly gained, is essential for the widening and deepening of the ambit of human rights. These need to be properly institutionalised, for only this will act as a safeguard against their possible abuse, suppression or total eclipse.

The present world economic order continues to follow the rule that to him who hath, even more shall be given. The two Development Decades, one of the Sixties and the other of the Seventies, and a series of protracted negotiations have proved sterile exercises, belying hopes that had been raised that inequity between nations need not be an inexorable law, that for reasons as much economic as ethical, the Rich should assist the Poor.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

We are now on the threshold of the

Third UN Development Decade covering the Eighties, and the Special Session of the UN which will be held next year. Despite bleakness of past experience, we must not miss this opportunity to impart a momentum to the negotiations for establishing a new economic order. Among its vital requirements is an international trading system more responsive to the needs of developing countries. Multilateral Trade Negotiations portend nothing more than disappointment for the developing countries. Protectionism by advanced countries grows unabated and has assumed new forms. UNCTAD V concluded in Manila without coming to grips with the issues that relate to the structure of the present economic order.

The Special Session must, therefore, address itself squarely to the task of dealing with basic structural issues, if it is to have any meaning. The current imbalance; the dependence and external vulnerability of the developing countries; the urgent need to make a perceptible dent on the worst aspects of mass poverty; these are a few of the issues that the developed countries need to look at with a fresh perspective. Without giving up existing commitments new forms of resource transfers would have to be conceived, which can ensure that responsibility is shared, and which are capable of leading us to greater mutual prosperity. Even though the main thrust towards development should come from the developing countries themselves, the developed world in its own enlightened self-interest must realise that its prosperity is best ensured if the world at large can meet its basic minimum requirements, thus forming a large and growing market for developed countries.

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

The disparity in the dissemination of scientific knowledge and technological know-how in the world is one of the basic causes for the widening gap between the developed and developing nations. The UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development recently concluded at Vienna was successful in focusing attention on this ques-

tion and in evolving an agreed plan of action at the international level. We hope that the new inter-Governmental Committee will be able to promote agreement on adequate and sustained measures for the transfer of technology to the developing countries.

The developing countries expect to, and indeed must, participate fully in the world decision making processes. Having abandoned with the earlier decades, the framework that was formulated for appraising performance and ensuring joint responsibility of both the North and the South, we have yet to agree on a draft of the preamble of a new International Development Strategy. We run the risk of going to the Special Session marking the commencement of the Third Development Decade, without an agreed strategy, jeopardising the outcome of the Decade itself.

Similar mechanisms to promote international accountability are required in specific areas of multilateral economic functioning particularly within UNCTAD and UNIDO. One of the principal tasks at the forthcoming UNIDO General Conference in

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Delhi will be to equip the agency with an effective mechanism to examine and monitor the implications of the LIMA target of 25% of the world's manufacturing output as the share of developing countries.

Finally, the developing countries must not forget the imperatives of collective self-reliance as a major component of the new International Development Strategy. In fact it could well provide the Special Session its principal theme. When meshed together, the unutilised complementarities and the surplus resources of developing countries give the developing countries enhanced bargaining power with the developed world.

COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE

India has, at the recent Havana Summit of the Non-aligned, taken a number of initiatives in fostering collective self-

reliance. We have, with Bangladesh, proposed the establishment of a food security system for developing countries. Though a developing country, which has to feed an immense population, we in India today are in a position to make a modest contribution to any agreed international system of food security that may be evolved. It is time that the world, especially the advanced nations, realized that food security is even more important than military security in maintaining peace and stability in the world.

Similarly, the Summit approved the proposal to study the possibility of establishing a Project Development Facility. We hope that the facility would become operational by the end of 1980. India, with extensive experience in technology relevant to developing countries, is willing to collaborate with others in setting up capacities for research and training in priority areas, geared specially to their needs. We would be glad to share our experience and welcome their participation.

The "policy guidelines" on reinforcing mutual solidarity recently adopted in Havana is a welcome expression of the political will of the non-aligned and other developing countries to cooperate amongst themselves to meet their minimum needs and requirements. The guidelines, which are not confined to oil, have wide implications of long-term nature, since they cover all primary commodities and raw materials. It is our sincere hope that these policy guidelines will be expeditiously translated into concrete commitments.

ENERGY PROBLEM

Another problem which has bedevilled the evolution of a just and equitable world economic order has been the energy problem. Half of India's total import bill, for instance, is now accounted for by oil im-Ports and the latest round of price increases has further raised the burden by a crushing 1.4 billion dollars per year. Even more critical has been the problem of securing minimum requirements of petroleum from the world market where we have to com-

pete with the affluent nations.

I need hardly emphasize the enormous significance of energy in the context of developing economies, characterised as they are by limited substitution possibilities for priority uses such as transport, by the high capital intensity of alternative energy resources and by the problems inherent in reducing a level of consumption which is already at the bare and essential minimum. Clearly these countries are particularly vulnerable to the world oil situation. Is it not unconscionable that out of the total world consumption of 60 million barrels a day, USA, USSR, Europe, Japan and China should together consume 45 million? Or that in the year 2000, the per capita daily consumption of oil will be 62 barrels in North America, 32 for each European, 10 for those living in the oil producing countries and only some 4 barrels for the rest.

Mr. President, all the developing countries should have a right, indeed a special right, to secure a fair share in the world consumption of energy and other raw materials

In the ultimate analysis, the question involves the principle of equity. The core of the present resource crisis is the attempt by developed countries to pre-empt the bulk of the world's natural resources, in order to maintain their current pattern of consumption and continue their existing life

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styles. The disaster that profligate consumption is leading to, calls for a change in the life styles in developed countries. Such a change is also necessitated by the imbalance between material and spiritual growth', that has prompted many in the West to turn to the philosophy of the Orient, in their quest for inner peace and harmony. Echoing the present predicament of the mature industrial or post-industrial societies, T.S. Eliot spoke of "... the torment of desire unsatisfied and the greater torment of desire satisfied."

YEAR OF THE CHILD

Mr. President, the political, economic and social order in our world has to be refashioned not only with reference to ourselves but for the sake of the future of our children. Appropriately, the observance of International Women's Year and the International Year of the Child has coincided with the efforts at promoting a new International Economic Order. With the mother and the child at the core of our thoughts we Obviously cannot concentrate on a political order based on power and exploitation and a development process which is myopic and inequitable. In fact, if the process is to begin with the child in the mother's womb, as it ought to, we have to work for the creation of a total environment which would ensure 'Equality at Birth" to every child and provide for his development throughout the formative period. The symbolic significance of observing a particular year as dedicated to a particular cause can only find real meaning if the problem is considered in a larger perspective. Standing on the threshold of the eighties, we will have to begin the desired development process now.

Is it not a pity, Mr. President, that we assemble here year after year to do little more than patch up our petty quarrels, and pay lip-service to some lofty ideas and principles? It is time we cease to concern ourselves merely with the past and the present, and begin looking to the future with the spirit of collective creativity which must be the hallmark of the UN system. The United Nations has to be not merely the engineer of truce but rather the architect of a new era - an era that could see the rise of the new Man of the twenty-first century. To do this, we need to help the UN extend the frontiers of its perception. The time to do so, is now.

Thank You, Mr. President.

INDIA USA COLOMBIA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALDIVES VIETNAM INDONESIA UNITED KINGDOM SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE ZAMBIA LEBANON ISRAEL CYPRUS PAKISTAN CHINA SWITZERLAND AUSTRIA PHILIPPINES PERU RUSSIA CUBA BANGLADESH JAPAN

Date: Oct 01, 1979

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Statement in a meeting of Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers held at the United Nations

The following is the text of statement made by Shri S. N. Mishra, Minister of External Affairs in a meeting of the non-aligned Foreign Ministers held at the United Nations on October 5, 1979:

Mr. Chairman, we do not think it is necessary to repeat all that was said at Havana, or all that has been said in the General Assembly, or all that is contained in the Declaration adopted at Havana, so I will confine myself to making certain general observations regarding the draft proposals before us.

But before I do that I would like to express our deep sorrow at the decision of the Government of Burma, an original and dedicated member, to withdraw from the movement. We earnestly hope that in the spirit of unity of our movement, Burma would be able to rejoin us and continue to make its valuable contribution.

We, on our part, should assure Burma that it should be possible for us to take note of their views and find a way of dealing with them. Though Burma's withdrawal may not appear at the moment to herald a great danger to the movement, we should not ignore it lightly, particularly in view of gloomy prognostications about the Movement itself by some interested quarters.

The object of this meeting of nonaligned Foreign Ministers which is being held at the commencement of this year's General Assembly session is to coordinate our position so that we could jointly and effectively contribute to the resolution of some crucial international problems. Clearly there is an imperative need to maintain our unity and solidarity. If this meeting were to provoke divisions and controversies, we feel that the very purpose of this gathering would have been defeated. Furthermore, the introduction of divisive issues which may lead to a significant number of reservations on the draft communique which we are to adopt today would lessen the impact of non-aligned initiatives during this General Assembly.

We have only very recently concluded the sixth summit conference where we exchanged views on a number of highly important and complex issues. We witnessed differences of opinion amongst us on some issues. Notwithstanding those differences it is a matter for deep- gratification that we were able to adopt a constructive and positive final declaration by consensus. The movement has again emerged united on the basis of the fundamental principles and objectives of non-alignment.

We feel that it would be detrimental to the unity and effectiveness of the non-aligned movement if our differences were now to be projected openly in the UN General Assembly.

I would therefore make a strong appeal to all my distinguished colleagues that in the spirit of understanding and harmony that characterises our meetings, we should avoid further polemical debate and adopt the draft communique prepared by the Cuban delegation as improved and recommended by the Coordinating Bureau, so as to faithfully reflect the maximum level of consensus.

INDIA CUBA USA BURMA

Date: Oct 01, 1979

Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shri Barua's Address at the United Nations General Assembly

The following is the text of speech made by Bedabrata Barua, Minister of State for External Affairs at the United Nations General Assembly on October 22, 1979: Mr. Chairman, the search for a secure and safe international order was undoubtedly the single most important objective behind the founding of the United Nations Organisation, thirty-five years ago. The words of the Charter - "To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" familiar to all of us, give expression to a deep-rooted yearning of mankind, namely to live in peace and to devote itself to the pursuit of happiness. It is, therefore, entirely appropriate that the United Nations should give the highest priority to the questions of international peace and security, for a feeling of insecurity would hamper and jeopardise human activity in all fields.

No nation can avoid the responsibility of providing an appropriate and adequate level of defence for its security. In the imperfect world that we all live, security has to be the primary concern of a nation. The problem of security has almost always been thought of in military terms. This is natural and understandable.

However, it is now generally accepted that force alone does not guarantee security and that a nation can reach a point at which acquisition of additional military might would not necessarily provide additional security. In fact, beyond a certain limit, more could well turn out to be much worse; excessive expenditure on armaments could reduce security rather than streng-

then it. Mr. Chairman, I submit that the world has reached such a stage of excessive, irrational and, highly dangerous level of armed preparedness at present.

SURVIVAL OF MANKIND

This is particularly true in respect of the arsenals of nuclear weapons which threaten the very survival of mankind. Consequently, the urgent attention of the international community has to be focussed on the avoidance of nuclear war and on nuclear disarmament. In 1945, two nuclear bombs of 30 kilo tonnes of high explosive destroyed the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki,

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killing nearly 300,000 people. Since that time, the world's nuclear stockpiles have grown to the equivalent to more than one million Hiroshima bombs. A fraction of these weapons, if used for war, would destroy civilisation as we know it today.

The continuous qualitative and quantitative expansion in nuclear weaponry has long since lost its meaning, at least from the military and strategic points of view. Doctrines of strategic deterrence are exploited by interested groups to continually feed the mad momentum of the arms race. We must take action to effectively halt and reverse this nuclear arms race before either an accident or a misplaced confidence in first strike capability or sheer madness makes it too late for all of us.

SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT

The special session of the United Nations devoted to disarmament held. in 1978 adopted, by consensus, a programme of action. While my delegation did not regard the results of the special session as entirely satisfactory, we do believe that the programme of action in the nuclear field, if implemented in good faith by the nuclear-weapon States within a reasonable time frame, would lead to meaningful measures of nuclear disarmament. It is acknowledged by nuclear and. non-nuclear weapon States alike that the thirty years of disarmament negotiations have not yielded even one small

concrete agreement in the field of nuclear disarmament.

It is more than high time for the nuclear-weapon States to take bold, statesmenlike decisions so as to assure the international community that their declared commitment to undertake genuine disarmament measures is more than mere words. In this connection, my delegation takes note of the Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement signed in Vienna last June by the Presidents of the United States and the Soviet Union. SALT-II. as we all know. will not result in any reduction of the nuclear arsenals. Nevertheless, we welcome it as an evidence of the willingness of the super-powers to continue the process of negotiations and as only a first step in the direction of nuclear disarmament, which has rightly been accorded the highest priority in the field of disarmament.

TEST BAN TREATY

A treaty to ban all nuclear-weapon tests in all environments was first proposed by India in 1954 with a view to effectively check the growing menace of nuclear arms race. My delegation is not sure whether we are any nearer to the attainment of that objective today than we were twenty-five years-ago. The partial Test Ban Treaty of 1963 in no way affected the appetite of the nuclear-weapon States for more and more sophisticated nuclear weapons. The negotiations which have been going on among the United States, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom for the past three years do not even seem to have reduced the number of nuclear tests. In 1978 alone, as many as 48 nuclear explosions were carried out; 27 by the USSR, 10 by the USA, 6 by France, 3 by China and 2 by the UK. One nuclear-weapon State continues to explode nuclear devices in the atmosphere.

My delegation shares the disappointment of many others that despite the repeated appeals of the General Assembly, the negotiations on Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty have not yet been concluded. We all would certainly welcome the early con-

clusion of these negotiations and hope that a treaty acceptable not only to the negotiating States but to all other States would emerge. We are conscious, of course, that as far as the nuclear-weapon States are concerned, a CTB Treaty would at best place qualitative restrictions on their nuclear-weapon programmes.

We should also not lose the sight of the imperative need, which India has persistently emphasised, of all the nuclear-weapon States becoming parties to a test ban treaty for it to be truly universal and effective. It is equally essential that the treaty should be comprehensive in its scope, that is, it should not contain, any loop holes whereby certain kinds of tests of whatever magnitude would be Permitted. The attitude of my Government to a future CTB Treaty would be decided in the light of these considerations.

