## 1989

# January

# Volume No 1995 **CONTENTS** Foreign Affairs Record VOL XXXV No 1 1989 January CONTENTS **FRANCE** Indo-French Joint Committee Meeting **GUYANA** India Offers Rs. 10 crore Line of Credit to Guyana HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS The Making of an Earth Citizen - Prime 2 Minister's Inaugural Address Inaugural Session of South and South-East Asia Media Assembly - Speech of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs 9 Prime Minister's Republic Day Message Shri Shiv Shanker in Geneva to attend UNESCO Conference on Education 9 **JAPAN**

Japanese Loan for Modernization of Burnpur

10

Works of IISCO

Padma Bhushan Award to Shri Y. Sakurauchi Former Foreign Minister of Japan	11	
KUWAIT		
India and Kuwait Sign Air Services Agreement		11
MALTA		
Visit of Prime Minister of Malta	12	
NAMIBIA		
Tribute by Ambassador C. R. Gharekhan		13
NETHERLAND		
Indo-Dutch Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment 14		
OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS		
Israel 15		
Libya 16		
Illegal Import of Nuclear Material	16	
Visit of Mr. Stephen J. Solarz, US Congressman		16
Portugal 18		
Kampuchea 18		
Pakistan 18		
POLAND		
Good Scope for Indo-Polish Joint Ventures		19
PORTUGAL		
Shri Faleiro Seeks Early Return of Goans' Gold		20
SINGAPORE		
India and Singapore Sign Memorandum of Understanding on Air Services	21	
TANZANIA		
Indo-Tanzanian Collaboration in Oil Exploration		21
UNITED KINGDOM		

Indo-British Cooperation in Oil Sector 22

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLCS

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Power 22

Indo-USSR Cooperation in Civil Aviation 23

**VIETNAM** 

India Agrees to Reschedule Credit Repayment from Vietnam 23

Indo-Vietnamese Joint Commission 24

Joint Statement 24

ANCE GUYANA INDIA SWITZERLAND JAPAN USA KUWAIT MALTA NAMIBIA ISRAEL LIBYA PORTUGAL PAKISTAN POLAND REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE TANZANIA VIETNAM

**Date**: Jan 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### FRANCE

Indo-French Joint Committee Meeting

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 29, 1989 on Indo-French Joint Committee:

The Seventh Meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee is scheduled to begin here tomorrow. The Indian side at the 2-day meeting on January 30-31 will be led by the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh while the French delegation will be led by Mr. Jean Marie Rausch, the French Foreign Trade Minister. The Meeting will conclude with the signing of minutes by both sides on January 31.

The last meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee was held in Paris in October 1987 and the discussions mainly took place regarding review of bilateral commercial relations between India and France, cooperation in the field of industry and finance and sectoral cooperation in mining, power, tidal power, coal, oil and natural gas, energy conservation, electronics, telecommunications, postal communication, railway, environment, health, agriculture and water resources. This time also the

progress in these sectors will be reviewed and new initiatives discussed for further cooperation in these fields.

In addition to the above, the French side has also apportioned a sum of 10 million French Francs (FF) as a trade promotion measure for exports of certain specified items to France. This proposal is being actively considered in consultation with the Trade Development Authority (TDA), Department of Economic Affairs and Embassy of India, Paris. This is expected to result in increased exports from India to France and is likely to pave the way for bridging the trade deficit which India sustains against France.

ANCE INDIA USA **Date**: Jan 29, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **GUYANA**

India Offers Rs. 10 crore Line of Credit to Guyana

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 18, 1989 on India's offer of Rs. 10 crore line of credit to the Government of Guyana:

India has agreed to make available a line of credit of approximately Rs. 10 crores to the Government of Guyana for the setting up of export-oriented projects in Guyana. Projects and Equipment Corporation (PEC), a subsidiary of the State Trading Corporation of India (STC) has already begun the work for identification of such projects. Both sides have further agreed to explore possibilities for direct Indian investment in projects which could

-1>

make use of the rich natural and mineral resources of Guyana as well as its preferential access to North American and West European markets under existing arrangements such as the Caribbean Basin Initiative and Lome Convention for the mutual benefit of both the countries. This is indicated in the Protocol of the First Meeting of the Indo-Guyanese Joint Commission which concluded here today. The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh and the Minister of Trade and Tourism of Guyana, Mr. Winston Murray signed the Protocol as Co-Chairmen of the Joint Commission, on behalf of their respective Governments.

Following the deliberations, India and Guyana have agreed to undertake measures to increase the level of bilateral trade and one of the measures agreed upon is the setting up of a Joint Business Council representing business organisations on both sides. Both sides have agreed also that participation of Indian companies in design and supervision of externally financed projects in areas to be identified by Guyana would be encouraged. Besides this, possibilities for Indian companies to participate by way of both equity and management in the public sector investment programme of Guyana would be further explored.

The deliberations also focussed on the mechanism of setting outstanding debt owed to India and it was agreed that in case the payment could not be made within a reasonable time, the mechanism of debtequity swap could be explored.

Shri Dinesh Signh, who headed the Indian delegation, said there was tremendous scope for interaction between India and Guyana in the areas of trade, science and technology, cultural and economic cooperation in the best spirit of SouthSouth Cooperation. There was scope for intensive interaction particularly in the context of the economic recovery programme of Guyana and the Joint Commission deliberations could prove to be a landmark in improving bilateral economic cooperation. Shri A. N. Varma, Commerce Secretary and Shri V. S. Venkatraman, Joint Secretary (Americas), Ministry of Commerce, were among those who participated from the Indian side, while the Guyanese delegation included highlevel representatives of several Guyanese companies as well as top officials and the Guyanese High Commissioner in India Mr. Steve Narine.

Both sides have also agreed to formulate a comprehensive Indo-Guyanese Cultural Exchange Programme for 3 years as well as to promote programmes of scientific and technical cooperation through transfer of technology.

Guyana, formerly known as British Guyana, is the largest among the Caribbean Common Market countries. It enjoys preferential access to USA, Canada and the EEC under the Caribean Basin Initiative and the Lome Convention. At various meetings here, Mr. Murrey stressed that the Indian business community could take advantage of these schemes and identify with the economic development of Guyana.

YANA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC TOTO CANADA

**Date**: Jan 18, 1989

**Volume No** 

#### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Making of an Earth Citizen - Prime Minister's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1989. Prime Minister's inaugural speech on the second Conference in memory of Indira Gandhi on the 'Making of an Earth Citizen':

We are grateful to our eminent guests who have gathered here in Delhi in such

-2>

large numbers to pay tribute to Indira Gandhi. You are discussing a subject which was dear to her heart. She saw herself as an Earth Citizen.

The oneness of humanity has been a fundamental belief of Indian civilisation, succinctly expressed in that oft-repeated but deeply evocative phrase from our scriptures:

"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" - the world is one family. Indira Gandhi's worldview was deeply imbued with this belief. She rejected the fashionable division of our common earth into the First, Second and Third Worlds, affirming her belief in One World. She herself articulated this thought beautifully when she told the Non-aligned Summit in Delhi:

"Our world is small but it has room for all of us to live together".

Homo sapiens have inhabited the earth for a million years or more. For almost all of this period, the species remained virtually indistinguishable from the other animal life out of which we have evolved in terms of culture, organisation of society, and way of life. Civilisation, as we understand it, began some ten thousand years ago with the atomistic individual or family banding together with others to constitute a rudimentary tribe. From those beginnings till now, every further stage in the evolution of civilisation has been marked by the coming together of larger and larger groups, from tribes to clans, from clans to racial and religious groupings, to feudal kingdoms and empires, from these to modern States. Now we are into a phase where more and more States are getting together in regional groupings voluntarily transferring some of the attributes of sovereignty from the State to the larger entity.

At every stage, the progress of civilisation has been associated with the enlargement of the area of group loyalty. The logical culmination of this process will be reached when the entire

planet is regarded as one, when each inhabitant of our planet regards the earth as one, when all those who inhabit the world consider themselves as belonging to one family, when each of us evolves into a true Earth Citizen.

The root cause of divisiveness and compartmentalisation is fear, hatred and agreed. Together, they breed prejudice, discrimination, domination and violence. Therefore, it is in the mind of the human being that the struggle must be waged to eliminate the artificial barriers that divide nation from nation, race from race, religion from religion, clan from clan, tribe from tribe, and human being from human being.

In Nature, instinctive fear is the basis of survival. The cycle of life begins in fear and ends in violent death, victim fleeing from predator, as the pigeon flies from the hawk, the mouse scurries from the snake, and the doe bounds away from the tiger.

With fear goes hostility. If the intentions of others are suspect and if enmity is assumed, then what is alien is regarded with apprehension. From this arises hatred.

Avarice leads to the coveting of the possessions of others, the territorial ambitions, the lust for dominance, the cruelty and carnage which wars of aggression have inflincted on humankind down the ages.

The decisive breakthrough in human civilisation came in the sixth century B.C., that great watershed in history, which witnessed the life and work of Socrates in Greece, Confucius in China, Zoroaster in Iran, and the Buddha in India. Each confronted the quintessential problem of individual ethics and social organisation. In distinctive ways, their teachings changed the course of human thought and social action. The Buddha's enduring lesson was the substitution of fear by confidence, hatred by compassion, and greed by shar -3>

ing as the basis for the organisation of human society.

The Buddha's perception of life without fear, hatred, greed and violence, embraced all humanity, not just one segment or the other. Humanity itself has still to achieve that all embracing perception.

In other societies, other civilisations there has been a parallel intellectual and spiritual process of vanquishing the divisive forces of darkness and destruction, a quest for the sources of light which give life, unity and abundance. It is axiomatic in the highest traditions of all civilisations that life is infinitely precious, even sacrosanct. The ultimate goal of every culture is to bring the human personality to full efforescence. In each of our traditions, the essential unity of humankind is

underscored. Gathered here at this conference are representatives of all the great civilisations of the world. We hope each participant will be able to distill from his or her heritage those elements which will help bring into being One World and the Earth Citizen. I would like to dwell for minute on the Indian view.

Our ancient seers taught us, both as a matter of personal ethics and as a guideline for the organisation of society, that there was a valid alternative to the corroding emotions of fear, hatred and avarice. They taught tolerance and respect for diversity. They taught the benefits of synthesis. They taught the virtue of regarding nothing as alien, of taking the best from all that was new or different and so synthesising it into one's being that no reason remains for fear or hatred of that which is not one's own.

There are other civilisations whose antiquity is not less than ours, and other civilisations whose continuity matches our own, but probably none whose antiquity and continuity are associated with so joyous a celebration of profusion and diversity as ours is. In much of the world, linguistic boundaries have marked the frontiers of the nation-State. In parts of the world, religion has been the determining factor dividing State from State. In most States of comparable geographic dimension to ourselves, unity has been achieved through the dissemination of a measure of uniformity in respect of language, culture and religion. In India, we regard our scores of languages and hundreds of dialects not as a source of divisiveness but as a great source of strength and unity. All the great religions of the world - Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Jainism, Buddhism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism - happily coexist in mutual respect and mutual enrichment. The only culture we recognise is the composite culture of India.

The continuing miracle of our unity in diversity arises from the high value attached in our traditions to self-confident synthesis, to the acceptance of diversity, to tolerance and compassion and, arising from these, non-violence as a way of life

It is undeniable that in the history of India, as in the history of all countries, there has been fear and hatred and greed, prejudice and discrimination, and much violence. But there has been in the Indian traditions, as a running thread in its thinking and philosophy, a profound belief in the desirability and practicability of confidence in lieu of fear, of compassion in place of hatred, of sharing in preference to greed, of non-violence rather than violence. Compare, for example, these verses from the life and teacings of the Buddha with Rabindranath Tagore's prayer and Mahatma Gandhi's words twenty five centuries later.

This is how the Buddha's Nirvana, or Enlightenment, came about:

Because he saw them afraid of birth, old age, and death, And because they continued to act in ways that brougt birth-old

age and death,

He was moved to pity.

-4>

Because it was a time of war and pestilence, killing and maiming,

And because they had hatred in their hearts, for which they would suffer.

He was moved to pity.

Because some were rich, and clung to riches,

And the fruit they reaped was the bitter one of suffering,

He was moved to pity.

From which followed the teachings of the Dhammapada:

Let us live happily,
hating none though others hate.
Let us live without hate among those
who hate.
Force is not Dhamma,
who uses it, not righteous...
Non-violence is Dhamma,
who uses it, righteous.
Crazed with craving,
men flee like hunted hares.
O bhikku, freedom comes only from
the conquest of craving.

Rabindranath Tagore said:

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;

Where knowledge is free;

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;

Where the words come out from the depth of truth;

Where the tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;

where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action -

Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."

And Mahatma Gandhi said:

Fear is a worse disease than malaria or kala-azar; these diseases kill the body, fear kills the soul. Hatred is wrong, at any time and everywhere. Greed and deceit are often the offspring, as they are equally often the parents of violence. Hate is the subtless form of violence. Fearlessness is the first requisite of spirituality. Cowards can never be moral.

This long tradition of seeking alternatives to fear, hatred, greed and violence has helped moderate the role of violence in our history. More significantly, it has given our civilisation a heterogeneity that is probably unique among world civilizations.

Modern India's advocacy of One World has grown out of these ethical perceptions and historical experiences. Unimpressed by victories obtained through blood and gore, Mahatma Gandhi rejected the kind of courage that grows from the barrel of a gun. For him, fear had no place in the world of the satyagrahi, the seeker of Truth. If you want to be a true satyagrahi, he said, learn how to base your struggle on the courage of your convictions, on the courage to bravely bear the consequences of your actions, on the courage to bravely bear the consequences of your actions, on the courage to convert the enemy by force of example rather than force of arms. He brought down the mightiest military empire in history without himself resorting to arms. It was an object lesson in the practicality of non violence as an instrument of statesmanship.

Nonviolence is much more than a mere abstention from physical force. It is the conquest of fear, the conquest of hatred, the conquest of greed. Mahatma Gandhi and his followers stressed that they bore no personal enmity or ill will towards the individual citizen of the country which happened to be the oppressor. Indeed, far from regarding the English man as the enemy, it was a cardinal tenet of the freedom struggle that friend -5>

ship between the Englishman and the Indian was not only desirable in itself but could only follow the ending of the distorted relationship between colonial master and colonised slave which imperialism had introduced.

The other basic perception was that the struggle for the liberation of India should be regarded as part of the struggle for the liberation of all humankind. Indeed, our freedom fighters went so far as to regard the end of colonialism not only as a liberating force for the colonised but as a liberating force for the colonisers themselves.

Mahatma Gandhi defined nonviolence as "the greatest virtue, cowardice as the greatest vice." He said:

"Nonviolence springs, from love, cowardice from hate. Non-

violence always suffers, cowardice would always inflict suffering. Perfect nonviolence is the highest bravery... It is the acid test of nonviolence that in a nonviolent conflict there is no rancour left behind and, in the end, enemies are converted into friends."

Independent India was born in 1947 into a world that was overshadowed by what was then the recent invention of nuclear weapons and the recent emergence of unremitting hosility between the two major power blocks. The mutual fear of the military pacts for each other, and the hatred on which their rivalry was based, were both anathema to India. Moreover, with the nuclear age having dawned, we regarded the violence implicit in the doctrines of deterrence on which their rivalry was postulated to be suicidal for the combetants and homicidal for humanity at large.

At bottom, the doctrine of deterrence is but the expression of fear in regard to the intentions of the rival power centre and an affirmation of confidence in violence as the answer to that apprehension. The philosophy of peaceful co-existence, expounded by Jawaharlal Nehru, postulates mutual confidence, cooperation for mutual benefit, healthy competition, and the pacific settlement of disputes on the basis for relations between social and economic systems. Nehru's Non-alignment was thus an attempt to fuse India's millennial concept of the world as one family with a political philosophy which responded to contemporary needs and contemporary realities. It was a vision that few at the time shared.

For the better part of four decades, political doctrines and military strategies have been espoused which pit fear against fear, hatred against hatred, and violence against violence. Now, at last, the realisation is beginning to dawn of the immense danger and ultimate futility of such a worldview. A search for alternatives is beginning, a quest in the directions pioneered by Jawaharlal Nehru and propagated by Indira Gandhi.

As this movement gathers momentum, it becomes particularly important to emphasise that it is the failure to acknowledge the existence of the Earth Citizen that is fundamentally responsible for the dangerous divisions on which the present world order is based. No nuclear weapon power contemplates using a nuclear weapon against its own citizens. The possibility is envisaged only against the citizens of the rival system. If the outlook of the Earth Citizen were to permeate the military mind, then the folly of preparing to eliminate all life from our planet would immediately become apparent.

Similarly, the iniquities of the present international economic order are acceptable only if those who are more fortunately placed than otherselves regarded it as their right to remain so and thus perpetuate a system which divides the world into developed and developing, haves and have-nots, North and South.

Indeed, it is only because they have so divided the world that the minority of the well-off are -6>

what they are, having deprived the vast majority of their fair share. The Earth Citizen would regard it as his bounden duty to ensure equality of opportunity, equity and justice to all members of the human family.

Equally, our environment is global. The consequences of environmental neglect insidiously infect the whole of the world and are projected into future generations. Indira Gandhi said at Stockholm:

One cannot be truly human and civilised unless one looks upon not only all fellow-men but all creation with the eyes of a friend. She deplored "the sense of values of the contemporary world which ignores the rights of others and is oblivious of the longer perspective" and posed the question which still rings in our ears:

Will the growing awareness of "one earth" and "one environment" guide us to the concept of "one humanity"?

It is now recognised that the cost of conservation is an essential cost of progress, which must be built into the processes of material growth. What has still to be recognised is that the health of the earth is a joint responsibility involving all of us. Everyone must cooperate in resolving problems of the environment, which affect us all and generations to come.

Not only is Nature under assault, so is the human heritage. The assault is of two kinds. One, the physical deterioration, even destruction, of what has been handed down to us by our forbears. The other is the artificial barriers that are placed in the way of the free flow of information, the interaction and crossfertilisation of cultures so necessary for imparting a pulsating vitality to world civilisation. The Earth Citizen regards himself as heir to all that humankind has inherited. He regards himself as the guardian of all the treasures we have been bequeathed. He regards it as his responsibility to tend the world repository of cultures and to pass on this treasure-trove to his children, carefully conserved and bountifully enriched.

We are meeting here at a conjuncture in world history when, for the first time since nuclear weapons were invented, a process of nuclear disarmament has begun. We are meeting at a conjuncture when, for the first time since curtains were rung down over Europe, a measure of understanding appears to be emerging between the rival power blocs. If the opportunities proferred by the moment are seized, it could lead to a world order which looks upon peace and security not as a national matter but as an international concern, which looks upon economic progress and development as a global commitment rather than only a national task, which regards global environmental cooperation as crucial to sustainable development, which cherishes the human heritage as indivisible and precious.

India presented to the United Nations last June an Action Plan for a world without nuclear weapons, rooted in nonviolence. It is our belief that negotiations on such an Action Plan will fruitfully commence when there is general consensus that the earth belongs to all of us and that, therefore, we need a world order which makes Earth Citizens of us all. We look forward to your views.

To the task of defining the Earth Citizen and determining how he might be brought into being, this Conference is dedicated. I feel the presence of Indira Gandhi here as we commence our deliberations.

-7>

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA GREECE IRAN SWEDEN

**Date**: Jan 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Inaugural Session of South and South-East Asia Media Assembly -Speech of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs

The following is the text of a speech made by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao Minister of External Affairs on the inaugural session of South and South East Asia Media Assembly in New Delhi on Jan 23, 1989:

It is entirely appropriate that this assembly has convened here where Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru lived for many years. We have just seen on the lawns outside a panoramic view of Nehru's life and times reminding us of all the values that he stood for. As an astute statesman Nehru recognised the artifical political, economic and cultural barriers that divide the world. But this realisation did not dampen his firm belief in an internationalism which could transcend national frontiers and unite humanity with universally shared values, overcoming the devisive influences of political ideology and military factions. Panditji understood quite clearly that such an internationalism can only be founded on closer people-to-people contact between nations permitting

cultural intermingling and a free flow of information and ideas. The media have a crucial role to play in promoting such an exchange of information and ideas across national borders.

It is a paradox of present-day reality that as communications technology achieves higher and higher levels of sophistication, more and more imbalances have developed in the flow of information across the globe. The world media remain hostage to a cold war syndrome in which ideological considerations and local prejudices govern the nature of disseminated information, economic and political power determines access to information, and rumour, gossip and half-truths are paraded as information to serve petty chauvinistic ends.

We have to rescue the information system of the world from this malaise. A new World Information and Communication Order which the Nonaligned Movement has been advocating should aim at terminating the colonisation of information, rectifying intraregional and interregional imbalances in information flow and facilitating a freer regime of communication. Such an order would dispel the monopoly of a few agencies over the world information system, encourage the development of diverse communications infrastructures and establish the right to objective and undistorted information as a fundamental right of all peoples of the world. The Nonaligned News Agencies Pool envisaged by the Algiers Summit of the Nonaligned Movement, and set up in 1975 embodies these objectives, but is only a modest beginning in this direction. In our own South Asian region, the SAARC programme of audio-visual exchanges has been launched to break down artificial barriers to information exchanges within this region.

We are still a long way from an equitable world information order. Today, information on political events is largely the version of the stronger political power, economic information is tailored to the further economic advancement of the richer countries, and cultural information seeks to impose on the weaker countries of the world, a conformity with the cultural values of the stronger powers. Information about technological developments is withheld on competitive considerations. All these are unacceptable to true internationalism: objective truth and creative ideas cannot and should not be prisoners to political and military doctrines.

I hope that this assembly will reflect on at least some of these vital issues and formulate some meaningful programme of action to evolve, within and among the countries represented here, a mechanism for information interaction, which would seek to at least partially remedy the -8>

existing unsatisfactory system. If such a mechanism could be developed at the subregional or regional levels, we can then endeavour to harness this experience to the reform of the world

information system along the lines of equal access to knowledge irrespective of socio-political system or economic development.

I find that the participants in this assembly are drawn from South Asian and South-east Asian countries. All these countries have shared cultural affinities in which outside observers have discerned an oriental school of philosophy. There have been similarities in the historical development of these countries. They are today at a comparable level of economic development. There are, of course, national perspectives, and these would inevitably influence the functioning of the media in each of these countries. At the international level, however, we must exploit the commonalities rather than emphasise the divergences. We must work towards eliminating the gaps in our understanding of each other. We must take advantage of our geographical proximinty to establish an unhindered information network amongst us, which will not fall prey to the maladies of the existing international system. As experienced representatives of the media in your countries, I am sure you would be able to identify the areas in which you can cooperate with each other to build up such a network. The guiding principle for such a cooperative venture should be that expressed in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations and inspires the movement for an equitable information system. That is the universal right and freedom, the universal right and freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

DIA USA ITALY ALGERIA

**Date**: Jan 23, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Republic Day Message

The following is text of the Prime Minister's message on the occasion of Republic Day 1989:

The people of India belong to different religions and ethnic groups but amidst the diversity, there is the strong feeling of oneness and unity which has made for the strength of our country. Over the years, our people have worked unitedly to preserve and further the ideals of democracy, secularism and socialism enshrined in our Constitution.

The efforts of our people have resulted in tremendous progress in numerous areas. The pace of development in agriculture and industry has been heartening. Significant advances have been made in science and technology which have been put to good use in improving the quality of life of our people.

While adapting to modernization, our people continue to cherish the rich cultural heritage and immutable values which have carved a niche for India among the nations of the world.

The progress made by India and her people fills us with optimism for the future. On the occasion of the Republic Day celebrations, I send my best wishes to all Indians abroad.

### DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jan 23, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Shri Shiv Shanker in Geneva to attend UNESCO Conference on Education

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 09, 1989 regarding attending of Shri Shiv Shanker, Union Minister for Human Resources Development, the International Conference on Education in Geneva:

Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Union Minister for Human Resource Development has -9>

arrived in Geneva to attend the 41st Session of the International Conference on Education organised by UNESCO. The Conference is being held from January 9 to 17, 1989.

The Conference is discussing the new trends in Post-Secondary Education as well as diversification of Post-Secondary Education in the light of the employment situation in various countries. The Government of India as well as UNESCO attach great significance to these discussions because scientific and technological development trends have to be matched by education and Post-Secondary Education has to be designed to meet the needs of the individuals as well as the world of work. Post-Secondary Education has also to be made relevant to the demands of various

population groups, particularly the disadvantaged sections, weaker sections and minority sections and imbalance in the supply and demand of skilled manpower has to be rectified and the challenges of unemployment and under-employment have to be met.

The Government of India has brought under implementation the major time bound programme of vocationalisation of education at plus two level as part of its national policy on education.

ITZERLAND INDIA USA

**Date**: Jan 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

**JAPAN** 

Japanese Loan for Modernization of Burnpur Works of IISCO

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 06, 1989 on Japanese loan for modernization of Burnpur works of IISCO:

Japan will give a loan of Yen 5546 million (equivalent to Rs. 65.4 crore app.) to India for modernization of the Burnpur Works of Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited (IISCO). The loan will be extended through the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan, which is the official loan giving agency of the Government of Japan.

Agreement to this effect was signed here today by the Japanese Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Eijiro Noda and the Finance Secretary, Shri S. Venkitaramanan, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The loan assistance is repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and carries an interest rate of 2.5 per cent per annum.

The Government of Japan had in principle agreed to extend assistance for this project during the visit of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Japan in November, 1985. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) had then prepared a detailed project report for modernization of the Burnpur Works of IISCO. As a follow-up of the JICA report M/s Japanese Consulting Companies have now been commissioned to take up detailed engineering studies using the JICA report as the starting point. The OECF loan of Yen 5546 million would be utilised for: Review

of the Feasibility Study report prepared by JICA, Preparation of Basic Plan, Preparation of technical inquiry/specification, Master Plan for organization, management system; education and training of personnel; and start up operation and Updating of cost estimates. The detailed engineering study is expected to be completed by March, 1990.

-10>

## PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Jan 06, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

**JAPAN** 

Padma Bhushan Award to Shri Y. Sakurauchi Former Foreign Minister of Japan

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 25, 1989 on the award of Padma Bhushan to Shri Y. Sakurauchi, Former Foreign Minister of Japan:

The Government of India has decided to award Padma Bhushan to Shri Y. Sakurauchi former Foreign Minister of Japan. Mr. Sakurauchi has been President of the India-Japan Association since May 1977. He was also the Chairman of the Indo-Japan Parliamentarians' Friendship Association since March 1976. He is a leading member of the House of Representatives of Japan and had been elected 15 times successively since 1977. As President of the Japan China Friendship Association the Japan Soviet Friendship Association as well as of the Japan-Latin America Friendship Association he has played a highly visible role in International affairs. He has taken keen interest in promoting Indo-Japanese relations and has visited India almost every year. He is a close associate of the former Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan. Earlier he had served as the Minister of International Trade and Industry, Agricultural and Forestry as well as in the Ministry of Construction. From 1979 till 1982 he was Secretary General of the Liberal Democratic Party.

PAN USA INDIA CHINA

**Date**: Jan 25, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **KUWAIT**

India and Kuwait Sign Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 04, 1989 on Indo-Kuwait Air Services Agreement:

India and Kuwait signed here today an agreement relating to air services between the two countries. The agreement was signed by Shri S. K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism on behalf of India and by H.E. Ali Zakaria Al-Ansari, Ambassador of Kuwait in India on behalf of his country.

The agreement will enable each of the national airlines of the two countries to operate 10 services per week between India and Kuwait.

This agreement is likely to give a further boost to growing Indo-Gulf relationships in the field of trade and industry and also tourism.

-11>

WAIT INDIA USA

**Date**: Jan 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **MALTA**

Visit of Prime Minister of Malta

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 10, 1989 on the visit of H.E. the Prime Minister of Malta to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, H.E. the Prime Minister of Malta, Dr. Edward Fenech-Adami, is currently paying an official visit to India.

Since independence Malta has followed an independent foreign policy tailored to suit its special strategic needs arising from its location in the heart of the Mediterranean with southern Europe and North Africa as its close neighbours. Malta has maintained a realistic balance between its natural pull towards Europe and geographical proximity to the North African Mediterranean coast and beyond that between its friendship with the West and expansion of ties with other countries. There is admiration in India for Malta's policies which have helped the country to preserve its sovereignty and independence and which have promoted peace and security not only in the Mediterranean but also beyond. It is this similarity in the approach to international affairs and a common desire to promote international peace, understanding and security through independent policies that bring India and Malta close to each other. Malta's active membership of the Nonaligned Movement, of the Commonwealth and other international organisations, besides a shared faith in democracy and in the rule of law strengthen the rapport between the two countries.

Dr. Fenech-Adami's visit is especially welcome as the last Prime Ministerial visit from Malta took place almost 20 years ago. With this visit, a new phase in relations between India and Malta has begun which should see more exchanges between the two countries at various levels.

During his visit, the Prime Minister of Malta called on the President and the Vice-President while the Ministers of External Affairs, Energy and Surface Transport called on the visiting dignitary.

The Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of Malta held extensive discussions on January 9 on matters of bilateral and international interest. The subjects covered included Prime Minister's recent visits to China and Pakistan and the situation in Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Maldives, Kampuchea, West Asia, Southern Africa and recent developments in the Mediterranean. In addition, Commonwealth affairs and NAM were touched upon with a focus on defining a new role for the Nonaligned Movement in the context of the changes in the international situation.

Views were exchanged on Malta's recent initiative in the UN on the important subject of conservation of climate. It was agreed that the two countries would consult and cooperate with each other within the various international organisations on pursuing the objectives of this initiative as well as other proposals for international cooperation directed towards protection of the environment.

On the bilateral side, an extensive discussion took place on ways and means to expand economic, commercial, scientific, technological and other cooperation between the two countries. The recent structural changes that have been carried out in the

Maltese economy and the package of economic incentives for foreign entrepreneurs and companies that have been announced were highlighted, including the obvious advantages of Malta's strategic

-12>

position in the Mediterranean. The Indian side conveyed the Maltese side its willingness to encourage Indian participation in mutually beneficial economic and industrial ventures in Malta. It was agreed that a broad-based Indian delegation consisting of Government and business representatives will visit Malta shortly with a view to exploring possibilities of enhanced economic, commercial, scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries in a number of promising areas.