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At its thirty-third session, the General Assembly adopted a resolution with an overwhelming majority calling upon the nuclear-weapon States to observe a moratorium on nuclear weapon tests pending the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. One of the two most important nuclear-weapon States voted in favour of that resolution. My delegation regrets that the exhortation of the General Assembly has failed to evoke the slightest responsive chord among the nuclear-weapon States.

Mr. Chairman, over the years, the General Assembly has taken the consistent view that the only effective and lasting guarantee against the use or the threat of use of nuclear weapons is nuclear disarmament. The charter of the United Nations was drafted at a time when the destructive potential of the atom bomb was not common knowledge among the international community. Had the danger posed by atomic weapons been known at that time, appropriate provisions to deal with the genie before it escaped from the bottle would no doubt have been included in the charter. In the absence of specific articles dealing with the nuclear menace, the organization

took the only step it could, namely, it adopted a resolution on this subject at the first available opportunity at its very first session. The complete lack of response of nuclear-weapon States to repeated calls for halting and reversing the nuclear arms race has given rise to a feeling of frustration among the non-nuclear weapon States.

NEGATIVE SECURITY GUARANTEES

It is out of this despair that proposals began to be put forward during the past few years seeking what has come to be known as "negative security guarantees". I would not like to go into the merits of various proposals that have been put forward on this item. My delegation would do so at the appropriate time and in the appropriate forum. However, I would like to caution my fellow delegates from non-nuclear weapon States against attaching too much significance or meaning to the various concepts of negative security guarantees.

I am aware that the problem of nuclear disarmament is a complicated one to which answers have to be found piecemeal and in stages. We, the non-nuclear weapon States, bear no part of the responsibility for the complexity of the situation. In disarmament negotiations we have allowed our attention to be diverted from the real issues of nuclear disarmament to other, definitely less important measures of non-armament or confidence-building such as a non-proliferation treaty, nuclear weapon free zones and so on.

Similarly, on the subject of security assurances, we have unfortunately been made to focus our attention on the contents, form, language and other unimportant issues involved in the so-called negative assurances which would only create an illusion of security. The real answer to the search for security by all states, nuclear and non-nuclear alike, lies in nuclear disarmament, and pending nuclear disarmament, in an international convention outlawing the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

As early as in 1961, the General Assem-

bly adopted resolution 1653 (XVI) declaring that the use of nuclear weapons is contrary to the aims of the United Nations, a direct violation of the Charter and contrary to the rules of international law and laws of humanity. That resolution was approved with a large majority including the affirmative vote of one nuclear-weapon State. Last year, at the initiative of many nonaligned delegations, the General Assembly adopted resolution No. 33/71 B reiterating that the threat or use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the U.N. charter and a crime against humanity. The resolution further called upon member-states to submit proposals on the avoidance of a nuclear war for consideration by the General Assembly at its current session. We trust that this matter would be pursued further, both here as well as in the Committee on Disarmament next year.

NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

The special session devoted to disarmament aroused world public opinion against the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race. It is time for the United Nations to take advantage of this development by concentrating on the dissemination of public

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knowledge and the creation of enhanced awareness against the use of nuclear weapons. Efforts to build world public opinion would assist the concerned Governments to turn away from the path of nuclear competition in the direction of practical measures of avoiding nuclear war. The U.N. has achieved significant successes in the past in helping to rouse the conscience of mankind on a number of humanitarian issues, through a variety of special observances. Would it not be appropriate that this vital question, on which depends the future and fate of man himself, should receive similar attention?

Coinciding with the commencement of the second disarmament decade next year, we feel that the U.N. Centre for Disarmament should make greater efforts at mobilising world opinion against the use of nuclear weapons and the danger of nuclear war. The centre could usefully involve the non-Governmental organizations in this noble endeavour.

DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Chairman, it would be unnrealistic and even dangerous to endeavour to build a secure world upon foundations of human misery. Forty per cent of the total populations of over one hundred countries is living in a state of absolute poverty. The problems of economic development and of establishing a new international economic order are being considered in another forum. Development, like disarmament, should be pursued for its own sake. Nevertheless, there is an essential link between the two. The world today is spending more than 400 billion dollars on armaments. In real terms, this amount represents four-fold increase during the thirty years since 1948. Two countries account for fifty per cent of this expenditure.

Research and development of weapon systems consume nearly 30 billion dollars a year and mobilise the talents of half a million scientists and engineers throughout the world. That is a greater research effort than is devoted to any other activity on earth and absorbs more public research money than is spent on the problems of energy, health, education and food combined. This criminal waste of the limited resources of our planet must be stopped. Even if only a portion of these resources were diverted to developmental needs of the poorer two-thirds of the world, it would go a long way in helping the speedier economic development of the developing countries which, in its turn, would benefit the developed countries themselves in various ways.

At the same time, a reduction of armament would not diminish the security of the rich countries; on the other hand it might actually enhance their security. I trust that the Expert Group which is examining the relationship between development and disarmament would come up with a concrete

Plan of action which would at the same time, allay the apprehensions in some developed countries about the adverse economic and social consequences of disarmament.

Before concluding, Mr. Chairman, I would like to pledge the full cooperation of my delegation, to you and to all other delegations, in taking such decisions as would help further the cause of disarmament in however small a way.

Thank you.

INDIA USA JAPAN AUSTRIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA FRANCE UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Oct 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Minister of State Shri Barua's welcome Address to President of the U.N. General Assembly and their Secretary General

The following is the text of welcome address of Shri Bedabrata Barua in honour of Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, President of the 34th Session of the U. N. General Assembly and Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General on October 23, 1979:

Esteemed Mr. President, Distinguished Secretary General, Excellencies and friends,

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I deem it a great honour for me and my delegation to welcome you here today. I am particularly appreciative of the fact that you have taken a few moments out of your busy and valuable schedule to grace this occasion and I wish to thank you most sincerely for it.

You, Mr. President, are no stranger to my country. Long before you were formally assigned to represent Tanzania as its High Commissioner and envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary to India, you had been an unofficial Ambassador of your great country in India. In both these capacities, you covered yourself with distinction and left an indelible impression on the constantly expanding relations of friendly and fraternal cooperation between India and Tanzania. I am sure, therefore, Mr. President, you would not be surprised when I tell you that the people of India remember you with warm affection and entertain the highest sentiments of esteem for you and your great country.

Here at the United Nations, in the rapidly evolving arena of international diplomacy, your vast experience and sagacity are a source of comfort to us. You represent a country which stands courageously at the frontier of liberty against repression and whose leadership embodies the quintessence of mankind's conscience in its grim struggle against injustice, backwardness and exploitation. We are proud to have you as our President, to conduct the affairs of this thirty-forth Session of the General Assembly and to chart our course through the turbulent waters that lie ahead. My delegation and I are particularly happy to have you amidst us today.

In you, Mr. Secretary General, we have an outstanding personality presiding over the United Nations family. We have come to know you as a leader with high ideals, brilliant organisational ability and a practical approach to the resolution of problems. You have taken many initiatives, all of which have been motivated by profound concern for human suffering and an inexorable desire to discover the means to alleviate that suffering. You have shown deep sympathy for the efforts of the developing world to extricate itself out of the vicious spiral of economic backwardness and willingness to buttress them with the authority and resources of the UN family. Your dedication to the aim's and purposes of the United Nations reinforces our confidence

in the future of this great organization. We have, therefore, come to admire and trust you for your unfailing guardianship of the aims and purposes common to all of us.

I would not wish to take any more of your time, knowing how busy you all are. I would like only to add how privileged I and my delegation feel in having you all round this table here.

May I now request you to raise your glasses to the health and prosperity of His Excellency, Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, President of the General Assembly, His Excellency Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General of the United Nations and to friendship and cooperation among us.

INDIA USA TANZANIA

Date: Oct 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Foreign Minister's Message to the Chairman of Special Committee Against Apartheid

The following is the text of a message addressed at New Delhi on October 11, 1979 by Shri S. N. Mishra, Minister of External Affairs to the Chairman of the Special Committee against apartheid, Ambassador Akporode Clark of Nigeria, on the occasion of the special meeting of the Committee on the observance of the International Day of

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Solidarity with South African political prisoners:

On the occasion of the special meeting of the special committee being held in observance of the international day of solidarity with South African political prisoners, I have the honour to convey to you, Sir, on behalf of the Government and people of India, our total moral and material support for and solidarity with the National Liberation Movement of South Africa and with the people, victims of the abhorrent and inhuman system of racial discrimination practised by the Pretoria regime.

The racist regime of South Africa has continuously defied the international community by the arbitrariness and brutality of its treatment of the South African people for their opposition to apartheid and the inhuman political and social system that Perpetuates it. From the senseless shootings at Port Elizabeth, Queenstown and Pretoria early in the century, to the blood-bath at Sharpeville and Soweto, the violence displayed by the illegal regime has given a new definition to State criminality itself.

To the countless unsung heroes struck down by police bayonets must be added the names of those political prisoners who have been picked out for special ill-treatment and brutalisation by the Pretoria regime. By their actions they have given direction and substance to the political struggle and helped to question the very basis of the South African State namely, the principle that there exists in that land a superior people endowed by God and history with the right to control the destinies of the local population. No amount of suppression or persecution can wipe out this challenge to the principle and practice of racial domination and discrimination.

On this occasion we reaffirm our solidarity with the suffering people of South Africa and with their leadership at all levels for their steadfast resolve and perseverance. Though the struggle may be arduous and long, victory for the United Nations and for the people of South Africa is certainly a victory of truth and justice over evil. tyranny and deceit.

INDIA NIGER NIGERIA SOUTH AFRICA USA

Date: Oct 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of State for External Affairs Speech in Honour of United Kingdom Minister of State for Home Affairs

The Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Bedabrata Barua, held a lunch in honour of Mr. Timothy Raison, M.P., Minister of State at the Home Office of the United Kingdom at New Delhi on October 15, 1979. Proposing a toast, Shri Barua said:

Mr. Minister, I am happy to welcome you here today along with your delegation. It is fortunate that we were able to arrange this meeting barely a couple of hours before my own departure to the U.N. I have learnt with interest that during this tour of the Indian sub-continent you intend to acquaint yourself at first hand with the problems of those who wish to go to Britain. This is a laudable initiative. Your mission which begins today will, I am sure, transform in your eyes the dry statistical data which your office has to cope with into the intensely human problems of living people.

We fully understand the complex social problems of assimilating people from tar off lands into the mainstream of national life. We realise that Britain, like any other country, must make its own decisions about the people it wishes to absorb. For our part, we have never asked Britain to accept more immigrants. However, both our countries, as practising democracies, would wish to impose as few curbs as possible on the free movement of people. We realise that circumstances alter cases, but we would hope not at an excessive cost in the many-faceted relationship that does bind us together.

We have noted with admiration the working of the self-correcting mechanisms in British life and administeration which contribute to the furtherance of racial harmony and the removal of prejudice. We have no doubt that your Government is imbued by traditional British concern, which you have yourself eloquently expressed, to uphold the highest standards of racial equality and amity. If Indians sometimes express their

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dismay or concerrn over some instances of violence or friction in Britain, it should not be taken as undue censoriousness but rather as a sincere reaction in the context of their administration for the traditional British values. I am also confident you will be able to dispel some under-currents of concern that different standards may be adopted for people from different countries, in particular affecting those who wish to visit Britain as businessmen or tourists or for a period of study.

Mr. Minister, in both our countries we have recently had changes in the Government, but I am really happy that this has in no way affected the continuing cordiality between us. This underlines the essential continuity in our systems as wen as in the bilateral relationship. There are many areas for cooperation between us. It is my hope that we shall turn our attention to them and strengthen our relationship.

Once again, I wish you and your colleagues a pleasant sojourn in India. If there is anything we can do to facilitate your work, please do not hesitate to tell us about it and we shall do our best.

I request all present to join me in a toast to our distinguished guest, Mr. Timothy Raison, and his delegation.

INDIA USA

Date: Oct 01, 1979

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Foreign Minister's Condolence Message on the Death of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan

The following is the text of message issued by the Foreign Minister, Shri S. N. Mishra on the death of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan on October 9, 1979:

Jayaprakash was a sage among statesmen and a statesman among sages. He was performing God's assignment, was solely sustained by God and has been taken away according to God's special scheme. Public life in India has lost the one moral frame of reference and the world a great crusader and champion of human rights. He will five eternally among the people, whose power he represented as few have done. He personified lok shakti and was befittingly called the Lok Nayak. For the last few years he was all spirit and no flesh. And the spirit never dies. Men like J.P. never die.

USA INDIA

Date: Oct 01, 1979

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Jayaprakash Narain's Last International Message

The following is the text of the Press

Release issued in New Delhi on October 9, 1979:

While conveying his acceptance of the proposal of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations to issue this year a special 'Agricola' Medal in his honour, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan gave the undermentioned message - his last - to any international organisation:

"Development without destruction and dedication to Antyodaya for the upliftment of the poorest can alone lead to lasting human happiness."

In the last week of September, Dr. Edouard Saouma, Director General, FAO, had conveyed his intention of personally presenting the Medal to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan and honouring him at Patna in January next.

The new 'Agricola' Medal portrays
Jayaprakash Narayan, the Indian leader
who for forty years had done outstanding
work in rural development, for example in
the Land Gift Movement, and in the
All India Association of Voluntary Agencies
for Rural Development. With the text on
the medal reverse, Shri Jayaprakash
Narayan had expressed his ideals: "Development without destruction and dedication to
Antyodaya for the upliftment of the poorest
can alone lead to lasting human happiness".

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FAO had launched in 1977 a series of "Agricola" Medals, which in Latin means "Farmer", to honour men who worked for the "food for all" ideal. The medal which is in the form of a coin, is being issued in gold and silver and the proceeds are utilised for sponsoring projects for the advancement of rural people.

Shri Jayaprakash Narayan was the fourth recipient to be thus honoured by FAO. The first "Agricola" Medal was issued to honour Dr. B. R. Sen, a former Director General of FAO, who was instrumental in launching the "Freedom From Hunger" Campaign. The second recipient was Presi-

dent Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. The third recipient was Dr. Luigi G. Ligutti, an eminent Italian pastor, who was given the award for his outstanding work in alleviating the problem of hunger and misery in the Third World.

Shri Jayaprakash Narayan was particularly chosen for his monumental contribution to the promotion of the "Antyodaya" concept and voluntary efforts in rural development. Ever since Shri Jayaprakash Narayan took up Sarvodaya work, he had been laying stress on land reforms and uplift of the rural poor. His pioneering work in the shape of the Sokhodeore Ashram in the backward area of Gaya District in Bihar helped to give a concrete shape to the concept of community development movement

INDIA USA TANZANIA

Date : Oct 01, 1979

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Bonn Aid to India

The following is the text of the, Press Release issued at New Delhi on October 12, 1979:

Indo-FRG Governments negotiations on economic cooperation took place in New Delhi from October 8 to 12, 1979 in a friendly atmosphere of mutual trust.

The Indian delegation was headed by Shri R. N. Malhotra, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, and the West German delegation by Dr. Franz Klamser, Ministerialdirigent in the West German Ministry for Economic Cooperation.

The negotiations were concluded with the signing of an agreement for DM 290 million (Rs. 1363 millions) as financial assistance for the year 1979-80. An agreement for WM 70 million (Rs. 329 millions) in commodity aid had already been signed in June 1979, thus bringing the total West German financial assistance to India in 1979-80 to DM 360 million (Rs. 1692 millions).

In addition, technical assistance in the form of equipment, services of experts and training facilities would also be available In the current year for Indo-FRG Technical Cooperation projects.

It was agreed that in selecting projects for development cooperation, attention should be concentrated primarily on rural development (including agriculture and water supply, energy, elimination of bottlenecks in the economy, etc. The German side also evinced interest in the field of primary health care.

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GERMANY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Oct 01, 1979

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NORWAY

Indo-Norwegian Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on October 24, 1979:

Norway will provide to India an assistance of Norwegian Kroners 106 million

(Rs. 1706 million) during the year 1980.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today between-Shri R. N. Malhotra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Mr. Paal Bog, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway, on behalf of their respective Governments. This followed consultations by the Norwegian delegation with various Ministries of the Government of India for extending Indo-Norwegian economic cooperation.

The economic cooperation between the two countries include indication by Norway of availability of rant assistance of at least NKr. 106 million annually for the period 1980-83 for various projects and programmes assisted by them. The assistance is a total grant and would be utilised for assisting projects and programmes along with import of such commodities as paper, fertilisers, fisheries equipment, etc.

Norway has been providing valuable assistance in the fields of fisheries and health and family welfare, besides technical assistance in setting up the Tri-bology Centre at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa.

Along with their assistance for the ongoing projects, it is proposed to take up two important porjects in the fields of fisheries and forestry in 1980. The fisheries development project would be undertaken at Chaumukh village in Balasore district of Orissa and the forestry project at Chakrata in Uttar Pradesh.

NORWAY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Oct 01, 1979

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Agreement on Supply of Fertilisers

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on October 24, 1979:

Under an Agreement for a "Plan of Operation" signed here today, the Norwegian Government will be providing assistance to the tune of 35.0 million Norwegian kroners (Rs. 585 million) to India in the form of fertilizer during 1979.

This assistance will cover about 35,000 tonnes of urea of which one shipment, amounting to 19,032 tonnes, has already arrived at Kandla Port. The shipments of fertilizer will help in Government's efforts to make available adequate quantities of fertilizer to agriculturists during the current Rabi season.

The "Plan of Operation" was signed by Shri A. J. S. Sodhi, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Per Gulowsen, Ambassador of Norway, on behalf of the Norwegian Agency for International Development. This assistance is in pursuance of an overall Agreement signed in June 1973 between the Government of India and the Kingdom of Norway for cooperation in the economic and social development of India.

Between 1973 and 1978, India has received fertilizer worth 170.9 million Norwegian kroners as gift.

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Date: Oct 01, 1979

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NORWAY

Norwegian Financial Assistance for Medical Sciences

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on October 24, 1979:

An agreement was signed in New Delhi today between the representatives of Governments of India and Norway under which Norway will provide financial assistance as grant of kroner 1,200,000 to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for a study on ameobiasis. On behalf of India, the Agreement was signed by Shri N. N. Vohra, Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and on behalf of the Norwegian Government, it was signed by Dr. P. Bog, Director-General Ministry of Foriegn Affairs. The Agreement will be in operation for about two years. Norway will provide, among other things, the equipment and apparatus required for the studies. The programme also provides for exchange of visits of medical scientists between A.I.I.M.S. and the University of Bergen of Norway.

BACKGROUNDER

Norway is providing assistance for the Post-partum programme under the Family Welware. Under this programme, Norway is providing assistance of 164 million Norwegian kroners for the period of 1977-81. The implementation of the Agreement was reviewed with the Norwegian delegation which is on a visit to India. A proposal for further extension of assistance of this programme is also under consideration. The postpartum programme at present covers all the medical colleges and major hospitals at the district levels. A proposal for ex-

tending this programme to the Taluka level hospitals is also under consideration of the Norwegian authorities.

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Date: Nov 01, 1979

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BANGLADESH

Address by Agriculture and Irrigation Minister at Joint Rivers Commission at Dacca

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 17, 1979:

Addressing the resumed Seventeenth Meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission in Dacca on November 17, 1979, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, Shri Brahm Perkash said

that with close cooperation and understanding of each other's needs and constraints, it would not be difficult to undertake and implement before long a bold programme of controlling floods and prevention and eradication of drought through major water development projects. This was the major challenge for the Joint Rivers Commission to whom millions in India and Bangladesh were looking for a solution.

DETAILED STUDY

Referring to the mandate given to the Commission under the Agreement on sharing of the Ganges waters at Farakka, Shri Brahm. Perkash said that though the Commission was required to submit recommendations for augmenting the "lean season" flows in the Ganges within a period of three years, the task had not been taken up in right earnest. A start with detailed study of the proposals of the two countries had to be made without further delay to ensure that the time schedule was adhered to.

Speaking about the much-publicised recent border incidents between the two countries, the Minister referred to the statements made by the President of Bangladesh and the Prime Minister of India highlighting the urgent need to end these minor incidents in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation. He expressed the hope that the problem would be discussed in this light and a mutually-acceptable solution found to ensure that tension arising from a minor affair did not lead to chain reaction.

Shri Brahm Perkash said that finding a solution to the long-term problems of augmenting the flow of the Ganges, and for this purpose devising and executing a long-term scheme continued to be the biggest challenge of the JRC and for the statesmanship of the leaders of the two countries.

EXPEDITIOUS HARNESSING

He said the severe drought that both the countries faced due to the failure of this year's monsoon was yet one more pointer to the need for expeditious harnessing of the waters available to the two countries. In India particularly, almost throughout the Ganga Basin the onset of the monsoon was delayed. Even more calamitous was the prolonged failure of the monsoon since the middle of the August leading to one of the severest drought India ever faced.

The Minister said the drought and the consequent low flows in the rivers had once again underlined the great importance of proper husbanding and optimal utilisation of the available water resources by which the cycle of drought-flood-drought, from which both the countries suffered, was laid to rest once for all.

With regard to the Tista River, Shri Brahm Perkash said: "We have so far made reasonably good progress. We should keep up the momentum of the work already undertaken." As regards the other common

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rivers, he said the Commission had to play a catalytic role advising appropriately the two Governments in regard to integrated development of these rivers.

The Minister said the meeting of the experts of the two countries in March and April this year on the different border river training issues had led to some progress in the resolution of a number of problems. He added: "I have no doubt that given the right approach. it should be possible to evolve such realistic measures as will render the entire river boundary reaches stable by undertaking coordinated river training measures as would benefit both the countries. We should set up an efficient system, at the local level, to sort out problems that may arise periodically, leaving only very complex issues to be referred to the Commission for its advice." Shri Brahm Perkash suggested that necessary steps be taken to implement an earlier proposal to set up a Standing Committee under the JRC to deal with these local problems.

EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS

The Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation said that both the countries should bend their energies and efforts to come to grips with these tasks since what would be achieved would serve as an example to be emulated by other countries of the world.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Moudud Ahmed, Bangladesh Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in-charge of Power, Water Resources and Flood Control, who is leading a ten-member Bangladesh Delegation in the current JRC meeting, underlined the need for coordinated and joint action on the part of India and Bangladesh in dealing with the diminishing flows in the Ganges in the recent months which threatened Bangladesh with the problem of increasing salinity. He also called for early solution of the problem concerning the border rivers between the two countries.

The meeting began a detailed discussion of the matters left over from the last meeting in Delhi.

BANGLADESH LATVIA INDIA USA

Date: Nov 01, 1979

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COMMONWEALTH

Address by Minister at the Meeting of Commonwealth Agriculture Ministers at Rome

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Agricultural and Irrigation Minister Shri Brahm Perkash at the meeting of Commonwealth Agriculture Ministers at Rome on November 13, 1979:

The over-riding importance of food security for people of the world has assumed

a role more crucial than military security for food security is indivisible, and insecurity of any particular country or region in this respect means ultimate insecurity, and worse, for all. What was particularly perturbing was that despite the vast reservoir of knowledge built up already and the repeated sounding of alarm through Plans of Action and declarations there has been little perceptible improvement, stated Shri Brahm Perkash, Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, at a meeting of the Food and Agriculture Ministers of the Commonwealth countries.

SHARING OF EXPERIENCE

Shri Brahm Perkash said the fact that the meeting of Commonwealth Food and Agriculture Ministers was being held in conjunction with the FAO Council and Con-

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ference was bound to help in viewing issues in the correct Perspective.

Shri Brahm Perkash said that India had a significant corpus of experience in agricultural production, storage and distribution and in facing management problems of continental dimensions in feeding its vast population. By way of discharging responsibility under the Plan of Action approved by the FAO Council, India was ready to share this experience by extending cooperation consultancy assistance and even aid on bilatral or regional basis to other developing nations.

The Minister said that as an integral part of India's resolve to accelerate the pace of agrarian prosperity, the country was engaged in the task of building a strong National Food Security System. This consisted of building the ecological infrastructure essential for sustained agricultural advance, popularising technologies which could bring about growth with stability of Production and the building of adequate grain reserves.

FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

The Minister posed the question as to what the Commonwealth Ministers could and should do to press to maximum advantage the special ties that had been nurtured as members of the Commonwealth to bring the solutions nearer, sooner. He said India had no hesitation in endorsing the "pointers to future action" contained in the Secretariat papers laid before the meeting. In his view, the framework for action would include achievement of self-reliance and self-sufficiency by each food-deficit country within a specified period; removal of proof tectionist controls; implementation of the Five-Point Plan of Action adopted by the Committee on World Food Security and laying continued emphasis on increasing the resources for external developmental assistance, of a minimum of 10 billion dollars a year, for investment in food and agriculture. Other measures needed would be special facilities for easy flow of credit from international financing institutions; resumption of the U.N. Negotiating Conference on Internatoinal Wheat Trade Agreement keeping in view the difficulties of "developing" members and finalising the Food Aid Convention separately from the International Wheat Trade Agreement. Another important step necessary was to bring about an increase in the annual allocation of the International Emergency Food Reserve to. 750,000 tons. in putting through this action programme, Shri Brahm Perkash stressed the need for "linking arms" with other nations, outside the Commonwealth, facing similar problems.

ITALY LATVIA INDIA USA

Date: Nov 01, 1979

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COMMONWEALTH

Address by Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference at Wellington

The following is the text of speech delivered by the Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha at Wellington on November 26, 1979:

The Twentyfifth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference began in Wellington on the 26th November, 1979.

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, who was the first speaker at the opening session said in his speech on "The Energy Crisis" that developed countries with 30 per cent of world population accounted for 75 per cent of total commercial energy consumption, while the remaining 70 per cent of the world inhabited by the developing countries consumed only 25 per cent. Developed countries had been attempting to pre-empt bulk of world's natural resources in order to maintain their current pattern of consumption and life styles.

On the impact of the energy crisis in India, he said that India used to spend US \$ 298 million in 1973 for importing crude and petroleum products. For the current year the bill has gone up to US \$ 3.58 billion. The burden was further increased by the latest round of price increases.

Shri Mirdha called for vigorous urgent measures both short-term and long term, by all nations to control demand and cut back on waste of energy. In India, various

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measures had been taken to control and review oil consumption, and as a result petroleum consumption have remained static from 1973 to 1976. High priorities had been accorded to accelerate the tempo of onshore and offshore oil exploration and of thermal and hydro electrical power development.

Shri Mirdha suggested that a system of long term interest, free loan and grant would have to be evolved. He called for

help from the OPEC countries, the world Bank and friendly donors with soft aid to third world countries. "What is needed", he said, "is a world order which would be equitable for developing countries and make for their progress towards prosperity."

NEW ZEALAND INDIA USA

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

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FRANCE

Scientific Coopration

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 28, 1979:

India and France today signed a Programme of Cooperation in Science and Technology for the years 1980 and 1981. The Programme was finalised at the conclusion of the First Meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee for cooperation in Science and Technology held in New Delhi from 26th to 28th November 1979. The Indian delegation for the meeting was led by Mr. Maheshwar Dayal, Adviser, Department of Science and Technology and the French delegation by Mr. Jean Batbedat, Minister-Plenipotentiary, and Head of the Cultural Affairs Division in the Department of Culture, Scientific and Technical Relations, Government of France

The Joint Committee reviewed the progress in cooperation in different fields of science and technology between the two countries. India and France have some on-going programmes in the areas of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, Bioconversion and Algae Research and

Electrical Engineering for Industrial Applications. It was agreed that these should be strengthened.

The two sides identified several new areas for cooperation including Solar Photovoltaic and Thermal Applications, Modern Optics, Information Systems and Ocean Science and Technology. It was felt that possibilities for future cooperation also existed in several other fields including Survey Techniques, like satellite goodesy, cartography, remote sensing as well as in earth sciences, environment management, medical sciences, astronomy, biogas systems, etc.

A time-bound programme for finalising specific proposals in these areas has also been decided in the Agreement signed today.

FRANCE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 30, 1979:

An Indo-French Exchange Programme for cultural, technical and scientific cooperation was concluded here today. Mr. Jean Batbedat, Minister-Plenipotentiary, Head of the Cultural Affairs Division in the Department of Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, and Dr. D. N. Misra, Joint Edu-

206 cational Adviser, Department of Culture,

signed the Programme on behalf of two countries.

The Exchange Programme envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, art and culture, mass media, agriculture, health and science and technology. Besides covering a wide spectrum of activities in these fields, the programme will explore new areas of cooperation in the coming decade. The main focus of the programme centres around cultural and artistic exchanges, cooperation in the fields of museology, archaeology, archives and higher education.

India and France have agreed to organise joint colloquia, seminar and symposia on topics of mutual interest. The existing cooperation between the I.I.T. Delhi and corresponding institutions in France in the fields of Solid State Physics, Solar energy and Bio-conversion will be further strengthened.

In 1978, India had put up a prestigious exhibition of Original Indian Art in Paris which was highly appreciated there.

FRANCE INDIA USA **Date**: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 15, 1979:

India and the Federal Republic of Germany have signed a new Cultural Exchange Programme to widen their areas of coope-

ration. The Programme, the 5th in the series, covers the period 1980 to 1982.