The talks between the two sides were held in a most friendly and cordial atmosphere. The Maltese Prime Minister extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Malta which was accepted with pleasure.

LTA INDIA USA CHINA PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN MALDIVES SRI LANKA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jan 10, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## **NAMIBIA**

Tribute by Ambassador C. R. Gharekhan

The following is the text of a Tribute by Ambassador C. R. Gharekhan, Permanent Representative of India and Vice President of the United Nations Council for Namibia to the Memory of Mr. Bernt Carlsson, United Nations Commissioner for Namibia at New York on Jan 04, 1989:

He left us in the chill of winter, a winter soon to be warmed by the first promised shaft of freedom's sunlight on Namibia's shores. He had no wife, no child left in the bereft world of the living. His survivors were a people, the proud forebearers of independent nationhood, the many who had lived, and worked, and died, for the moment he was not to see.

"For if the temple is to be cast down, we must first build the temple," the poet has written. And he who worked without pause for his own office to cease to be personified that truth.

Scarcely five hundred days of measured time were given him. And he captured each of its drifting moments, tamed it and brought it to bear upon our mission.

He was born in a land rugged in its contours, gentle in its history, feeling in its disposition. A land once described as the conscience of an embittered world. Its qualities were innate in his being. Perhaps his will was too rugged, his ways too gentle, his care too feeling. And perhaps it was a fault to have steered his course upon the path charted by the stars, rather than that of the lights of each passing ship.

He spoke, and wrote and thought of Namibia with a sensitivity many of us had grown unaccustomed to in our laboratories of language where we have learnt to fashion phrases that do not give offence and are too shallow for tears. And when he spoke with that intensity, his eyes at times did not seem to reach us, for what was instinctive to him was the contact of the heart.

Death, for most of us, will be a brief moment of isolation. We will go alone. His death was in pace with his life. He who so persuasively argued the inevitable relationship between man and man, stranger and stranger, died along with the many whom he did not know and who did not know him. And we are sure that in that final, terrible moment he reached out his hand to try and help and was himself reached out to. It could not have been otherwise with him.

-13>

And all the elements his life had pitted itself against claimed him for their own. Cruelty, indecency, barbarism. He cherished for Namibia the qualities of trust, of compassion, of sharing, which were so much a part of his own person. These were qualities that meant little to those who measured the worth of human life in the terror extracted from its extinction. Their anger and their despair had so often tried to claim him. In the end, they won a battle. The war was his to win.

Perhaps this world was not meant for the likes of him. Perhaps again, he helped redeem those facets of our world without which we cannot survive. Today, the memory of his death casts a shadow. And yet the memory of his life brings our fragile beings a light wholly his own.

Asia joins the mourning world in tribute to one we were proud to claim as one of our own.

MIBIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Jan 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **NETHERLAND**

Indo-Dutch Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 30, 1989 on Indo-Dutch Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment:

A one-day seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment under the bilateral programme between the Government of India and the Government of Netherlands will be held here on February 6, 1989. Shri Z. R. Ansari, Minister of Environment and Forests will inaugurate the seminar.

This one-day seminar of Secretaries of the State Governments and Joint Secretaries of the Union Government engaged in environmental impact assessment in one way or other has been organised to sensitise the participants about the need for environmental impact assessment and the role it can play in formulation of projects vis-a-vis consideration of environmental issues.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests proposes to hold three such oneday seminars and 15 workshops during the next three years under the Indo-Dutch bilateral programme. A series of such workshops and seminars are being held to acquaint senior officers at the technical level and administrative level competent enough to understand and appreciate the principles and procedures of environmental impact assessment.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is an essential prerequisite for planning and implementation of development projects. It is an important tool for considering the environmental implications right from the planning stage of development projects and incorporating the safeguards wherever required. Many of the environmental problems being faced along with the development projects are primarily due to the absence of such exercise to begin with.

It is in this context, Government approval towards investment decisions for projects in various sectors is now accorded only after environmental impact assessment and clearance.

It is, therefore, necessary to build up professional competence at the technical management level and to create apprecia -14>

tion among the decision makers regarding the principles and procedures of environmental impact assessment.

The proposed 15 workshops will cover the following sectors. They are: Water Resources Development, Siting of Industries, Land Use Planning and Ports and Harbours.

The workshops will be organised in selected institutions within the country and the faculty members will include Indian and Dutch experts in the identified areas. Each workshop will be for a duration of six days.

The purpose of the proposed three one-day seminars during the next three years will be to sensitise the participants about the need for environmental impact assessment and the role it can play in formulation of projects vis-a-vis consideration of environmental issues. The themes to be covered in such seminars will be the way EIA can be made part of the planning process (policy aspects), the advantages and possibilities of EIA, Indian experience with EIA, Dutch experience with EIA and its relevance for India and international aspects.

DIA USA

**Date**: Jan 30, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Israel

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 09, 1989:

In reply to a question about a news item in the Statesman of today: 'Better ties with Israel in the offing", the Official Spokesman said that as far as continuing speculation on any upgradation of links with Israel was concerned, we have already made an unambiguous statement earlier that there was no truth in that story. We deny any supposed talks with Israel or any upgradation of links.

As regards the story about the visit of a delegation of the American-Jewish Anti-Defamation League of Bhai Brith, the Spokesman said there was no link whatsoever between this visit and any supposed upgradation of links with Israel.

In reply to another question whether this Jewish group would have any contacts with Government officials, the Spokesman said that he had no knowledge of it, but that it was conceivable.

About the visit of the Israeli diplomat, the Spokesman reiterated that the Israeli diplomat had applied for a tourist visa. His application was being processed on its own merits.

In reply to a question that when Prime Minister during his visit to New York met an American delegation, the status of the Israeli presence in India was upgraded from the level of the Consulate to the level of the Consulate General, the Spokesman said that there was no truth in that. At one time there may be a Consul as head of the post and at another time it may be a Vice Consul. It is entirely for the Israelis to decide about it.

In reply to another question that though Yasser Arafat has recognised the existence of Israel, the Indian Government refuses to take cognisance of Israel, the Spokesman pointed out that India recog

-15>

nised Israel - it did not have diplomatic relations with it. These were two separate things.

In reply to another question that when Arafat has changed his policy towards Israel, why should India not change its policy, the Spokesman said that we make our own policies.

In reply to a question whether the PLO has asked for our permission to upgrade their office in India to the level of an Embassy, the Spokesman said that we have already given full status of Ambassador to the Palestinian representative in India.

RAEL INDIA USA **Date**: Jan 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Libya

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official

Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 05, 1989:

The incident over the Mediterranean Sea which led to the shooting down of the two Libyan aircraft by US navy jets on January 4, 1989 is unfortunate. Such confrontations are dangerous and can only jeopardise the prospects of peace in the region about which the situation has recently become distinctly hopeful.

India is awaiting further details about the incident and is in touch with other Non-aligned delegations at the UN with a view to formulating a suitable joint reaction to the development.

BYA INDIA USA

**Date**: Jan 05, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Illegal Import of Nuclear Material

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 06, 1989:

In reply to a question about reports in the FRG press on illegal export of nuclear materials by FRG firms to several countries, including India, the Official Spokesman said that it has been alleged that the two German firms - NTG and PTB, had exported reflector material and cadmium tubes without obtaining the necessary permits from the Federal Office for Economics of the FRG. Reflector materials used in Indian research reactors are beryllium oxide, graphite and heavy water. No such reflector material has been imported from the FRG.

India has imported some cadmium bearing stainless steel tubes from NTG after following an open tender and competitive bidding procedures. This material cannot be termed as nuclear material.

DIA USA

**Date**: Jan 06, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Visit of Mr. Stephen J. Solarz, US Congressman

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 12, 1989:

In reply to a question about the visit of Mr. Solarz to India, the Official Spokesman said that he is coming here on the 13th January and will stay here on 13th and 14th of January. On 14th January, he will go to Islamabad and will spend 14th and 15th January there. On 15th January evening, he will return to Agra. He will spend 16th, 17th and 18th January

in New Delhi. During his stay here, he will be calling on the PM and EAM. MOS(N) will host a lunch in his honour. Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for Science and Technology and former Ambassador of India in Washington, will also host a lunch in honour of Mr. Solarz. Mr. Solarz is accompanied by Mr. Chester Atkins and Mr. Theodore Weiss, both US Congressmen and members of the US Congressional Committee on Near and South-East Asia.

When asked whether relations with Israel will come up during the discussions, the Spokesman said that there was no connection between the visit of Mr. Solarz and relations with Israel.

In reply to a question whether there was any connection between Mr. Solarz's visit and that of the Israeli diplomat Mr. Joseph Hadass, the Spokesman said that there was no connection between the two.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on January 18, 1989:

In reply to a question about Mr. Solarz's visit to India, the Official Spokesman said that Mr. Solarz had met members of the Amnesty International and had been given a certain view of events in the Punjab. He expressed satisfaction at having had an opportunity to visit Punjab and to see things for himself.

In reply to another question, the Spokesman said that Mr. Solarz raised the question of India's relations with Israel with the EAM. The EAM briefed him on the recent steps taken by India with

regard to the Consulate of Israel in Bombay and the extension of its jurisdiction to include the State of Kerala. EAM told him that India was watching developments in the Middle East very closely. There were several encouraging and positive signs, but beyond that there was no change in our policy towards Israel.

In reply to another question whether there will be any change in India's relations with Israel as a result of Mr. Solarz's visit, the Spokesman said that there were no immediate prospects of any change in this respect.

In reply to another question whether there were any discussions with Mr. Solarz about the upgradation of diplomatic relations with Israel, the Spokesman said that there were no discussions with him in this regard. The question of upgradation of diplomatic relations will arise only when it is decided to upgrade the level of relationship itself.

In reply to another question, the Spokesman said that Mr. Solarz was briefed in detail on Sri Lanka and was told that the situation there was more positive than a few months ago. On Kampuchea, there was a detailed discussion and here again both sides felt that the situation there looked much more hopeful today. Both sides agreed that the Pol Pot faction of the Khmer Rougue was a stumbling block in the process of finding a solution. Mr. Solarz also met the Foreign Secretary today. There were discussions on Pakistan and China and Prime Minister's visit to both these countries. Mr. Solarz was briefed in detail on both the visits. His reaction was positive.

A INDIA PAKISTAN ISRAEL SRI LANKA CHINA

**Date**: Jan 12, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Portugal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 13, 1989:

In reply to a question about a UNI story about the Portuguese Government having agreed to return gold, the Official Spokesman

said that there has been an agreement on the anvil since 1984 on the question of resolving the long pending issue relating to gold seized by Portugal in 1961 at the time of the liberation of Goa. For the last four years there has not been much progress in this matter. We are glad that now the Portuguese Government has looked at this problem more closely, and has furnished a revised text of an agreement, which is presently under examination by the authorities in India. Both sides are hopeful that this issue will be resolved soon. There are, however, a number of technical problems involved. If the draft agreement is acceptable to both sides, then an SBI team will have to go to Lisbon to work out the technical details involved. We are glad that some forward movement has taken place on an issue that was lying unresolved for a long time.

RTUGAL INDIA

**Date**: Jan 13, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### Kampuchea

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 13, 1989:

In reply to a question about India's role in the resolution of the Kampuchean issue, the Official Spokesman said that we have expressed our appreciation of the movement that is taking place on the Kampuchean issue. Both ASEAN and the Indo-China states have appreciaed the constructive role that India has played in the resolution of this problem. I think it will be premature to talk of any specific role to be played by us, but we are in touch with all the parties concerned. MOS(N) has been in constant touch with the Thais, and the Indonesians and they have all expressed their appreciation for our constructive role in this issue.

DIA CHINA USA INDONESIA

**Date**: Jan 13, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Pakistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jan 13, 1989:

In reply to a question about news items in today's Times of India and Hindustan Times entitled "Pak N-bomb to be tested in China", the Official Spokesman said that he has seen the reports in the press. We are aware that China has been providing material used by Pakistan in the nuclear field. We have, however, no evidence on this particular report in today's press. We are, however, checking on these reports.

In reply to another question about Prime Minister's statement that he had no reason to disbelieve Benazir Bhutto's statement on Pakistan's nuclear policy,

-18>

the Spokesman said that our concern is well-known and has been voiced in various international fora on Pakistan's nuclear programme. All that the Prime Minister had said was that we have no reason to doubt what Benazir Bhutto has said.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on January 25, 1989:

In reply to a question about news items in today's newspapers about Pakistan's re-entry into the Commonwealth, the Official Spokesman said that after the restoration of democracy in Pakistan as a result of the November 1988 elections, the question of India objecting to Pakistan's re-entry into the Commonwealth does not arise. In fact, India would gladly take the lead in sponsoring the re-entry of Pakistan led by the democratic government.

KISTAN INDIA CHINA USA

**Date**: Jan 13, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### POLAND

### Good Scope for Indo-Polish Joint Ventures

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1989 on Indo-Polish joint ventures:

Prospects of joint ventures between India and Poland will improve substantially following the liberal investment laws introduced by the Polish Government recently. This was indicated by the visiting Polish Minister and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Polish Joint Committee, Mr. Alexander Kwasniewski, when he called on the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh here today. He said that this coupled with the agreement on avoidance of Double Taxation expected to be finalised shortly would encourage Indian enterprises to enter into collaborations with Polish companies and the response of the Indian Industry had already been very positive. Welcoming this development, Shri Dinesh Singh suggested that specific areas of collaboration should also be identified. There has been a steady rise in Indo-Polish trade turnover with Indian exports to Poland showing a 3-fold rise in the last 3 years. However, the Polish side urged India to step up its imports from Poland in view of the current imbalance in trade and suggested extension of the existing technical credit arrangements to sustain the level of Indian exports to Poland. They referred to a number of items which Poland could supply including mining equipment, sulphur, non-ferrous metals etc.

The Commerce Minister assured the Polish delegation of India's interest in ensuring balanced flow of bilateral trade, and agreed to look into the suggestions made by Poland in this regard. The concept of balance was necessary, he said, for giving an impetus to sustain trade at a certain level on both sides. This needs to -19>

be borne in mind while evolving the future pattern of trade in the wake of liberation, he added.

Indo-Polish trade, which is conducted in rupees, has grown rapidly in recent years, from Rs. 180 crores in 1985 to Rs. 339 crores in 1987. During 1988, the total turnover is expected to reach Rs. 400 crores, comprising Rs. 250 crores of exports to Poland and Rs. 150 crores of imports.

LAND INDIA USA

**Date**: Jan 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **PORTUGAL**

Shri Faleiro Seeks Early Return of Goans' Gold

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1989 on impressing upon the early return of Goan's Gold:

The Union Minister of State for Finance, Shri Eduardo Faleiro has impressed upon he Portuguese Government to implement the agreement for the return of gold ornaments of Goans, without any more lapse of time. In his meeting with the Portuguese Ambassador in India, Dr. Elviro Guerra and the Indian Ambassador in Portugal, Dr. Henry Austin both of whom called on him separately last week, Shri Faleiro said that the new proposals should not further delay return of the ornaments to their rightful owners.

Shri Faleiro said that the settlement of this long pending issue is crucial for Indo-Portuguese relations and it was no justification for any further delay in the matter. He stated that most of the Goans whose gold is pledged with the Portuguese Bank are men with small means and the long delay of 28 years due to non-return of their belongings since Goa's independence has caused them extreme hardship. He made it clear that India attaches great importance to the return of gold ornaments in view of large number of persons being concerned with it.

Prior to liberation of Goa, Daman and Dieu in 1961, the Postuguese Bank, Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU) functioned as the principal commercial Bank in the territories and also had in its safe custody articles kept by the Goans. A few days before the liberation of Goa, the BNU shifted the gold ornaments and lockers of the people to Lisbon without any intimation to them. The Indian Government had taken a series of measures for expeditious return of the ornaments. The matter had also been aken up in the Lok Sabha. In May 1984, a delegation of the State Bank of India Officers visit Lisbon to finalise the agreement. In June 1987, the Portuguese Government had suggested some amendments to the draft agreement which had been agreed to by the Government of India.

-20>

**Date**: Jan 16, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## **SINGAPORE**

India and Singapore Sign Memorandum of Understanding on AirServices

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 19, 1989 on the signing of Memorandum of Understanding on Air Services between India and Singapore:

India and Singapore signed here last evening a Memorandum of Understanding whereby it was agreed to increase the frequency entitlement for Singapore Airlines by two services per week with A-310 aircraft terminating at Bombay. Singapore Airlines will also get traffic rights at Delhi for two services per week with Boeing 747 aircraft. Simultaneously, the revised agreement will enable the national carriers of India to increase their operations to through Singapore by four services per week - two with Boeing 747 and two with Airbus 310 aircraft. Additionally, the national carriers of India have been granted traffic rights between Singapore on one hand and Bangkok, Hongkong and Kuala Lumpur on the other. This will make the services of our airlines to through Singapore more profitable. Apart from Air India, Indian Airlines has also been permitted to operate the agreed services within the overall entitlements.

The MOU was signed by Shri S. K. Misra, Secretary, Civil Aviation and Tourism on behalf of India and by Mr. Tan Guong Ching, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications on behalf of Singapore.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed following three-days of discussions between the official delegations of the two countries for reviewing the air services arrangements between India and Singapore.

PUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jan 19, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### **TANZANIA**

## Indo-Tanzanian Collaboration in Oil Exploration

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1989 on Indo-Tanzanian collaboration in oil exploration:

H.E. Mr. Al Noor Kassum, Minister of Energy and Minerals, Union Republic of Tanzania, today met Shri Brahm Dutt, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas to have discussions regarding Indo-Tanzanian cooperation in the field of hydrocarbon exploration as a part of South-South collaboration in this important field.

Shri Brahm Dutt apprised the Tanzanian Minister of significant discoveries of oil and natural gas made by India in the last two years and offered assistance in the fields of exploration, technical training, consultancy, etc. to Tanzania for development of all upstream and downstream facilities for utilisation of oil and natural gas.

-21>

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Secretary, Shri H. K. Khan, who attended the meeting said that exploration activities in Tanzania by India will be mutually beneficial for both the countries and expressed the hope that the preliminary issues pertaining to Indo-Tanzanian co-operation in the field of oil would be attended to at the earliest, so that actual work could be launched soon.

Some of the areas where India can possibly carry out exploration activities in Tanzania have already been identified.

NZANIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jan 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **UNITED KINGDOM**

Indo-British Cooperation in Oil Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 10, 1989 on Indo-British co-operation in oil sector:

The British Minister of State for Energy, Mr. Peter Morrison, met the Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Brahm Dutt here today and the two Ministers held discussions to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the oil sector.

Shri Brahm Dutt said that India had made rapid strides in the field of exploration and exploitation of oil reserves, both offshore and onshore, in the past three decades. A number of gas reserves had also been discovered in the recent past, he added.

The Petroleum & Natural Gas Secretary Shri H. K. Khan, who attended the meeting, said that India proposed to lay special emphasis on developing an organised infrastructure for production and transportation of petroleum and natural gas and products based on them.

The two Ministers also discussed particular areas in oil sector in which greater collaboration between the two countries could be developed.

DIA USA

**Date**: Jan 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

**Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Power** 

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1989 on Indo-Soviet Co-operation in Power:

A protocol to strengthen cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in power sector was concluded here today.

The protocol of cooperation signed by the Soviet Deputy Minister for Power and Electrification, Mr. A. P. Poddubsky, and the Power Secretary, Shri S. Rajgopal, was reached at the conclusion of weeklong Indo-Soviet Joint Working Group discussions. -22>

The discussions assumed special significance in view of the large

volume of Indo-Soviet cooperation in power sector agreed during the recent visit of Soviet President, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, in November, 1988.

Amongst the major decisions reached is the completion of the crucial 400 KV Kishenpur-Srinagar segment of Dulhasti-Kishenpur-Srinagar transmission line running through high altitude snow bound areas by September, 1992. The line would be constructed using latest techniques, including helicoptors.

In respect of the new projects to be taken up with the Soviet assistance in the Eighth Plan, identification of steps to ensure their commissioning was completed during the joint working group discussions. The new projects are the Vindhyachal thermal power station Stage II (2\*500 MW) in Madhya Pradesh, Kayamkulam thermal power project (2\*210 MW) in Kerala, Mangalore thermal power project (2\*210 MW) in Karnataka, Maithon thermal power project (3\*210 MW) of DVC and Kol Dam hydro electric project (4\*200 MW) in Himachal Pradesh. Work on the new projects has been targetted to begin in January, 1990.

Both sides would take steps to cut down the complex procedural schedules for compressing the preconstruction formalities, so that the projects were completed within the stipulated time frame.

The Soviet side has also agreed to extend facilities for training of Indian engineers and experts in USSR. It has also been agreed to draw up a programme for bilateral scientific and technical cooperation in the power sector, for which a Joint Expert Group has been nominated.

DIA USA MALI

**Date**: Jan 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-USSR Cooperation in Civil Aviation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 31, 1989 on Indo-USSR co-operation in civil Aviation:

India and USSR exchanged views here last evening on furthering cooperation between the two countries in the field of Civil

Aviation when the visiting Soviet Minister of Aviation Industry H.E. Mr. K.P. Systsov called on Shri Shivraj Patil, Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism. It was agreed that such cooperation could extend to different segments of the civil aviation sector.

The two leaders also explored the possibilities of collaboration in different projects in the field of civil aviation which could be worked out to mutual advantage.

A INDIA

**Date**: Jan 31, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **VIETNAM**

India Agrees to Reschedule Credit Repayment from Vietnam

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 10, 1989 on agreeing to reschedule credit repayment from Vietnam:

India has agreed to reschedule Government credit to Vietnam.

Agreement to this effect was signed at Hanoi, Vietnam on Saturday on the conclusion of three day talks from January 5 to January 7, 1989. The Indian Delegation was led by Shri A. C. Sen, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance. -23>

Assurance to reschedule the repayment of loan by Vietnam to India had been given by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi when he visited Vietnam in April 1988.

Government of India have so far extended Government-to-Government credit of Rs. 60 crore to the Government of Vietnam. Separately, EXIM Bank had extended commercial credit of Rs. 45 crore.

The Indo-Vietnamese Joint Commission meeting is scheduled to be held in New Delhi, January 17 onwards in New Delhi.

ETNAM INDIA USA

**Date**: Jan 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **VIETNAM**

Indo-Vietnamese Joint Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 23, 1989 on Indo-Vietnamese Joint Commission:

The third meeting of the Indo-Vietnamese Joint Commission was held in New Delhi from January 21-23, 1989. The Indian delegation was led by the External Affairs Minister Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao and the Vietnamese side headed by H.E. Mr. Dau Ngoo, Xuan, Chairman of the State Planning Committee of Vietnam. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of friendship and warmth. As a result, two new agreements were signed between the two countries.

The Government of India agreed to extend a fresh credit of Rs.100/-millions to Vietnam. In addition, an understanding was reached between the two sides to reschedule the credits extended by India to Vietnam until 1984 and the commodity loan given to Vietnam earlier. Also concluded was a cultural exchange programme for the next year. Other areas of cooperation which came in for detailed discussion during the talks and on which broad understanding was reached were exploration of oil resources, expansion of bilateral trade, joint ventures, cooperation in science and technology, sericulture, small-scale industries, civil aviation and tele-communications. The Vietnamese delegation also had useful discussions with leaders of Indian industry through meetings organised by CEI, FICCI & PEC.

ETNAM INDIA USA

**Date**: Jan 23, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

**VIETNAM** 

### Joint Statement

The following is the text of a Joint Statement issued at the conclusion of the State visit of H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Linh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam to India from Jan 23 to 29, 1989:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Linh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam paid a friendly State visit from 23rd to 29th January 1989 and took part in the celebration of 39th anniversary of India's Republic Day. The General Secretary was accompanied by Madame and a high level delegation which included H.E. Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Members of CPVN Central Committee and Ministers.

2. H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Linh and Madame called on H.E. Shri R. Venekataraman, President of India and Smt. Venkataraman and H.E. Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice President of India and Smt. Sharma. The General Secretary had -24>

three rounds of talks with the Prime Minister of India. The talks were held in an atmosphere of warmth, friendship and mutual understanding.

3. The leaders reviewed the existing bilateral relations between India and Vietnam. They noted that political relations were excellent and the economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries had been growing steadily. In this context, they expressed their deep satisfaction at the results of the third meeting of the Indo-Vietnamese Joint Commission held on the eve of the visit (January 21-23, 1989). They noted the agreements reached on the utilisation of the proposed Indian Government credit of Rs. 100 million to Vietnam. They also noted with satisfaction, the broad understanding reached regarding the reschedulement of previous Government credits and commodity loans extended by India to Vietnam. The two sides welcomed the agreement reached regarding cooperation in the exploitation of oil in the Vietnamese offshore waters. They noted with satisfaction the recent progress made in the fields of animal husbandry and agriculture. The implementation of the agreement between the two countries for cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy was also a matter for satisfaction. The two leaders reviewed the discussions for promoting trade and joint ventures between India and Vietnam. Cooperation in science and technology has been making steady progress. The leaders expressed satisfaction over the conclusion of a new Cultural Exchange Programme between the two countries. They expressed their satisfaction at the identification of new areas of cooperation including sericulture, cotton cultivation, small-scale industries, civil aviation, maritime transport and

telecommunications and the readiness of both sides to promote the trade between the two countries through the institution of an appropriate payments arrangement between them.

- 4. The Indian side agreed to extend a further Government credit of Rs. 100 million to Vietnam for the import of capital goods from India. The Vietnamese side expressed their appreciation for this facility. Discussions have been initiated to identify goods to be supplied from India under this credit.
- 5. In their discussions on international issues, the leaders welcomed the improvement in the general climate of international relations and the changes resulting from relaxation of tensions and the fact that confrontation is giving way to dialogue. They reiterated the need to sustain this trend and strengthen the thrust in favour of international cooperation and development which has been consistently advocated by the Nonaligned Movement. The prospect of nuclear disarmament has reawakened the hope that human and material resources could be directed towards global development instead of being wastefully squandered on the arms race. The new international situation poses challenges while presenting opportunities for Nonaligned countries in their struggle for a safer and more just world order.
- 6. During their talks and meetings, the Indian side apprised the Vietnamese side of recent developments that augur well for improvement of India's relations with her neighbours, including China. It was noted that good neighbourly and friendly relations between India and China would contribute positively to peace and stability in Asia and the world. The Vietnamese side informed the Indian side of the results of the talks between Vice-Foreign Ministers of Vietnam and China. The two sides also expressed the hope that relations between Vietnam and China would be normalised at an early date through peaceful and friendly consultations on the basis of the five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.
- 7. The two sides took note of recent developments in the regional situation in Indo-China particularly with regard to the question of Kampuchea. The two sides welcomed the Jakarta Informal Meeting Process, the initiative taken within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement,

  -25>

the dialogue in Paris and bilateral discussions between various countries on the Kampuchean question. They noted that the January 7, 1989 announcement regarding the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea by September 1989 in the context of a negotiated political solution has lent impetus to the process of restoring peace and stability in the region. The two sides hold that for solving the problem of Kampuchea it is essential that the question of troops withdrawal should be linked with the cessation of all foreign interference and assistance. Both sides firmly uphold the rights of the Kampuchean people to

freely determine their own destiny and to live for ever without the fear of the return of the genocidal policies and practices of the Poll Pot regime. India and Vietnam urged the continuation of dialogue leading to a negotiated political settlement that ensures the sovereign, independent, non-aligned, peaceful status of Kampuchea. The Vietnamese side highly appreciate the significant role and contribution of India to peace and stability in South East Asia in the past 40 years and to the process of searching for a political solution of the question of Kampuchea at present. They hold that India has a worthy role to play in resolving the Kampuchean problem and turning South East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

- 8. Recent developments in Afghanistan were reviewed by the two sides. They welcomed the Geneva Accords and were of the view that if sincerely implemented, these accords can pave the way for peace and stability in the region. Agreeing that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and nonaligned character of Afghanistan was essential for a peaceful soltion of the Afghan problem, the two sides expresed the view that the Afghan people should be permitted to decide their own political destiny independently and without outside interference and intervention.
- 9. The two sides welcomed the constructive and realistic declaration of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers and subsequent developments which have created a positive climate for the resumption of the Middle East Peace process. They emphasised that without a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian question based on the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and an independent State in their homeland, there can be no durable peace in the region. They reiterated their call for the early convening of the UN sponsored international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all concerned parties including the PLO. They pledged support for all efforts to reach an early solution of this long outstanding problem.
- 10. The two sides reviewed the situation in Southern Africa. They noted with concern the continued resort to repressive policies by the South African authorities against the black majority and expressed their conviction that the application of comprehensive mandatory sanctions remains the only effective peaceful means available to bring about the dismantlement of the abhorrent system of apartheid.
- 11. The two sides noted with concern the continuing efforts of South Africa to destabilise the Front Line States of Southern Africa and welcomed the important contribution the AFRICA Fund had made towards developing the capacity of these States to resist political, economic and other pressures being exerted on them by the South African regime. The two sides noted the valiant

effort being made to resist colonial domination by the Southern African liberation movements and endorsed the support being offered to these movements by the AFRICA Fund.

12. The two sides noted with satisfaction that agreement has been reached on the process for Namibian independence commencing on April 1, 1989. They underlined their conviction that arrangements to be made by the United Nations to implement Security Council Resolution 435

-26>

should make all neecssary provisions for the conduct of free and fair elections to the Constituent Assembly which is to adopt the Constitution of Nambia. They look forward to Namibia graduating from a long period of colonial domination to full membership of the comity of independent nations.