The two signatories were Dr. Kurt Mueller, Head of the Foreign Cultural Affairs Division of the FRG Foreign Office and Shri Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture.

The main focus of the new programme is on establishing linkages between educational institutions and organisations in the two countries, besides establishment of bilateral contacts and exchanges between universities and other institutions of higher learning.

The programme covers exchanges of Professors, Scholars, Scientists and Specialists in different fields, including Indology and Philosophy. In the context of India's massive programme for the promotion of Adult Education, the two countries have agreed to exchange delegations to study the activities being undertaken in this field. They have also agreed to exchange experiences in the field of Workers' Participation in Management. Seminars on subjects like International Peace Studies and Inter-relationship of Science and Philosophy, specially in the realm of "Consciousness" are included in the programme.

Over the past decade, the German Academic Exchange Service has provided over three hundred scholarships for Indian students to study in German Universities. In addition, more than 70 Indian scholars are pursuing post-doctoral research, at prestigious institutions in F.R.G. Of the 25 Universities in F.R.G., 20 have Departments of Indological Studies.

Indian classical dance, music and art exhibitions have proved to be particularly popular in the Federal Republic of Germany. During the last two years, 170 classical

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dance performances and 190 Indian music programmes were staged in F.R.G. Also, as many as 90 exhibitions showing the works of Indian artistes were organised.

A six-member delegation from the F.R.G. has been here since the 12th of this month to initiate the cultural exchange programme.

GERMANY INDIA USA

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Economic Cooperation -- Joint Study Committee's Meeting

The following is the text of message of the Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh to the meeting of India and Japan Study Committees held in New Delhi on November 29, 1979:

The two-day meeting of India and Japan Study Committees began in New Delhi on November 29, 1979. The Indian delegation is led by Shri Badr-ud-Din Tyabji and the Japanese delegation by Mr. Shinsaku Hogen, President, Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Welcoming the Japanese delegates, Shri Tyabji read the message of the Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh, which expressed the hope that the deliberations of the meeting would explore and promote new forms of economic cooperation between Japan and India, particularly in the field of technology and joint third country projects. Mr. Hogen also welcomed the Indian delegates and read the message of the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Masayoshi Ohira for the occasion which called for more inter-dependence among world nations, including Japan and India, and increased cooperation in all spheres of international relations in the de-

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Beginning with a discussion on the international political situation, the growing inter-dependence of nations and the need to see this reflected in international relations and forums and India-Japan bilateral relations, the two Committees are also discussing economic issues like international and regional economic cooperation and the prospects of strengthening economic relations between India and Japan. The meeting will also discuss the prospects of exports of electronic components from India to Japan Other items on the agenda include cultural and educational cooperation and scientific and technological exchanges between the two countries.

The experts and top officials participating in the talks on the Indian side include Shri V. G. Rajadhyaksha, Member, Planning Commission, Shri E. Gonsalves, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Vishnu Ahuja, Ambassador-designate to Tokyo, Shri M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Shri V. G. Bhatia, Adviser, Planning Commission, Shri J. N. Dixit, Joint Secretary, External Affairs, Shri Charat Ram, Industrialist, and Prof. B. V. Mehta of South Gujarat University. The Japanese delegation includes Dr. Saburo Okita, Chairman, Japan Economic Research Centre, Dr. Takashi Mukaibo, President, University of Tokyo and Prof. Chie Nakane of the Institute of Oriental Culture, University of Tokyo.

LONG-TERM STUDIES

The idea of constituting an Organisation to undertake joint studies on long-term planning in India and Japan to promote mutually advantageous economic and trade relations was first initiated by Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis in the course of his visit to Japan in 1958. As a result, the Japanese set up a Committee to promote long-term studies of the Indian economy with the object of exploring the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries. Later, a corres-

ponding India Committee was also consti-

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tuted with Shri C. D. Deshmukh as Chairman.

The joint meetings of the two Committees are normally held every year alternately in India and Japan. These otter a channel of free discussion and assessment of policies. The last meeting was held in Tokyo in October, 1978.

JAPAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Reiteration of Commitment to the Non-aligned News Agencies Pool

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 20, 1979:

India has reiterated its commitment to the Non Aligned News Agencies Pool.

Speaking at the opening session of the Coordination Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool in Belgrade on November 19, Shri A. S. Chib, Indian Amassador to Yugoslavia, noted the concern among some delegates about reports regarding the withdrawal of Press Trust of India from the activities of the Pool and said that he would set at rest any anxiety that the members of the Pool might have. with the firm affirmation that the commitment made by his country in 1976 at the inception of the Pool remained constant.

Shri Chib said that India's initiatives

for bringing about a new international information order were widely known. Apart from being the host of the first General Conference of the Pool in 1976, India had been active participant in the meetings of its Coordination Committee in Cairo, Djakarta and Kinshasa between 1977 and 1979. The Government of India, he said, shared the satisfaction expressed by Non-Aligned,

Heads of State and Heads of Government at their sixth Summit Conference in Havana that cooperation among Non-Aligned Nations in the domain of information had been extremely successful.

Speaking on behalf of the Indian delegation, Shri Chib said that his delegation did not propose to present a final report on the activities of the Indian Agency viz. the Press Trust of India because the news agency had taken a decision to disassociate itself from the activities of the Pool. He said the Government of India proposed to make alternative long-term and more stable arrangements for India's participation in the activities of the Pool.

Shri Chib drew attention to the recent statement of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Purushottam Kaushik, reiterating India's commitment to Non-Aligned Agencies Pool. He said that whatever alternative arrangement was finally adopted by the Government of India, it would not only ensure India's continued participation in all the activities of the Pool but make this participation more purposeful and extensive.

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INDIA YUGOSLAVIA USA EGYPT INDONESIA ZAIRE CUBA

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Protocol of Cooperation

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 16, 1979:

India and the Soviet Union today signed a Protocol of Co-operation on machine building. The Dy. Minister, USSR Ministry of Heavy & Transport Engineering, Mr. E. I. Zvizjulev signed on behalf of his country and Shri V. Krishnamurthy, Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry signed on behalf of India.

Considering the attractive scope for further co-operation between India and the U.S.S.R. particularly in the area of machine building, the Fifth Session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission, which met in Moscow in June this year, had decided to set up a Working Group on Machine-Building.

The Working Group headed by His Excellency Mr. E. I. Zvizjulev, Deputy Minister, USSR Ministry of Heavy & Transport Engineering (MINTIAJMASH) from the Soviet side and by Shri V. Krishnamurthy, Secretary, Heavy Industry, Ministry of Industry from the Inidan side held its first session in Delhi from 12th to 16th November, 1979.

Prior to the meeting of the heads of the delegations extensive discussions and indepth examination of possible areas and scope of co-operation was carried out by a large number of experts from both sides; on the USSR side the expert group was headed by Mr. B. N. Chefrancy whose earlier visit in July this year had led to orders worth Rs. 6.1 crores having been placed on the Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., for supply in 1980 which was needed to fill up the idle capacity in some of its load centres urgently.

The discussions of the Working Group

were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and understanding. Both the leaders of the delegations expressed satisfaction that considerable progress had been achieved in furthering co-operation between the Soviet Organisations and the Soviet assisted Machine Building Plants in Ranchi, Durgapur.

The discussions have opened a distinct possibility of supply of large volume of equipment by these Soviet assisted plants to Soviet Union and to third countries subject to an agreement being reached on prices and terms of contracts.

Equipment supply during 1981 and 1982 for steel castings and forgings to the tune of 17,969 tonnes and 52,562 tonnes during 1983 to 1985 i.e. total of about 70,000 tonnes by Heavy Engineering Corporation to the USSR have been identified.

Similarly, in the case of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd., Durgapur, equipment to the tune of 10,480 tonnes for supply in 1981 and 1982 and 43,235 tonnes for supply during 1983, 1984 and 1985 i.e. total of about 53,000 tonnes to the USSR and third countries being set up with the Soviet assistance have been identified.

The placement of these orders, expected to be finalised by March, 1980, will constitute another important milestone in the area of economic co-operation and traditional friendship between the two countries.

The protocol also envisages the possibility of continuous technological upgradation in the existing fields of manufacture of equipment in HEC, Ranchi, MAMC, Durgapur and HEEP, Hardwar.

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INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

UNITED NATIONS

Agreement with FAO on Storage and Processing of Foodgrains

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 13, 1979:

Under an Agreement for a project for improvement of rural family storage and processing of foodgrains in Tamil Nadu signed here today, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations will provide assistance worth \$ 60,500 to the Government of India.

The Agreement was signed by Shri Kamla Prasad, Joint Secretary, Department of Food, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, on behalf of the Government of India and by Dr. A. S. Alwan, FAO Representative in India on behalf of FAO.

The major post-harvest problems affecting foodgrains and other commodities, intended for human consumption, are shattering, sprouting, spoilage, loss of storability, defective processing and susceptibility and accessibility to attack by pests including rodents. At present, under the Save Grain Campaign, 17 regional and sub-offices are operating in the country trying to educate farmers in improved practices of storage of foodgrains by training, demonstration and by adopting extension technologies. Some model villages in each State have also been developed which have shown encouraging results in preventing loss of foodgrains.

Under the FAO-assisted programme, the main objective would be to train rural women in appropriate post-harvest technologies. Under the programme, a two-week training for primary workers such as balsevikas and mukhyasevikas would be organised.

The Government of India will be assist-

ing in the training progarmme by providing the services of experts from the Indian Grain Storage Institute, Hapur and its field station at Hyderabad. The rural programme at all phases of development and training will be linked with the Save Grain Campaign.

The Programme will be operated by the Sri Avinashalingam Home Science College, Coimbatore.

INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

Address by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation at FAO Meet at Rome

The following is the text of speech delivered by the Agricultural and Irrigation Minister, Shri Brahm Perkash at the Twentieth Session of the General Conference of the Food and Agricultural Organisation in Rome on November 14, 1979:

Addressing the Twentieth Session of the General Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome Shri Brahm Perkash, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, called for stepping up efforts to bridge the gap between farm potential and actual farm yields.

Shri Brahm Perkash said that to introduce measures like India's "Food for Work" and "Food for Nutrition" Programmes on a scale large enough to wipe out hunger from the 800 million people, who are undernourished today in the world, concerted efforts must be made through schemes like the National Minimum Yield Guarantee Pro-

jects in major crops. These efforts should be backed up by efficient extension and input supply services. The 'Lab to Land' project of research institutions, such as has been adopted in India, could be made a Global Programme supported by an efficient

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extension methodology. Credit became a key input in such an endeavour and that was why India was planning to establish a National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development. The Minister said if these broad groups of Action Plans could be integrated in the form of a new "Freedom From Hunger Campaign", he believed that we could still achieve the goal of making hunger a problem of the past by 1984.

GLOBAL PROGRAMME

Giving details of the 'Lab to Land Programme adopted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Minister said "we need a global programme of 'Lab to Land' in order to ensure that the benefits of available know-how reach speedily the poorest farmers in every land. He said, obviously, an economically-viable technological package will have to be supported by appropriate packages of services and public policies to ensure that all farmers, irrespective of their input-mobilising and risk-taking capacity, derive benefit from the technology.

Shri Brahm Perkash said that the 70s was a "decade of unfulfilled sentiments and promises". The agricultural growth rate achieved was much less than the target of four per cent fixed for the current development decade and the picture on the production front was disappointing. He added that the desire to help poor nations was also drying up. This was evident from the fact that the target of 500,000 tonnes of cereals for the International Emergency Food Reserve, during 1979, had not yet been met. The international food security system was yet to emerge. In contrast to the slow pace of agricultural growth, the cost of inputs was galloping.

PATHWAY OF DEVELOPMENT

The Minister said that India was a country committed to the philosophy of bread with freedom. It was a country of very small farms and very poor farming families, with little or no risk-taking capacity. He said we have, therefore, to forge a pathway of development where the opportunities provided by small farms for intensive agriculture are maximised and handicaps and risks are minimised. He said he was convinced that this could be done only by strengthening the cooperative movement. In India, an outstanding example of the power of cooperation was provided by the history of dairy development. "Operation Flood Phase-II" Dairy Project involved an outlay of more than 500 million dollars and the Organisation of 10 million farming families into dairy cooperatives. India was now working on a similar project "Operation Acquaculture", for organising fishermen.

Shri Brahm Perkash said that in India's view an important feature of agriculture development programmes for the 80s should be detailed attention to the optimum use of land and water, in addition to renewable forms of energy. For doing this, attention will have to be paid to four major groups of areas: Ecology, Energy, Economics and Employment. In India, Land Use Boards had been established in several States to help to mobilise action for ensuring optimum use of available land and water resources. India was also examining the scope for setting up an Eco-development Corporation of India" for stimulating and supporting community action in soil and water conservation and afforestation.

LAND AND WATER

The Minister said that the urgent need for better land and water management had become particularly clear during the last four months when India had been experiencing severe drought in several areas. However, this was the first time she was facing a drought of such severe intensity, without food imports and without alarm about the capacity to feed onefifth of the human race.

This was because of the foodgrain reserve, the availability of 40 million hectares of irrigated land and the capacity to adjust cropping patterns to weather conditions.

Shri Brahm Perkash outlined to the Conference the strategy adopted for mitigating distress in the drought-affected areas. He explained the functioning of the "Food for Work" Programme and the "Food for Nutrition" Programme. Steps had also been taken to make available drinking water.

The Minister added: "we have not allowed our crop losses to come in the way 212

of providing grain to other nations like Kampuchea and Bangladesh."

The Minister also outlined to the Conference the strategy adopted by India for achieving stability of crop production, under adverse growing conditions, as well as saving farm animals. This strategy included crop-life-saving techniques, contingency planning and compensatory programmes in irrigated areas and for non-traditional seasons.

Shri Brahm Perkash said that in the absence of an adequate global food security system it was our duty to "de-link" the fate of agricultural production in developing countries from the vagaries of weather. For this, FAO could develop as a complement to its Early Warning System, a "Timely Action Programme" to promote corrective measures which will help to avoid human tragedy.

The Minister said that while India welcomed assistance from others who were in a position to extend it, her citizens would not be found wanting in sharing what they had with others. He hoped that the deliberations of the Conference would mark the beginning of expanded action which would keep "Man as the supreme consideration in all our efforts."

ITALY LATVIA INDIA USA BANGLADESH

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

WEST ASIA

Address by Minister of State for External Affairs at the Observance of Palestinian Day

The following is the text of the Speech delivered by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Bedabrata Barua on the occasion of the observance of Palestinian Day in New Delhi on November 29, 1979:

A special function to observe the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, jointly organised by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was held in New Delhi on November 29, 1979.

Presiding over the function, the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Bedabrata Barua said:

I consider it to be a pleasure and an honour to be present here this evening. This is the second year in succession when we are celebrating the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people. Let us greet our Palestinian friends present here, with best wishes for the welfare and prosperity of their brethren all over the world.

STRONG SUPPORT

The preceding year has been one of historical importance for the Palestinian people. During this year we witnessed even stronger support for the Palestinian cause, not only among the Arab countries, but in other countries of Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, and Latin America as well. At every international forum in 1979 be it the UN General Assembly or the Non-

aligned Summit or the Islamic Conference, the International community re-affirmed that the Palestinian question was a paramount in any solution for a lasting peace in West Asia.

Today when an increasing number of people, all over the world, are coming to see and understand the justice of Palestinian demands, we Indians not only feel a sense of gratification but also a sense of vindication for our own long standing and consistent policies. The concern and solidarity shown in India to the Arabs in general, and the Palestinians in particular, is not a phenomenon of the 70's nor has it ever been motivated by any considerations of economic expediency.

The clouds of conflict have been over Palestine for well over half a century. The people of India have all along supported the

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just cause of the Palestinians. Even while we were deeply engrossed in our own struggle for national Independence our leaders did not remain aloof from the events in Palestine.

It was a spontaneous and moral outburst when the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, declared on his 63rd birthday in 1932, - "Zionism, meaning the reoccupation of Palestine has no attraction for me. I understand the longings of the Jew to return to Palestine - provided it is done without the help of bayonets". Our cultural traditions have been so closely related to those in the Arab world that it was but natural for an Indian to react in this fashion to the annexation of Arab territory by Israel.

ARAB CAUSE

Under Nehru's leadership, after independence, India represented the revolutionary consciousness of the teeming millions of Asia, Africa and Latin America. It was this consciousness of the Third World which made Nehru declare that "we must remember that Palestine is essentially an

Arab country and must remain so. Arabs must not be crushed and suppressed in their own homelands". Over the last three decades, there have been innumerable occasions both in the United Nations and elsewhere, when Government of India and its representatives, nay, the people of India spoke, argued and campaigned for the Arab cause and the cause of the Palestinian people.

Hence, when we find today an increasing awareness in the world community for the just cause of the Palestinian people it fills us both with a moral and spiritual optimism.

It is only in the fitness of things that this natural and deep emotional bond with the Arab countries and the Palestinians, should manifest itself in close and comprehensive relations between India and the Arab world embracing trade and commerce, science and technology, art and culture and other normal fields of human enterprise.

Our links with the Palestinians constitute one of the most significant strands of this multi-dimensional relationship. When the world began to focus attention on the new found-oil wealth in the Arab countries, it was but natural for India to participate in the gigantic economic enterprise burgeoning there. It is with some pride that we can say that our economic relations with the West Asians countries from the most important component of our international economic relations.

I must reaffirm here again, this evening, what our Government and people have repeated time and again. The Palestinian question is the crux of the Arab-Israeli dispute and unless this question is resolved, fulfilling the legitimate aspirations of our Palestinian friends, there cannot be any lasting peace in the region or in the world.

RESPECT FOR JUSTICE

We cannot see any justification for the Government of Israel to continue with its expansionist policies and practices in the occupied territories in total disregard of international opinion and the UN resolutions. We would like to emphasise again that the world community, and the super powers, should bring all possible pressures on Israel so that it acknowledges and respects the just rights of the Palestinians for return to their homeland.

Before I conclude, I would like to mention that the courage, determination and sacrifices made by our Palestinian friends and brothers in their struggle have evoked deep admiration of the people of my country. The Indian people will always remain trusted friends of the Palestinian people and let me assure you that we will never waver our support for their cause. Within the limitation of our own economic constraints we have dutifully extended what ever assistance was possible on our part. We would continue to contribute our mite in future as well.

On behalf of the Government of India and on behalf of our people I wish the Palestinian movement every success in the attainment of its cherished objectives.

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INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

WEST ASIA

Indian View on Palestine

The following is the text of speech delivered by India's Permanent Representative at U.N. on the question of Palestine on November 28, 1979:

Speaking in the plenary session of the United Nations on 28th November, 1979 on the question of Palestine India's Permanent Representative, Shri B. C. Mishra, recalled the circumstances under which Palestine was partitioned in 1947 and the failure of the international community to resolve the Palestinian question which threatened global peace and security. This question should be resolved by the United Nations in a just, equitable and peaceful manner

Shri Mishra said that the recent deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and in Southern Lebanon lent even greater urgency for the need for effective United Nations action. The continued escalation of Israeli acts of aggression in Southern Lebanon bore testimony to the belligerent intentions of the Government of Israel in total disregard of the elementary norms of international behaviour.

Clarifying India's position on the Camp David Accords, Shri Mishra, while not disputing the sovereign right of any State to enter into treaties and agreements on bilateral matters, stated that the agreements could not presume to settle matters affecting others who were not contracting parties. India could not therefore agree that any agreement to which the PLO was not a party should seek to impose on the Palestinian people a pre-determined settlement.

Shri Mishra expressed the need for a comprehensive settlement which envisaged the total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the holy city of Jerusalem, the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right to establish an independent State in their home land and finally the right of all States in the region to live within secure borders.

INDIA USA LEBANON ISRAEL

Date: Nov 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

WEST ASIA

Celebration of 1400 Hijri New Year as the Year of Jerusalem

The following is the text of the statement issued by the Government of India on the eve of the 1400 Hijri New Year to be celebrated as the Year of Jerusalem:

The world is commemorating the 1400th year of Hijra beginning tomorrow. An important historical occasion, such as this, is not only sacred for our Muslim brothers but for all mankind. We plan to celebrate the 1400th year of the Hijra in a befitting manner and I would call upon all Indians to participate and support these celebrations. For India the celebration of the 1400th anniversary of Hijra, which has been declared the "Year of Jerusalem" is equally significant. We have witnessed in this century the displacement of thousands of people of Palestine and lately the usurpation of the holy city of Jerusalem.

In this period of harsh political antagonisms fuelled by narrow interests, we earnestly feel the need to place emphasis on an underlying and continuous thread of morality in relations among nation States. India's principled stand arises from this deep rooted belief. We protested against the actions of Israel from the time that areas were forcibly occupied and peoples driven from their ancestral hearths and homes. We have never wavered in demanding the vacation of Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights.

Further the holy city of Jerusalem ought to become a symbol of peace and harmony and not a bone of contention. It is

our wish that Jerusalem should be open to people of all religions who can freely worship in the shrines of the holy city. In

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this "Year of Jerusalem", the world community owes it to the disinherited residents and citizens of that city to work for the implementation of the resolutions of the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly which have continuously reaffirmed the right of our Arab brothers to return to their homeland.

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ISRAEL USA INDIA

Date: Nov 01, 1979

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Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

AFGHANISTAN

Official Spokesman's Statement on Events in Afghanistan

The following is the text of Statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi cot December 28, 1979 an the change of Government in Afghanistan:

The Government of India have taken note of the events in Afghanistan since yesterday (December 27, 1979) and have been kept informed about them by their mission in Kabul. The Government of the Soviet Union has conveyed to the Government of India that at the request of the Afghan leadership, Soviet troops have been sent to Afghanistan to enable it to resist external aggression and interference.

Consistent with Government of India's commitment to principles of non-alignment, they support the sovereign right of the Afghan people to determine their own destiny free from foreign interference. The Government of India's attitude to such situations is well known. India has always opposed any outside interference in the internal affairs of one country by another. It is also Government of India's earnest hope that no country or external power would take steps which might aggravate the situation and that normalcy will be restored there early.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Official Spokesman's Statement on Bilateral Talks

The following is the text of Statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on December 10, 1979 on border talks with Bangladesh:

The Ministry of External Affairs welcomes the forthcoming visit of the Bangladesh Delegation which is visiting New Delhi from December 12 under the leadership of the Home Secretary of Bangladesh, Mr. M. Zaman.

The delegation is visiting India as a result of consultations between the Governments of India and Bangladesh to resolve matters affecting the Indo-Bangladesh Border, especially in the Belonia sector. The Government of India is happy that the delegation consists of the representatives of all concerned agencies in Bangladesh.

The delegation consist of the Director-General Bangladesh Rifles, Mr. Atiqrrahman, the Director-General, incharge of South East Asia, Mr. Karim Choudhry, the Member, Joint River Commission, Mr. Siddique, the Director-General, Land Records, and the Bangladesh High Commissioner.

The Indian delegation will be led by the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Eric Gonsalves and will consist of the

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Director-General, Border Security Force, W. S. Tandon, Joint Secretary, Bangladesh,

Mr. R. Tondon, a representative of Joint River Commission, Mr. Ramu Rao, and Director, Eastern Circle Survey of India, Col. Sareen.

The Government of India is happy that these discussions which are a continuation of the process of consultation between the two Governments since mid November will resolve the problem relating to the Belonia sector of the Indo-Bangladesh border on a mutually satisfactory terms.

The talks are expected to last for two days.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Agreement on Trade and Payments

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 3, 1979:

India and Czechoslovakia signed in New Delhi on December 3, 1979 a new Trade and Payments Agreement. The Agreement was signed by Shri Hitendra Desai, Minister for Commerce and Civil Supplies on behalf of India and by Mr. A. Barcak, Minister of Foreign Trade, on behalf of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia.

The new Agreement comes into force with effect from January 1, 1980 and shall remain valid for a period of five years upto December 31, 1984. The Agreement is substantially on the pattern of the existing

Agreement which was concluded in 1974 and expires on December 31 this year. Under the new Agreement, the mode of payments for all commercial and non-commercial transactions between the two countries continues to be in non-covertible Indian rupee.

Since the signing of the first Trade and Payment Agreement between India and Czechoslovakia in early sixties there has been a spectacular growth in the trade between the two countries. The volume of two way trade is expected to have doubled itself, rising from Rs. 47 crores in 1963 to Rs. 95 crores in 1978.

Czechoslovakia is a highly industrialised country in East Europe and she supplies to India steel and steel products, seamless pipes, tubes and casings, textile and printing machinery and other capital goods; in return for import from India of de-oiled cakes, iron ore, cotton yarn and other traditional goods. In addition, she also takes non-traditional items like finished leather, woollen and synthetic fabrics, ready-made garments, machine tools etc.

Czechoslovakia has also assisted India in setting up many industrial projects both in public and private sectors. These projects have helped us not only in increasing our production to meet the increasing indigenous demand but also creating capacity for exports. Also cooperation in third country projects is being given increasing importance in our trade and industrial cooperation with Czechoslovakia.

The discussions for the renewal of the Trade Agreement which were conducted by an Indian delegation led by Shri Suresh Kumar, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and by Mr. J. Garcar, Director-General, Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign

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Trade on behalf of Czechoslovakia were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere. While negotiating for the renewal of the Trade Agreement, both sides also exchanged views On further diversification of the trade pattern with a view to ensuring sustained growth of bilateral trade in the coming years.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Project of Trade

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 7, 1979:

India and Czechoslovakia signed in New Delhi on December 7, 1979 the Annual Trade Protocol for 1980 in terms of the provisions of the Long-term Trade and Payments Agreement signed recently between India and Czechoslovakia for the continuation of the Rupee trading arrangements between the two countries for the next 5 years. The Protocol was signed by Shri Suresh Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce on behalf of India, and by Mr. J. Garcar, on behalf of the Government of Czechoslovakia. The Trade Protocol for the next calendar year envisages a trade turnover of Rs. 200 crores both ways and indicates an increase of about 8 per cent over the trade plan targets for 1979.

India's trade with Czechoslovakia has registered a consistent growth in the past. Since the signing of the first Trade and Payments Agreement about two decades back, the trade has reached a record level of Rs. 95 crores, starting from a modest level of Rs. 10 crores. Czechoslovakia, being a highly industrialised country in the East European region, has been an important

supplier to India of rolled steel and steel products, seamless pipes and tubes, textile and printing machinery, machine tools, diesel generating sets and components, equipments and spares for projects set up in India with Czechoslovak collaboration. In return, Czechoslovakia has been importing from India mostly traditional items like coffee, de-oiled cakes, iron ore, cotton yarn, and jute manufactures but some of our non-traditional products like finished leather, woollen and synthetic fabrics, ready made garments, auto-ancillaries, builders' hardware, have also started moving to Czechoslovakia.

The trade negotiations between the two delegations were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete understanding. During the course of negotiations, both sides emphasised the importance and necessity of expanding and diversifying the trade pattern in order to ensure the sustained growth of bilateral trade with a view to doubling the trade turnover during the next five yaers. It is in keeping with this objective that certain new items like chrome ore, industrial fabrics, opium alkaloids and 'Yezdi' motor cycle engines, have been added in our export basket for export to Czechoslovakia in 1980 for the first time.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA ITALY

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Technical and Economic Co-operation

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 13, 1979:

New areas of technical and economic cooperation between the German Democratic Republic and India have been identified as a result of discussions held here between the delegations of the two countries. A Memorandum of discussions was signed in New Delhi on December 13, 1979

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by Mr. H. Sachse, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of the German Democratic Republic, and Shri V. Krishnamurthy, Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry, Government of India.

The 14-member GDR delegation had detailed discussions with the members of the Indian delegation on matters concerning industry, agricultural machinery, chemical industry, science and technology, and electronics.

Areas covered under GDR cooperation during the discussions include manufacture of dairy machinery by HMT at Aurangabad, optimal use of lignite for power generation and industrial and domestic use in Gujarat (Kutch), Rajasthan (Palana in Bikaner) and Jammu & Kashmir, textile machinery, printing machinery, high voltage testing equipment and insulators, XLPE cables, electric typewriters, optical glass and optalmic blanks, copper clad laminates and copper foils, films and magnetic tapes, acetylene black and sodium cyanide, calcium carbide based on charcoal and lime shell, dies silicone, vinyle acetate, food processing equipment, insecticides, pelletisations of animal food, computors and peripherals.

In the field of science and technology, there was an agreement on inter-change of technology and exchange of scientific and technical information and documentation between scientific institutions in the two countries.

Besides the review of progress of Indo-GDR cooperation projects, specific timebound implementation programmes were determined and new areas of cooperation identified during the discussions. It was noted with satisfaction that there had been effective inter-action between the Indian and GDR parties for cooperation. Both sides pointed out that the approach adopted would continue to enhance the potential of bilateral trade and cooperation.