- 13. The two sides hold that the visits of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Vietnam and the visit to India by H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Linh, General Secretary of the CPVN Central Committee constitute new milestones in the relations between Vietnam and India. Good prospects of economic, scientific and technologial cooperation is a logical development meeting the interests and aspirations of the two peoples; and reflecting the positive spirit of South-South Cooperation.
- 14. H.E. Mr. Nguyen Van Linh is fully satisfied with the good outcome of the visit and expresses sincere thanks to Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Government and the people of India for the warm and sincere reception. H.E. Mr. General Secretary of the CPVN Central Committee has invited President and Smt. Venkataraman, Vice President and Smt. Sharma and the Prime Minister and Smt. Sonia Gandhi to pay a friendly visit to Vietnam The invitations have been accepted with thanks.

ETNAM USA INDIA PERU CHINA MALI INDONESIA FRANCE AFGHANISTAN SWITZERLAND ALGERIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date**: Jan 23, 1989

# **February**

# **Volume No**

1995

### CONTENTS

	89 oruary
CONTENTS	
AUSTRALIA	
Banquet in Honour of Australian Premi Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech	ier - 29
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	
Indo-Czech Cooperation in Energy Sec	etor 31
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	C
GDR Minister for Heavy Engineering a construction Calls on Shri Fotedar	and Plant-
HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS	
First Convocation of Indira Gandhi Nat Open University - Prime Minister's Rer	
HUNGARY	
Meeting of Indo-Hungarian Group of P Experts	Planning 33
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION	NS
Loan of US \$ 10 Million for Rewa Hos from OPEC Fund	spital 33
Disarmament Conference at Geneva	34
SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Comm Meets	mittee 39
Inaugural Session of AFRICA Fund Co	ommittee 39
Fourth Meeting of Senior Officials of A Fund Committee	AFRICA 43
KUWAIT	
Rs. 35 crore Kuwaiti Loan to India	45

LESOTHO 45 Air Services between India and Lesotho **MALDIVES** More Air Services between India and Maldives 46 OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS French President's Visit 46 48 China 48 Afghanistan 49 Australian Prime Minister's Visit Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding 49 UN Secretary-General's Visit 50 POLAND Cultural Exchange Programme with Poland 51 **THAILAND** More Joint Ventures between India and Thailand 51

TURKEY

Banquet Speech by the President of India in Honour of the President of the Republic of Turkey 52

UNITED KINGDOM

India, UK Agree on Trade Expansion Measures 55

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India-USSR Sign Agreements on Joint Ventures 56

Meeting of Indo-Soviet Planning Experts 57

STRALIA USA NORWAY SLOVAKIA HUNGARY SWITZERLAND KUWAIT INDIA LESOTHO MALDIVES CHINA AFGHANISTAN POLAND THAILAND TURKEY UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Feb 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **AUSTRALIA**

Banquet in Honour of Australian Premier -- Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

The following is the text of the speech made by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet hosted in honour of the Australian Prime Minister, the Honourable R. J. L. Hawke, AC, MP: on Feb 09, 1989:

I warmly welcome both of you to India. You are both friends of ours of long standing. You first came to us, Prime Minister, as a young man and wandered around our country with the enthusiasm and the inquiring spirit of youth. It has, perhaps, contributed to that inner strength which we see expressed in the breadth of your vision and the courage of your convictions. Over the last few years, you have made so significant a contribution to our friendship that we are moved to forgiving your countrymen for having trounced us in cricket -- which is, perhaps, your right -- but, more shamefully still, even in hockey -- to win in which we thought was our prerogative!

Australia and India represent angaging study in similarities and contrasts. Our two countries are characterised by a vastness of area and a profusion of fauna and flora. We are both dedicated to parliamentary democracy. We believe in the rule of law. We are committed to human rights and human dignity. We tr easure the infinite worth of the human being. We cherish his freedom and respect his rights.

On the other hand, your society is still relatively homogenous, although this is changing. Ours, in contrast, is a riot of colours. We are, perhaps, the most heterogenous people in the world. Historically, you have looked to the West as your home of origin and your natural allies. Now, this too is changing. Australia is increasingly identifying itself with the region in which it is located.

Geologists tell us that before the continental drift, Australia and Asia were part of one land mass. Under your leadership, Prime Minister, Australia has thrown bridges of friendship across the chasm of the emotional drift which was reinforcing the continental drift.

We met in Canberra in the immediate wake of Reykjavik. In the months since then, the world has seen a remarkable transformation in international relations, a yielding of confrontation to dialogue, a relaxation of tensions in several parts of the globe, even solutions to seemingly intractable problems. In many ways, these developments reflect the considerations which the Nonaligned Movement has been urging for years. Perhaps it would be true to say that the Nonaligned Movement has contributed in no small measure to the philosophical underpinning of the new thinking. We look forward to working with Australia in encouraging the momentum towards nuclear disarmament and a world free of nuclear weapons. We believe we must simultaneously work on reducing conventional arms and forces to minimum defensive levels as it is only a world order rooted in non-violence that can ensure sustained peace.

Notwithstanding the general relaxation of tensions, the new thinking is, regrettably, still to extend to the Indian ocean. As major littoral States of the -29>

Indian Ocean, India and Australia share a common interest in ensuring stability, peace and cooperation in the Indian Ocean area. The UN Resolution of 1971 declared the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace. We earnestly hope that, in the climate of emerging detente, the Indian Ocean will be freed of foreign bases and foreign naval presences.

It was our neglect of our naval defences that led to the colonial era. Most of our country is a peninsula stretching out from the Indo-Gangetic plains at the foot of the Himalayas into the Indian Ocean. We have a very long coastline. We are determined to never again lose control over the approaches to India from the sea. Confronted with the growing presence of outside naval forces in the Indian Ocean, we are left with no alternative but to strengthen our naval defences and resist any attempt to undermine our independence or integrity from the direction of sea. We are also determined to exercise our legitimate rights in our exclusive economic zone.

At the same time, we are working towards close relations with our neighbours. I visited China in December.

Our discussions with the Chinese leadership have led to a new beginning in relations between India and China. This is a development of great significance for regional and world peace as, between us, we represent a third of all humanity. We have reiterated our enduring commitment to Panchsheel, the Five Principles of peaceful coexistence, both to govern our bilateral relations and to constitute the basis for the erection of the new international order.

The restoration of democracy in Pakistan has brought happy tidings. The regional environment for peace and cooperation is benefitting greatly from this change. In my talks with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, I reiterated our desire for cooperation

and friendly relations between our countries, commensurate with the immense affection which our peoples have for each other. We hope to find solutions for remaining difficulties within the framework of the Simla Agreement.

In Sri Lanka, the Accord of July 1987 is bearing fruit. It has helped ensure the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka. At the same time, the legitimate rights of the Tamil minority have been secured. Elections have been held to Provincial Councils, including the North-Eastern Province.

We are deeply concerned at recent developments in Fiji. Far from moving towards a more democratic structure, there is a persistent attempt being made to impose on the people of that country an undemocratic and racially discriminatory Constitution. Committed as both our countries are to ending racism and upholding democratic values, Australia and India share a responsibility to press for the restoration of a non-racial and democratic system in Fiji.

You, Prime Minister, have stood shoulder to shoulder with us in our struggle to end the pernicious abomination of apartheid in South Africa. At successive Commonwealth Summits, Australia and India have emerged as comrades in arms to advocate determined, positive action to undermine the economic underpinnings of apartheid. India imposed sanctions against the Pretoria regime even when ours was but an interim Government in the run-up to Independence. You have joined us in this process of sanctions. We reiterate our view that the least bloody way of bringing apartheid to an end is through the imposition of comprehensive, mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

You have been true to your resolve to "inject a dramatic new vitality" into our relations, as you had pledged to during my visit to Australia in October 1986. You have taken the initiative in promoting contacts between the business communi -30>

ties of our respective countries. You have encouraged exchanges between our Ministers and Parliamentarians, our scientists and academics, and others who mould public opinion.

I entertain warm memories of my visit to your country. Friendship between Australia and India opens new vistas of common endeavour. Peace and stability in the region is enhanced by our friendship. The prospects of a wider application of our friendship to the evolution of a more just, equitable and democratic world order are also enhanced. We thank you for having come to our country. We hope to see you here very often.

I would like to request all our guests to join me in raising our glasses to the health of Prime Minister and Mrs. Hawke, and to growing cooperation between India and Australia.

**Date**: Feb 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Indo-Czech Cooperation in Energy Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 24, 1989 on Indo-Czech Cooperation in Energy Sector:

Czechoslovakia has offered to assist India in taking up power and lignite projects.

The offer was made when the visiting Czech Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Jan Sterba, met the Minister of Energy, Shri Vasant Sathe, here on Thursday.

Mr. Sterba said that his country could provide assistance for setting up power plants ranging from 210 MW to 500 MW capacity. Czechoslovakia was also keen to collaborate with India in developing the Palana lignite complex in Rajasthan.

Shri Sathe said that India had an ambitious programme in the power sector as the demand for electricity was increasing rapidly due to the accelerated pace of economic development in the country. Besides utilising indigenous capacity available in the power industry, India was planning to create additional capacity with the assistance of friendly countries. The basic touchstone of accepting offers was that they should be financially competitive and technologically competent, he added.

Shri Sathe was assisted in discussions by the Power Secretary, Shri S. Rajgopal, and the Secretary, Department of NonConventional Energy sources, Dr. Maheshwar Dayal.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA

**Date**: Feb 24, 1989

1995

### GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

GDR Minister for Heavy Engineering and Plant-construction Callson Shri Fotedar

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 28, 1989 on the visit of the GDR, Minister for Heavy Engineering and Plant construction:

The visiting Minister for Heavy engineering and Plant construction of German Democratic Republic, H.E. Dr. Lauck called on the Union Steel and Mines Minister, Shri M.L. Fotedar, here today.

During the meeting the two Ministers discussed matters of mutual interest for cooperation in the field of steel and metallurgical industries. While the visiting dig

nitary expressed his country's interest in collaboration and supply of equipment for India's steel plants, the Steel and Mines Minister enquired about the possibility of supply of ships for scraps. The GDR Minister also stressed the importance of strengthening Indo-GDR cooperation for third country projects.

DIA USA

**Date**: Feb 28, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

First Convocation of Indira Gandhi National Open UniversityPrime Minster's Remarks

The following is the text of the remarks made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the first Convocation of Indira Gandhi National Open University at New Delhi on Feb 21, 1989:

Today we honour Sunny Ramphal as a statesman, as an administrator. We welcome him as an orator of renown and that means I must be a little careful about what I say. He has given new direction to the Commonwealth. He has guided it very

carefully through difficult periods and certainly two very difficult sessions that I attended where we had tackled questions of race and equality, of the New Economic Order, of the uplift of the weakest sections to the world. He has given new directions to the Commonwealth with the Commonwealth of Learning and we thank him for the Commonwealth's assistance to the Indira Gandhi National Open University, and I am sure that all your fellow graduates today, Sunny, will look up and rise to the level that you have.

This University is named after Indiraji. Indira Gandhi had a deep faith in the essential wisdom of the Indian people. She refused to equate education with learning or literacy. She recognised that illiteracy was a curse and that education was the key to opportunity and advancement, was the key to the removal of poverty and social injustice.

Today when we look ahead to the world in the coming century, we like to picture a world at peace where the values of tolerance and compassion are spread globally, where humanity is seen as one without barriers and divisions and walls. We would like to see India occupying its rightful place in such a world. We would like to see people measured by quality of humanbeing and not by their race or religion or caste or language. We would like to see social justice. We would like all poverty to be removed.

The key is education; education to inbue the right values to face the onslaught of materialism, to bring about development without bringing about discontent and greed, to replace fulfilment, to preserve the continuity of our civilisation; an education to celebrate the unity of our diversity; an education that makes us better humanbeings capable of coping with the technologies of tomorrow, to utilise them to our best benefit, yet limit and control them so that they cannot get control of us. It is to that that the Indira Gandhi National Open University is dedicated.

I congratulate you on your first Convocation and I wish all those graduating today all the very best.

-32>

DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Feb 21, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

HUNGARY

### Meeting of Indo Hungarian Group of Planning Experts

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 10, 1989 on the Meeting of Indo-Hungarian Group of Planning Experts:

With the signing of Agreed Minutes, the second meeting of the Indo-Hungarian group of Planning Experts concluded here last evening. The minutes of the meeting were signed by the leader of the visiting Hungarian delegation, Dr. Erno Kemenes, State Secretary, Hungarian Planning Commission and Dr. Raja J. Chelliah, Member, Planning Commission, who headed the Indian Delegation.

In the course of the three day deliberations which started on February 7, the two sides had detailed discussion on the likely course of the world economy and its impact on national economic development, relationship between short and medium term plans; and energy sector planning.

The two sides felt that the discussions were of great importance and mutually beneficial. They expressed the desire to keep in touch with each other to exchange material and knowledge on further experience in the subjects discussed.

It was agreed that the third meeting of the Group of Planning Experts would be held in Budapest in 1991. Methodology of planning in an open economy, Regional planning and Methodology of Long-term Planning, will be discussed in the next meeting.

The Indo-Hungarian group of Planning experts was set up in 1985 to strengthen cooperation between the Planning Commission of India and the National Planning Office of Hungary. The programme of co-operation envisages experts and executive level consultations between national planning organisations of the two countries on matters of common interest, including instruments of Planning and Plan implementation. The group meets alternately in Hungary and India.

NGARY INDIA USA **Date**: Feb 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### Loan of US \$ 10 Million for Rewa Hospital from OPEC Fund

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 10, 1989 on signing of an Agreement between India and the OPEC Fund for International Development for a loan of US dallar 10 million:

An Agreement was signed on the 8th February, 1989 at Vienna between India and the OPEC Fund for International Development for a loan of US \$ 10 million to help finance the Rewa Hospital project in Madhya Pradesh.

The loan agreement was signed by Shri J. R. Hiremath, Indian Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Austria on -33>

behalf of the President of India and by Mr. Osama Faquih, Chairman of the Governing Board of the OPEC Fund.

The present loan of US \$ 10 million by OPEC Fund is the tenth loan and brings the total amount of Fund's lending to India to US \$ 183.3 million. The earlier nine loans aggregating to US \$ 173.3 million were for financing some of the high priority projects in energy sector, irrigation sector and for railway modernisation etc.

A INDIA AUSTRIA LATVIA

**Date**: Feb 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

### Disarmament Conference at Geneva

The following is the text of statement delivered by Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs to the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva on Feb 14, 1989:

I thank you for your words of welcome and would like to take this opportunity to convey my felicitations to you on your assumption of the Presidency for the opening month of the 1989 session of the Conference on Disarmament. I am confident that under your guidance the Conference will be able to make some progress in

discharging its mandate. May I also express my best wishes to the Secretary General, Ambassador Komatina and the Deputy Secretary General, Ambassa dor Berasategui.

Almost a year has gone by since I last had the privilege of addressing this Conference. The past year has been a significant one in the field of disarmament. The on-going bilateral negotiations between USA and USSR on strategic arms reductions are progressing even if it has not been possible to resolve all outstanding issues and finalise the Treaty. The Paris Conference on prohibition of chemical weapons was significant and useful in that it recorded the unequivocal commitment of States to rid the world of the scourge of chemical weapons and called upon this forum to redouble its efforts to conclude the negotiations on the Chemical Weapons Convention at the earliest date. Shortly thereafter came positive signals from Vienna where one of the most significant accords in the history of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe was signed. Although the CSCE process is limited to the European States, it is an encouraging development for the rest of the world community. A significant breakthrough in the new agreement relates to the mandate for negotiations on reduction of conventional forces in Europe. It is to be hoped that this momentum will not dissipate and these negotiations will be more successful than the ill-fated negotiations on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions which had produced no results since 1973.

The Third Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament took place in June 1988. Although a consensus text did not emerge at the Session, SSOD III helped in focusing world attention on the major disarmament issues of our time and proved to be an important vehicle for giving expression to the universal concern at the nuclear arms race. The Conference also succeeded in mobilising public opinion in favour of disarmament. A series of proposals and new ideas on disarmament were presented at the Special Session. India tabled an Action Plan for ushering in a Nuclear Weapon Free and Non-violent World Order which was later introduced in the CD as document CD/859.

The Action Plan contains a package of measures that structurally link the entire range of issues presently on the world disarmament agenda. The Action Plan, in essence, represents a continuation of India's position and initiatives on nuclear disarmament. The most essential -34>

feature of the Action Plan is the achievement of the objective of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2010. The nuclear arms race has threatened the very survival of mankind. This race, therefore, must be halted and reversed. The INF Treaty has provided a good opening. This must be seized upon and the process taken to the logical conclusion. These are the considerations which prompted us to present the Action Plan. We

considered that the time was opportune for the international community to initiate measures for achieving the objectives laid down in our Action Plan: to completely eliminate nuclear weapons: to discard the doctrine of deterrence and simultaneously to put in place an international security system that can sustain a nuclear weapon free world.

India's Action Plan is predicated on the hypothesis that genuine nuclear disarmament cannot be achieved without the nuclear weapon States undertaking a commitment to give up both the doctrine of deterrence and the nuclear weapons that go with it. So long as nuclear weapon States have nuclear weapons in their arsenals and so long as their security policies remain contingent upon the possible use of such weapons, a gradual process of reduction of nuclear arms will hardly make the world any safer.

Our Action Plan is based on the premise that the process of disarmament cannot be confined to USA and USSR. There should be a binding commitment by all nations to eliminate nuclear weapons. All nuclear weapon States must join the process without delay. Those States which are capable of crossing the nuclear threshold should also assume corresponding obligations for doing so. The Plan calls for negotiations of a new Treaty to give legal effect to the binding commitments by the entire international community to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2010.

The Action Plan provides for a series of collateral measures during its three stages which will have the effect of building confidence, facilitating the implementation of agreed measures and negotiations of new measures and reducing the fear of nuclear war. At the first stage itself, the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and a convention to outlaw the use of nuclear weapons, pending their elimination, is proposed. The Plan also provides for the elimination of other weapons of mass destruction and drastic reductions in conventional weapons. The Plan also calls for the conclusion of a comprehensive international convention banning chemical weapons.

While we regard the Action Plan as a comprehensive basis for multilateral negotiations, it is not based on an all-or-nothing approach. Nor is it intended that the sequence of measures included in the Plan should be rigidly adhered to. What is essential is that the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons within a timebound framework must be accepted.

Mr. President, my delegation is convinced that all nations, nuclear and nonnuclear alike, have a vital interest in nuclear disarmament. We have been consistently of the view that multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament are long overdue and, therefore, there should be no delay in commencing these negotiations. That is why, Mr. President, my delegation has always attached the highest priority to the first three items on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament that cover nuclear

disarmament. The role of the CD, therefore, in this area needs to be strengthened. Multilateral negotiations will serve in support and accelerate the pace of bilateral efforts thereby helping to bring us closer to the vision of a nuclearweapon-free world, briefly glimpsed at Reykjavik.

Pending the realisation of the goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons, the most practical and useful interim measure would be a convention on the prohibition on the use of nuclear weapons. Since 1982, we have presented a draft -35>

convention on this subject at the General Assembly, a proposal that has been consistently endorsed by an overwhelming majority every year. The resolution calls upon the CD to undertake negotiations on this item on a priority basis. It is universally acknowledged that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. The foreswearing of the use of nuclear weapons will help in averting the danger of nuclear war and giving credence to the commitment of the nuclear weapon States to nuclear disarmament. It would be a demonstration of our common desire to curb the nuclear arms race, delegitimise nuclear weapons as a currency of power and provide momentum to the disarmament process.

The history of disarmament negotiations is often said to be a history of missed opportunities. Nowhere is this more true than with the proposal to prohibit all nuclear weapon test explosions for all time. Following the call in 1954 at the General Assembly by Jawaharlal Nehru for a cessation of nuclear testing, a conference of seismic experts had produced a report in 1958 declaring that detection of nuclear explosions was feasible; in 1962-63, the only pending outstanding issue was the number of onsite inspections; in 1980, the trilateral negotiations had nearly concluded the verification provisions when negotiations were suspended.

Since then, a number of technical arguments have been brought up by those who see a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty only as a longterm objective. Each one of these has been proven false. In the Mexico Declaration, circulated here as CD1723 in 1986, the leaders of the Six Nation Initiative had offered to monitor a test ban in cooperation with the United States and the USSR. Further, the political difficulties related to on-site inspection today seem capable of resolution. The most recent of the socalled technical arguments relates to testing for maintaining the credibility of stockpiles. Here too, scientists working in defence laboratories have testified that stockpile reliability is not a major consideration in arguing against a test ban. It is evident that these arguments disguise the real issues at stake.A mere non-negotiating mandate can only keep the Ad-hoc Committee busy with these non-issues. That is why we have been against a non-negotiating mandate. However, we should all be prepared to adopt a flexible approach in this regard also if there is a

commitment to move ahead with purposive action with the objective of achieving an agreement on a CTBT.

At the first Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament, it was agreed that, along with the quantitative aspect the qualitative aspect of the arms race also deserved attention. More than a decade has passed since the 1978 consensus. During this period, most bilateral and multilateral disarmament efforts have focused primarily on the quantitative expansion of arsenals. The issue of the qualitative arms race has not received the attention it deserves. Today the world stands on the threshold of a new arms race.

The cumulative impact of developments taking place in the field of microelectronic, computers, miniaturization, fuel technology systems, guidance systems, materials, directed energy weapons and many others will transform the future security environment decision-making will become increasingly dependent on artifical intelligence and the response times will be reduced to seconds. Many of these developments can only be dimly perceived at present. Moreover, most of these would not fit into existing security doctrines. However, the incontrovertible momentum of their development will throw up new strategic doctrines to justify the expenditures incurred and create new areas for investments in military budgets. It is the technological momentum of the arms race which has made science and technology the masters of war rather than the servants of peace. Far from gaining security, nations will lose control of the instruments of warfare. Histori

-36>

cally, this is the appropriate time to ensure that mankind does not become hostage to the monsters it creates.

At SSOD-III, We had put forward a detailed proposal aimed at curbing the qualitative arms race. It is a complex task to distinguish the various aspects of scientific and technological developments and to ensure that these are used only for peaceful purposes. A prerequisite for this is greater access to information. The relationship between the major military states has often suffered because of worstcase-scenario-assessments and the imaginary 'bomber gaps' 'missile gaps', which are perceived really as 'technology gaps'. Greater transparency and availability of reliable information will be an important confidence-building measure and also help promote greater international cooperation in these areas. It was with this end in view that we had suggested the establishment of a panel of experts for monitoring assessing and forecasting technologies which have potential military application. We pursued this proposal at the last session of the General Assembly where a resolution on this subject was adopted. We believe that creation of a consultative machinery to serve as a mechanism of assessment and forecast of military applications of future developments in

science and technology is necessary today. The GA resolution takes the first step towards such an objective. We hope that the deliberations of the Secretary General's panel will lay the foundation for action on a continuing basis.

The international community has unanimously recognised outer space as the common preserve of mankind. To expand international cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space. It is essential that it be kept free of all types of weapons. During the last few years, the CD has done valuable work in examining and identifying issues relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It is an encouraging sign to note that almost twenty proposals have been tabled by delegations, some relating to specific aspects such as banning ASAT weapons, providing immunity to satellites and other more comprehensive proposals, such as amending the 1967 Outer Space Treaty or adding a protocol to it or substituting it with a more comprehensive treaty.

It is accepted that the existing legal regime relating to outer space needs to be strengthened and reinforced. In view of technological developments taking place. Its limitations have become strikingly evident. New legal instruments need to be developed which would reflect both the new political reality as well as these technological developments. The existing corpus of international law, both in the form of bilateral and multilateral agreements, indicates the direction in which we have to move.

Verification of compliance is a difficult task and often made more complex by lack of pertinent data. Today, the Registration Convention cannot be described as an effective source for pertinent data. It needs to be strengthened. It would be useful to have an expert group associated with the Ad-hoc Committee which could, as a first task, work on the development of criteria necessary for building up a relevant data base.

Satellite technology has reached a stage where it can be used as an important aid in economic planning and development. Communications, remote sensing, navigation and mateorology are some fields where developing countries could greatly benefit from the use of satellite technology. We, therefore, view with great concern the development of anti-satellite weapon systems. Priority must be accorded to a ban on the development of anti-satellite weapons coupled with the dismantling of the existing systems. It is an encouraging sign that in the two States with the most significant space capabilities, restraints with regard to anti-satellite weapon development are currently being observed. What is needed now are multilateral negotiations to convert this voluntary restraint into a universally binding commitment. The proposal for an expert group would also help in resolving the definitional pro

-37>

blems so relevant in considering an ASAT ban. We are also

concerned about the ongoing research on new types of anti-ballistic missile weapon systems. The limits prescribed by the ABM Treaty should not be transgressed and negotiations should begin on a new legal instrument to ensure that outer space is kept free from the incursion of new weapon system operated either from ground or from space. It is a matter of regret that the Ad hoc Committee functioning since 1985 has not succeeded in coming to grips with the real issues under this item.

Let me now turn to the somewhat more positive aspect of the work of the CD, where considerable progress has been made during the last year. I refer to the negotiations relating to a Chemical Weapons Convention. A comprehensive, universal and effective prohibition on chemical weapons would lead to an enhancement of security of all nations by removing an entire class of weapons of mass destruction.

The Final Declaration of the recently concluded Paris Conference, in which I participated, reflects clearly the urgency of concluding at an early date, a convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons, and on their destruction". We share the sense of urgency reflected in the Final Declaration and would urge the Conference on Disarmament to set itself a time frame within which to conclude its negotiations on a CW convention. We are happily close enough to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Any slowdown at this critical stage would be a serious setback to our efforts as has happened in other areas of disarmament negotiations in the past. At the same time we also need to exercise restraint from actions which may complicate or frustrate the momentum of the negotiations.

The time has come for us to reflect on how the convention will enter into force with the least possible delay. In our view, an open ended Preparatory Commission would need to be set up once the Convention is opened for signature. In this interim period, till the Convention enters into force after the requisite number of instruments of ratification are received, the Preparatory Commission will have to prepare for the first general conference of the States parties as also enter into procedural and technical details with the host country and States parties. At present, we observe that far too much time is devoted in the Ad hoc Committee on technical details which divert the attenion from the political issues that still remain to be resolved. Such details could be identified and resolved by the Preparatory Commission. The time has come for us to look forward and move with vigour and decisiveness. A clear approach would in itself provide a positive thrust to negotiations in the CD.

If I have been frank in expressing some disappointment with the pace of negotiations in this Conference, it is because India looks upon the CD as a unique institution with immense potentialities. What we need is a commitment to make the CD equal

to the challenge of our times.

Let us remember something that happened on this planet once before. There was a time when the earth was dominated by monsters who tried to protect themselves by ever more cumbersome armour, until they were walking fortresses. They never noticed, as they blundered through the forest and swamp, the little creatures that skipped out of their way: the first mammals, our ancestors. It was intelligence, not armour, which prevailed and inherited the earth. The accumulated arsenals which weigh us down are a selfimposed burden. From our collective wisdom, we need to find resources to free ourselves from this burden so that the true creative potential of humankind may be released. According to an ancient Indian aphorism, it is the mind that binds and the mind that liberates. New begin -38>

nings made in recent years give us confidence that we have taken the road of wisdom and that the decisive turn may already have been taken. May the Conference on Disarmament take us speedily on this path.

Thank you, Mr. President,

ITZERLAND USA FRANCE AUSTRIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ICELAND MEXICO

**Date**: Feb 14, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Committee Meets

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 07, 1989 on SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Committee:

The Fourth Meeting of the SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Committee began here today.

Starting the deliberations, Shri R. C. Sinha, Chairman of the Committee and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, said that since the last meeting held in October 1988, the exchange of SAARC programmes had been quite encouraging. In India particularly, the programmes telecast and broadcast were found to be not only interesting but also educative. He said that people looked forward eagerly to these

### programmes.

The two-day meeting is considering various aspects for further exchange of programmes which while providing focus on entertainment and the rich cultural heritage of the SAARC Countries would also lay emphasis on the socio, economic and technological aspects in member nations.

It may be recalled that at the second SAARC Summit held at Bangalore in November 1986, the Heads of State Government agreed that a South Asian Broadcasting Programme covering both radio and television should be launched. Pursuant to this decision, a Working Group of Experts was convened in New Delhi to draw up details for this scheme and several other new ideas. It was agreed that the South Asian Broadcasting Programmes should be called the SAARC Audio Visual Exchange (SAVE).

The objective was to enable SAARC countries to share each other's broadcasts and telecasts. The elements of scheme are (i) initially, the creation of a pool of programmes of common interest for broadcast and (ii) at a later stage, consideration of possibilities of joint production in areas of common interest.

Accordingly, a standing committee, called the "SAVE Committee" consisting of designated representatives of each member country has been constituted. Two meetings of this committee have already been held in September, 1987 and February, 1988 in New Delhi.

DIA USA

**Date**: Feb 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

### Inaugural Session of AFRICA Fund Committee

The following is the text of a speech made by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao Minister for External Affairs at the Inaugural Session of AFRICA Fund Committee at New Delhi on Feb 14, 1989:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Fourth Meeting of the Senior Officials of the AFRICA Fund Committee in New Delhi. I have been following the progress and activities of the AFRICA Fund with keen interest, because it represents for the Non-aligned Movement an extremely important decision which our

leaders adopted at the 8th Summit in Harare in September, 1986.

In very definite terms they set for the AFRICA Fund the twin objectives of: -39>

- (i) strengthening the economic and financial capability of the Frontline States to fight the Apartheid regime of Pretoria and to support the Liberation Movements in South Africa and Namibia in their unrelenting struggle against racial and colonial suppression; and
- (ii) assisting the Frontline States to enforce sanctions against South Africa and to cope with any retaliatory economic action by the racist regime.

However, while carrying out these economic objectives of the fund, we must not lose sight of the political purpose behind the creation of AFRICA Fund. Our one clear and unambigious goal must remain our total commitment to dismantle the pernicious system of Apartheid. It is Apartheid which is the root cause of racial and colonial subjugation in Namibia and South Africa, of the continuing tension and instability in the whole region of Southern Africa and the acute economic and financial problems being faced by the Frontline States. There can be no compromise in our determination to do away with Apartheid. We must wage a relentless struggle with faith and conviction, till this remaining blotch in the face of human civilisation in these last years of the twentieth century is removed for ever. As our Heads of State Government declared in New Delhi in January 1987, "We all have a moral responsibility to see Apartheid eradicated. Until that happens, and to facilitate that end let us extend all possible international support to those bearing the brunt of its tyranny and terror".

India, as you are aware, from the very beginning of this century, has been an uncompromising opponent of racial discrimination in South Africa. Not only did the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi begin the first organised movement of opposition to the abhorent system of Apartheid in the soil of South Africa itself; not only did our support for racial equality in South Africa along with decolonisation in the rest of the world become interwined with our own Freedom Movement; but the United Nations' own efforts against racism in South Africa began at the request of the Government of India in 1946 even while we ourselves were still not free from the yoke of foreign rule. Ever since, India has pursued relentlessly in every forum and through every means available, the fundamental goal of establishing in South Africa the dignity and worth of every single human person without distinction of race and colour. It was this supreme purpose, which led India to join hands with others and actively advocate the setting up of the AFRICA Fund.

Let me recall that it all started more than two years ago as a fond hope with an earnest purpose in Harare at the Eighth Non-aligned Summit. Then in January 1987 nine of our eminent leaders joined together to appeal to the universal conscience seeking support and assistance from the international community. A Plan of Action for the Fund was drawn up. On 25th January, 1987 during the AFRICA Fund Summit itself, the first contribution to the Fund came from a young boy from Tamil Nadu.

The ball which was set rolling by this young boy has gathered appreciable momentum. Since then more than one third of the members of the United Nations the young and the emerging countries of the developing world as well as some of the more prosperous and developed nations of the world have joined together to pledge assistance to the equivalent of US \$ 418 million. For the short period of two years, this is no small achievement. It shows the determination of the governments and peoples of the world to stand by the suffering multitudes of Southern Africa. It reflects the uncompromising will of the world to end for ever the subjugation and suppression of the majority in South Africa and Namibia by a bigoted minority. It also vindicates the decision of our leaders who in launching the Fund in Harare, had

indeed displayed sagacity and farsightedness of profound consequence.

Since Harare the situation has hardly changed in spite of the so called "peaceoffensive" by South Africa or the constructive engagement advocated by some powers. South Africa continues to be under a State of Emergency. Nelson Mandela continues to be incarcerated, now, in greater isolation than ever before, in spite of one of the greatest worldwide demonstrations ever known, demanding his release on the occasion of his 70th birth anniversary. The banning of the United Democratic Front and other political organisations, the various trials of political activists in South Africa for their opposition to Apartheid under the charge of "treason", bringing, in Nobel Laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu's words, "the very concept of law into greater disrepute now than ever before", are all examples of the intransigence of the racist regime.

South Africa also continues to foment trouble in the neighbouring states. Its aid to MNR bandits in Mozambique remains unabated in spite of conciliatory efforts on the part of the Government of Mozambique. Even by a conservative estimate according to recent study the MNR has murdered one hundred thousand civilians. Abductions from neighbouring countries of anti-Apartheid activists continue without stop. Within days of security talks between Botswana and South Africa in mid-December last year South African Defence forces raided villages in Botswana killing people and burning houses. In Namibia, even while negotiations for

granting independence and implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 are in full gear, the South African Government is creating conditions for the destabilisation of independent Namibia by assisting in the formation of Renamo - like rebel groups and smuggling UNITA terrorists into Namibia. By increasing its military presence in Namibia to about 150,000 which the depleted

UNTAG forces can hardly control, the racist regime is trying to ensure that the popular nationalist forces represented by the SWAPO cannot'come to power.

Dear Friends, we have over the last two years noted with satisfaction the growth of Fund. In Nicosia, in last September, my colleagues representing Non-aligned countries and I commended and welcomed the Reports of the AFRICA Fund detailing the activities of the Fund and the progress it has achieved. We noted the good work done during the previous meetings of the Fund Committee and declared that the Fund "was a specific demonstration of collective action". At the same time we expressed "grave concern at the worsening economic situation in the Frontline States as a result of the continued aggression by the racist Pretoria regime" and "commended all those countries that have thus far contributed to the AFRICA Fund and urged all those countries which have not yet done so to join in support of that cause."

Having expressed satisfaction with the progress of the Fund, I would like to remind you that at Nicosia we also "urged that pledges made should be fulfilled and utilised without delay". As you are aware, the AFRICA Fund was created as, and remains, an emergency response to an emergency situation meant to provide additional funds for strengthening the economic and financial capabilities of the Frontline States and Freedom Movements. in Namibia and South Africa. May I recall to all of you that in their New Delhi Appeal our leaders had very clearly stated that "the Fund will mainly concentrate on emergency measures related directly to, the struggle against Apartheid". Both the donors and the recipients, therefore, have the obligation of quickly, I would say, urgently, fructifying the pledges made. Your Committee, supported by the SubCommittee has been entrusted with this onerous responsibility and must be able to deliver results before its mandate comes to an end at Belgrade later this year. -41>

I wish, therefore, to take this opportunity to emphasise that the donors and the recipients must utilise this meeting to concretise action. The donors must ensure that their pledges are converted into actual projects benefiting the suffering millions in Southern Africa. The recipients must bilaterally work with the donors to identify, where this has not already been done, such projects as are within the capability of donors, remembering in particular that most of the donors are themselves developing countries with resource and free currency constraints. Having

identified the projects, it is important to proceed immediately to implementation of the projects. I am informed that the programme of work of the subcommittee specially provides for separate bilateral donor-recipient meetings. I would earnestly urge all the participants to take full advantage of this opportunity to concretise action and to move forward.

We are all aware that except for about 2 per cent in cash, the balance of US \$ 418 million pledged to the Fund is in kind and technical assistance. This situation does, in one sense, affect our flexibility in trying to meet the urgent requirements of the Frontline States and Freedom Movements, but it must be accepted as a reflection of the reality of the economic capabilities of the donor countries themselves. The goal of the AFRICA Fund, in such circumstances, can only be to maximise the benefits to be derived by the Frontline States and Freedom Movements within the limitation imposed by these constraints. In quite another sense, however, this situation need not necessarily be seen as a constraint but rather as an opportunity for donor and recipient to interact directly and positively. The very process of implementation of the project in such close partnership will be vet another affirmation of solidarity. Having regard to the large number of nonaligned and developing countries who have joined the Fund as donors, this will represent the first successful venture in true South-South cooperation.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, the AFRICA Fund has a profound political message to convey - namely - the international community cannot and will not stand helplessly while human rights and freedom continue to be trampled by Apartheid South Africa. But this message will have its impact only to the extent that the Fund delivers results. I am convinced that there is a lot - a very substantial lot - which can be done by the AFRICA Fund if the pledges are faithfully and speedily redeemed. We owe it not only to the victims of Apartheid but to ourselves to ensure that what has been proimsed reach the intended beneficiaries at the earliest. I have been told that a high priority has been accorded to this aspect of the utilization of pledges in this meeting. I commend this effort.

Three years would have elapsed since Harare when our leaders meet in Belgrade in late summer in this to take stock of our achievements during the period between the 8th and the 9th Summits. One of the most important issues that they will analyse will be the achievements of the AFRICA Fund. This would probably be the last meeting before you prepare your final report for Belgrade. Your present meeting has, therefore, a critical role to play.

I wish your deliberations the best success.

Thank you.

-42>

# DIA USA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MOZAMBIQUE BOTSWANA CYPRUS YUGOSLAVIA

**Date**: Feb 14, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Fourth Meeting of Senior Officials of AFRICA Fund Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1989 on the Fourth Meeting of Senior Officials of AFRICA Fund Committee:

The Fourth Meeting of the Senior Officials of the AFRICA Fund Committee concluded on the 17th February, 1989 with a hard hitting speech by Prof. K. K. Tewary, Minister of State for External Affairs. Prof. Tewary in his speech stated that the battle against Apartheid must continue till its total destruction through concerted efforts by the world community. One such effort, the Minister stated, was the AFRICA Fund - set up with the objective of strengthening the financial and economic capabilities of the Frontline States and Liberation Movements in Namibia and South Africa who have borne the brunt of the destabilisation and war ravages unleashed by the racist regime of Pretoria.

- 2. It will be recalled that the meeting was inaugurated on 14th February by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs who had emphasised the need for further strengthening the AFRICA Fund through immediate and effective utilisation of pledges already made. As of date, 52 countries representing more than one third of the community of Nations from the East and the West and the North and the South have contributed as much as 420 million dollars in cash, kind and project assistance.
- 3. The meeting began with messages from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Chairman of the AFRICA Fund, Mr. Perez de Cueller, Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Shridath Ramphal, Secretary General of the Commonwealth and Mr. Ide Oumaru, Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). The Prime Minister in his message urged the Committee to address itself to the task of mobilising and channelising support and to convert pledges already made into projects without delay. He pointed out that the AFRICA Fund was created as an emergency

response to an emergency situation. The Secretary General of the UN in his message stated that the significant pledges and contribution which the Fund had received from countries around the Globe was adequate testimony of the justness of the objectives of the Fund. He reiterated the complete readiness of the UN to associate itself with the Fund. Shri Ramphal in his message expressed satisfaction with the progress of the Fund and reaffirmed his full support to the objectives and operations of the Fund. The Secretary General of the OAU stated that OAU attached great importance to the work of the Fund.

- 4. This meeting of the Fund was the largest of its kind with all 9 Member States Algeria, Argentina, Congo, India, Nigeria, Peru, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, ANC, PAC and SWAPO and 56 donors and International organisations participating. This in itself is an indication of the profound interest of the international community in the work of the Fund and a belief that the Fund has achieved significant progress in ameliorating the condition of the suffering millions in Southern Africa. In their statements the delegates repeatedly emphasized their commitment to the objectives of the Fund and their determination to continue with their assistance to the Frontline States and Liberation Movements in Namibia and South Africa. They also spoke about the assistance they have so far carried out and planned for the future.
- 5. An innovative procedure was introduced in the conduct of the meeting through arrangements for separate bilateral meetings between donors and reci--43>

pients with a view to maximise effective utilisation of the time and opportunity available during the meeting to resolve outstanding issues and to finalise modalities for implementation of projects and explore avenues for new initiatives. Both the donors and the recipients found this novel method to be of practical benefit specially since the records of these bilateral discussions were incorporated in the Final Report of the Meeting for future reference and action.

- 6. The Committee which was Chaired by Shri N. Krishnan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister for Africa was assisted by a Sub Committee which was Chaired by Dr. C. M. Fundunga, Permanent Secretary, Government of Zambia. Various activities of the AFRICA Fund including Report of the Progress of the Fund, Review of its Activities, utilisation of Cash in Fund Account. Utilisation of Pledges of donor countries and Review of Projects, Appointment of Auditors, and Mobilisation of Public Opinion and Financial Resources were considered.
- 7. One of the major decisions of the meeting was the disbursement of the cash available with the Fund. The Committee which had about 920,000 US dollars in cash decided to allocate US \$ 400,000

to SWAPO, US \$ 200,000 to ANC and US \$ 50,000 to PAC. It also decided to extend support to the Children's Fund for Southern Africa (CHISA) and UNICEF for projects catering to the needs of children and women in Southern Africa - the most seriously affected sections of the population which has borne the brunt of the brutal policies of the racist regime of Pretoria. An amount of US \$ 70,000 and US \$ 50,000 was allocated for trilateral AFRICA Fund - CHISA-UNICEF Project to be implemented by UNICEF.

- 8. On the issue of utilisation of pledges the Committee urged both the donors and the recipients to give highest priority to the utilisation of pledges already made so that the Committee would be in a position to report effective utilisation to the Heads of State and Government of Non-aligned countries when they meet later this year at Belgrade for the Non-aligned Summit. During the meeting various International Organisations expressed their support to the AFRICA Fund and outlined several methods through which they could assist the donors and recipients to implement projects in Southern Africa.
- 9. The Committee also emphasised the importance of mobilisation of further resources and public opinion through such measures as production of a TV film on AFRICA Fund for worldwide viewing, distribution of brochures on the AFRICA Fund in various languages and disseminating information about the AFRICA Fund and its objectives through various committed bodies like the Anti-Apartheid Movements in the UK and the Continent.
- 10. The delegations expressed their deep appreciation of the role being played by India under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi Chairman of the AFRICA Fund to make the Fund into really an effective instrument for assisting the Frontline States and Liberation Movements in Namibia and South Africa and in combating Apartheid.

DIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ALGERIA ARGENTINA CONGO NIGER NIGERIA PERU YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Feb 17, 1989

# Volume No

1995

KUWAIT

Rs. 35 crore Kuwaiti Loan to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 24, 1989 on Kuwaiti loan to India:

Kuwait will loan seven million Dinar worth about Rs. 35 crore for the Kerala Fisheries Development Project for Prawn Culture (Phase-I). The loan is repayable in 20 years with five years grace period. It carries an interest rate of 4.5 per cent service charges.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Mr. Abdul Wahab AlBader, Deputy Director General (Operations) on behalf of the Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development and Shri J. L. Bajaj, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance on behalf of Government of India.

The Kerala Fisheries Development Project for Prawn Culture (Phase I) aims at developing farms|ponds in an area of about 1500 hectares, at an estimated cost of about Rupees 60 crore with hatcheries, feed mill and laboratory facilities.

The Kuwait Fund had earlier extended to India loans amounting to KD 85.3 million (about US \$ 300 million) for seven projects mainly in the energy sector.

WAIT INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Feb 24, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### **LESOTHO**

Air Services between India and Lesotho

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 11, 1989 on Air Services between India and Lesotho:

India and Lesotho signed here last evening a Memorandum of Consultation which envisaged future air services operations between Maseru (capital of Lesotho) and Bombay. An understanding was reached between the two sides with regard to areas of cooperation between the two countries in the field of training of pilots, air traffic controllers and cabin crew. It also covered design and construction of airports.

The Memorandum was signed after two days of discussions between the official delegations of the two countries. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Vivek Pattanayak, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Lesotho delegation was led by His Excellency Thabo Bernard Moeketsi, the High Commissioner of Lesotho to India.

This is the first time when the Civil Aviation delegation of the two Governments have met to initiate and develop air transportation between the two countries.

-45>

SOTHO INDIA USA

**Date**: Feb 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **MALDIVES**

More Air Services between India and Maldives

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1989 on more Air services between India and Maldives:

India and Maldives have agreed to increase air services between the two countries from the present three per week to five per week. It would be possible to operate three services with new A-320 airbus aircraft which Indian Airlines will shortly be acquiring in place of the existing smaller B-737 aircraft. It was also agreed that airlines of both countries may operate an additional service between the two capitals, namely, Delhi and Male in the spirit of SAARC relations.

This followed two-days of official level discussions between the Civil Aviation delegations of India and Maldives with a view to review the civil aviation matters between the two countries. The Indian delegation was led by Shri S. K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism and the Maldives delegation was led by Mr. Mohamed Shareef, Director of Civil Aviation, Maldives.

The overall effect of these steps would be to enhance the air capacity between India and Maldives in view of increasing traffic on this sector. The two delegations also discussed matters relating to air traffic control and cooperation in the sphere of training.

**Date**: Feb 17, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### French President's Visit

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Feb 01, 1989, on French President's visit:

The Prime Minister and President Mitterrand met today for about an hour, one to one, and the full delegations met for an hour-ana-half. Prime Minister and President Mitterrand joined the delegations in the later half of the meeting.

Prime Minister welcomed President Mitterrand as the leader of a great and a friendly country with a humane tradition, as the leader of a country with which India shares values of democracy and independence. The relationship between the two countries has also been strengthened by our common concern for peace and disarmament. Prime Minister referred with much warmth to his memories of his visit in 1985 to Paris. He also referred to the close rapport which President Mitterrand had with the former Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

President Mitterrand, in responding to Prime Minister's words of welcome, acknowledged his close association with the former Prime Minister and the relationship that he had forged with her. He also referred to his earlier visit to India when -46>

he had met the present Prime Minister, and remarked that he was particularly happy that the new traditions and new orientations to the Indo-French relationship which had been established in the past have not only continued but have also been developed. President Mitterrand also said that he has come with a large delegation in the hope that his colleagues could enter into meaningful discussion with their counterparts in order to enlarge the dimensions of the fruitful relationship between the two countries. The discussions of the two leaders covered a widerange of international issues. Two themes underlaid the discussions: firstly, the imperative need for disarmament at new levels which would reduce tensions, and secondly, the need to

reduce the gap between the developed and the developing nations. President Mitterrand in his remarks said that the second requirement was perhaps even more important than the first. He spoke of the economic absurdity where such a small percentage of the world's population consumes such a large proportion of the world's resources. He said that there was, as a result of this imbalance, a danger of the worst disorders and multiple conflicts. It was in the interest of the industrialised world to correct this imbalance and it was with that end in view that he and the Indian Prime Minister and their respective delegations have talked in depth about developing trade and economic cooperation.

Prime Minister warmly endorsed President Mitterrand's views on his imbalance and what he termed as economic absurdity and the short-sightedness with which many in the developed world tend to view such problems. Prime Minister, therefore, expressed special appreciation for President Mitterrand's far-sighted vision in this sphere. Prime Minister also said that in this by-centennial of the French revolution, it was worth pondering on the causes of the French revolution and worth making efforts not to allow a repetition of those mistakes on a global scale. Prime Minister said that he was particularly happy that President Mitterrand's visit to this country was the first visit undertaken by him to Asia after his re-election. He also expressed his thanks for the interest with which the Festival of France has been organised and said that this would continue the process that has been started in Paris where relations moved beyond the government-togovernment level.

On the specific areas of trade, the 7th meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee took place yesterday. The new items discussed are market development in which the French are going to assist us penetrate in new markets both in France and in other European countries and to restructure our industries in order to facilitate such entry into markets in the developed countries. It was also agreed that there would be joint collaboration in third countries, especially in West Asia. The areas identified are food processing, bio-technology, consumer industries, mining, coal, electronics, telecommunications, etc. In the field of agriculture, there has been a most satisfactory agreement signed in 1987 between the IARI and its French counterpart which has been working very well. Further, it has been decided to enlarge areas of cooperation in this field, in oil seeds where India has a plan to become self-sufficient in the next few years, and in food processing, including fishing and marine products. We are also interested in trawlers and help in packaging and quick freezing. Efforts are going to be increased by the French how the trade imbalance is going to be reduced. Atomic energy and space were also discussed. Existing collaborations and some new areas in these fields are being explored.

In the field of culture, the French are considering the setting

up of a special fund for translation of Indian books in French. We propose to collaborate with them in the restoration of major art objects and places of Indian heritage, like Ajanta and Elora etc.

-47>

DIA FRANCE USA

**Date**: Feb 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### China

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman Of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Feb 03, 1989 in reply to a question on the news item in the Times of India entitled "New thrust to Sino-Indian border talks".

In reply to a question on the news item in the Times of India of 3-2-89 entitled "New thrust to Sino-Indian border talks", the Spokesman said that letters have been exchanged between the two Prime Ministers, but he did not have any details on them. He added that following the impetus given to relations between the two countries by the Prime Minister's visit to China, both sides were maintaining the momentum. The Chinese Agriculture Minister is coming to India to attend the bio-technology conference and following that he will extend his stay as a bilateral visit to India. Our Minister of Steel and Mines will be visiting China. A Chinese Communist Party delegation will be visiting India and, finally, the Head of the Chinese Institute of Contemporary International Relations, Mr. Liu Seqing, will also be visiting India.

INA INDIA USA

**Date**: Feb 03, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### Afghanistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Feb 07, 1989 in reply to a question on Afghanistan:

In reply to questions, the Spokesman said:

- (1) There are 29 Resident Missions in Kabul and two Interest Sections, of which 8 Resident Missions and one Interest Section have closed down.
- (2) India has never been a party to the conflict, like other countries who have been financing and fuelling the war in Afghanistan. We have never sided with the warring groups. We have been in touch with everybody there, including Zahir Shah. Our interests are to keep good relations with the Afghan Government and to ensure the security of our personnel there and in this context we will be guided by the advice of our Ambassador in Kabul.
- (3) Our goal is very clear. It is to have a peaceful solution of the Afghan problem and to ensure the non aligned States of Afghanistan. That is the longterm objective. The short term objective is that our relations with the Afghan Government should remain cordial and the interests of our people should be safeguarded; their security and safety ensured.
- (4) We are not engaged in active negotiations with any party. It is the UN negotiations that brought about the Geneva Accords. We hope that all parties will abide by its provisions and that the independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan will be preserved.
- (5) We would like that there should be a broad-based Government in Afghanistan which enjoys the confidence and support of the Afghans. It is for the Afghans to determine how this should be done. They will prescribe their own formulae.
- (6) India has not been a party to the conflict. We have maintained good relations with all the Governments in Afghanistan and we have not cut off our contacts with the other parties.

  -48>

GHANISTAN INDIA SWITZERLAND

**Date**: Feb 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Australian Prime Minister's Visit

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi On Feb 10, 1989 on Australian Prime Minister's visit:

There was a one-to-one meeting between the two Prime Ministers which lasted for about 45 minutes. They discussed issues relating to Kampuchea. They both share similar views on the need to prevent the return of a situation where acts of genocide were a common place. The Australian Prime Minister spoke about his visit to Thailand and in turn was briefed about MOS(N)'s visit to Thailand and Jakarta. Both sides welcomed the efforts being made by countries in the region to increase contacts with a view to finding a solution acceptable to all parties. The two Prime Ministers also discussed the situation in Southern Africa and Namibia in the context of the developing situation in Namibia where elections are scheduled to be held in a few months. They also also discussed Sri Lanka and the Madlives. The situation in Afghanistan also came up during the talks today as did the question of the developments in the relationship between China and the Soviet Union.

The affairs relating to the Commonwealth in the context of the forthcoming CHOGM meeting later this year were also covered during the talks today. The Indian Ocean was also discussed.In reply to a question about Afghanistan, the Spokesman said that all the latest developments in Afghanistan were covered. The two leaders recognised the fact that the Soviet troopspull out from Afghanistan was a very positive development and they both hoped that there will be no escalation in the conflict. They also hoped that it will be possible to create conditions where the refugees will return and where the traffic in drugs and arms will be stopped. Our view and their view is that Afghans should decide for themselves whatever they want.

In reply to another question on the Indian ocean in the context of the views that have been expressed in the Australian media about India's naval build up, the Spokesman said that the position was explained to the Australian Prime Minister who expressed complete understanding of the historical context in which our navy has grown in the past years.

The Spokesman mentioned the four MOUs signed between India and

Australia as of some importance. He referred to the MOU on Concessional Finance and said that the significant element in this was that apart from giving fillip to IndoAustralian cooperation in specific projects, the Indian companies also would be able to bid for the supply of goods and services to the extent possible given the circumstances of each project.

#### STRALIA USA INDIA THAILAND INDONESIA NAMIBIA SRI LANKA AFGHANISTAN CHINA

**Date**: Feb 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on the J.N. Award for International Understanding:

The President will confer the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Mr. Peres DeCuellar on Feb 27, 1989, at Vigyan Bhavan.

The Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, was instituted in 1965. The Award is in memory of the life-long efforts and contribution made by India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal -49>

Nehru for promoting international peace and understanding. The Award was conferred upon 21 recepients including Martin Luther King Jr., Mother Teresa, Smt Indira Gandhi, etc. The Award carries Rs. 15 lakhs and a citation.

The United National Secretary General was chosen unanimously by the jury of this Award for his outstanding contribution in solving global conflicts and efforts in restoration of peace world-wide. It is significant that the JN Award this year coincides with the centenary celebrations of Pandit Nehru.

During his stay here, the Secretary General will call on the President, the Vice President, the Prime Minister, EAM and during these discussions he will have important talks on issues of international significance. He will also be travelling to Jaipur and Calcutta.

**Date**: Feb 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

UN Secretary-General's Visit

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Feb 27, 1989 on the visit of the UN Secretary General:

The UN Secretary-General had official talks with the Prime Minister today for over an hour following the lunch. Present during the talks were External Affairs Minister, Minister of State (N) and the Foreign Secretary.

Prime Minister welcomed the new role that the United Nations has been playing in the changed international environment. He complimented the Secretary-General on his efforts to initiate the peace process and in helping resolve some of the regional conflicts. Prime Minister, however, pointed out that in the context of new political thinking and the changing international environment, the UN and its members had to beware and not allow the UN to be used as an instrument by the big powers for the achievement of their own ends. The UN should develop an independent role for itself. The Prime Minister extended India's support to the UN and the Secretary-General for the development of such an independent role.

On Namibia, Prime Minister complimented the Secretary-General for initiating the process to implement Resolution 435 and for his role in setting the stage for Namibian independence. At the same time, Prime Minister expressed India's concern that South Africa may try and dominate the electoral process. Because of this, it was of utmost importance that the UN should exercise the greatest vigilance to ensure that the atmosphere for a free and fair election is not vitiated by South Africa. In this context, Prime Minister expressed India's concern that the scaled down figure of UNTAG troops from 7500 to 4650 may not be sufficient. Further, it was necessary to ensure conditions for the return of SWAPO refugees and to safeguard their right to exercise their franchise in a free and fair manner. The UN should exercise and control the electoral process so that the world is satisfied that a free and

fair election has taken place. The Secretary-General responded by saying that he fully shared India's concern and gave an assurance that the UN is doing everything possible to fulfil its mandate. He expressed the UN's gratitude, in this context, for India's wholehearted support to the UN efforts, especially the role being played by Gen. Prem Chand and other military and civilian advisers attached to UNTAG.

On Afghanistan, Prime Minister expressed the hope that all parties would observe strict compliance of the Geneva Accords both in letter and in spirit and that the people of Afghanistan would be allowed to determine their future free of foreign -50>

interference. The Secretary-General shared Prime Minister's views and agreed that the key to the Afghan question lay in the fulfilment of the Geneva Accords. He told the Prime Minister that he was keeping a close watch on the Afghan situation through his personal representative, Benon Savan. The Secretary-General was full of praise for the continuing assistance and support that India has given over the years to the UN, even at a time when it was not fashionable to do so.

DIA USA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA AFGHANISTAN SWITZERLAND

**Date**: Feb 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### POLAND

Cultural Exchange Programme with Poland

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1989 on Cultural Exchange Programme with Poland:

A cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1989-1991 between India and Poland was signed here today. Shri Man Mohan Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture signed the exchange programme on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Eugeniusz Mielcarek of Polish Ministry for Foreign Affairs signed on behalf of the Polish People's Republic. This programme was a follow up of the Agreement concerning the Cultural Cooperation of March '57 between the two countries.

The Cultural Exchange Programme, like the previous Programmes, covers the field of Science and education, book promotion, art

and culture, languages, archaeology, films, television, radio, Press, sports, welfare etc.

Some of the important exchange programmes and activities envisaged in the new Programme are: further development of institutional linkages in certain specified areas including economic development and planning, chemical sciences and engineering, mining engineering, electrical sciences and ship building and marine engineering, publication of major works (in English) of Polish Indologists; teaching of languages, literature and civilizations of India at the universities in Poland; exchange of scholars for studies/specialisation; grant of scholarships to the Polish students for study of Hindi in India, exchange of exhibitions, cultural personalities, performing troups, soloists, observers, theatre experts; cooperation in the field of archaeology in cluding exchange of archaeologists; participation in each other's film festivals; organisation of a week of films in the other country; exchange of journalists; cooperation in the areas relating to child and mother development programmes; and exchange of youth delegations.

#### LAND INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Feb 21, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **THAILAND**

More Joint Ventures between India and Thailand

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 01, 1989 on joint ventures between India and Thailand:

India and Thailand have agreed to have more joint ventures. This was decideded at the 3rd Indo-Thai Joint Trade Committee Meeting, which concluded here last evening. India is already having 10 joint ventures in Thailand.

The Thailand delegation agreed to provide necessary technical knowhow in

-51>

the field of Fresh Water Prawn Farming to India. In the meeting both the delegations exchanged list of items of export interest to each other. The Indian delegation stressed the need for understanding to increase Indian participation in projects in

### Thailand.

Both the sides noted that there was an urgent need to strengthen the trade cooperation agreement signed in 1979 between the Board of Trade of Thailand and the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry by the establishment of a Joint Business Council.

The rate of growth in the trade between India and Thailand has been spectacular in the last three years, shooting up from 0.09% in 1986 to 166. 4% in 1988; from US \$ 105.9 million in 1986 to US \$ 375 million in 1988. However, India's share in Thailand's imports has been only around 0.62% in 1988. The balance of trade position which was in favour of India in 1986-87 turned unfavourable to India in 1988 mainly due to bulk import of rice from Thailand.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri N.S. Hariharan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and the Thaj delegation was led by Mrs. Oranuj Osatananda, Director General, Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

AILAND INDIA USA

Date: Feb 01, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### TURKEY

Banquet Speech by the President of India in Honour of the President of the Republic of Turkey

The following is the text of a Speech made by the President of India Shri R. Venkataraman at the banquet in honour of the President of the Republic of Turkey His Excellency Mr. Kenan Evren in New Delhi on Feb 22, 1989:

I have great pleasure in extending to you, Mr. President and the members of your delegation a warm and cordial welcome to our country.

Your visit marks another decisive step forward in the process of diversifying and consolidating relations between our two countries. In 1986 we had the pleasure of receiving the Prime Minister of Turkey, Mr. Turgut Ozal. It signalled the beginning of a new phase in our relations, one of enhanced contact and understanding. The return visit of our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv

Gandhi to Turkey in July last year confirmed the abundant political will on both sides to rapidly build a strong framework of bilateral ties. The importance of your visit, Mr. President, is underlined by the fact that it is the first visit to India by a Turkish Head of State. We are truly delighted to have you with us.