It was also agreed that effective association between GDR and India in the implementation of projects in the Third Countries would be made. It was also agreed to give positive direction to the concerned agencies in both the countries to identify discuss and negotiate participation in viable overseas ventures in the Third Countries. Such participation would be on the basis of complementarity and mutual benefit.

The outcome of these discussions will be reviewed at the next meeting of the Indo-GDR Joint Commission proposed to be held here in April, 1980.

The last meeting of the Indo-GDR Joint Commission was held in Berlin in December, 1978. Both sides expressed their satisfaction at the substantial progress achieved in the last one year on the specific projects covered under the Indo-GDR Cooperation Programme. During the visit of H.E. the President of German Democratic Republic to India in January, 1979, a long-term Agreement on scientific, economic and technical cooperation was concluded between the two countries. Also, Agreed Minutes were signed on February 27, 1979 for joint implementation of Third Country projects between GDR and India. The Indo-GDR economic cooperation received a further impetus following the visit to India in March-April, 1979 of H.E. Dr. C. Scholwin, and H.E. Dr. Wolf, Deputy Ministers of the German Democratic Republic. This was followed up when the Union Minister of Industry, Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy, visited GDR in September, 1979 to inaugurate "India Day Technical Symposium" in which important Indian industries also participated.

In pursuance of the discussions during the visit of the Union Minister of Industry

to GDR for development of lignite mining in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jammu & Kashmir as also for establishment of cement Plants of 1000 to 1500 TPD capacity in India with GDR assistance, a high level technical team from GDR visited India in October-November, 1979 from GDR for detailed investigations and discussions.

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GERMANY INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Address at IAEA General Conference

The following is the text of speech made by Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh at International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference at New Delhi on December 4, 1979.

The Government and the people of India consider it a great privilege and honour to host this the Twenty-third Session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I should, therefore, like to begin by expressing our gratitude and appreciation to the Members of the Agency for having accepted our invitation to hold this Session in Delhi. I should also like to extend to you, on behalf of the people of India, a warm welcome. We trust that your stay in our country, brief though it is, will be pleasant and useful.

I should also like to take this occasion to express our great happiness to see among us today the distinguished Director-General of the Agency, Dr. Sigvard Eklund. During his long and distinguished stewardship, the activities of the Organisation have expanded in many areas and I should like to record our deep appreciation to him for the leadership and guidance he has provided to the work of the Agency. It is also a matter of pride and happiness for us to see you, Mr. President, occupy the Chairmanship of this Conference.

SELF-EXTINCTION

We are at the cross-roads in the history of the development of atomic energy and, therefore, the deliberations of the present Session are of special importance. We are all agreed that mankind today is confronted with an unprecedented threat of self-extinction arising from the massive and competitive accumulation of the most destructive weapons ever produced, particularly the nuclear weapons. The existing arsenals of nuclear weapons, which according to an authoritative estimate made ten years ago, represent about 15 tonnes of TNT per person on the globe, are more than sufficient to destroy all life on earth many times over. And yet the nuclear arms race continues unabated. At the same time, certain events such as the one commonly referred to as the Three Mile Island accident which took place in the US early this year. have aroused public feelings, not only in the United States but also in other countries, against any form of nuclear energy. On the other hand, the energy crisis facing most of the world today and the fact that, atleast for several decades to come, nuclear power will continue, and possibly even in an Increasing proportion, to constitute a major component in the energy source of many countries, will force countries, which today have no nuclear programmes, to turn to this source of energy. In this process, the International Atomic Energy Agency, which was established with the objective, as clearly stated in its statute, of accelerating and enlarging the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, has an important role to perform. It is our fervent hope that in discharging this important role, the Agency will function in strict conformity with the letter and

spirit of its statute. We should always remember that the Agency was established primarily to help in strengthening international co-operation for the promotion of the transfer and utilisation of nuclear energy for economic and social development. especially in the developing countries. While it is true that the Agency also has regulatory functions, it cannot be contested that such regulatory functions can only be ancilliary to the main promotional role of the Agency. I mention this because we are concerned to note that in recent years increasing stress is being placed on the regulatory rather than the promotional aspects of the Agency's functioning. Safeguards have become more important than technical assistance. Furthermore, what technical assistance continues to be provided by the Agency is being subjected to restrictive and preferential preconditions. This trend should

Preferential preconditions. This trend should be reversed in order to avoid the erosion of the credibility of this great Organisation which has in the past made very significant contributions to the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the benefit of mankind.

NON-PROLIFERATION

During the past decade, much has been said and written on the question of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. India has always believed in the concept of genuine and comprehensive non-proliferation and we have consistently held that non-proliferation measures, in order to be truly effective must be applied uniformly and universally to all nuclear activities in all States. It is not merely of historical interest to recall that the concept of 'non-proliferation of nuclear weapons' was for the first time introduced by India in 1964 when, by inscribing a new item under that agenda head ing for the first time, we asked the United Nations to make a departure from earlier discussions which were based on the necessity to avoid only the further spread or dissemination of nuclear weapons. This initiative was in line with the proposal made by India exactly a decade earlier in 1954

for a complete cessation of all nuclear weapon tests. Our approach then, as now, was based on the correct premise borne out of bitter historical experience that both horizontal and vertical proliferation, being integral parts of the same problem, had to be dealt with as a whole, always together and simultaneously, if the problem of proliferation of nuclear weapons was to be really solved. In 1965 the United Nations urged the early conclusion of a Non-proliferation treaty which 'should embody an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of the nuclear and nonnuclear powers'. The key word here was 'embody'. And yet the treaty, when it finally emerged, was almost totally silent on the problem of vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons. The goal of nuclear nonproliferation, as the Final Document of the United Nations Special Session devoted to disarmament held last year clearly states, 'is on the one hand to prevent the emergence of any additional nuclear-weapon States besides the existing five nuclear-weapon States and on the other Progressively to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons altogether'. The Final Document went on to say that 'this involves obligations and responsibilities on the part of both nuclearweapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States, the former undertaking to stop the nuclear arms race and to achieve nuclear disarmament ... and all States undertaking to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons'. And yet, in practice, we find that while various measures have been initiated to check the possible spread of nuclear weapons, we are yet to witness a single significant step to even slow down, let alone stop or reverse, the far more dangerous and absolutely irrational nuclear arms race that is actually going on. I am convinced that we cannot expect any progress in one without corresponding progress in the other. What is even more distressing is the fact that many of those, who preach the virtue of horizontal non-proliferation, claim in the same breath, their right, based on the theory of nuclear deterrance, not only to possess but even to use nuclear weapons to safeguard national security.

PEACEFUL UTILIZATION

Non-proliferation is a much abused word. In the name of non-proliferation, efforts continue to be made to put obstacles in the way of developing countries who are trying, very often at considerable sacrifice, to develop indigenous facilities for the peaceful utilisation of atomic energy. In the name of non-proliferation, smaller nations are forced to accept restraints and restrictions none of which the nuclear weapon powers are prepared to accept for themselves. In the name of non-proliferation, there are even moves towards institutional measures aimed at limiting certain nuclear fuel cycle activities to a few socalled safe and secure locations, thereby introducing a regime where the vast majority of countries will be placed at a permanent economic and technological disadvantage. This is in spite of the clear injunction laid down in the unanimously adopted Final Document of the United Nations Special Session on disarmament that 'Non-proliferation measures should not jeopardise the full exercise of the inalien-

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able rights of all States to apply and develop their programmes for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development In conformity with their priorities, interests and needs'. The Document went on to say that 'All States should also have access to, and be free to acquire technology, equipment and materials for peaceful uses of nuclear energy, taking into account the particular needs of the developing countries'. These are important considerations which should constantly be kept in mind by the members of the International Atomic Energy which has the primary role in the promotion of the peaceful utilisation of atomic enegy.

I understand that in recent years one of the major functions of the Agency has been the strengthening of international sefeguards covering national nuclear installations. All are agreed that safeguards should be non-discriminatory. At the same time, the view is held, with which we can-

not agree, that safeguards are relevant only in the case of horizontal proliferation. If international verification which is what is sought to be ensured through safeguards, is a non-proliferation measure, it must apply equally to the horizontal and vertical aspects of proliferation of nuclear weapons. It is contended that the jurisdiction of the International Atomic Energy Agency covers only the peaceful applications of atomic energy and, as such, it cannot consider the question of imposing safeguards on noncivilian nuclear establishments. I would submit that the time has come for the Agency to carefully reflect on this aspect of the problem. This is particularly important when we know that the only reported cases of large-scale diversions of weapons grade nuclear material, which is precisely what safeguards are meant to prevent, have taken place from the sanctuaries of the nuclear weapon States.

GENEVA PROTOCOL

The international community has already declared the use of nuclear weapons as a violation of the UN Charter and a crime against humanity. The Geneva Protocol of 1925, which prohibits the use in war of chemical and biological weapons, has proved invaluable in current efforts towards the elimination of both these categories of weapons of mass destruction. A similar treaty or convention prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons could prove a precursor to nuclear disarmament, besides being useful in itself.

FORCE OF DESTRUCTION

India has been in the field of nuclear energy for over three decades. At the end of the second world war, when most nations looked upon atomic energy as a force of destruction, India was already thinking in terms of harnessing atomic energy solely for economic development. The development and growth of nuclear science in India from the laboratory stage to the industrial stage, largely on its own, vindicates the hypothesis that developing countries need not follow the path traversed by advanced

countries for the application of science to society but can, and must, jump certain stages of technological development through Planned utilisation of advanced science and technology. Direct benefits of the Indian atomic energy programme are more profound and of immense significance. The knowledge and skills imparted to Indian Industry has considerably enhanced their technological capability, quality consciousness and self-confidence. The contribution made by atomic energy has helped in the generation of a national scientific culture. At the same time, we have never deflected from our commitment to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

As I have already stated, the International Atomic Energy Agency has an important role to play in the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. I hope that the deliberations of this and succeeding conferences of the International Atomic Energy Agency will succeed in formulating a long term plan that would enable the developing countries, in particular, to utilise the benefits of atomic energy for their national development. The Agency should also seek to establish the means to implement such a plan. In this process the Agency should look at the existing norms of international co-operation in this field.

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What we need is co-operation and not non-cooperation. In this area, as in many others, the task before us calls for wisdom and maturity coupled with a high degree of mutual trust and understanding.

In conclusion, let me, on behalf of the Government and people of India, convey to all of you distinguished delegates assembled here, Our Very good wishes and our hope for the success of this Conference.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Director General Dr. Eklund's Address at IAEA General Conference

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 4, 1979:

Delegations from over 80 States are attending the IAEA General Conference in New Delhi. They elected Dr. H. Sethna, Chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission, as President. In his opening statement, Dr. Eklund, the Director General reviewed the present energy situation in the world.

He paid tributes to India's showing how a developing country can reach a position in the front rank of nuclear industry. The foreseen increase in world population from 4.2 billion to 6.4 billion people by the year 2000 and the corresponding demand for food will automatically increase the future demand for energy, he said.

EXISTING RESOURCES

A decrease in the contribution of the present non-renewable sources of energy to the increasing total energy needs will only be possible if new sources of energy become available on a drastically enlarged scale within the next 20 years. Realistic estimates do not envisage such a development on the scale required. It goes without saying that the new energy sources now being proposed - solar energy (soft and hard) wind energy, geothermal energy and tidal energy should be developed because we will be needing in future all energy sources with potential - considerable time will be required, however, before they can make a substantial contribution.

Estimates made by the most competent body existing - the World Energy Conference of 1977 - show without doubt that, in a few decades, with the present consumption rate we shall have exhausted the existing Petroleum resources, the formation of which took hundreds Of millions of years.

Reserves of coal exist, but they are very unevenly distributed and we have not seen if it will be possible to mine the large quantities needed. This also depends upon finding miners willing to do the job. It also remains to be seen if people faced with the environmental consequences of the use of coal will accept them.

The conclusion is that there is only nuclear power which is immediately available to be used for saving at least part of the hydrocarbon resources for coming generations.

There is no question that developing countries require more energy to meet their needs. The average annual increase in energy consumption in, for example Mexico amounted during the recent five years to 5, 6 per cent.

If we are to avoid blackouts, keep factories going and homes warm and lighted in the late 1980s and 1990s, it is imperative that governments take the necessary decisions an new capacities in electricity production now and overcome the paralysis that has unfortunately undermined the energy programmes of many leading industrial countries.

By the end of 1978, the world's installed capacity of nuclear power amounted to 1,10,000 MWe, or 6 per cent of the world's generating capacity. By 1985, on the basis of plants now being built, the share of nuclear power will increase to about 16 per cent of the electricity actually produced in 1985, it will represent the equivalent of more than 400 million tonnes of oil a year. By way of comparison last year Saudi Arabia produced 420 million tonnes of oil. Obviously, the contribution of nuclear

energy is one we simply cannot forego. This

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was also emphasized at the summit meeting last June this year in Tokyo.

To a far greater extent than the industrialized countries, the developing countries, are facing severe economic problems as a result of the energy supply crisis.

The cost of imported oil represents 26 per cent of the total import bill of India (which is itself now an oil producer) and 31 per cent of that of Brazil, compared with about 13 per cent of the import bill of the Common Market countries. These were the percentages of 1978. At present, the OPEC price is \$ 24 per barrel, and on the spot market the price is \$ 40.

ALTERNATIVE FUELS

In these circumstances, all countries and, particularly, developed countries must heed the recommendations of the leading statesmen of OPEC itself and seek systematically to reduce their dependence on oil, particularly imported oil, in ways which will have the least effect on economic and industrial growth. There are now about a dozen developing countries, including India, whose demand for electricity is large enough to justify the introduction of nuclear power. This number will surely increase as the electrical grids of their developing countries expand, as the price of alternative fuels continues to rise. There is a direct relationship between the expansion of nuclear power in the developed countries and increased energy use in the developing countries. The less nuclear power that the industrial countries generate, the more oil they will consume, the higher the price will go and the less oil will be available to the developing world. The same is true of coal. It is in the direct interest of the developing countries therefore, that nuclear power should rapidly expand in the industrial countries and relieve the pressure on oil supply and prices.

Attention should also be given to the

consequences of not using nuclear energy: the political tensions which will develop as a result of increased competition for OIL and the difficulties which countries will face to maintain employment and an adequate standard of living.

As regards Technical Assistance, Dr. Eklund also appealed to Member States to contribute as much as possible to the voluntary Fund for Technical Assistance as the gap between the need for assistance and the available resources was widening. Asia had provided the first regional example of nuclear research collaboration in the developing world in which 10 countries were taking part. The projects in hydrology and radiation preservation of dried fish deserved particular support.