For those who have participated in the freedom struggle of India, the name of the father of your nation, Kemal Ataturk, has a very special significance. Ataturk's struggle against imperialism evoked spontaneous and widespread support amongst the people of India which cut across all communities. Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Indian nation, himself in the forefront of the struggle for India's independence mobilised mass support in this country for the national revolution that Ataturk was bringing about in Turkey. Both Gandhi and Nehru greatly admired Kemal Ataturk's courage and

-52>

vision and his role in liberating and modernising your country. In this year when you observe the 50th death anniversary of Ataturk and we celebrate the Centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru our thoughts turn to the tremendous contribution made by these two great leaders not only to their own countries but to the world as a whole.

The principles on which the modern State of Turkey is founded, namely, those of secularism, democracy and modernisation - are the very principles on which we have built our own nation. The policy of secularism paved the way for Turkey's resurgence as a modern nation; for India it is the foundation on which our unity is built. There cannot be true democracy unless all communities are treated as equals and the right of every citizen, whatever his caste or creed, is protected by law. Nor can there be modernisation unless the hold of archaic custom and prejudice is broken and the conscience and intellect of the citizens are freed.

Under your own able leadership, Mr. President, Turkey has achieved political stability and economic progress. That democracy is now well entrenched in your country is a tribute to your sagacity and vision. The new dimensions that your foreign policy has acquired in recent years and the innovative economic policies that you are pursuing will no doubt give Turkey greater strength internally and externally in the years to come.

India is deeply committed to a policy of peace and friendship with all nations. We chose non-alignment because it is based on dialogue, not confrontation. We are happy that today almost everywhere confrontation is giving place to dialogue. The INF Treaty is the first step, however small, on the road to nuclear disarmament. The international community owes to itself that this does not remain a token step but is followed by a series of other

measures leading to an elimination of all nuclear weapons. At the Special Session on Disarmament at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in June 1988 India tabled an Action Plan for a nuclear weapons free and non-violent world which envisages the total elimination of nuclear weapons in stages by the year 2010. It also envisages measures to reduce conventional forces and forestall the application of emerging technologies to military purposes. We hope that the principles underlying the Action Plan will gather increasing support internationally since we require not a piecemeal but a comprehensive approach in order to counter the threat of nuclear annihilation and divert the vast sums being spent on armaments for economic development.

The reduction of tension between the super powers has happily contributed to resolution or dimunution of regional conflicts. Soviet forces have withdrawn from Afghanistan, but it would be a terrible tragedy if this positive development is replaced by a war between Afghan and Afghan. Afghanistan has suffered enough. We hope all concerned will join in finding an acceptable and workable solution, based on decisions by the Afghan people without any external interference, that will restore peace to this war-torn country and create conditions for the work of reconstruction and rehabilitation to be taken up in earnest.

In your geopolitically strategic region, the cessation of the Iran-Iraq war has been a most welcome development. Turkey has played a constructive role during the eight years of war. Your position on the Palestinian question has been equally constructive. Indeed, Turkey is the only NATO member to have recognised the Palestinian State. It is now incumbent on all countries to ensure that the historic opportunity which has now become available for a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian problem is not lost.

Encouraging developments are taking place on the Kampuchean issue, with all concerned parties showing an increasing inclination to find an equitable and durable -53>

solution. The agreements on Namibia have opened up the prospects for the independence of that country. Regrettably, however, the odious system of apartheid which is an affront to all civilised values remains in place in South Africa, because some of the powerful members of the international community are not prepared to use the means at their command to force the South African regime to dismantle the apparatus of this pernicious policy.

In our own region we have taken steps to create a new atmosphere of dialogue and understanding. Our Prime Minister's recent visit to China has opened up the prospects of improved relations between the two countries. The restoration of democracy in Pakistan and the dialogue established with its new leadership during the visit our Prime Minister to that country for the SAARC

Summit opens up possibilities of forging better relations which are so vitally important to the progress and prosperity of both countries.

Mr. President, we are happy that the threads which have bound us in history have been picked up once again and that we have consciously begun weaving to gether a new and constructive relationship. We have moved rapidly to establish some of the infrastructure necessary to support an expanding relationship. Turkish Airlines now flies to India. We have signed a maritime agreement. We have only a few days ago taken an important step to establish cooperation in the banking field with the visit of a high-powered banking delegation from your country. We now have an Indian company commencing work on a railway electrification project in Turkey and this we hope will only be the beginning of mutually beneficial cooperation in the railway sector. Our trade has quadrupled over the last four years, though in total volume it still remains far below the potential of the two countries. We need to stimulate exchanges in the field of science and technology and to encourage a greater exchange of students and scholars between our two countries.

Mr. President, it is pertinent to recall that a Treaty of Friendship was signed in Ankara between Turkey and India in December 1951 by which the two countries committed themselves to strive to maintain and strengthen peace and friendship and to promote and deepen cordial relations between the peoples of the two countries. Your visit, we are sure, will encourage us to take with confidence the road towards friendship and understanding which we charted for ourselves in 1951 and on which we are now ready to travel once again.

May I once again welcome you, Mr. President, most heartily to our country and hope you have a pleasant stay.

May I now request you, ladies and gentlemen, to join me in raising your glasses in a toast:

- -to His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Turkey;
- -to greater and deeper friendship between Turkey and India; and
- -to the progress and prosperity of the people of Turkey. -54>

RKEY INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CHINA PAKISTAN

**Date**: Feb 22, 1989

# **Volume No**

#### UNITED KINGDOM

## India, UK Agree on Trade Expansion Measures

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1989 on India-UK Trade Expansion Measures.

India and the United Kingdom have agreed on a number of measures to strengthen trade expansion and economic cooperation with a view to improving access for Indian exports to the EEC market as well as exploiting the prospects for joint ventures between the two countries on a mutually beneficial basis. On trade, India has pressed Britain to extend assistance for gaining better access for its export products in the European market, particularly in the context of a single European market by 1992. The UK has in response agreed to give continued support to India's efforts in enhancing the European quotas under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) for different products. It has also responded favourably to India's request for inclusion of additional products under the Community's GSP Scheme. Both sides have agreed also to explore the possibility of establishing joint ventures in marketting as a means of enlarging exports. This is indicated in the agreed minutes of the 8th Meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee (IBEC) which concluded its deliberations here today. The minutes were signed by the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, on behalf of the Government of India and Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, on behalf of the Government of UK. The Minister of State for Commerce, Shri P. R. Dasmunshi and the Commerce Secretary, Shri A.N. Verma were also present.

India and the UK have also agreed to cooperate in the establishment of joint ventures and consortia between Indian and UK firms in third countries based on capabilities available on either side. Both sides have noted in particular the possibility of joint participation in projects in the Middle East and Africa.

The ongoing Indo-UK Trade Promotion Programme being implemented by the Developing Countries Trade Agency (DECTA), the UK side said, was well on its way to achieving the target of raising Indian exports by æ30 millions by 1992. The UK side indicated that it would supplment the current allocation of æ1.9 million for 1987-90 programme designed to help Indian exports to the UK by another æ250,000 for the remaining period of its implementation out of UK aid. It has agreed to consider extension of this programme beyond 1990 as well as enlargement of the programme to cover more items. The Indian side has suggested the assistance available under this programme should be enlarged not only in terms of the funds earmarked for its implementation but

also in the coverage of products to be exported from India, particularly non-traditional items like engineering and chemical and allied products. The Indian side stressed that the programme could have greater impact on the export efforts only if it was enlarged on the desired lines.

Shri Dinesh Singh and Lord Young stressed the continuing importance of IBEC as a forum for strengthening commercial and economic ties between India and the UK, which accounts for nearly 27% of India's exports to the EEC and 25.7% of India's imports from the EEC.India's exports to UK in 1987-88 was Rs. 1032 crores as against Rs. 736 crores 1986-87. Imports from UK, on the other hand, amounted to Rs. 1804 crores in 1987-88 compared to Rs. 1622 crores in 1986-87. The deficit in 1987-88 was thus Rs. 772 crores showing a slight decline from the level of Rs. 886 crores in 1986-87.

-55>

The Indian side has already handed over to the UK lists of items in respect of which improved access for Indian goods under GSP within the EEC was needed. Shri Dinesh Singh, while referring to commodity issues had said that while on the one hand there was commitment towards achievement of a more open multilateral trading system, on the other hand, Indian exports were running into problems due to quotas and restrictions in respect of items like textiles.

The Indian side also mentioned that business organisations in the UK could take advantage of recent investment policy changes made to establish export-oriented projects in India.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date**: Feb 21, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India-USSR Sign Agreements on Joint Ventures

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 18, 1989, on signing of Indo-Soviet Agreements on joint ventures:

India and the Soviet Union have finalised four joint venture proposals in a major bid to strengthen bilateral economic and

commercial relations through new forms of cooperation. These include 3 joint ventures in the Soviet Union for the setting up and renovation of leather tanneries and one joint venture in India for the manufacture of jute products. The Agreements to this effect were signed here today in the presence of the visiting Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, Madam Alexandra P. Biryukova and the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, by the representatives of Soviet Light Industries organisations and the concerned Indian companies. The proposals were finalised during the recent discussions between the 19-member Soviet delegation, led by Mrs. Biryukova and the high-level Indian delegation which was led by Shri Dinesh Singh. The Indian companies to participate in the joint ventures are M/S Aero Traders and Liberty for leather and Birla Jute Mills in Textiles.

Besides this, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the two sides providing for conversion of Indian fabrics into ready-made garments for use in the USSR within the existing provision for cotton fabrics for exports to the Soviet Union under the Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol for 1989. The Memorandum was signed by the Commerce Secretary, Shri A.N. Varma, on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. E.I. Razumeev, First Deputy Minister of Light Industry and Mr. S. E. Saruhanov, Deputy Minister of Trade of USSR on behalf of the Soviet Union. It has also been agreed that this would be over and above the provisions for exports of readymade garments to the USSR already agreed upon for 1989.

During the concluding round of talks, both Mrs. Biryukova and Shri Dinesh Singh stressed the desire on both sides to expand and strengthen the new areas of cooperation like joint ventures and production cooperation. India also reiterated its offer to supply textile machinery for modernising textile mills in the USSR. The Soviet side agreed to discuss this further in the next joint commission meeting. Shri B.K. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary (East Europe) and other senior officials participated from the India side.

In joint ventures, 55 proposals are currently being discussed between the two -56>

sides. These include 24 proposals for investment in India relating to items like computers, electronic components, transportation services, jute products, processed foods etc. and 31 proposals for investment in the USSR covering newsprint, paints, leather goods, leather tannery, polyester filament yarn, hotels and restaurants. Of these joint ventures for leather and jute have now been finalised and the rest are in various stages of discussion.

Besides this, 61 proposals for production cooperation have been under discussion covering, among other metallurgical equipment, turbo generators, food processing machinery etc. Of these, 17

contracts with a total value of Rs. 123. crores have already been finalised.

In the field of hotel construction, 70 hotels are expected to be constructed by 2000 AD. Three hotels are at present under construction and five more are under negotiation at Alma Ata, Samarkand, Urgench, Hiva and Chimkent. The Indian delegation requested for expediting decisions on these on the Soviet side.

During the week-long visit, Mrs. Biryukova attended various displays involving over 300 manufacturers of Indian garment, chemicals, leather and consumer durables on the basis of which further discussions would now take place between Indian companies and the concerned Soviet organisations, thereby opening up new possibilities of trade. Meanwhile, trade turnover between India and the USSR has touched nearly Rs.5200 crores in 1988 as against Rs. 4192 crores in 1987. The Trade Plan provision for 1989 is Rs. 7000 crores.

DIA USA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Feb 18, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Meeting of Indo-Soviet Planning Experts

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 22, 1989 on the Meeting of Indo-Soviet Planning Experts:

On the conclusion of the 3-day deliberations of the Eleventh Meeting of the Planning Experts from India and USSR the leaders of the delegations of the two countries signed here today the document containing the Agreed Minutes of the discussions. The Indo-Soviet Planning Group, established within the framework of the Inter-governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation met in New Delhi from February 20 end had detailed discussions on the following subjects:

- (1) Perspective Planning of the Energy Sector,
- (2) Transport Sector Model, and

(3) Technological Development and Investment.

Prof. S. A. Sitarayan, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee (GOSPLAN) headed the Soviet delegation while Shri Abid Hussain, Member, Planning Commission, led the Indian side.

Inaugurating the 11th meeting of the Indo-Soviet Planning Group, the Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Shri Madhavsinh Solanki, recalled the fruitful work undertaken by the Indo-Soviet Planning Group since its inception about a decade and half ago. Referring to bilateral economic relations the Minister underscored the importance of technology transfers that had taken place as well as cooperation in key areas of production which had played a significant role in the development of the Indian economy.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Prof. S.A. Sitarayan, in his opening re--57>

marks dwelt on the economic situation in the USSR taking into account the performance of different sectors of the economy over the first three years of the 12th Five Year Plan of the Soviet Union and the issues arising from the implementation of economic reforms and the restructuring of the system of Soviet economic management. While speaking appreciatively of the status of the Indo-Soviet trade and economic ties he pointed out that intergovernmental agreements signed in the course of high level bilateral meetings provide a sound basis for further strengthening and deepening of trade, economic scientific and technological links between our two countries. He emphasised the deep conviction of the Soviet side that for further effective progress of mutually beneficial trade and economic relations, it would be necessary to develop new forms of cooperation including, among others, production cooperation, setting up of joint ventures and appropriate changes in the pattern of trade.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Planning Group would be held in Moscow in the second quarter of 1990. It was also agreed that the agenda for the forthcoming meeting would include the following topics:

- (a) Planning and the Price Mechanism,
- (b) The Role of Enterprise in the Balancing of Foreign Trade, and
- (c) Taxation and Economic Management.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the progress of cooperation in the field of planning between the Planning Commission of India and the GOSPLAN of the USSR . They felt that the Eleventh Meeting of Indo-Soviet Planning Group and the

discussions that took place were important and useful. They also underscored the need for continuing contact through exchange of documentation and experience.

-58>

## DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Feb 22, 1989

Foundation Stone of Indian Spinal Injuries

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Centre

# March

	V	olu	ume No	
1995				
1773				
CONTENTS				
Foreign Affairs				
Record VOL XXXV No 3	1989 March			
CONTENTS	March			
CUBA				
India-Cuba Workplan on Agricultu Research	ral	59		
DENMARK				
India will Receive Rs. 80 crore Danish Assistance during 1989-90			59	
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY				
Indo-German Symposium on Radiation Oncology		60	)	
HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS	}			

61

Shri Narasimha Rao at the Summit Conference at the Hague	62			
India Gets 32,90,680 Dollars UNDP Assi	stance 63			
NAM Centre for Science and Technology	63			
India Calls for Satisfactory Solution to Debt Problems 64				
JAPAN				
India and Japan Sign Double Taxation Avoidance Convention 69				
KUALA LUMPUR				
Memorandum of Understanding	69			
MALAYSIA				
Indo-Malaysian Talks on Cooperation in Oil and Natural Gas 70				
MONGOLIA				
Indo-Mongolian Agreement on S & T Cooperation	71			
Indo-Mongolian Joint Statement	72			
NETHERLANDS				
India and Netherland Enter Convention for Double Taxation Avoidance	or 74			
OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS				
Nepal	75			
Afghanistan	77			
Sri Lanka	78			
Tibet	79			
Indo-Mauritius Joint Commission	79			
Visit of H.E. Mr. Yassir Arafat, President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation 80				
Visit of H.E. Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh	81			

#### **SWEDEN**

India and Sweden Enter Convention for Double Taxation Avoidance

83

THAILAND

Banquet Speech by the Prime Minister, in

Honour of the Thailand Premier 83

Joint Press Statement 86

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

India and UAE to Avoid Double Taxation 88

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Trade Turnover up by 24 per cent 89

Indo-Soviet Joint Commission - 12th Session Concludes

**VIETNAM** 

India Launches Oil Exploratory Work in Vietnam 91

BA INDIA DENMARK GERMANY JAPAN MALAYSIA MONGOLIA NEPAL AFGHANISTAN SRI LANKA MAURITIUS USA SWEDEN THAILAND UNITED ARAB EMIRATES VIETNAM

**Date**: Mar 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

**CUBA** 

India-Cuba Workplan on Agricultural Research

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 20, 1989 on Indo-Cuba workplan on agricultural research:

India and Cuba are to cooperate in the field of agricultural research. A Workplan to this effect was signed here today. Dr. N.S. Randhawa, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director-General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research signed the document on behalf of India. Ms Noemi

Benitez, Vice-President of the State Committee for Economic Collaboration signed the Workplan for Cuba.

The two year Workplan will be for 1989-90 and 1990-91 and has been signed in pursuance of the memorandum of agreement between Governments of India and Cuba on cooperation in the field of Science and Technology concluded at New Delhi on November 19, 1978 and further mentioned in the protocol signed in Cuba on September 16, 1988.

The two agencies identified to implement the Workplan are the ICAR and the Cuban Ministry of Agriculture.

The Workplan provides for technical cooperation between the two countries in the areas mainly of buffalo embryo transplant, identification and control of pests and diseases in sugarcane, genetic upgradation of sugarcane, and research on the evaluation of Cuban and Indian forages.

Exchange of information and material between the two countries has also been envisaged in the Workplan. This exchange will cover poultry farming, rice cultivation and fertilization, fruit and tobacco cultivation etc.

The Workplan will take effect from the date these are formally ratified by the two Governments and subject to such terms and conditions as may be imposed.

Welcoming the delegation, the Union Agriculture Minister, Shri Bhajan Lal said that relations between Cuba and India had always been cordial and there was complete understanding on all major issues. This visit, he said, would further strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

Assuring India's full cooperation in implementation of the Workplan, the Minister of State for Agricultural Research and Education, Shri Hari Krishna Shastri, expressed the hope that Workplan would strengthen the bond of friendship between the two countries.

BA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Mar 20, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

DENMARK

India will Receive Rs. 80 crore Danish Assistance during 1989-90

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 17, 1989 on Danish Assistance to India:

India will receive 400 million DKr (Rs. 80 crore approximately) disbursement during the year 1989-90. An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Mr. B. H. Sorensen, Head of Asia Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark and Shri Dalip Mehta, Joint -59>

Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of their respective Governments.

India is the biggest recipient of Danish assistance. The annual disbursement on account of Danish grant under Technical Cooperation Programme for the current financial year is DKr 273 million (Rs. 56 crore approximately).

Denmark has emerged as an important donor of late, both the quantum as well as the area of cooperations have increased significantly over the last few years. Areas of Indo-Danish Cooperation include optic fibre, prawn hatchery, gas technology, oceanography, wind power,waste-to-energy, environment, health care and family welfare, drinking water and sanitation, tool room modernisation, etc. The terms of Danish assistance have also been liberalised. Now the entire assistance untied tied is on grant basis.

Major projects under Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) assistance are Optic Fibre Hindustan Cables Ltd. and NKT collaboration, setting of three new Tool Rooms, Area Health Projects in Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, Integrated Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and setting up of Wind Mill Farms in Coastal areas.

NMARK INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Mar 17, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Indo-German Symposium on Radiation Oncology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 15, 1989 on Indo-German Symposium on Radiation oncology:

A five day Indo-German Symposium on "Recent Advances in Radiation Oncology" was inaugurated by Shri K.R. Narayanan here today. The symposium is being organised by the Indian Council of Medical Research and Gasellschaft fur Strahlen und Umwelt Forschung, Munich, Federal Republic of Germany within the frame work of an agreement for research collaboration in Science and Technology between the Governments of India and Federal Republic of Germany.

Leading scientists and medical experts from both the countries will address the symposium. About 75 delegates, including 11 members from FRG are participating in the symposium. Major topics to be covered in the symposium include the role of radiotherapy in the management of Cancer, Biophysical basis of radiotherapy, Progress in non-invasive imaging, Radiobiological research for improving radiotherapy and new trends in radiotherapy.

In his inaugural address Shri Narayanan said that at this juncture, when the scientific community is faced with the exciting possibilities of a wide spectrum of modalities for cancer management, it is the right time to arrange a seminar of this nature.

-60>

RMANY INDIA

**Date**: Mar 15, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Foundation Stone of Indian Spinal Injuries Centre

The following is the text of a speech made by the Prime Minister after laying the foundation stone of Indian Spinal Injuries Centre in New Delhi on Mar 30, 1989:

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, made the following speech here today after laying the foundation stone of Indian Spinal Injuries Centre:

"This Centre is a remarkable achievement. It is remarkable also because of the group that has put it together, drawn from various

disciplines and different areas, from adventure, from medicine, and I would like to congratulate everyone involved in getting this Centre off the ground on its foundation stone being laid today. But I would specially like to congratulate Major Ahluwalia because in a sense this Centre is a testimony to his strength of purpose and his dedication. Congratulations.

I would like to thank the Italian Government for the interest that they have taken and the help that they have given and I hope that this is just the beginning of one more area of cooperation between Italy and India.

This Centre, the first of its kind in India, will help a very large number of people who had no opportunity for help before. It was only the few who had the access and who could afford to go abroad to get proper treatment for their spinal injuries. With this Centre, there will be opportunity to thousands in India for this treatment

Disability is always a problem. Spinal injuries are perhaps one of the worst kind for the type of disabilities that they give, the pain, the discomfort and perhaps most of all because it leaves your mind fully active but your body unable to do everything that you would like to do or want to do.

In India, we would like to involve all the disabled in the process of nation building, in the mainstream of our activity and involve them with dignity. Unfortunately, facilities have not been available in the past to the degree that they should have been. This is a good step in the right direction.

From the Government, we would like to help in everyway that we can. I would like to thank the Lt. Governor but I was reminded that his predecessor had promised double the amount and I hope he would not be so spineless as not to fulfil that promise. We would like to give special assistance to all voluntary organisations who are involved in such work. We would like to help with hospitals, with wings for hospitals which specialise in this, but perhaps most important to help with import of technology and equipment, also help with indigenous efforts to build and manufacture such an equipment in India.

But in a developing country like India where there are as so many priorities and the cake which is already so small to start with has to be divided into so many parts, we seldom have enough for the disabled, certainly not enough to help them adequately. And this, is where the involvement of voluntary agencies is so important.

This Centre is a good example of such involvement. It is also a good example of international cooperation. I hope that it is going to be a catalyst for many such centres throughout the country. We have, I heard, four million cases of spinal injuries

in India and just one Centre cannot be enough. We will need many more spread out across the country. I am sure that this Centre will spark interest and will set off a chain of such centres throughout the country and I am sure that the Centre itself will be a centre of excellence and an example to all other centres and will compete with others right across the world.

My congratulations to all those who have helped in getting this Centre off the ground."

DIA USA ITALY RUSSIA

**Date**: Mar 30, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Shri Narasimha Rao at the Summit Conference at the Hague

The following is the text of statement made by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the Summit Conference on the protection of the Global atmosphere at the Hague on Mar 11, 1989:

We commend the vision and the foresight of the Prime Ministers of France, The Netherlands and Norway for having taken this important initiative for bringing us together to deliberate on issues which are of far-reaching consequences and which, in fact, touch upon the very survival of life on our planet. It is particularly fitting that we are meeting in the capital of the Netherlands, a country which throughout its history has symbolized man's struggle to live harmoniously with his surroundings.

Science and technology have worked great wonders in our time. They have immensely expanded the productive capacity of the world and have brought within our reach an unprecedented opportunity to meet human needs. Unfortunately, unrelenting human greed to seek more and more affluent life patterns has extracted a heavy price in the form of damage to the atmosphere and the degradation of the environment. Challenge, Excellencies, lies not only in finding new technologies to arrest this damage and to improve the environment but also in restraining human greed and man's unthinking exploitation of nature's resources.

The Declaration of The Hague is an important landmark in man's continuing search for improving the quality of life. The presence of so many Heads of States and Governments here today is symbolic of the significance we attach to the aims and objectives of the Declaration. I am happy to be associated with this unique endeavour.

Mr. Chairman, if our endeavours to concretise the principles of this document are to achieve success, it would be imperative to recognise the extreme disparities in the levels of development and consumption which exist between industrialised countries on the one hand and developing countries on the other. The issues of global warming, ozone depletion and environmental degradation are closely interlinked with development issues. Poverty and ignorance are the greatest pollutants. Any international effort for dealing with this global problem must consciously and urgently seek to redress the existing assymetries. We are encouraged by the recognition in The Hague Declaration of the need to address these questions and through new mechanisms calling for novel and more effective decisions. I do hope that as the seriousness of the tasks that

confront us is realised, the richer countries will perceive the need to provide financial resources required to assist the less privileged countries adequately in order to switch to new technologies which enable them to maintain the tempo of their development to optimum levels without damaging the environment. As the Declaration states, the major responsibility for global devolves upon the industrialised countries and this necessarily entails corresponding obligations of an equal magnitude on their part. The end result which mankind as a whole has a right to expect is minimal disparities in the consumption levels of people's across the world.

Mr. Chairman, it is perhaps inevitable that a Declaration signed at the seat of the International Court of Justice should seek to assign it a role. This role must necessarily be in accordance with the Charter of this august body and the principle of consent of the state parties on which it is founded.

The Hague Declaration marks an important milestone in the universal recognition to deal effectively with varying causes of environmental degradation in all its aspects. It takes forward the process started in the early 70's by Mrs. Indira Gandhi and other visionaries who repeatedly drew the attention of the world to environmental concerns. May I express our gratitude to Prime Ministers Lubbers, Brundtland and Rocard, for stirring the human consciousness on the need to preserve our surroundings as nature gave them to us.

**Date**: Mar 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

India Gets 32,90,680 Dollars UNDP Assistance

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 31, 1989 on UNDP's Assistance:

India will get assistance of 32,90,680 dollars from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

This will be utilised for the development of Indira Gandhi Rastriya Uran Academy, Advance Studies in Bio-chemical Engineering and Biotechnology at I.I.T. and the Development of New Techniques for Earthquate Risk Assessment.

Three agreements to this effect were signed here today by Mr. Gamil M Hamdy, Resident Representative on behalf of UNDP and Shri S. Vardachary, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of Government of India.

Indira Gandhi Rastriya Uran Academy Project will be executed by International Civil Aviation organisation. It would help the Academy to reinforce its capability to conduct airline oriented flying training courses. The Advanced Studies in Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology at IIT would be executed by UNESCO to strengthen research and development capabilities of the Centre in biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology. The Development of New Technologies for Earthquate Risk Assessment would be implemented by India Meteorological Department to understand the mechanism of earthquakes from near and far field angles in the Indian sub continent.

DIA

**Date**: Mar 31, 1989

# **Volume No**

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

### NAM Centre for Science and Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 16, 1989 on the NAM Centre for Science and Technology:

The first meeting of the Governing Council of the Centre of Science & Technology for Non-Aligned and other developing countries was inaugurated by Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for Science & Technology here today. The three day meeting is jointly organised by the Department of Science & Technology and the Ministry of External Affairs. Re--63>

presentatives from nearly 32 countries are participating in the meeting.

The meeting is expected to deliberate on matters relating to the establishment & specialization of the NAM S & T Centre. It will cover the work plan of action, funding mechanism and organisational structure. The NAM S & T Centre is expected to promote exchange of experience in the formulation, implementation, and institution building on Science & Technology Policy and Planning for Self-Reliant Development. Access to Expert Advice on S & T Development for Self-Reliance, Catalysing and Promoting Multilateral S & T Programmes amongst NAM and other developing countries, which include research, training, joint development of technology, and establishing of pilot-scale or demonstration units; Facilitate Exchange of Experts and Training to enhance S & T Infrastructure and Indigenous S & T Capability Development; Promote the Pooling of Engineering Design & Consultancy Capabilities for joint development and transfer of technology amongst Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries. Acting as a clearing House of S & T Information.

DIA USA

**Date**: Mar 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

India Calls for Satisfactory Solution to Debt Problems

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 28, 1989 on Commerce Minister's statement at ESCAP Annual Meet:

India has called for finding a satisfactory solution to the debt problems facing the developing countries of the ESCAP region. Addressing the 45th Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok today, the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh said that while there was some consolation that the ESCAP region had on an average performed better in external debt management given the turbulence in the global economy, "this does not mean that the task before us is not formidable". On an aggregate basis, the export performance of ESCAP region in recent years had been good. Combined with a dampening of import growth generally, the pressures on the current account had been somewhat relieved. Shri Dinesh Singh expressed concern, however, that there were major differences between countries and the current account position of several important countries in the region had deteriorated. The total external debt of developing countries of the ESCAP region in 1988 was estimated at around US \$ 305 billion. The Minister said that the debt GNP ratio of several countries was extremely high and what was even more disturbing, the ratio in the 1980s had increased rapidly for virtually every country. The same was true of debt-service ratios. Shri Singh pointed out that much of this was because of the decline in the share of official aid for the ESCAP region which had pushed several countries towards higher commercial borrowings and stressed the urgent need to find a solution to the debt problem.

Shri Dinesh Singh said it was gratifying that the developing countries of the ESCAP region had consistently increased their strength in global trade over the last few years but the level of performance had not been uniformly high. Observing that this strength had come on account of the access of goods produced in the developing countries of the ESCAP region in the markets of the developed countries, the Minister said it was essential that such access should not be eroded on account of bilateral action or other developments. On the other hand, the barriers that exist at present should be removed and access should be improved, he urged. "Unless this is done, it is clear that their power to import goods from developed countries would be seriously affected. In our mutual interest, therefore, markets have to be kept open and only then can trade

-64>

flourish", he added. In this context, Shri Dinesh Singh said India was deeply concerned that in the current Uruguay Round of negotiations under GATT "there is a discernible evidence of the attempt by the large and powerful economies and blocks to completely ignore and marginalise the interests of the weaker and smaller trading partners".

Referring to India's performance, Shri Dinesh Singh said performance of the external sector, which is critically important to India's ability to finance sustained higher growth, had been good. Exports have shown a marked improvement starting from 1986-87 and during the period of 1986-87 to 1988-89, exports registered a growth of over 80% from the level of 1985-86, he said.

The following is the full text of the Minister's statement:

"Permit me to begin by extending to you, Mr. Chairman, our heartiest congratulations on your unanimous election as Chairman of the 46th Commission Session of ESCAP. I am confident that under your able guidance, we shall be able to conduct the business of this Commission effectively and shall achieve the objective for which we are gathered here. I should also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Vice-Chairman and the Rapporteur on their election.

We have a heavy agenda to cover. The extensive documentation prepared by ESCAP Secretariat will, no doubt, make our task easier. The Executive Secretary and his staff deserve preparation of this documentation.

I also place on record my personal as well as my delegation's thanks to the host country Thailand. The Government and the people have overwhelmed us with their warm welcome.

Mr. Chairman, since the Commission met last at Jakarta, many important events have taken place. The most heartening of these is easing of tension at the political plane. This could lead to a situation where Governments might be in a position to devote attention to economic and social matters. The quest for solutions to difficult problems of poverty, illiterary and social backwardness could get the priority they deserve.

Large sums of money being spent on the weapons of mass destruction and total annihilation could be diverted to the building of a peaceful world. This will require a transformation from the present value system based on force - either of arms or wealth or numbers - to one of consensus and peaceful coexistence. This could take time. Assurances have to be given, confidence has to be created. But a beginning could be made. A better understanding of the problems of the developing countries by the developed and sincere steps - even small one - taken to assist them in tackling their problems could create the confidence necessary to move in this direction.

The danger is that the lowering of military confrontation could lead to more serious economic pressures on the weaker economies. Freed from the danger of an all-destroying war and the need to manufacture weapons on the present scale, the industrial structures in developed countries, with capacities to spare,

could attempt to force their will on the developing countries to seek unreasonable accommodation arrangements in the name of liberalisation.

But, there are heartening features, too.

As we survey the economic scenario, both at the global and regional levels, a general assessment is that progress has been made. According to the latest estimates, the world economic growth would have touched 3.8% in 1988 as compared to 3.2% in 1987. It is a matter of particular satisfaction that the developing economies of the Asian region together grew by 7.3% as compared to the previous year.

-65>

This is almost double the average global rate. We should have felt happier, had economic growth been more evenly spread and balanced. We cannot ignore the vast disparities in incomes and development levels that persist both at the global and the regional levels. No doubt, the better performers need to be congratulated. But, those which have not done as well, will, of course, require to put in greater effort on their own part. At the same time a strong helping hand from the global community will be necessary to enable them to catch up with the rest. On the economic side, improving flows of official development assistance and providing relief in debt servicing will need urgent attention of the global community. It is also essential that stability should be ensured in the global monetary system. If trade is to be the engine of growth, it is important that a truly free and liberal multilateral trading system, fair to all, must be established and preserved.

Large and erratic exchange rate movements amongst the major trading partners in the recent years heve caused severe problems to developing countries in the management of their own exchange rates and the balance of payments. The problems encountered by the developing countries in the ESCAP region were no different. Since the currencies of these countries are pegged to different standards, exchange rate changes among major currencies inevitably meant fluctuations in bilateral rates amongst the trading partners of the region. Even more serious, exchange rate fluctuations have exposed several countries in the region to problems related with external debt management, optimal currency mix of foreign exchange reserves and speculative pressures on their currencies. These are not healthy developments. I am happy that even the developed countries have realised the problems associated with speculative currency fluctuations.

On an aggregated basis, the export performance of the ESCAP region in the recent years has been good. Combined with a dampening of import growth, generally, the pressures on the current account have been somewhat relieved. There are, however, major differences between countries and the current account

position of several important countries in the region has deteriorated. Nevertheless, given the turbulence in the global economy, we can draw some consolation that our region has, on an average, performed better in external debt management. This does not mean that the task before us is not formidable. The total external debt of developing countries of the ESCAP region in 1988 was estimated to the US \$ 305 billion. The debt/GNP ratio of several countries was extremely high and what is even more disturbing, the ratio in the 1980s has increased rapidly for virtually every country. The same holds true for debt-service ratios. Much of these problems are because the ESCAP region has experienced a decline in the share of official aid. This has pushed several countries towards higher commercial borrowings. The burden of servicing such debt is considerably more and the loans are of shorter duration. We are of the opinion that while countries must follow prudent macro economic policies, it is essential that satisfactory solution to the debt problems be found.

Mr. Chairman, on the trade front, the most important development, which overshadows all others, is the on-going Uruguay Round of Negotiations under GATT. The current round of negotiations is clearly the most ambitious that has been attempted by the contracting countries so far. The coverage of the subjects in the Round go beyond what has so far been considered the traditional areas covered by GATT. In the new areas like services, traderelated intellectual property rights, trade-related investment measures, for the first time issues are being considered which undoubtedly have wideranging implications. It is our perception that the successful conclusion of this Round would see the GATT, as it stands today, transformed into a new trading

system. We perceive the need for changes in GATT in order to deal with the changing requirements of the global trade in a dynamic situation, because if the structure remains static, it will get aggravated and its inadequacies would create adverse effects on global trade as a whole. We have, therefore, supported this ambitious initiatives and have been taking active part in these deliberations.

It is axiomatic that in negotiations the parties strive to maximise their own advantages and benefits. But we are deeply concerned that in the current negotiations there is a discernible evidence of the attempt by the large and powerful economies and blocks to completely ignore and marginalise the interests of the weaker and smaller trading partners.

The pressure of bilateralism and restrictive regimes have surfaced and are endangering the very existence of the multilateral system which we are seeking to maintain and strengthen. At the time of the launching of the round of negotiations, it was a clearly stated objective that there should

be a balance achieved in the results that flow from these negotiations. There is evidence of this important objective being pushed aside in an effort to maximise benefits sought by the larger trading entities. The central theme which has held the efforts together so far is the participants' commitment to strengthen the multilateral system.

I do not wish to go into a more detailed exposition of this subject here now as almost all of us present here do meet in different fora to deal with these issues. I have felt it necessary to refer to this subject as it has relevance to the economic problems of the region.

It is gratifying that the developing countries of the ESCAP region have consistently increased their strength in global trade over the last few years. But, the level of performance has not been uniformly high. However, this strength has come on account of the access of goods produced in the developing countries or this region in the markets of the developed countries. It is essential that on account of developments in the multilateral system of an account of bilateral action such access should not be creded. On the other hand, the barriers that exist at present should be removed and access should be improved. The interdependence of the developed countries and the developing countries makes it imperative that potential for export of goods from developing countries should under no circumstances be prevented from being exploited in an optimum manner. Unless this is ensured, it is clear that their power to import goods from developed countries would be seriously affected. In our mutual interest, therefore, markets have to be kept open and only then trade can flourish. Only thus trade becomes the basis for the economic development of the developing countries.

I should now like to turn to India's performance in the economic and social sectors.

We have initiated a series of economic reforms in industrial and trade policies in the last four years which represent movement to the next stage of our economic growth. Regulatory mechanism is being streamlined and simplified to respond to signals from the market. These measures have included opening up more manufacturing opportunities to the private sector, such as telecommunication equipment, liberalising imports for industries, permitting greater flexibility in product lines as for the automotive and machine tool industries, progressively reducing State control over industries and streamlining procedures for obtaining investment clearances and approval of foreign collaborations.

Changes have also been made in trade policy. The Government has adopted measures to ease restrictions on imports, especially of capital goods for the modernisation of industry. It has also introduced new measures and incentives designed to

improve access of exporters to imported inputs at international prices.

These measures are primarily aimed at increasing the competitiveness of industry and simultaneously making the economy more outward oriented. India's economic performance has been responsive to these policies. The economy grew a shade above 5% during the Sixth Plan period from 1980-86. An average growth rate of 4.5% was maintained over the next two years also, even though the agricultural sector suffered on account of inadequate rainfall. The drought conditions intensified in 1987-88 with the failure of rains. Yet we were able to maintain a positive growth rate of the economy at 3.6 % in that year. Happily for us, we had good rainfall in the current year and we expect a sharp economic recovery with the growth rate climbing to about 9%. Responding to the stimulus of the policy liberalisation, Indian industry has grown by about 9% per annum over the last four years. India's market strength is adequately reflected by the growing size and greater power of the middle class as well as the buoyancy of the stock market supported by investments of their savings.

India's growth performance has been achieved through macroeconomic stability. The inflation rate has not risen above the single digit level throughout the 1980s. The rate of domestic savings as a proportion of GDP is currently around 22%. Performance of the external sector, which is critically important to India's ability to finance sustained higher growth, has been good.

Exports have shown a market improvement starting from 1986-87. During the period 1986-87 to 1988-89, exports registered a growth of over 80% from the level of 1985-86.

The medium-term prospects facing our economy appear bright. The Indian economy should be able to maintain in a growth rate of over 6% per annum in the 1990s. We are confident that our new policy based on liberalisation would continue. The benefits of growth must percolate to all sections of the people if it is to be meaningful and sustainable in the long run. From the beginning we have recognised that the basic objective of the development process is removal of poverty, and the Government have accorded the highest priority to rural development programmes, promotion of small-scale industries, schemes for self-employment, fostering the service sector and development of the supportive infrastructure.

The latest thrust of the Government is to involve the people in the development process through the system of devolution of authority to grass root levels. It is with this in view, we have further strengthened the village government system. We are confident that in a country like ours rapid economic development can only rest on the sound foundations of planning at the grass-root level and not otherwise.

Mr. Chairman, in addition to our own initiatives in fostering economic development, we have gained from sharing the experiences of other countries. We wish to place on record our appreciation of the important initiatives taken in ESCAP in the past. On a personal note, Mr. Chairman, I should like to mention that when I last attended the Annual Session, this organisation was called ESCAP and it was some 22 years back. In the last two decades it is heartening to note that the institution has grown strong and has made a substantial contribution to development of regional institutions such as ACU, APCIT, SIAP and CGPRT. I also feel gratified that it has launched various programmes to meet the needs of the region, particularly of the developing countries; such as the Bangkok Agreement and the Programme for Integrated Rural Development. It has also done well to foster cooperation in commodities such as jute,

-68>

silk, pepper, coconut and rubber. I am confident that with the active participation of the members of the region and continued support of the Secretariat, we shall move rapidly towards cooperative development.

^^JAPAN

DIA USA URUGUAY THAILAND INDONESIA RUSSIA JAPAN

**Date**: Mar 28, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

India and Japan Sign Double Taxation Avoidance Convention

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 07, 1989 on a convention for the avoidance of double taxation on income between the Governments of India and Japan:

A convention for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Japan was signed in New Delhi today. This will replace the existing Agreement entered into in 1960. Shri G. N. Gupta, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance signed the Convention on behalf of India and Mr. Eijiro

Noda, Japanese Ambassador signed on behalf of Japan.

The new convention lays greater emphasis on the principle of source taxation. Under the new Convention, as in the old Agreement, business profits of enterprise of one country will be taxed in the other country only if it carries on business in the other country through a Permanent Establishment.

Income from dividends, interest, royalties and fees for technical services will be taxed in the source country at concessional rates under this Convention. This will help in the modernisation and growth of Indian industry by encouraging the flow of technology and investment in essential areas.

The new Convention will come into force on the thirtieth day after the two countries exchange the Instruments of Ratification.

### DIA JAPAN USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Mar 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### KUALA LUMPUR

#### Memorandum of Understanding

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 16, 1989 on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in Kuala Lumpur:

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in Kuala Lumpur on 13th March between the Confederation of Engineering Industry of India (CEI) and the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM). Shri Brijmohan Lall, leader of the 10 member CEI team signed the MOU from the Indian side. On the Malaysian -69>

side, the document was signed by Tunku Tan Sri Mohamed bin Tunku Besar Burhanuddin, President of FMM. Indian High Commissioner, Shri P. M. S. Malik was present on the occasion.

2. The MOU provides, inter alia, that, as apex associations of manufacturing industries in their countries, CEI and FMM would endeavour to undertake studies to determine the action and support which might benefit their respective members, exchange professional experiences relating to services rendered to their

respective members, exchange information about products and industrial process, industrial training, sources of financing, offers and requests for joint ventures and licencing and identification of possible factors to support activities such as Seminars conferences and courses pertaining to industrial sectors jointly agreed upon, and to cooperate in promoting trade fairs, etc.

3. The CEI delegation visited Kuala Lumpur early this week and represented a cross section of top-level executives of leading engineering firms in India. Apart from FMM, the team held discussions with the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority and representatives of various business groups, and called on the Malaysian Minister of Finance, Minister of Energy, Telecommunication and Posts and Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry.

LAYSIA INDIA USA RUSSIA MALI

**Date**: Mar 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **MALAYSIA**

Indo-Malaysian on Cooperation in Oil and Natural Gas

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 20, 1989 on India's offer to cooperate with Malaysia in a number of areas in Petroleum sector etc.

India has offered to cooperate with Malaysia in a number of areas in petroleum sector and to transfer technology, particularly in Early Production System (EPS) and Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) Schemes.

These proposals were discussed in Kuala Lumpur during last week by the Indian delegation, led by Petroleum Secretary, Shri H K. Khan, with the Chairman of Petronas, the National Petroleum Company of Malaysia, Tan Sri Basir bin Ismail and his team. Shri Khan also met Hon'ble Dato' Kasitah Gaddam, Minister dealing with Petroleum in Malaysian Prime Minister's Department.

During the discussions Shri H. K. Khan emphasised the self-reliance achieved by India in the Petroleum sector, both upsteam and downstream. Shri Khan also suggested to set up a gas utilisation project with LPG buy-back arrangement, in Malaysia.

He stated that India would be prepared for complete involvement in this scheme, including development of a gas field, production of gas from it, establishment of a gas processing plant to include manufacture of LPG, suggesting use of other fractions of natural gas and a buyback arrangement for LPG, and other products in a manner that would be profitable to both Malaysia and India.

From Malaysian side, their petroleum Minister welcomed both the proposals. Petronas, which is responsible for exploration and exploitation of crude oil and natural gas as also refining, transportation and marketing of crude oil and petroleum -70>

products in Malaysia, will examine both the proposals.

The visit of the delegation led by Shri H. K. Khan, has opened new avenues of cooperation on equitable basis between two developing countries.

The Malaysian authorities have also agreed to visit India to see for themselves the advances made in the Petroleum sector, as to get a better understanding of India's capability in this regard.

LAYSIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Mar 20, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **MONGOLIA**

Indo-Mongolian Agreement on S & T Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 08, 1989 on Indo-Mongolian Agreement on S & T Cooperation:

An Indo-Mongolian agreement on cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology was signed here today. The agreement envisages cooperation in fields like leather processing, establishment of Database in Biotechnology, diesel engine operation with biogas, brick making, glues and adhesives etc.

Dr. Vasant Gowariker, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology signed the agreement on behalf of the Govt. of India. Mr. O. Khosbayar, Mongolian Ambassador for India signed on behalf of Mongolia. Following is the text of the agreement:

- "An Agreement on Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology was concluded between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic in Ulaan Baator, Mongolia on July 14, 1988.
- 2. In pursuance of the objectives enunciated in this Agreement, the two sides have identified the following areas for bilateral collaboration during the period 1989-91:
- i) Processing of hide and leather;
- ii) Establishment of Database in Biotechnology;
- iii) Operating Diesel Engine with Biogas;
- iv) Building material/Brick making;
- v) Mineral colours;
- vi) Glue and adhesives.

Participating institutions in either country will be conveyed through diplomatic channels.

- 3. The mechanisms of collaboration will include
- i) Study visits of experts;
- ii) Joint seminars and training programmes;
- iii) Exchange of scientific and technical information;
- iv) Joint collaboration, including extended visits of personnel;
- 4. The visits of scientist would be organised to
- i) Finalise the work plans in the identified areas;

-71>

- ii) Participate in joint seminars and training programmes;
- iii) Participate in joint projects.

Schedules for the visits would be worked out as per mutual agreement between the participating institutions.

- 5. Additional areas of cooperation can be included in the programme on the basis of agreement reached between the two sides.
- 6. The expenses incurred in the implementation of the programme of cooperation would be met as per Article-VIII of the Agreement on S&T Cooperation between the two Government."

NGOLIA INDIA

**Date**: Mar 08, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **MONGOLIA**

#### Indo-Mongolian Joint Statement

The following is the text of a Joint Statement issued in New Delhi on Mar 10, 1989 at the end of the state visit of H.E. Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Presidium of the Great Peopls Khural of the Mongolian People's Republic:

At the invitation of the President of India Shri R. Venkataraman, H.E. Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Presidium of the Great People's khural of the Mongonan People's Republic paid a friendly State visit to the Republic of India from 7th to 10th March, 1989. The President was accompanied by Madame D. Batmunkh and a high level delegation which included H.E. Mr. M. Peljee, Deputy Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Ts. Gombosuren, Foreign Minister of Mongolia, H.E. Mr. B. Chimid, Head of Department, Presidium of the Great Peoples Khural of the Mongolian Peoples Republic and others.

- 2. H.E. Mr. J. Batmunkh and Madame Batmunkh called on H.E. Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India and Smt. Venkataraman and met H.E. Shri Shankar Dayal Sharm, Vice President of India and Smt. Sharma, H.E. Mr. J. Batmunkh also held wide ranging discussions with H.E. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India. The talks were held in an atmosphere of warmth, friendship and mutual understanding which characterise the relations between the two countries.
- 3. During their talks the leaders reviewed the existing bilateral relations between India and Mongolia. They noted that political relations were enhanced and the economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries had been growing steadily in accordance with the principles and spirit of the Indo-Mongolian Joint Declaration of 1973. In this context, they expressed their satisfaction at the results of ongoing cooperation in cultural, medical and agricultural fields and in science and technology based on existing protocols and agreements. The new protocols and work programmes to be signed in the forthcoming years would take this cooperation to even higher levels. They expressed their interest in identifying new areas

for cooperation including joint ventures, trade promotion and a greater exchange of scholars and researchers.

- 4. During the State visit by the Mongolian leader a Mongolian Studies Chair was inaugurated at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi and a two-year programme for the implementation of the 1988 India-Mongolia agreement on cooperation in the field of Science and Technology was signed.
- 5. In their discussions on international issues, the leaders welcomed the improvement in the general climate of international relations and the fact that confrontation is giving way to dialogue. They reiterated the need to sustain this trend and strengthen the thrust in favour of international cooperation and development which has been consistently advocated by the Nonaligned Movement. Prospect of nuclear disarmament has reawakened the hope that human and material resources could be directed towards global development instead of being wastefully squandered on the arms race. The new international situation poses challenges while presenting opportunities for Nonaligned countries in their struggle for a safer and more just world order. The two countries will continue to work together in UN and other fora to further this process.
- 6. India and Mongolia will exert their efforts, as fellow Asian nations, to strengthen peace, security and cooperation in the region and to consolldate the principle of non-use of force in the relations among States and participate in the search for ways and means to resolve such global problems as protection of the environment and the ensuring of ecological equilibrium in the interest of the whole of mankind.
- 7. During their talks and meetings, both sides apprised each other of recent developments that augur well for improvement of their relations with the countries in their neighbourhood. It was noted that friendly and cooperative relations between India and China would contribute positively to peace and stability in Asia and the world. They considered the prospect of a Sino-Soviet summit as an important development and hoped for a positive outcome of the meeting.
- 8. The two sides took note of the positive changes in the regional situation in IndoChina particularly with regard to the question of Kampuchea. The two sides welcomed the Jakarta Informal Meeting process, the initiative taken within the framework of the non-aligned movement, the dialogue in Paris and bilateral discussions between various countries on the Kampuchean question. India and Mongolia urged the continuation of dialogue leading to a negotiated political settlement that ensure the sovereign independent, peaceful, non-allgned status of Kampuchea.
- 9. Recent developments in Afghanistan were reviewed by the two

sides and concern was expressed at the continuing tense Situation in Afgnanistan. Noting with satistaction that the soviet troops had been withdrawn from Afghanistan in accorance with the Geneva Accord both sides emphasized the importance of the implementation of the Geneva accords in letter and spirit by all the parties concerned. Agreeing that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and nonaligned character of Afgnanistan was essential for a peaceful solution of the Afghan problem, the two sides expressed the view that the Afghan people should be permitted to decide thier own political destiny independently and without outside interference and intervention.

- 10. India and Mongolia emphasised the need for relaxing tension in the Korean peninsula and expressed their support for constructive initiatives and dialogue aimed at the peaceful reunification of the Korea.
- 11. The two sides welcomed the constructive and reallstic declaration of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers and subsequent developments which have created a positive climate for the resumption of the Middle East Peace process. They emphasised that without a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian question based on the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self determination and an independent State in their homeland, there can be no durable peace in the region. They reiterated their call for the early convening of a UN sponsored international conference on the Middle

East with the participation of all concerned parties including the PLO. They pledged support for all efforts to reach an early solution of this long outstanding problem.

- 12. The two sides reviewed the situation in Southern Africa. They noted with concern the continued resort to repressive policies by the South African apartheid regime and expressed their conviction that the application of comprehensive mandatory sanctions remains the only effective peaceful means available to bring about the dismantlement of the abhorrent system of apartheid. The two sides noted with satisfaction that agreement has been reached on the process for Namibian independence commencing on April 1, 1989. They underlined the conviction that arrangements to be made by the United Nations to implement Security Council Resolution 435 should make all necessary provisions for the conduct of free and fair elections to the Constituent Assembly which is to adopt the Constitution of Namibia. They look forward to Namibia graduating from a long period of colonial domination to full membership of the comity of independent nations.
- 13. The two sides held that the visit of the President Shri R. Venkataraman to Mongolia and the visit to India by H.E. Mr. J.

Batmunkh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and President of Presidium of the Great People's Khural constitute new milestones in the relations between India and Mongolia.

14. H.E. Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh expressed his sincere thanks to President Shri R. Venkataraman and Prime Minister R. Gandhi, the Government and People of India for the warm and cordial reception. The Mongolian leader invited President and Smt. Venkataraman, Prime Minister and Smt. Gandhi to pay a friendly visit to Mongolia at a time of their convenience. The invitations were accepted with thanks.

NGOLIA INDIA USA PERU CHINA INDONESIA FRANCE AFGHANISTAN SWITZERLAND KOREA ALGERIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

**Date**: Mar 10, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **NETHERLANDS**

India and Netherland Enter Convention for Double TaxationAvoidance

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 31, 1989 on India-Netherland enter into convention for avoidance of double Taxation:

India has entered into a Convention with the Netherlands for avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital. The Netherlands has also been declared a reciprocating country for the purposes of Wealth-tax Act.

This Convention will have effect in India in respect of income arising in any 'previous year' beginning on or after April 1, 1989.

Under this Convention business profits of an Indian or a Dutch enterprise will be taxed only in the country of which it is a resident unless the enterprise carries on business through a "Permanent Establishment" situated in the other country. The head office expenses of a Dutch enterprise operating in India will be restricted to limits laid down under the Income-tax Act, 1961. Cross Income from dividends, interest, royalties and fees for technical services will be taxed at concessional rates as laid down in the Convention. Under the

Convention there will be mutual exemption of aircraft profits. Shipping profits will be taxed in the country of source for a period of ten years at concessional rates. Thereafter such profits will be exempt from tax.

Double taxation on income shall be avoided in the Netherlands both by the credit and exemption methods. In India,however the double taxation will be avoided by the credit method, according to which India will allow credit for taxes paid in Netherlands in respect of double taxed income against its own taxes. In respect of interest income Netherlands will give credit not only for tax levied in India but also for tax which would have been levied but for special relief under the Income-tax Act, 1961.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Mar 31, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of. the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Mar 01, 1989:

Certain foreign news agencies have reported from Kathmandu that the forthcoming visit to Kathmandu by our External Affairs Minister is meant for reviewing the Indo-Nepal Treaty. These news agency reports, quoted in sections of the Indian press, also speculate on a number of important aspects of bilateral relations between India and Nepal, which may be discussed by our Minister during his visit to Kathmandu.

The External Affairs Minister's brief visit on March 6 was scheduled for the Maha Shivratri day. The Pashupatinath temple in Kathmandu has attracted devotees from all over the world.

The External Affairs Minister's visit on March 6 was planned primarily as a private one. In view of the traditionally friendly and good neighbourly relations between India and Nepal there has all along been a frank and cordial bilateral dialogue at all levels. Despite this being an extremely brief visit, of an

essentially private nature, if it materialises, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao will naturally discuss any matters of mutual interest with his Counterpart and host, the Foreign Minister of Nepal. No specific topics are, however, slated in advance for discussion.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on March 18, 1989:

Government of India's attention is drawn to the Statement issued by the Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nepal, on 23rd March, 1988. In this context, pending negotiations for the purpose of working-out a fresh mutually accepted treaty, the Government of India agreed to the extension of earlier treaty for six months till October, 1988, and further extended it up to the conclusion of a new treaty. The new treaty will be concluded pending certain further requirements which are to be met by the Nepalese government. For the last six months, Government of India has been

-75>

periodically taking up with his Majesty's Government the question of the need to fulfill the conditions which included the issue of certain notifications. So far no action has been taken on this request by his Majesty's government. It is found by Government of India that even in the third week of March, no action is taken by Nepal, India is thus compelled to take such action as is deemed necessary. As a jesture of goodwill, India has offered to negotiate immediately for a fresh treaty, which will include both trade and transit. Since the Indo-Nepal treaty on transit also expires on March 23,1989.

India has always valued the special relationship with Nepal, as embodied in the 1950 treaty of peace and friendship between the two neighbours. For the last four decades, India has done everything possible to live up to the letter and spirit of the treaty. Good neighbourliness implies a degree of mutual sensitivity and concern for the interest of both countries. This is particularly necessary if any relationship, and the special relationship between India and Nepal is to be maintained.

To a query about what these notifications were, the Spokesman explained that, they could be similar to those issued in India, by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Customs, etc., giving technical details about items negotiated, trade between two countries, and further implementation of a treaty. In the absence of these notifications for the old treaty, it is impossible to negotiate a new one. To a question whether there are fresh contents in the treaty; he said that he was not aware of any.

To another query as to whether Nepal was aware of these

notifications, he said that Government of Nepal, has been aware of its obligations since September/October, 1988.

To a question as to whether trade and subsidies would be continued; he said that, such questions have to be negotiated.

To another query as to whether the Nepalese Spokesman has expressed willingness to negotiate, he said that, India has always been open for negotiations and has always said so.

To a query about steps that India would be taking further, he said that, these would be technical details worked out by our Ministry of Commerce, on which he would be unable to elaborate.

To a question, as to whether India feels strongly about Nepal not willing to negotiate; he said that, they would have to say so during the negotiating process and not in a press statement.

To a query about whether Nepal was entitled to transit; he said that, according to law Nepal is entitled to one, but at present there had been 11 transit points.

To a question as to what action has been taken by India, to rectify the situation; he said that, although there was only one week left for the expiry of the treaty, India had approached Nepal, and asked them to give their reaction.

To a query as to what would be the status of Nepal, if the treaty lapsed; he said that, imports and exports between India and Nepal would proceed as for any other nation, without any special provisions - simply an application of MFN status under GATT provisions. Incidently, he said that, Nepal was not a GATT member.

To a question about the duration of the treaty, he said that, he was not aware of it.

-76>

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on March 23, 1989:

In reply to questions about trade and transit treaty with Nepal, the Official Spokesman said that we find it expremely illogical that they have not, since March 23, 1988, done anything inspite of various assurances given by Nepal, to process the matter further and to bring it to a successful conclusion. I do not think it is possible to look at trade and transit relations with Nepal in a piecemeal manner. The situation is not the making of the Government of India at all. The Government of India continued to provide all concessions, all facilities that were required to be provided under the Peace and Friendship Treaty of 1950, vis-avis the citizens of Nepal living here or vis-a-vis trade with

that country or the transit facilities that were provided to that country. We have not rescinded even a single provision of these arrangements. The Indian businessmen are already affected by the actions of the Nepalese Government.

The Treaty of 1950 stands. It is only trade and transit arrangements that have lapsed and are pending negotiations of fresh ones.

A fresh trade and transit arrangements cannot be retrospective. The affect thereof will be very complicated.

The transit points are not being closea immediately. There is no intention to cause discomfort or hardship to the common man in Nepal. There is no intention to suddenly cut-off everything and let people in Nepal suffer. Every care has been taken to ensure that daily necessities like food, medicines and other essential items should reach the people.

Their trading patterns have been changing in the recent past. While their earlier trade was primarily with India, the infrastructure that was provided to them was of a certain character. Now that their own trading pattern is changing and they are importing from third countries, we have to see our trade and transit relations with them in its totality. That is why we have suggested that we should look at both these arrangements, trade transit, together and not separately. It would not be possible to negotiate these two arrangements separately.

Our Commerce Ministry, Transport Ministry and other concerned departments have all advised that because of the Nepalese changing their trading pattern, we cannot go on the old basis. We will have to look afresh what transit and trade facilities we will be able to offer. It is a pattern which has been emerging over the last few years. We told them in 1987 that let us look at both these arrangements together. But they have, somehow, not taken any steps in this regard.

PAL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Mar 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Afghanistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Mar 02, 1989:

We have seen reports carried in a section of our media suggesting that Indian Air Force pilots and technical experts are operating some planes of the Afghan Air Force and have taken part in bombings of certain Mujahideen positions in the Khost area. These reports are baselss,mischievous and obviously part of a disinformation exercise. Just two days ago, our Missions in Islamabad and Beijing had issued denials of similar reports insinuating that Indian advisers in the field of air activities were helping Afghanistan, following the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country. We have categorically denied all such false and unfounded allegations several times during the last two years. India has not been providing any

military assistance to the Afghan Government. In keeping with our age-old links with the people of Afghanistan, India has been participating in economic cooperation programmes in Afghanistan dedicated to the welfare of the common man.

It is categorically stated that Indian pilots or technical personnel have never been engaged in providing any support, whatsoever, to the Afghan Air Force or the Afghan Government.

I might mention that we have also taken up through our Embassy in Beijing, this issue with the Xinhua authorities as this report after appearing in the Pakistani press was carried by Xinhua. We have brought to the notice of the Xinhua authorities that it is not correct to publish baseless allegations without confirmation.

GHANISTAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA CHINA PAKISTAN

**Date**: Mar 02, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Sri Lanka

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on

Mar 06, 1989:

In reply to a question about the visit to Sri Lanka of Shri Gopalsami, the Official Spokesman said that Shri Gopalsami himself has said that his visit to Sri Lanka was "wrong" and he has apologised to Chief Minister Karunanidhi about it. The Chief Minister has said such adventures are unnecessary and can complicate matters. We agree with the Chief Minister.

The important thing about it is that it confirms the assessment that we have been trying to negotiate with the LTTE for several months, and his visit has confirmed our assessment based on these attempts. He has himself said, that according to the LTTE their demand for Eelam was not negotiable and that they are not prepared to live in peace with the Sinhalas. Some of their actions make it clear that they are also not prepared to live at peace with other Tamil groups. While we have repeatedly and again-andagain said that the door is always open for negotiation with the LTTE, it is not clear to us how any negotiation can take place in a meaningful manner unless the LTTE changes its attitude.

In reply to another question, the Spokesman said that Chief Minister Karunanidhi has himself said that this visit was unnecessary and it complicates matters. It is, therefore, clear that the visit has taken place without his consent.

In reply to another question, the Spokesman said that there was no question of conceding the demand for Eelam. We stand by the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement which has, more or less, been implemented.

The followinv is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on March 8, 1989:

In reply to a question about press reports regarding joint operation in SriLanka by IPKF and Sri Lankan forces, the Official Spokesman said he has also seen these reports based on an alleged meeting between the IPKF Commanders and the Sri Lankan Commanders. He categorically stated that no joint opera -78>

tions are being conducted anywhere in the north-east provinces of Sri Lanka. They have not been planned, they have not been executed in the past and are unlikely to be executed in the future. These rumours are all false.

I LANKA INDIA USA **Date**: Mar 06, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Tibet

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Mar 08, 1989:

In reply to a question about developments in Tibet, the Official Spokesman said that we have been following the developments in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China very closely. The TAR borders India and it is inevitable that concern should be expressed since we have close cultural and religious ties with Tibet. The Dalai Lama is a respected religious and spiritual leader who is held in high regard by the people of India. We have always maintained that the TAR is an autonomous region of China and we are committed to the improvement of our relations with China for which a major beginning was made during PM's visit to Beijing in December last.

In reply to another question about India's policy on permitting Tibetan refugees into the country, the Spokesman said that our views on refugees have been made clear over the years. We have always adopted an approach based on our traditions and principles whether it is refugees from Tibet or from any other border state.

DIA CHINA USA

**Date**: Mar 08, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Indo-Mauritius Joint Commission

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Mar 16, 1989:

The Indo-Mauritius Joint Commission was set up in 1979. This session now being held is the 5th session. The last session was held in July 1987 in Mauritius.

From our side it is headed by EAM and on the Mauritian side by their Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and Development. For the first time, this Joint Commission meeting has businessmen on both sides.

India and Mauritius have a Joint Business Council which derives from the Joint Commission. We have such a Joint Business Council with a very few selected countries.

The Mauritius Deputy Prime Minister called on the Vice-President and the Minister of Human Resource Development on 15th March. Today, he addressed the FICCI representatives and will be meeting the Minister of Planning. Tomorrow, he will be meeting the Finance and the Commerce Ministers. He is likely to call on the PM tomorrow. The delegation will leave on the 17th March.

PM visited Mauritius in July 1986 and the Governor General of Mauritius was here in November 1988. There are many Indian-aided projects in Mauritius. There is the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for the promotion of Indian languages, the proposed Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital and the Subramania Bharati Hospital. At the 4th session of the Joint Commission, India -79>

pledged a total amount of Rs. 100 million of aid and credit. Annual imports from India are around Rs. 500 million comprising textiles, machines for small industries, transport vehicles, electrical goods, pharmaceuticals etc.

URITIUS USA INDIA

**Date**: Mar 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Visit of H.E. Mr. Yassir Arafat, President of the ExecutiveCommittee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Mar 10, 1989:

PM and Mr. Yassir Arafat had discussions yesterday lasting about an hour and a half. They were alone for about quarter of an hour and then in the full plenary. They met again today, one-to one, for about 40 minutes. PM was assisted by EAM, MOS(K), FS and Mrs. Kamlesh Kumar, JS(WANA). President Arafat was assisted by Mr. Farooq Qaddoumi, Member of the Executive Committee and Head of the Political Department (which means he is functioning as Foreign Affairs Adviser), Mr. Suleman Shurafa, Adviser on Arab Affairs, Mr. Ahmed Abdul Rehman, Official Spokesman, and Mr. Bassam Abu Sharief, Adviser to the President on Information.

PM welcomed President Arafat as an old friend and in his new capacity as Head of the Palestinian State. This was his first visit to India in his new capacity. PM also congratulated him on the declaration of the Palestinian State as well as on the bold initiative that he has taken to bring peace to this part of the world. PM observed that since their last meeting in October 1988, several new developments have taken place. There were signs of detente in several regions of the world and there were now discernibly constructive approaches which have changed the atmosphere in West Asia. The declaration of the Palestinian State on the 15th November, 1988, the dialogue begun by the PLO with the US in December 1988 and the continuing INTIFADAH were all significant and have given much hope to all those who desire peace.

President Arafat in turn expressed, on behalf of the people of Palestine, his deepest thanks to the people of India and to the Prime Minister personally for having been amongst the first five countries who recognised the new Palestinian State. He declared that this act of India was symbolic of the deep bonds of friendship that bind the two peoples and the consistent and unstinted support that India has always given to the Palestinian cause. He then briefed the Indian delegation in detail about the situation in the occupied territories as a result of the peaceful agitation launched by his people, INTIFADAH. As a result of this movement, today all schools and colleges there were closed. As many as 80,000 Israeli troops were involved in the process of subjugation of the Palestinian people. The Palestinians in the occupied territories were suffering heavy casualties. As many as 32,000 have been injured, 5500 have been disabled, 36,000 women have suffered miscarriages as a result of the brutal beatings and forced evictions of their homes, etc. 642 people have been killed and 31,000 are in concentration camps. The number in jails and prisons runs in many thousands. They do not know the exact number as the Israelis do not give this information. Thousands of homes have been destroyed, some others have been permanently cemented and closed so that the people do not come in the homes. Israelis are using plastic bullets which fragment into the body and these fragments are not visible in the X Rays, -80>

though they cause slow poisoning. He said some US and Belgian

teams have seen this for themselves. He said that despite this enormous human suffering, the irony was that demand for the Palestinian movement was very high. He then gave an account of his contacts with the US in Sweden and he appreciated the positive role of the Swedish Government in being a negotiator and enabling these contacts with the Americans to take place. He also spoke of the positive stand adopted by Europe which has now accepted and given due recognition to the Palestinian peace initiative. There is now a Troika Committee which will monitor events in the Palestine and which will change every six months. He acknowledged that there were qualitative differences between the approaches of different European countries, but it was heartening that even those European countries which hitherto had adopted a fairly rigid approach had now begun to view the Palestinian problem from a more positive and constructive stand point. He also described his meeting with the Soviet Foreign Minister in Cairo as:being useful and he praised the Soviet Union for its supportive role. President Arafat emphasised the importance of an urgent convening of a UN-sponsored international conference to bring about a solution to the Palestinian problem. He expressed his heartfelt thanks for India's support for the idea of an international conference with the full participation of the PLO.

DIA USA ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWEDEN EGYPT

**Date**: Mar 10, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFCIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Visit of H.E. Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Mar 07, 1989:

Prime Minister and Mr. Jambyn Batmunkh had one-to-one discussions today lasting almost two hours. The Indian and the Mongolian delegations also met separately. The Indian delegation was led by External Affairs Minister and consisted of Shri S. Krishna Kumar, Minister of State (I&B); Shri K. K. Tewary, Minister of State (MEA); Secretary (East) Shri Peter Sinai; and JS (EA). On the Mongolian side, the plenary was headed by their Foreign Minister Mr. T. Gombosuren. Mr. B. Chimid, Head of Department, Presidium of the Great People's Khural; Ambassador O. Khosbayar, and Mr.

Choinkhor, Head of Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs were the other members of the Mongolian delegation.

Both sides undertook a detailed review of international developments covering the relations of each country with the Soviet Union, China and Afghanistan. They also talked about the developing situation in Kampuchea and the situation in the Maldives. Prime Minister welcomed the Mongolian President and his first official visit to India. His visit to India in 1980 was only a transit visit. Prime Minister spoke of Mrs. Indira Gandhi's visit to Mongolia and said that she had always had the most warm memories of Mongolia and the splendour and beauty of that country. Prime Minister said that he was confident that the Mongolian Chairman's visit would be a landmark in the bilateral relationship between the two countries. It would be a reaffirmation of the warmth and friendship that exists between the two countries.

The Mongolian President reciprocated the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister saying that he was happy to be acquainted with India as well as with Prime Minister personally. He thanked Prime Minister for the excellent talks that he had and said that both countries had ancient links and that a new impetus would be given to bilateral relations be

-81>

tween the two countries as a result of this visit. He also mentioned that contributions made to our relations by Nehru and Indira Gandhi. He said that in the Nehru centennial year they were going to celebrate Nehru's 100th birth anniversary in a big way. He said that when Mrs. Indira Gandhi visited Mongolia in 1965, she made an important beginning in building bilateral relations and today Rajiv Gandhi as Prime Minister was continuing the policies of the older generation. Then he referred to the bilateral joint declaration of 1973 between India and Mongolia and said that the main features of that declaration guide us today. We are determined, he said, to continue to cooperate with India in the UN and elsewhere. He then extended an invitation to Prime Minister which was accepted with thanks. As this is an election year, it would be difficult for our Prime Minister to visit Mongolia.

Prime Minister thanked the Mongolian President for his remarks about Nehru and Indira Gandhi and said that though both countries differed in size, there were common thrusts which linked both nations. While we want to break out of the shackles of the past, we want to observe values inherited and with Mongolia we share some values of Buddhism. Our political ties are excellent but more needs to be done because of transport and communication problems. We must find areas where cooperation is easier.

Pakistan was also discussed. The Mongolian side was told about Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan last year and the close rapport established between the two countries. They were told that there was great optimism that in the new situation where that country is led by a democratic and a popular leader, many opportunities would present themselves for a gradual improvement in our relations. With regard to SAARC, the Mongolians were told that in the last 3-4 years much progress has been made. There was a new atmosphere which was much more positive and conducive to the finding of solutions. The SAARC region is in tune and in step with world developments where there is a trend towards conciliation. Ideas of confrontation are slowly receding. In this context, the Mongolian interest in nonalignment was deeply appreciated and they were told that India would like to be resilient to them in their desire to cooperate with NAM in their capacity as a guest.

On China, both sides expressed optimism about the future. The Mongolian Foreign Minister gave a historical background of the relationship between the two countries as did our Foreign Minister and Prime Minister and the Mongolian President. It was stated that because of the new developments within China and in its immediate surroundings, there were great hopes for the future. The Mongolian Foreign Minister is to visit China shortly and looks forward to that with great expectation. On our side, we briefed the Mongolian side on Prime Minister's visit to China. We told them that it was our hope that we would be able to work jointly and arrive at solutions which were fair, reasonable and acceptable to both countries. The border is the main question between India and China and while there is no immediate solution expected because of the complicated nature of the problem, the atmosphere between the two countries is excellent and there is a political will on both sides which gives us every hope that we can look forward to an era of better relations with China. The Mongolian leadership congratulated Prime Minister on what they called his successful visit to China.

On the bilateral front, there was a request from the Mongolian side for more fellowships for management courses. We reacted favourably. They also wanted greater exchanges between the Parliamentarians of the two countries.

On the Nehru centenary celebrations in Mongolia, we were told by them that

-82>

they were translating the 'Glimpses or World History' in three languages. Several other books were also being translated. A Nehru symposium was being organised there. A special Nehru stamp is also being issued by them.

DIA USA MONGOLIA AFGHANISTAN CHINA MALDIVES PAKISTAN

**Date**: Mar 07, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **SWEDEN**

India and Sweden Enter Convention for Double Taxation Avoidance

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 30, 1989 on India-Sweden enter into convention for avoidance of double taxation:

India has entered into a Convention with Sweden for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital. Sweden has also been declared a reciprocating country for the purposes of Wealth tax Act.

This Convention will replace the existing Agreement between India and Sweden signed on 30th July 1958. It will have effect in India in respect of income arising in any fiscal year beginning on or after 1st April 1989 and in respect of capital held at the expiry of such fiscal year.

Under the new Convention, business profits derived by an Indian or Swedish enterprise, will be taxed only in the country of its residence, unless the enterprise carries on business in the other country through a "Permanent Establishment" situated therein. The Convention restricts allowance of head office administrative expenses of Swedish enterprises in India to limits laid down in our domestic law. Gross income from royalties, fees for technical services, dividends and interest will be taxed at concessional rates as laid down in this Convention. The Convention determines the respective taxing rights of the two countries on income from profession pension, salaries, etc.

Double taxation on income shall be avoided generally by the credit method, according to which the country of residence will allow credit for the taxes paid in the country of source in respect of the doubly taxed income against its own taxes.

EDEN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Mar 30, 1989

## **Volume No**

#### **THAILAND**

Banquet Speech by the Prime Minister, in Honour of the ThailandPremier

The following is the text of a speech made by the Prime Minister in New Delhi on Mar 29, 1989 at the banquet hosted by him in honour of H.E. General Chatichai Choonhavan the Prime Minister of Thailand:

The people of India join me in extending a warm welcome to both of you, especially as yours is a visit of historic significance. the first visit to India by a Prime Minister of Thailand.

But neither you, Prime Minister, noryour country are strangers to India. In your personal capacity, you have visited us on several previous occasions. Your -83>

country, Thailand, is amongst the countries of the world with which we have the closest affinities. Our languages have drawn from each other. Our religions find their inspiration from the same sources. Our music and dance, our sculpture and architecture constitute a study in mutual inspiration and mutual regard. These ancient cultural links were further strengthened when Her Royal Highness Princess Mahachakri Sirindhorn visited us two years ago.

We are both, as I said, ancient countries with ancient links, but there came a phase in our history when these links weakened. Colonialism overtook our country. You remained fiercely independent. But imperialism imposed itself between us. Through that dark period of servitude, millions in India drew inspiration from your country's almost unique ability in Asia to keep the flame of freedom burning.

The coming of independence to India did not immediately lead to a resurgence in our relationship. There were of course, no bilateral problems between us and some interaction did begin. But in our general approach to international affairs, there were differences of perception and, to some extent, a discordance of concerns.

Happily, that is now changing. It fell to me to have the honour of being the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Thailand. In welcoming you on your first official visit to India, I look back with immense satisfaction on the thirty months or so that have passed since I was in your great great country. These two and a half years have been years of new endeavour in relations between India and Thailand. We have moved forward along a wide gamut of action. There has been a quickening of trade, an expansion of

economic collaboration, a significant beginning in science and technology cooperation, and important intellectual and cultural exchanges. Most significantly, our political dialogue has gained in both scope and content. I have no doubt that your visit will provide further stimulus towards broadening and deepening our mutual relationship. The goal we must set ourselves is to build a contemporary relationship commensurate with the ancient and abiding respect and reverence which our peoples and cultures have for each other.

I visited Bangkok in the immediate aftermath of Reykjavik. International relations appeared then to be poised on the brink of a significant breakthrough. That expectacion has begun to be realised. A few weeks after I was in Thailand, His Excellency Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev came to India and signed with us the Delhi Declaration affirming, significantly, the Soviet Union's commitment to the principle of nonviolence.

A little over a year later came the INF Treaty, the first instance of nuclear disarmament since the invention of nuclear weapons, bringing in its wake a relaxation of tensions all around the world. The process is only beginning but it is a process pregnant with possibilities of change. Changes which affect India and Thailand in significant and important ways. It is important that we work together and with other countries in pushing the pace of change in the desired direction. It is equally important that we avail of the new opportunities to consolidate peace and cooperation in our respective regions.

ASEAN has grown into something of a exemplar of political and economic cooperation among Asian countries. Thailand has played a notable and significant role in bringing ASEAN on to the map of the world. In our region, we have the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation whose tentative beginnings have now been consolidated into significant foundations. Our objectives, as yours is, is to enlarge the frontiers of durable peace and ensure that peaceful coexistence is reinforced by people to people exchanges and economic cooperation.

Peace and cooperation in South-East Asia have, for more than a decade. been -84>

overshadowed by the question of Kampuchea. A terrible genocide was inflicted on the people of Kampuchea, claiming three million lives or more. Thereafter, the country has known continuing armed conflict, outside interference and outside intervention. Now there is new hope. We are optimistic that a negotiated political solution can be found. One cause for the new optimism is the bold initiatives which Your Excellency has undertaken. In inviting Prime Minister Hun Sen to Thailand, and initiating a dialogue with Laos and Vietnam, you, Prime Minister, have given earnest of your proclaimed intention of converting the battleground of

IndoChina into market places of peaceful intercourse.

Our ties with Kampuchea are as ancient and as significant as our ties with Thailand and, indeed, with the people of South-East Asia as a whole. We have a stake in peace in South-East Asia. We have a stake in stability in South-East Asia. A sovereign, democratic, independent and nonaligned Kampuchea is important to peace and stability in Indo-China, to peace and stability in South-East Asia, to peace and stability in our shared continent, and in our shared world. We are willing to contribute, in whatever way we can, to the search for a political settlement to the Kampuchean problem.

Your Excellency, we have seen that the path of violence, conquest and domination has led only to nuclear confrontation and the ever-present danger of the imminent obliteration of humankind and of our planet Earth. An unequal and iniquitous world order perpetuates discrimination, fuels rivalries and jeopardises peace. Both our countries seek peace through peaceful coexistence and a world order founded in justice and interdependence. As new vistas of cooperation open before both of us, we must also see how we can together draw upon the ancient wisdom of our heritage to impart new hope to the world. Our ancients taught the virtues of tolerance over intolerance, of compassion over cruelty, of nonviolence over violence. We see this expounded in the legendary Ramayana, an epic to which both your country and mine, Prime Minister, are heir. In Tulsidasa's version of the Ramayana - Shri Ramacharitmanasa - there occurs this verse of persuasive significance to contemporary reality:

This paragraph write in Hindi

I would like to share with you a free English translation of the verse:

"The conduct of the saint and the sinner is like that of the sandal tree and the axe. The axe cuts down the tree but the fragrant sandal imparts its perfume to the very axe that fells it down.

And the sandal, for its goodness, finds its way to the foreheads of the gods while the axe, for its evil, has its steel edge heated in the fire and beaten with a hammer".

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like you to join me in raising a toast to the good health of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Thailand; to the good health of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Thailand and Khunying Boonruen; to everlasting friendship between our ancient countries

-85>

**Date**: Mar 29, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **THAILAND**

#### Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a Joint Press Statement made by the Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of Thailand in New Delhi on Mar 31, 1989:

- 1. At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, H.E. Gen. Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand visited India from March 28April 1,1989. The Prime Minister was accompanied by Khunying Boonruen and a high level delegation which included H.E. ACM Siddhi Savetsila, Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Prachuab Chaiyasan, Minister of Science, Technology and Energy, H.E. Supatra Masdit, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, other senior government officials and representatives of the private sector in Thailand.
- 2. H.E. Gen Chatichai Choonhavan and Khunying Boonruen called on H.E. Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India and Smt. Venkataraman and on H.E. Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice President of India and Smt. Sharma. The two Prime Ministers held talks in a warm and friendly atmosphere, reflecting the age old relations between the two countries
- 3. The two sides noted the significance of the visit of H.E. Gen Chatichai Choonhavan as being the first ever official visit by the Thai Prime Minister to India. They recorded appreciation for the impetus given to Indo-Thai relations by the visit of Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Thailand in October, 1986. They noted the immense interest and affection aroused in both countries during the visit of the Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn to India in March, 1987. The two sides affirmed their intention to continuously strengthen the peaceful cultural interaction which has erniched the two nations for centuries.
- 4. The two sides held discussions on international, regional and bilateral issues of mutual interest. They welcomed the improvement in the climate of international relations and emphasised the need to maintain the positive momentum which provided favourable conditions for the resolution of international and regional problems. They felt that the reduction of tensions and prospects for nuclear disarmament should enable

human material resources to be utilised to maximise global development rather than for fuelling the arms race and called for concerted action to give effect to the vision of a safer, more just world order.

- 5. The two sides discussed the recent developments with regard to the Kampuchean question. They welcomed the Jakarta Informal Meeting process, the initiative taken within the framework of the non-aligned movement, the meetings among representatives of the Kampuchean parties in Paris and bilateral discussions between various countries on the Kampuchean question. They noted that the intensification of contacts and dialogues among regional countries and the Kampuchean parties, as well as efforts by other interested countries have brightened the prospects for an early political solution to the Kampuchean question, thereby contributing to overall peace and stability in the region. The Indian side complimented Thailand and other countries of the region for their constructive efforts and initiatives in this regard. The two sides upheld the rights of the Kampuchean people to live in peace and security and to exercise their right to determine their own destiny. They assessed positively the outcome of the second Jakarta Informal Meeting and reiterated that other initiatives including that of the Non-aligned Movement could complement these efforts. They urged all concerned to cooperate towards an early political solution with a view to ensure the emergence of a sovereign, independent, peaceful, neutral and nonaligned Kampuchea which will not be a threat to any of its neighbours. The Thai side welcomed India's efforts towards this end.
- -86>
- 6. The two sides explored avenues for increasing economics, trade and investment interaction. They welcomed the progress and dynamism of the Thai and Indian economies which offer possibilities and expanded horizons for closer and mutually beneficial economic, commercial and investment cooperation between the two countries.
- 7. The signing of an Agreement for the setting-up of a Joint Commission between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand was welcomed as an important step in strengthening relations and in fostering expanded economic and other forms of cooperation between the two countries. The two sides hoped that this would lead to an increase in the volume of trade, the setting-up of more joint ventures and further exchange of technical know-how between the business circles in the two countries. The appreciated the efforts of the Indo-Thai Joint Trade Committee which held its third meeting in January, 1989 in identifying items of export interest to the two countries and the readiness on both sides to explore new avenues of commercial cooperation.

8.India and Thailand noted that cooperation in economic,

scientific and technical fields was growing. The Electronic Design Laboratory being established at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore with assistance from Government of India was an important instance of fruitful sharing of technical knowhow. Cooperation between the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and the Thai Institute for Scientific and Technical Research in diverse scientific fields was also progressing satisfactorily. India's gift of two Reverse Desalination Plants for Thailand's "Green Esarn Project" was highly appreciated. The two sides agreed to intensify technological cooperation between the two countries.

- 9. The two sides welcomed the decision of the Indian Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) and PTT Exploration and Production Company Ltd. of Thailand to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Oil Sector and were confident that it would open avenues for further cooperation in this vital area.
- 10. The two sides agreed to expand cooperation in the tourism industry. To this end, the Indian side welcomed the invitation for Indian hotel chains to participate in the investment-promoted hotel industry in Thailand.
- 11. The two sides are convinced that their companies and corporations have important roles to play in the fostering of closer trade and economic ties between the two countries they agreed to facilitate greater and more effective inter-action between them and welcomed the establishment of a broad-based Joint Business Council which would facilitate this process.
- 12. The two sides agreed on the need for developing countries to cooperate more closely in the multilateral trade negotiations under the Uruguay Round. They stressed the need to safeguard their development interests in the context of the ongoing efforts to liberalise world trade. Both sides felt that protectionist measures and unilateral trade action by developed countries, and the long-standing distortions in world agricultural trade, pose a threat to the multilateral trading system. They recognised the critical role of agriculture in the development process, particularly for achieving social goals in developing countries. Both sides called on all GATT member to adopt a cooperative approach, which would ensure a more constructive North-South relationship for the benefit of all. They also decided to work together to contribute to the achievement of collective self-reliance of developing countries through South-South Cooperation.
- 13. The two sides agreed that the visit of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Thailand and the visit of H.E. Gen. -87>

Chatichai Choonhavan to India are milestones in strengthening

relations between India and Thailand and look forward to concrete results that will testify to the efficacy of South-South cooperation and contribute to lasting peace and security of the region.

14. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the visit of the Thai Prime Minister, and look forward to a significant increase in mutually beneficial co-operation between Thailand and India. His Excellency Gen. Chatichai Choonhavan expressed his sincere gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Government and people of India for the warm hospitality extended to his delegation during their stay.

AILAND INDIA USA PERU INDONESIA FRANCE URUGUAY

**Date**: Mar 31, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

India and UAE to Avoid Double Taxation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 03, 1989 on India and UAE to avoid double taxation:

An agreement for the avoidance of double taxation of income derived from international air transport between India and United Arab Emirates was signed here today. Shri P.K. Appachoo, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue signed it on behalf of the Government of India, while H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khalfan Khirbash, Director of Investment Department, Ministry of Finance and Industry of UAE signed on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

Under this agreement, briefly stated, Air India and Indian Airlines of India and Gulf Air and Emirates Airlines of UAE would be mutually exempted from incometax in respect of income earned after the first day of January, 1971 in the other country.

ITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA

**Date**: Mar 03, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Trade Turnover up by 24 per cent

The following is the text of a press lease issued in New Delhi on Mar 09, 1989 on Indo-Soviet trade turnover:

The trade turnover between India and the Soviet Union has exceeded the trade plan provision of Rs. 5000 crores for 1988 by about Rs. 200 crores. The turnover at Rs. 5200 crores in 1988 represents a growth of 24.05 per cent over the turnover achieved in 1987. The trade plan for 1989 envisages a turnover of Rs. 7000 crores and against this, contracts totalling Rs. 5000 crores have already been signed.

This was indicated at discussions held here today between the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh and the Soviet Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of USSR, Mr. V.M.Kamentsev. The Soviet leader, who called on Shri Dinesh Singh accompanied by a 14-member Soviet delegation is the Co-Chairman of the IndoUSSR Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, which began its deliberations here on March 7, They discussed matters of bilateral trade interest, including the scope for the new areas of cooperation such as joint ventures.

Regarding implementation of that trade plan for 1989 which provides for a 35 % step up in turnover, contracts have already been signed covering items of imports from the Soviet Union such as crude oil, wood pulp and chemical products as well as items of exports from India like coffee, leather and ready-made garments. Shri Dinesh Singh said effective steps would also have to be taken for early finalisation of contracts relating to supply of non-ferrous metals, pig iron etc. from the Soviet Union and to speed up contracting for Indian exports to the USSR of tea, jute products, and engineering items among others so as to ensure the full implementation of the trade plan during the current year. He also suggested that contracts and shipment of goods should be monitored at official level every month so that there were no shortfalls.

Another important aspect of growth emphasised by both sides related to joint ventures, production cooperation and direct links between Indian and Soviet enterprises. Nearly 10 joint venture proposals have already been finalised, including the 4 finalised during the recent visit of Mme Biryukova in the fields

of leather and jute. Shri Dinesh Singh mentioned that in order to help faster growth in these sectors some of the issues relating to requirements of free foreign exchange for the joint ventures as also the question of repatriation of profits earned in roubles would have to be resolved. He welcomed the Soviet offer of construction of 7 more hotels to Indian companies. It was suggested that these be finalised by September,1989 so that the work on them could commence early next year.

Shri Dinesh Singh stressed the importance of long-term perspective planning on both sides to sustain and improve the growth in bilateral trade. The current long-term plan is due to expire on December 31,1990. Negotiations for the period 1991-95 are scheduled to begin in June, 1989. Shri Singh said that long-term perspective plan upto 2000 AD would be needed to consolidate these trends and indicated that the Working Group on Trade would meet this year to discuss these issues.

#### DIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Mar 09, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Joint Commission - 12th Session Concludes

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 09, 1989 on Indo-Soviet Joint Commission:

The twelfth meeting of Inter-governmental Indo-Soviet Commission for Economic, Scientific & Technical Cooperation concluded in New Delhi today with a pienary session co-chaired by the External Affairs Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao and the visiting Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Mr. V. M. Kamentsev at Vigyan Bhavan.

The Co-Chairmen of the Commission signed a Protocol, before closing the session, containing results of their deliberations and the delegation-level talks held from March 1 onwards, wherein the whole gamut of Indo-Soviet economic, scientific and technical cooperation relations was reviewed and ideas were ex-89>

changed on new ways and means to further strengthen, expand and diversify the mutually advantageous cooperation.

The Commission has expressed "great satisfaction" with the progress in the implementation of the agreement on further development of trade, scientific and technical ties between the two countries at the summit meetings in 1985-88 and noted "considerable progress" in implementation of the Indo-Soviet agreements on construction of large industrial projects in India in the above period.

The Commission noted that Indo-Soviet trade is developing satisfactorily to achieve the target of 2.5 times growth in bilateral trade turnover by 1992.

It may be noted in this context that trade in 1988 had exceeded the target of Rs. 5,000 crores and that by middle of February, 1989 contracts had been signed for Rs. 5,000 crores against the Trade target of Rs. 7,000 crores for the year.

The Commission expressed satisfaction that implementation Integrated Long Term Programme of Scientific & Technical Cooperation by Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and CPSU General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev July 8,1987 had yielded positive results. The importance of Indo-Soviet cooperation for development of economies of the two countries by taking advantage of the mutual complementarities is felt by the Commission to be steadily increasing.

The Commission reviewed in depth the on-going programmes/projects of IndoSoviet economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the fields of power, oil and gas industry, coal industry, ferrous and Non-ferrous metallurgy machine-building, computers & electronics, communications, agriculture and agro-industrial sector, water resources and Science & Technology and gave appropriate guidelines and directions to the concerned Working Groups to keen up the momentum of cooperation in their respective areas, identify new prospects and areas of mutually fruitful cooperation and strive to achieve the results in agreed time frames. The commission noted in particular the significant expansion of cooperation in power sector wherein the Soviets have already agreed to cooperate in development of aggregate capacity of 6000 MW by 2000 AD of which 3,270 MW capacity is to be commissioned by March, 1995. In this context the Soviet side is studying India's request for supply by the USSR of coal for energy purposes taking into account their plans of economic development for 1991-95.