As regards safety, a significant expansion in the nuclear safety programme of the Agency has been approved and a major international conference on safety which will also deal with the lessons to be learned from the 3 Mile Island accident would be held in Stockholm in 1980 at the Invitation of the Swedish Government.

As regards the nuclear controversy it is interesting to note that there is little debate on the nuclear issue in the developing. countries and in those countries with centrally planned economies. The debate flourishes almost exclusively in countries with an affluent economy, irrespective of whether, or not there is access to alternative energy sources.

In these countries, there are citizens' groups who are not interested in further-economic growth or technological development. They advocate new life styles by which it is implied that their own standard-of living would be maintained and the quality of the environment preserved. It is not clear how the less fortune human beings, either in their immediate surroundings or in the developing countries, will be able to improve their living conditions in such a "no growth" economy. People are informed or misinformed by information media as to some of the basic principles involved in energy production and are invited

to go to the urns to express their preference. One wonders whether or not the electorate will come to learn any of the more relevant facts through this process: for instance, that beginning 1979 a total of 224 reactors were in operation, representing some 1,800 reactor years of experience, and that in no single case has a person been fatally affected

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or seriously injured by radiation from a civilian nuclear power plant. Or alternatively, that we are continuously exposed to radiation of which 68 per cent comes from the natural background. 31 per cent from medical Irradiation. 0.6 per cent from fall out from nuclear tests and only 0.15 per cent from the nuclear power industry. The 1977 UNSCEAR Report calculates that out of an estimated total of 50 million cancer deaths each year from all causes and 7,000 cancer deaths resulting from medical use of X-rays and radiation. the radiation emitted by all nuclear plants now operating in the world could only cause some 60 deaths from cancer each year. The figure of 60 deaths represents a mathematical speculation whereas the other figures are based on statistical evidence.

It was essential In this report to inform both the politicians and the media better on the national level and to arrange for participation of opponents of nuclear power when discussing energy alternatives in order to have a correct and comparative assessment of the various risks involved.

PARTIES TO TREATY

As regards Non-Proliferation, Dr. Eklund noted that 111 States are now parties to the Treaty and that five developing countries have acceded to the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1979. The Treaty now covers 111 countries. Of all regions Latin America, especially because of the Tlatelolco Treaty, is the furthest advanced and is on its way to becoming the first area of the world in which all nuclear activities except those that are specifically peaceful will be prohibited by international law and where this prohibition will be verified by

IAEA safeguards.

The Director General hoped that the trend initiated by the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1970 of bringing all civilian activities throughout the world under IAEA safeguards would not be reversed and expressed his concern about the reports of the spread of unsafeguarded sensitive technologies. One should be aware that where NPT and IAEA safeguards end, the danger of proliferation begins.

We are now approaching the end of an important exercise which has engaged the attention of senior nuclear experts and deplomats from 66 Member States during the last two years. namely the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE). It has reaffirmed the validity of the nuclear choice which most countries made in the 1950s. Two concrete projects have emerged from INFCE. namely. consultations intended to develop a system of international plutonium storage under IAEA auspices in implementation of Article 12.A.5 of the Statute and a study on international spent fuel management.

We are. however. left with some unfinished business, Particularly in respect of reconstructing an internationally acceptable framework of assured supply of enuipment and fuel supplies under adequate safeguards. Dr. Eklund suggested that the Board of Governors may wish to establish a Committee of the whole membership of the Agency to develop a set of guidelines which would provide adequate assurance of continued supply of nuclear material and ensure the willingness of the recipient States to accept the IAEA safeguards regime and strictly adhere to a non-proliferation policy.

The first principle which should govern any subsequent activities after INFCE is that the cornerstone of all non-proliferation efforts is and must remain the Non-Proliferation Treaty and that we must ensure the continuing credibility of Articles IV and VI of that Treaty as well as of the first three Articles. Unless this is done, there is a great danger that support for the

Treaty will erode.

In August next year, the Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty will be reviewing for the second time the operation of the Treaty "with a view to assuring that the purposes of the Preamble and that provisions of the Treaty ire being realised", to quote Article VIII.3. The deliberations which took place within INFCE should provide a useful basis for achieving the same assurances with regard to Article IV as we already have for the first three Articles.

MEASURES TO PROTECT

Dr. Eklund also asked for the assistance of Member States in improving the

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cost effectiveness of Agency safeguards. He recorded the negotiations for a Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material which had led to an important international consensus on the measures to be taken to protect nuclear materials in international transport.

Significant developments are taking place in thermonuclear fusion. On the initiative of the Soviet Union, the Agency has held a number of workshops to study the construction of an international fusion reactor intended to demonstrate the technical feasibility of using fusion for producing electricity. The project is being jointly carried out by Japan, the USSR, the USA and EURATOM. Dr. Eklund also congratulated Professor Abdus Salam of Pakistan, the present Director of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, jointly operated by the IAEA and UNESCO, on his being awarded the Noble Prize for Physics.

Dr. Eklund concluded that the present situation was full of contradictions.

Many speak of intolerable risks from civilian nuclear plants where up to now no fatal radiation accident has occurred but advocate their replacement with coal plants where many people are killed each year.

Frequent reference is made to the heritage we may leave to coming generations in the form of long-lived radioactive wastes, but nothing is said about our systematic efforts to deprive these same generations of the limited quantities of petroleum left.

People seem to accept the existence of tens of thousands of nuclear weapons stored in many different places, they tolerate a growing number of nuclear-power-propelled ships but are worried about land-based nuclear power reactors and talk about proliferation risks even from research reactors. There are many more important issues than the present nuclear debate, how to maintain world peace and how to help the hundred of, millions who are starving, are just two examples.

To feed these people and to better their lot, industrialization is needed, which requires a supply of cheap, reliable energy. This is where nuclear energy can make a substantial contribution.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MEXICO FRANCE JAPAN BRAZIL SWEDEN PAKISTAN

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indian Delegate Reiterates India's Stand for Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 7, 1979:

India has reiterated its resolve to utilise atomic energy for peaceful purposes. In a statement at the IAEA Conference the delegate from India, Shri K. R. P. Singh, Ambassador to Austria, said that India remained committed to the principles embodied in the Statute of the IAEA for accelerating the contribution of atomic energy to peace and prosperity throughout the world.

India expressed concern at the substantial increases in expenditure and the disproportionate share of the Agency's resources being allocated to the safeguards activities rather than promotional programmes. India felt that the major thrust of the activities of the Agency seemed to be steering towards achieving limited nonproliferation objectives at the risk of hampering peaceful nuclear activities. Pointing out the discrimination in the NPT safeguards regime, India felt that the Agency would be missing the woods for the trees if it continued to be involved with such limited safeguards activities which served no realistic purpose. The existing threat posed by' the vast stockpiles of nuclear weapons represented a far greater risk to the survival of mankind than the consequences of horizontal proliferation.

India felt that there was an urgent need to focus on the immediate need of energy supply particularly in the developing countries.

India also expressed concern at the disturbing trend towards the discriminatory

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acceptance of the Agency's Safeguards Inspectors by various States. India regretted that some principles governing technical assistance were discriminatory and not in conformity with the Statute. India had already declared that it would no longer be interested in receiving technical assistance from the Agency since it was not in conformity with the Statute. However it would continue to provide technical assistance to developing countries through Agency's Technical Assistance Programme.

Regarding the creation of a nuclear weapon free zone in South Asia, India's

representative said that the initiative for the creation of such zones should come from the States within the region concerned and that participation must be voluntary. The safeguards in the context of proliferation must apply universally to all nations and to all parts of the world.

India reiterated its support to the principles of more equitabe geographical representation on the Board of Governors and expressed the hope that a workable formula acceptable to all would emerge out of the deliberations.

INDIA USA AUSTRIA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Address of Vice-President Shri M. Hidayatullah to Asian Transport Conference

The following is the full text of the Vice-president, Shri M. Hidayatullah's speech at the Asian Transport Conference on December 10, 1979, in New Delhi:

I feel greatly honoured to be asked to inaugurate the Asian Transport Conference jointly organised by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Federation of International Freight Forwarders Association (FIATA), which commences today its three day workshop. I also thank Ramakrishnaji for the very kind words in which he has introduced me to you all. He has pointedly referred to my recent unanimous election to the office of the Vice-President. It is not known generally that I retired about nine years ago after a quarter of a century as a Judge and this long training in aloofness, made me

keep away from politics which is always redolent of divisions and conflicts. it seems that this was my asset. Others took different paths. I am reminded of the lines of Robert Frost in the poem The Road not Taken which I repeat to you:

"I shall be telling this with a sigh Somewhere ages and ages hence Two roads diverged in the woods and I I took the one less travelled by And that has made all the difference!"

The problems which face this Conference are very pressing and real. With the growth of population and trade all over the world, transport whether by road, rail, air or sea has become of extremely pressing problem. As Ramakrishnaji very correctly pointed Out the demands on national resources to Provide transport are difficult to meet. With the rise in the prices of fuels of all kinds, transport is becoming daily more and more costly and fuel is an integral and indispensable part of transport arrangements. Travel today has become impossible for any but the rich or those travelling at some one else's expense. Travel is no longer a part of education for the young experience for the old. Very few people can say, as Stevenson did in his Travels with a Donkey, that they travel for travel's sake.

The problem as I see it divides itself into two branches. First, there is the question of transport of commodities and goods which in the course of trade must be carried long distances and the second is the question of transport of travellers. Both require different treatment.

MOVEMENT OF GOODS

Commodities and goods can only be cheap if freight is not excessive and does not make the price prohibitive, whether the traffic be inter-state or intrastate. The developing countries are particularly hit by the rise in the cost of fuel and the rise in freight as a consequence. They cannot afford to have their own transport to cut down cost and thus are unable to compete

in local markets by reason of the addition of enormous charges for freight, wharfage etc. Richer countries can afford their own means of transport while the developing countries have to hire it.

Overland transport has lost much of its potential except where no other mode can be available. The movement of goods today is only by water or air. The sea transport is slow and air transport has many limitations. The sea transport problem is being solved by building larger and yet larger ships but that too has a limit. You cannot, in the words of Antonio, entrust all your goods in one bottom. Therefore ships of optimum economic size must be planned.

AIRLINE SERVICES

Air traffic for passengers has grown so vastly that transport of goods by air can only be fractional. Railways have different yards for goods and passenger traffic but the airports handle both traffic together. There may be places where separate airports handle these two kinds of traffic but this is not a reality in every country. Perhaps if passenger traffic is separated from goods traffic, there may be more speed and convenience in movement in air transport.

Passenger traffic also has many snags. There is very little co-operation between commercial airlines. The services they provide are the same, the planes they fly are of the same make and even the flying time is the same. The airlines try to attract traffic by advertising the excellence of their menus and wines and the beauty of their hostesses. The former can only tempt an epicure or a gourmet and the latter, if he is ignorant of the fact that the charm of the air hostess ceases when he disembarks, if not even earlier.

There is no co-operation between the airlines and the area of co-operation where it exists is extremely narrow. There are, of course, possibilities of co-operation and avoidance of much duplication. Services at

airports, maintenance and scheduling of flights admit of much co-operation and this can be achieved by mutual agreement. In some cases this exists but there can be an imposition ab extra of such co-operation. It is here that pressures from UNCTAD and ESCAP can help. Conferences, such as this, can enter upon investigative programmes to discover the means of real collaboration with a view to cutting down delays and expense. If the overlap which exists is overcome I am confident that delays and expense may both be effectively cut.

I am sure these thoughts are not new to you and that you will ponder on some of these. This very representative body must, of course, reach some concrete conclusions based on workable suggestions. I wish you all a useful discussion and fruitful deliberations. To those who are guests to our country I accord a warm welcome and wish them a pleasant stay with us.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Address of Minister of State, Shri Bedabrata Barua at the Plenary Session of Group of 77 in Havana

The following is the text of speech made by the Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Bedabrata Barua at the Plenary Session of the Group of 77 in Havana on December 20, 1979:

Permit me to congratulate H.E. Mr. Hector Rodriguez Llompart on his election as the President of this conference. His elevation to this post is a recognition of his own distinguished abilities and dynamic leadership which should enable the group of 77 to fulfil its aspirations for positive and concrete measures emerging from our meeting in Havana. It is also a small token of the appreciation of all of us present here of the Cuban Government's invitation to hold this meeting in this beautiful city of Havana which has been the venue of so many important meetings. We are indeed grateful to the Government of Cuba for providing us this opportunity of coming together and evolving a common position for

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the third general conference of UNIDO and also for the excellent facilities they have so kindly placed at our disposal. I would also like to take this opportunity to convey our congratulations to all the members of the Bureau of the Conference.

IMPLICATIONS OF STRATEGY

My presence here for this meeting, despite our political pre-occupation back home, indicates the importance we attach to the group of 77 evolving a unifying position at a political level on issues that would come up before UNIDO III at New Delhi. Equally important it is for us to formulate the strategy for negotiations that we should follow in the New Delhi Conference vis-avis the developed countries. I am sure that our meeting will derive its inspiration and guidance from the decisions that were taken in this very capital at the Sixth Conference of Heads of States and Governments of Non-Aligned countries last September. We were also privileged to have President Fidel Castro set the tone for our deliberations with his inaugural address with its constructive and farsighted analysis of the problems and perspectives of development. We have to ensure that the implications of the strategy which we would hopefully work out by the end of this week will be conducive to strengthening of the bargaining power of the developing countries and the continued re-inforcement of their collective self-reliance between now and the commencement of the UNIDO III.

In his inaugural address, President Fidel Castro had underlined the need to promote the further development of collective self-reliance among developing countries as an essential element in their economic and industrial transformation. I would in particular, like to recall his words that solutions must be found for the problems currently separating developed countries from developing countries. India entirely agrees that these solutions do not always imply confrontation and that they can be reached through cooperation. The Hon'ble Executive Director of UNIDO also expressed himself in a comprehensive manner on the various issues that would be before UNIDO III. We have articulated measures in this regard at several meetings and more recently at the Istanbul meeting and the meeting Of Ministers of Industry of the ESCAP region in Bangkok in October this

The third general conference of UNIDO would necessarily have to take up the work from where UNIDO II left off. The second general conference at Lima was a landmark in the field of international economic relations. It embodied a categorical declaration for a major shift in the structure of world industrial production and outlined a charter of action which could make this restructuring possible. Mr. President, we must never forget the underlying basis for the Lima Declaration. This was the positive and dramatic assertion that world industrial productivity must undergo a drastic change within a given time-span in order that vast majorities of the poor living in the developing countries could have a just and fair share in international economic assets. Industrialisation is not just the setting up of a few industrial units or even the prescription of an infrastructure by which factories can be directed. Often times, it has been seen that if the definition of industrialization is left at this stage, it only results in the exploitation of the masses by a few. Instead, it is to be viewed as a complex process - a process in which all the sections of the community participate with full confidence so that the benefits will accrue to them and not to a privileged few.

This in turn means that the structure of industrial development has to suit the requirements of the country concerned. Our problem today and the problem to which UNIDO will have to address itself is to build and develop policies, strategies and institutions which could best translate the objectives of Lima into practical and measurable dimensions. We have to go forward from that we did at Lima. How do we go about achieving these goals?

REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

First, Mr. President, there is need to desegregate the Lima target into its original and sectoral perspective. The Lima target was essentially a global target and prescribed on a global basis the duties, moral obligations and the rights between the developed and the developing countries. From this

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general prescription we have now to identify and demarcate, in specific terms, the regional objectives as well as the sectoral outputs. As we are all aware, economic growth even amongst the developing countries has not taken place on an evenly balanced rate.

It is our firm hope that this situation must be rectified and UNIDO should be an agency through, which a permanent mechanism should be created for evolving, as soon as may be possible, the regional and sectoral targets of growth for the developing world.

The second area where considerable work is necessary is in helping the developing countries especially the least developed, the most seriously affected, in identifying their industrial potential for future growth. It is to be recognised that the very task of formulating our priority strategies for industrialisation poses certain insurmountable problems for the least developed countries. In many cases, they do not have adequate means and the yard-stick for assessing their potential for entering the mainstream of world economy. They clearly have the potential for growth but find it difficult to devise systems by which that

potential could be worked to the maximum possible advantage. UNIDO should address itself to the task of continued industrial surveys in member countries with a view to locating industrial capabilities prescribing measures by which optimal benefit could flow to these areas. Some pioneering work has already been undertaken by UNIDO in this regard but it is our hope that this activity would be greatly enlarged and institutionally strengthened.

REDEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRY

The third area where greater activity is necessary is in the field of redeployment of industry from the developed to the developing countries. Redeployment and restructuring of industry is an important theme of the Lima Declaration and constitutes a pressing issue in the economic situation today. Industry after industry has started to collapse in the north under the sheer weight of economic viability and greatly increasing costs of production. The developing countries on the other hand possess natural resources the labour component and the other factors endowment by which these industries could be successfully and efficiently be made productive and dynamic. In spite of this, however, the Present inequitous system is continued and perpetuated leading to disastrous consequences for the world economy as a whole. At present, there is no mechanism which could carry out continuous research and monitoring of industrial capacities in developed countries to locate and identify capacities which may effectively be transferred to developing countries. It is necessary and crucial that a definite mechanism should be set up which could continuously analyse the economics of specified industries where the principle of dynamic comparative advantage is clearly in favour of developing countries. Such mechanism could also help in evolving guidelines by which positive deployment assistance measures could be enacted in the developed countries to facilitate and promote redeployment of capacity from those countries. UNIDO has, hitherto been using the form of the system of consultation for informally promoting, redeployment. We

would strongly urge, Mr. President, that UNIDO should strength its Organisation for a scientific and detailed enquiry justifying redeployment of industrial capacities on the principle of dynamic comparative advantage.

Mr. President, there is considerable discussion on the need for some new arrangements which could facilitate the flow of financial resources necessary for industrialisation in developing countries. There is no doubt that a tremendous increase in the flow of resources is necessary in order that the developing countries may achieve the Lima target. The question, however, is not of the need but of the means by which such additionality of resources flows and the conditions under which these could be guaranteed. This conference, Mr. President, should endorse the need for such a flow of resources from the North to the South as well as on a south basis and in accepting this principle, could consider various alternatives as far as the institutional mechanism are concerned. Any formulation which seeks to set up a financing mechanism devoted solely to the revival of industrial capacities in the developed countries or which depends merely on tapping the resources of the South

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for the industrialisation of the developing countries does not merit attentions. I propose, Mr. President, that we attempt to identify some basic principles which should underly the new financing arrangements and on which we should agree. To my mind, there are five such basic principles.

FORMS OF EXPLOITATION

Firstly, the financing should be directed to the creation of industrial capacity in the south in keeping with the objectives enshrined in the Lima target. Naturally, it should be recognised that when industrial capacity in the South is greatly enhanced, the north will also benefit since they would be providing machinery, capital goods and technical expertise to accelerate the process. Secondly, the lending should be on soft terms of interest within the capacities of repayment by the developing countries. This presuppose that there must be some ele-

ments of interest subsidies by those countries which have surplus capital. Thirdly, the resources for the financial arrangements should be tapped from markets which have surplus liquidity. Fourthly, funding should be channelised to developing countries through agencies which are set up by the National Governments to effectively utilise these funds. This would not only prevent forms of exploitation of which we are all well aware but should also guarantee that the finances are most effectively utilised. Fifthly, as the main beneficiaries would be developing countries, the decision-making process in the central financing mechanism should be weighted in their favour.

Mr. President, if we at this conference accept these principles as forming the basis of any new financial arrangements we would have taken a major step in the right direction and would have provided guidelines for the establishment of the new financial mechanism. Naturally any new system can be built up only after detailed consultations and negotiations. What is necessary, however, is that the Group of 77 must have common objectives regarding the fundamentals of the financial mechanism.

Mr. President, I would now like to come to the important question, namely, the availability of essential inputs including raw materials and energy resources which are absolutely necessary in the context of the industrial growth requirements of the developing countries in terms of the Lima target. We would suggest that the quantitative implications of the energy requirements in terms of the Lima target should be worked out and special measures required for ensuring sufficient energy resources be agreed upon. This would require certain equity in currently traded energy resources as well as massive efforts for development of both conventional and non-conventional sources of energy in order to provide the necessary dynamic stimulus to accelerated industrialization of the developing world. Again, permit me to recall the words of President Fidel Castro that it is not a matter of knowing how much the price of oil increased every year or every six

months. It is also essential as already unanimously accepted and important part of the deliberations of the Havana Non-Aligned summit that priority of supplies should be maintained and that these should be effected through direct contacts between Governments.

I am grateful, Mr. President, for having been given this opportunity of expressing our views on some of the crucial issues which we are discussing. I sincerely trust that we are able, in the short time at our disposal, in arrive at some positive recommendations which could guide the deliberations of UNIDO III and provide the basis for a new chapter in economic relations during the next development decade. I should also like to say that we are greatly looking forward to welcoming all members of the group of 77 in Delhi next month and carrying forward there our United struggle for our legitimate rights to advance the cause of industrialization of our countries.

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CUBA USA INDIA TURKEY PERU ECUADOR CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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JAPAN

Japanese Loan for Oil Project

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 7, 1979:

The Governments of India and Japan exchanged notes here today concerning the extension of Japanese loan to India for

Yen 6.2 billion (equivalent to Rs. 2270 millions at the current exchange rate) for purchase of Jack-up rig for the Bombay Offshore Oil Field Development Project.

The notes were exchanged between Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and His Excellency Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japann in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

Today's loan is extended in response to the request made by the Government of India and in accordance with the pledge made by Japan at the Aid India Consortium meeting in Paris in June 1979 with a view to further contributing to the economic development of India.

At the Aid India Consortium meeting in June 1979, the Government of Japan pledged loans to India totalling Yen 27.6 billion for five projects.

JAPAN INDIA FRANCE

Date: Dec 01, 1979

Volume No

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MOROCCO

Cultural and Scientific Co-operation

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi an December 10, 1979:

An Indo-Moroccon Cultural and Scientific Cooperation agreement was concluded here today. The draft agreement envisages co-operation between the two countries in the fields of education, culture, science and

technology, media and tourism. It was initiated by Shri Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Mr. Abderrahman Bouchaara, Director of Cultural Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Morocco. The agreement will come into effect after the exchange of Instruments of Ratification.

The two countries will encourage the visits of mediamen, academicians, and youth representatives. In addition to giving scholarships to the scholars of each others country, India and Morocco will take steps to promote co-operation between their respective media organisations, museums and libraries.

MOROCCO INDIA USA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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NORWAY

Plan of Co-operation

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 29, 1979:

Under an Agreement for a "Plan of Operation" signed here today, the Norwegian Government will be providing assistance to the tune of 10.50 million Norwegian Kroners (Rs. 1650 million) to India in the form of fertilizer during 1979. This will cover 9,700 tonnes of urea.

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The second "Plan of Operation" was signed by Shri A. J. S. Sodhi, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Co-

operation on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Haaken B. Hjelde, Counsellor, Development Cooperation, Royal Norwegian Embassy on behalf of the Norwegian Agency for International Development.

With this additional assistance, the total assistance by Norwegian Government comes to 45.50 million Norwegian Kroners (Rs. 7150 million, 44.700 tonnes of urea) during 1979. This assistance will help in Government's effort to make available adequate quantities of fertilizer to agriculturists.

This assistance is in pursuance of the agreement signed in February, 1974 between the Government of India and the Kingdom of Norway in connection with the cooperation for the Economic and Social Development in India. During 1974-79 India received fertilizer worth 186.40 million Norwegian Kroners as gift.

The first "Plan of Operation" providing an assistance amounting to 35.0 million Norwegian Kroners in the form of fertilizer (35,000 tonnes of Urea) during 1979 was signed on October 24, 1979.

NORWAY INDIA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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SWITZERLAND

Assistance for Agricultural Re-finance

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 20, 1979:

The Governments of India and Swit-

zerland exchanged here today notes concerning Swiss assistance to India amounting to SF 40 million (Rs. 20 crores) for the Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation project.

The notes were exchanged between Shri A. G. Asrani, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and His Excellency Mr. Et. Suter, Ambassador of Switzerland to India, on behalf of their respective governments.

The grant assistance of SF 40 million Will be made available to the Government of India over the two years 1979-80 and 1980-81 to finance ARDC rural development operations in favour of small farmers, studies aiming at increasing the socio-economic benefits by ARDC in rural development and equipment increasing the efficiency of ARDC in its general operations and training activities.

This assistance is extended in response to a request made by the Government of India. Switzerland has been extending economic aid to India since 1960. The total aid given so far has been SF 300 million through two loan agreements comprising two transfer credits and the rest as grant. Some of the important projects financed by the Government of Switzerland include the Obra-Sultanpur-Lucknow-Transmission line for Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board, cattle breeding projects in Kerala, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, the Centre for Electronics, Design and Technology at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, the Biochemical Engineering Research Centre attached to the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, and the International School of Milling Technology at Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.

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SWITZERLAND INDIA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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SWITZERLAND

Aid for Forestry Development

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 22, 1979:

An Agreement was signed here today by Shri B. P. Srivastav, Inspector General of Forests, on behalf of the Government of India, and by Mr. Sten-olof Doos, Head, Development Cooperation, Swedish Embassy in India, on behalf of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) for the appointment of a SIDA Forestry Programme Coordinator in India.

The appointment of a Coordinator is intended to form part of the Swedish support to forestry development in India. The Coordinator will assist in the selection, appraisal and preparation of projects for SIDA support; ensure that the forest projects financed under the Indo-Swedish Forestry Co-operation Programme are fully coordinated with each other and also with other development avtivities and implement, review and evaluate the projects supported by SIDA.

Initially, the assignment will be for a period of one year. SIDA will provide personnel and operating costs of the project to the extent of Swedish Kr. 460,000. The Government of India will contribute local costs amounting to Rs. 40,000 for providing office facilities, telecommunications and secretariat services.

SWITZERLAND INDIA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

UNICEF's Assistance to India

The following is the text of the Press Release issued at New Delhi on December 27, 1979:

India and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have decided to extend till the end of next year the agreement for provision of services to children in this country. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi on December 27, 1979 by Shri Saran Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare, and Mr. T. Glan Davies, Regional Director of UNICEF.

Under the agreement, the world body provides supplies and equipment, transport and non-supply assistance to the value of Rs. 41.90 crores (\$ 52.08 million). This sum would be in addition to a balance of Rs. 8.77 crores (\$ 10.9 million) remaining from the 1974 UNICEF commitment. UNICEF also expects to receive special funds for use in India, totalling Rs. 9.80 crores (\$ 12.174 million). Of this amount, Rs. 8.19 crores will be for extending assistance to the village water supply programme and Rs. 1.61 crores for innovations in primary education.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Saran Singh said that during the recent years United Nations has given substantial per capita assistance for children in India.

Mr. Davies indicated that the UNICEF strategy in future will be to concentrate on tribal areas and hilly tracts, which have been neglected so far.

INDIA USA

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Official Spokesman's Statement on Diplomatic Personnel Detained in American Embassy in Tehran

The following is the text of Statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on December 11, 1979 and the question of the diplomatic personnel detained in the American Embassy in Tehran:

President Carter had addressed a letter to the Prime Minister on the question of the diplomatic personnel detained in the American Embassy in Tehran to which Prime Minister has now replied.

In his reply, the Prime Minister stated that attempts to use force or threats of force against any country's diplomatic establishment is a matter of universal concern; we share this concern and indeed it was given public expression by the Government on the 30th of November.

We have noted with concern that there have been some suggestions that the present impasse could perhaps be broken through punitive measures. The Prime Minister acknowledged that the Government of India is full aware of the heavy pressures under which the Government of the United States has been working in extermely trying circumstances and expressed confidence that the President of the United States and the U.S. Government will continue to exer-

cise the commendable restraint which they have shown so far in finding a peaceful solution to the problem.

The Government of India, therefore, hope that the efforts now being made in the U.N. and the initiatives being taken by the Secretary-General, will succeed in bringing about a solution acceptable to the parties.

USA IRAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 01, 1979

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ZIMBABWE

Lifting the Ban on Economic Relations

The following is the text of Statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on December 27, 1979 on the lifting of ban on economic relations with Zimbabwe:

The successful conclusion of the London Conference marks the first major achievement of the process initiated at the Lusaka Summit which will lead to the emergence of an independent, democratic Zimbabwe, provided trust and goodwill are maintained. Great statesmanship has been shown by the parties concerned.

The Patriotic Front, which led the struggle for independence, has accepted significant compromises in the interests of early independence, peace and stability. Lord Carrington, representing the British Government, has shown great determination and skill in bringing about an agreement within the Lusaka framework. The Government of India hopes that free elections will be held as scheduled, followed by an early

proclamation of Zimbabwe's independence. We are ready to play a constructive role in this process in the Commonwealth context, if called upon to do so.

Following the UN Security Council Resolution recommending lifting of sanctions, Government of India have decided to discontinue the ban on economic relations with Rhodesia. Specific steps to implement this decision will soon be taken with a view to permitting resumption of trade,

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