Amongst the new areas of Indo-Soviet cooperation identified by the Commission are those of railways, civil aviation, ship building repairs and river and other inland water transport systems. The Commission has decided to set up new Working Group to monitor and coordinate plans of bilateral cooperation in the fields of railways and civil aviation.

The Commission also discussed possibilities of giving a new

thrust to development of New Forms of Economic Cooperation such as joint ventures, production cooperation, direct ties between enterprises of the two countries and for this purpose has decided to constitute a Working Group on New Forms of Economic Cooperation. Ten joint ventures have been finalised including four in the sphere of production. In production cooperation agreements and contracts have been reached in respect of 17 items out of 62 under consideration for an aggregate value of Rs. 125 crores. A number of new areas of possible cooperation identified include development and production of laser based machines for different applications, joint production of CN machine tools, agricultural implements with Indian diesel engines etc. The Commission has instructed the newly set up Working Group on New Forms of Economic Cooperation to take measures for expediting feasibility evaluation of other proposals of joint ventures and other issues of establishment -90>

of such enterprises in particular relating to taxation, repatriation of profits etc.

Soviet side has informed the Indian side of possibilities of setting up of joint ventures in the Soviet Far East Economic region, especially production units for consumer goods, including readymade garments, footwear and other such factories processing of agricultural products etc. India has conveyed its keen interest in cooperation, including through the setting up of joint ventures, for exploiting the forest resources of the region to mutual advantage.

Construction by Indian companies of hotels in Tashkant, Samarkand & Bukhara is proceeding successfully. Soviet Union has handed over to Indian firms technical specification for preparation of their offers for tendering the construction of seven more hotels in Alma Ata, Urqench, Khiva, Frunze, Khabarovak, Vladivostok and Nakhodka. Contracts in this respect are expected to be finalized by September, 1989

The Commission has expressed satisfaction with steps taken to improve cooperation between Indian business circles and Soviet enterprises and organizations such as interaction between the Indo-Soviet Committee (on the Soviet side) and the Indian Steering Committee, the setting up in the USSR of the Association of Business Cooperation with India, and the proposed establishment in Moscow of a Trade and Commercial Centre. It is expected that these measures alongwith the extension of a credit line of rupees one billion by the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Relations to IDBI for import by the Indian prviate companies of Soviet machinery and equipment should intensify Indian private sectors involvement in Indo-Soviet economic cooperation.

The next session of the Commission is proposed to be held in Moscow in the middle of 1990.

In the context of fast expanding dimensions of Indo-Soviet cooperation which requires constant and close monitoring, it has been decided to set up under the Chairmanship of Foreign Secretary (who is Vice-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission) a Core Group to monitor Indo-Soviet economic, scientific & technical cooperation. Five other Secretaries of the Government are members of this Group (Finance, Commerce, Industrial Development, Power Special Secretary PMO). The group will meet periodically about once a month and report to the EAM who is the Co-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission.

Soviet Co-Chairman of the Commission, USSR Deputy Prime Minister Mr. V.M. Kamenstev leaves for a visit of Jaipur, Agra and the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary tomorrow and is scheduled to return to Moscow on March 12, 1989.

DIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

**Date**: Mar 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **VIETNAM**

India Launches Oil Exploration Work in Vietnam

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on India launches oil exploration work in Vietnam:

India today made its entry into oil exploration work abroad.

The Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Shri Brahm Dutt, inaugurated the launching of the seismic survey in designated blocks in Vietnam offshore by Hydrocarbons India Ltd. (HIL). The Minister was on board the vessal "Sagar -91>

Sandhani", owned by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). This is for the first time that India has taken up such a venture in a foreign country.

This is the first time that a production sharing contract was signed by HIL last year with Petrovietnam, the National Oil Company of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, for carrying out exploration in about 14,000 sq. kms. offshore of South Vietnam.

The seimic survey marks the beginning of the first phase of exploration for which a seismic survey vessel of ONGC has been taken to the area from India. It is expected that HIL will acquire 6,000 line kms. of seismic data and process it in the ONGC facilities in India. This would be followed by drilling of exploratory wells.

Shri Brahm Dutt said that the event marked a major step in the wide-ranging economic reationship between India and Vietnam. The petroleum sector is vital for both the countries and cooperation in this sector would be very significant in the friendly relations between the two countries, he felt.

The Minister expressed his satisfaction at the speed with which both HIL and Petrovietnam had organised themselves to make it possible for the survey to start within the given time-frame for this work in the contract. The present venture would turn out to be very productive and the ties between India and Vietnam would be strengthened through further cooperation in the petroleum sector, he averred.

-92>

ETNAM INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Mar 09, 1989

# **April**

# Volume No 1995 CONTENTS

Foreign Affairs

Record VOL XXXV No 4 1989

April

**CONTENTS** 

**CHINA** 

Chinese Delegation on Population Meets Km. Khaparde

93

### **CYPRUS**

Banquet in Honour of the President of the Republic of Cyprus	93
India, Cyprus to Cooperate in Joint Ventures	95
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	
Days of Indian Culture in Czechoslovakia	96
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	
India and West Germany Sign Financial Co- operation Agreement for 1989	97
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	
Indo-GDR Joint Committee on Shipping	98
HOME AND ABROAD	
Pakistan's Nuclear Programme and Military Build-up Causes Concern	99
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS	
Shri K. C. Pant Reiterates India's Commitment to Peace	106
ITC Assistance for India Trade Centre suggested 10	)7
Smt. Mohsina Kidwai's Address at UNCHS Meet 108	
JAPAN	
Indo-Japanese talks on Air Services	109
NEPAL	
India Not Obstructing Essential Commodities Supply to Nepal	s 110
OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS	S
Namibia 11	10
Kampuchea	111
Pakistan 11	1

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics 112 112 Afghanistan Poland 113 AGNI Missile 113 Nepal 113 **SOVIET UNION** Indo-Soviet Talks on Economic Cooperation 114 Indo-Soviet Protocol on Coal and Lignite **Projects** 115 Growing India-USSR Cooperation in Agriculture 115 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA India, United States Sign Agreement for Double Tax Avoidance 116 **VIETNAM** Indo-Vietnamese Talks on Planning 117 YEMEN Indo-Yemen Cooperation in Oil Sector 118 YUGOSLAVLA Indo-Yugoslav Petrochemical Cooperation 118 INA CYPRUS USA INDIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA GERMANY PAKISTAN JAPAN NEPAL NAMIBIA

AFGHANISTAN POLAND VIETNAM YEMEN

**Date**: Apr 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

**CHINA** 

Chinese Delegation on Population Meets Km. Khaparde

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi

on Apr 29, 1989 on Chinese delegation:

An eight member Chinese delegation on population today met the Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Km. Saroj Khaparde here today. The Chinese delegation is headed by Mr. Liu Bing, Deputy of National Peoples Congress of China (NPCC) and Vice Chairman of Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee.

The Chinese delegation which arrived here on April 19 for a fortnight's visit, has six parliamentarians and two professors as its members.

Welcoming the delegation Km. Khaparde said that the visit symbolized the friendship that "has existed betwee our two ancient civilizations."

During their stay the members of Chinese delegation visited Calcutta, Jaipur, Bombay, Jamshedpur and Bangalore. They met officers of various organisations and workers at field levels and discussed matters relating to family planning and population.

INA INDIA USA

**Date**: Apr 29, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **CYPRUS**

Banquet in Honour of the President of the Republic of Cyprus

The following is the text of a speech made by the President of India at the banquet hosted by him in honour of the President of the Republic of Cyprus on Apr 11, 1989 at New Delhi:

It is my privilege to extend a warm welcome to Your Excellency to Madame Vassiliou and to the distinguished members of your delegation. My wife and I recall with great pleasure our memorable and fruitful visit to your beautiful country last September. If in the course of our visit to the historic remains at Paphos, we saw something of the magnificence of your heritage, we saw too the great symbols of Cyprus's contemporary achievements. I particularly valued the opportunity of addressing Members of your Parliament and meeting different leaders. The hospitality and warmth shown to us by Your Excellencies, by the Government and by the people of Cyprus will remain a cherished

memory. We are indeed very happy that you Mr. President and Madame Vassiliou have been able to visit our country and provide an opportunity to renew our friendly contacts and share our perceptions of world affairs.

-93>

Excellency, our common perspectives on many issues and events stem from the fact that our countries have been cradles of ancient civilisations. Through the centuries our countries have received streams of people, thoughts and ideas. We have assimilated them and fused them together harmoniusly to form a distinct and separate identity of our own. This encounter of cultures and races has enriched the lives of our people, broadened their vision and has added a new dimension to our role and outlook. It has produced men and women of extraordinary vision, calibre and brilliance. The names of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru in India and of Archbishop Makarios in Cyprus come readily to mind as leaders who charted the course towards national renaissance and independence. It is a matter of deep satisfaction to us that Cyprus has raised a statue to Mahatma Gandhi in Nicosia and that the main street next to your Parliament House, is named after Jawaharlal Nehru. We, likewise, have had the privilege of naming an arterial road in New Delhi after Archbishop Makarios.

Excellency, we feel a particular affinity for Cyprus. It is for this reason that we are saddened by the fact that your beautiful country continues to be tragically divided. We share your hopes and aspirations to see the island united. While reiterating India's support for the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non aligned status of Cyprus, we hope that the dialogue being conducted under the aegis of the Secretary General of the United Nations will result in a peaceful, equitable and mutually acceptable settlement.

Excellency, some positive developments have taken place in the world recently such as the signing of the INF Treaty, the Geneva Accords on Afghanistan and the ceasefire the Iran-Iraq war. The Nonaligned and Commonwealth summits are due to be held later this year and these will provide a timely occasion for furthering the process of detente and progress towards a non-violent world.

The very successful Nonaligned Ministerial Conference held in Nicosia last September heightened the stature and prestige of Cyprus and demonstrated its efficient organisational capability. The Conference was a significant landmark in so far as its recommendations would chart the direction which the Movement should take in the context of the rapidly evolving international situation. The Movement will have to constantly reassess global developments and the role of the movement so that it is able to better reflect the aspirations of its members and ressert its continuing relevance in the new global environment.

We commend Cyprus for having taken the initiative to establish a Ministerial Committee to examine inter alia the preparation and organisation of NAM meetings, the content and format of its documentation, forms and methods of action as well as the effectiveness of its instrumentalities. We are confident that the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee will constitute an important input for the deliberations of the NAM Summit in Belgrade.

The INF Treaty is only the first step. Our ultimate objective is comprehensive nuclear disarmament. The time-bound Action Plan on Disarmament presented by our Prime Minister at the Third Special Session of the United Nations on Disarmament with its binding commitment by all nations to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2010 represents. in our view, a comprehensive programme to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons on a more equitable basis than the existing Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The persecution of the people of South Africa by the racist regime through the abhorrent practice of apartheid persists. We believe that comprehensive mandatory sanctions are the only effective means to bring the racist regime to its senses.

The commencement of the process of Namibian independence has unfortunately -94>

been marked by unprecedented violence. The United Nations and the international community have a solemn responsibility to ensure that the agreecents reached are observed scrupulously, that the process of transition is peaceful and orderly and that elections to be held are manifestly free and fair.

Excellency, like you, we also have supported the struggle of the Palestinian people and have recognised the State of Palestine. The PLO has taken a number of constructive initiatives for an equitable Palestinian settlement and I trust that the parties will seize the opportunity to find a permanent solution.

We welcome the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The urgent requirement is that all parties should scrupulously respect the Geneva Accords in letter and in spirit and that the continuing bloodshed is halted. The Afghan people must themselves form a broad-based and representative Government of their choice without any foreign interference, thereby guaranteeing the independence and nonaligned status of the country.

Excellency, in our own region, we are committed to a policy of peace and friendship with all neighbours. The Indo Sri Lanka Accord which has demonstrated our commitment to the unity and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka has contributed significantly towards the restoration of ethnic harmony in that country.

Our Prime Minister paid important visits to China and Pakistan last December. We have agreed on a broad framework to build constructive relations with China and to resolve the outstanding border problem. The return of democracy in Pakistan is a welcome development. We have taken some initiatives to normalise relations with Pakistan and we hope that with a democratically elected Government in power in that country our efforts in this direction will evoke a positive response. These moves have demonstrated our determination to live in peace and amity with our neighbours.

Cyprus and India have enjoyed a warm and friendly relationship. I am confident that during your visit we would be able to impart an enhanced economic and cultural dimension to the excellent existing political relations and thereby further strengthen our bonds of friendship and understanding. In the next few days you will get a glimpse not only of our rich cultural heritage but also of the scientific, industrial and technological progress achieved by us in the four decades since our independence. May I wish you a very pleasant stay in our country.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I request you to raise your glasses to the health and well being of President and Madame Vassiliou; to the progress and prosperity of the people of Cyprus; and to the further consolidation of the friendly relations between Cyprus and India.

PRUS USA INDIA SWITZERLAND AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ YUGOSLAVIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA GREECE SRI LANKA CHINA PAKISTAN MALI

**Date** : Apr 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **CYPRUS**

India, Cyprus to Cooperate in Joint Ventures

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 13, 1989 on India-Cyprus cooperation in joint ventures:

India and Cyprus have agreed to cooperate in the setting up of joint ventures, including joint production and exports of goods to third country markets. This is in pursuance of the desire and consciousness of the need on both sides to strengthen, deepen and diversify trade relations and economic, scientific, technical and industrial cooperation between the two countries for their mutual

benefit. It has also been agreed that both sides will promote economic and industrial cooperation between their respective enterprises and organisations in various fields such as the design and construction of new industrial -95>

plants and equipment as well as expansion or modernisation of existing ones, including the small and medium industries. This is indicated in the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of India on economic, trade, scientifics and technical cooperation which was signed here today. The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, signed on behalf of the Government of India and the Cypriot Minister of Industry and Trade, Mr. T. Nemistsas, signed on behalf of the Government of Cyprus. The agreement was concluded following detailed discussions over the last two days between the Indian side and the 25-Member delegation led by the Cyprus President George Vassilou.

It has been decided to establish a Joint Committee consisting of representative of India and Cyprus, to promote fulfilment of the objectives of the Agreement. The Committee will meet as and when necessary to review the progress of implementation of this Agreement and to consider proposals which may be made by either side within the framework of the agreement to expand and diversify relations between India and Cyprus.

At the signing ceremony, Shri Dinesh Singh and Mr. Nemitsas underlined the immense potential for growth in 2-way trade which needed to be tapped. This was particularly important because of the opportunities offered by Cyprus as a gateway to West Europe, the EEC in particular as well as West Asia. Besides this, Cyprus being an important entrepot centre could be used as a distribution base for Indian exports through the setting up of warehouses. The level of trade with Cyprus has so far been meagre, though there has been some step-up this year. During 1987-88, two-way trade was around Rs. 6 crores, consisting of around Rs. 5 crores of exports to Cyprus.

Besides joint ventures, India and Cyprus have agreed to facilitate exchange of trade delegations, participation in each other's trade fairs, exchange of technical know-how, cooperation in the exploration and development of raw materials and minerals and exchange of experts in the fields of common interest.

Both sides emphasised the benefits of sharing scientific and technical knowledge and experience in promoting economic and trade relations.

The Agreement is to be valid for a period of three years. Its validity thereafter shall be automatically renewed for a period of 3-years each time unless either side gives to the other one month's notice in writing before the expiry of the period of the

Agreement.

#### PRUS USA INDIA

**Date**: Apr 13, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Days of Indian Culture in Czechoslovakia

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 26, 1989 on week-long manifestation of Indian culture in Czechoslovakia:

A week-long manifestation of Indian culture `Days of Indian Culture in Czechoslovakia' began with a glittering inaugural ceremony at the Palace of Culture in Prague last evening.

Speaking on the occasion the Minister of State for Education and Culture Shri L. P. Shahi said that it is through the bonds of cultural kinship that we can build up new bridges of love and understanding

-96>

and of peace and goodwill in the present day strifetorn world.

About the close cultural ties between India and Czechoslovakia, Shri Shahi said that these are based on many years of sharing common pursuits and concerns particularly in the commitments of the two countries to fight against colonialism, slavery and war.

Appreciating the deep interest shown by the Czech people in Indian culture, Shri Shahi told that such contacts between the two countries date back to centuries when universities in Czechoslovakia set up Indological studies. Czech translation of Indian classics and contemporary works has given these ties an abiding base of depth, intensity and warmth.

Shri Shahi said that this year marks the completion of thirty years of the signing of the Cultural Agreement between the two countries. These years have witnessed expanding of bonds and links between institutions, universities, linguists, artists and in the diverse fields of films, radio and television. He hoped that the current week of Indian culture in Czechoslovakia would represent the fragrance of flowering of these relations.

A 90 minute cultural show comprising of Manipuri and Kuchipudi dance recitals and instrumental music formed part of the inaugural ceremony.

## RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA CZECH REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Apr 26, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

India and West Germany Sign Financial Cooperation Agreement for 1989

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 12, 1989 on the signing of the Financial Cooperation Agreement between India and West Germany:

The Financial Cooperation Agreement for the year 1989 between the Government of India and the Government of Federal Republic of Germany was signed, here today, by the Finance Secretary, Shri G. K. Arora and Dr. Konarad Seitz, Ambassador of Federal Republic of Germany, on behalf of their respective Governments. The agreement covers a total amount of DM 375 million (Rs. 312 crore) of financial assistance extended by the FRG to India on extremely soft terms. The loan carries an interest of 0.75 per cent per annum with 40 years repayment period including 10 years' grace

Apart from DM 375 million covered under soft loan agreement, FRG is also to provide DM 80 million for local cost projects. In addition, the FRG will provide DM 45 million as technical assistance grants and DM 267 million as export credit during 1989. FRG has also agreed to provide DM 5 million for local cost projects in the environment and forest sector. The total assistance during 1989 would thus be around DM 773 million (Rs. 644 crore app).

The total volume of aid committed by FRG to India since 1958 to date is around DM 12000 million (Rs. 10,000 crore appox.). FRG is the second largest bilateral donor -- only after Japan and countrywise India is the largest beneficiary of aid from the FRG.

The financial assistance from FRG can be used not only for import of goods and services of German origin, but also for local cost social development projects in the fields of rural water supply, agricul-

ture, housing, environment and forestry. The share of local cost projects as a percentage of total aid package is around 20 per cent this year. The major local cost projects to be covered under this year's assistance would be West Bengal Rural Water Supplies, Rehabilitation of Catchment basins in Karnataka, Kashipur Sewerage project and HUDCO Building Centres.

The financial assistance committed this year together with export credit would be used for new projects, apart from providing additional assistance to onging projects. The new projects covered are Dadri Combined Gas Steam Power Plant, Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant, 30 MW Thermal Solar Power Plant and Chinakuri Pit-coal Colliery.

The assitance provided also covers import of capital goods, general commodity aid and credit through financial institutions.

RMANY INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA JAPAN CHINA

**Date**: Apr 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Joint Committee on Shipping

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 29, 1989 on Indo-GDR Joint Committee on Shipping:

The 5th Session of Indo-GDR Inter-Governmental Joint Committee on Shipping will be held in GDR from May 2-5, 1989. The Indian delegation will be led by Shri P. M. Abraham, Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport who is the Co-Chairman of the Joint Committee. The GDR delegation will be led by Dr. H. Rentner, Deputy Minister of Transport.

This Joint Committee has been set up in pursuance of the Inter-Governmental Shipping Agreement signed on January 9, 1979. The Joint Committee will review the working of the bilateral shipping agreement and transportation of general cargo and bulk cargo between the two countries. Adoption of new transport technology with reference to container transportation and participation of Indian lines in the third country trades of GDR will also be discussed.

During the year 1988 about 73,000 tonnes of cargo moved between the two countries and Indian lines had earned about 3.5 million US \$ in the transportation of general Cargoes. The main bulk commodity transported to GDR is iron ore which is about 7 lakh tonnes per year.

-98>

#### DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: Apr 29, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HOME AND ABROAD

Pakistan's Nuclear Programme and Military Build-up CausesConcern

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 17, 1989 on the Annual Report of the Ministry of Defence for the year 1988-89:

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Defence for the year 1988-89 speaks of greater stability in the countries of our neighbourhood and consequential lessening of our security concerns.

The year under review registered a progressive improvement in the international security environment and a marked shift from confrontation to dialogue. There was greater stability in the countries of our neighbourhood and consequential lessening of our security concerns. The global security scenario changed for the better during 1988, with the resolve to attain peace being much more in evidence. The new thinking sought to be introduced by Soviet President Gorbachev, which emphasises the interdependence of States and seeks security through comprehensive cooperation covering all aspects of human living, has in fact been consistently advocated by India as an imperative of our times.

The report says that the signing of the INF Treaty during 1988, the apex level interactions between super powers and other important countries, the end of the eight year old suicidal strife between Iran and Iraq and other positive initiatives taken by the super powers gave a boost to efforts towards peace. In this context, President Gorbachev's unilateral offer of a sizeable cut in the Soviet defence forces and deployment of conventional weapon systems in Western Europe is a welcome gesture. Notwithstanding the subdued reaction in some of the

Western capitals that the cut offered is insufficient, the Soviet proposal is a confidence-building measure of great import and a significant step forward in the right direction.

There are a number of other developments which promise peace and stability in many troubled regions of the globe. These include, the new Soviet initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region, the forthcoming Sino-Soviet Summit, the improving prospects of a settlement in Kampuchea and the growing recognition of the need to convene the proposed international conference to declare the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The renunciation by the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) of terrorism in all its aspects and their recognition of Israel's right to exist, the US willingness to open a direct dialogue with the PLO are further indications of this positive trend, as also the accelerating pace of Namibia's independence.

According to the annual report a significant new beginning in improving relations between China and India was initiated by the visit of the Prime Minister to China and exchange of views between the two countries at the highest political level. Both countries reiterated the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence embodied in the concept of Panchsheel, and stressed the importance of settling the outstanding issue of the boundary through peaceful and friendly negotiations so as to arrive at a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement. It was also decided to set up a Joint Working Group to go into all aspects of the boundary question and oversee the maintenance of peace and tranquillity sought by both countries on the India-China border. At the same time, agreements were signed to enhance cooperation between the two countries in Civil Aviation, Science and Technology and Culture. These developments hold -99>

promise for continuing improvement in India-China relations.

China has continued to make progress in its modernisation programmes, including its military capabilities. Significant progress in upgrading military technology, professional capabilities and combat potential is claimed by them. The expansion of Chinese naval capabilities, especially with respect to power projection, was noteworthy. China continues to augment its military infrastructure and logisties in Tibet apart from maintaining significantly high force levels generally and inducting qualitatively superior equipment. It also claimed to have successfully exercised its military formations in different aspects of combat, including chemical warfare in Tibet.

There are some other disquieting features as well. China resorted to the use of force in trying to resolve the dispute concerning the Spratley. Islands. Its policy of arms supply to the countries of southern Asia has the potential to adversely affect the security environment in the region. China's sale of intermediate

range ballistic missiles to Saudi Arabia has also been a cause of some concern. However, these developments may be viewed in the ovrall perspective of the other positive trends towards improving India-China relations and the resolve of both countries to maintain peace and good neighbourly conduct.

According to the report, the emergence oi a democratically elected civil government in Pakistan is another event of import, justifying cautious optimism for a period of improved and more enduring Indo-Pak relationship. Both nations have emphasised the need for good neighbourly relations and have expressed their resolve to work for this objective in accordance with the spirit of the Simla Agreement. The agreement for not attacking each other's nuclear facilities signed by the two countries, within a month of the new Government taking over in Pakistan, provides a basis for developing further confidence building measures.

Despite these positive developments, Pakistan's weapons-oriented nuclear programme and its on-going military build-up continue to cause concern. The US, despite its declared policy that nuclear proliferation would lead to a cut off of aid, apparently remains committed, in the case of Pakistan to its massive \$ 4.02 billion economic and military aid package for the period 1987-1993. Along with the substantial quantitative expansion of its armed forces, Pakistan has been acquiring sophisticated weapon systems, in its quest to achieve qualitative advantage in the region. Apart from acquiring high technology weapon systems from the US and other Western sources, it has brought about a significant upgradation of its existing weaponry in collaboration with USA, China and other countries. Pakistan also continues its quest for highly sophisticated force multiplier systems like the AWACS and major combat systems like the M-1 Abrams. The recent acquisition of naval missiles which have a range of about 100 kms. poses potential threat to our vital 'on-shore' and 'off-shore' installations. This has compelled India to focus attention on anti-submarine defence. The newly elected Government in Pakistan has enhanced by 9.9% the budgetary allocation for defence during the year, over the revised estimates of 1987-88. The Government view with concern reports about growing Pak security linkages with US CENTCOM and also with its erstwhile CENTO partners.

Pakistan's support for terrorist activities directed against India the large-scale drug traffic and extensive proliferation of arms, substantial portions of which are believed to have been diverted from US supplies for the Afghan resistance groups in Pakistan, continue to cause grave concern. They tend to provide linkages between external and internal threats to our security. The new Prime Minister of Pakistan has, however, indicated a willingness to address some of these concerns.

The signing of the Geneva accords in April 1988, raised hopes of an early

-100>

peaceful political settlement of the Afghan issue. The Soviet Union withdrew 50% of its troops from Afghanistan by 15 August, as stipulated in the Geneva accords and as promised, she has withdrawn the last Soviet soldier by 15 February, 1989. However, Pakistan and Afghanistan accused each other of violating the accords. The Mujahideen, who were not a party to the accords, rejected them altogether. The security situation in Afghanistan deteriorated as the Mujahideen launched rocket attacks on Kabul and gained control of five provinces of Afghanistan as well as some territory in other provinces. They were also able to disrupt road traffic to Kabul. The Soviets, in a major political concession to the Mujahideen, opened direct negotiations with them on the question of the creation of a broadbased government in Afghanistan with the representation of all factions, including the PDPA.

However, these efforts did not succeed and the politico-military situation in Afghanistan did not improve. The objective of India's policy on Afghanistan is to ensure that it should be a sovereign, independent and non-aligned country with full freedom to its people to determine the nature and the form of their government without interference. India has age-old ties with the people of Afghanistan and is committed to providing assistance for the rehabilitation of the Afghan refugees through bilateral and international channels. India continued to be in touch with all shades of Afghan opinion on the Afghanistan issue.

While the long and crippling war between Iran and Iraq has ended, the final solution to the outstanding problems between the two countries continues to elude them. The subsisting uneasy peace between them is nevertheless welcome, as it provides both the countries with the opportunity and the resources to initiate the desperately needed process of reconstructing their warravaged economies. Considering the high stakes of a number of countries in the Gulfregion, cessation of hostilities in this part of the world has led to an all-round diminution of tensions.

Further West, the Palestinian issue seems to have moved nearer a solution after the Algiers meet. Subsequent events, like the shift in UN General Assembly Session venue from New York to Geneva to hear the PLO Chief and the initiation of direct negotiations by the United States with the PLO, show the extent of the world-wide support for the latter's cause and the results that enlightened international public opinion can achieve. PLO's recognition of Israel's right to exist and its renunciation of terrorism in all its forms, raise hopes for an amicable settlement of this tangled problem.

The report says that in Sri Lanka, the IPKF achieved remarkable successes. Notable amongst them are the containment of LTTE terrorism in the Northern and Eastern provinces and the successful completion of the Provincial, Presidential and

Parliamentary elections, despite serious threats posed by the JVP and LTTE to disrupt the electoral process. The turn-out in these elections was considerably higher than in many established democracies. India's basic objective in sending its forces to Sri Lanka was to preserve its democratic set-up and territorial integrity, seriously threatened by various militant groups, and to ensure that the legitimate aspirations of its Tamil minorities were not neglected in the governance of that country. These objectives have been achieved in a large measure. The withdrawal of IPKF, however, would have to be coordinated with normalisation of conditions in Sri Lanka and the progressive implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord.

Towards the end of the year 1988, a serious threat suddenly developed in the Maldives, when hired mercenaries attempted to over-throw the democratically elected Government of that country. India responded to the specific Maldivian request for help promptly and ensured that the attempted coup was foiled within a matter

-101>

of hours and the stability in the Indian Ocean region remained undisturbed. The Indian action in Maldives was universally welcomed. It decisively demonstrated the ability of the countries of the SAARC region to help each other without relying on outside powers.

Burma witnessed political and economic turmoil following Gen Ne Win's abdication of power, U Nu's announcement of an interim Government and the subsequent coup by the Army. Despite the Army's assurance to hold multi-party-based elections, the country continues to face serious upheaval. The present uncertain conditions in Burma have obvious security implications for India.

The situation in Bangladesh appears to have stabilised after the Presidential elections, held in March last year. However, with the passage of the Bill on Islamization, the sense of insecurity amongst the minorities has increased. The Chakma refugee problem continues to remain unresolved.

The military forces in the Arabian Sea-Persian Gulf region of the Indian Ocean which had reached unprecedented levels in 1987, started to reduce during this year. However, the continued presence of extra-regional military forces in the Indian Ocean and the maintenance of military command structures like the US CENTCOM continue to be a negative factor in the security environment of the region. The dimension of nuclear weapons and delivery systems deployment in the Indian Ocean is of particular concern. The countries of the Asia-Pacific region all appear to be strengthening their military capabilities.

Research and development in new and emerging military technologies continue at an accelerating pace in many developed countries, presaging a new arms race. Developing countries can ill-afford to divert their scarce resources from development to defence. There is a need to jointly explore the concept of Defence technology sufficiency so that the developments in these areas, in excess of the present requirements, are not given unnecessary boost.

The report says that despite such negative factors, the overall improvement in the international climate while posing some challenges, provide significant opportunities for strengthening peace and security with immense potential for creating a new world order. The psychological gains of this new climate are widespread and conducive to improving the global security environment. The important new initiatives taken in the recent past would have to be sustained and strengthened so that they can be translated into concrete measures for bringing about disarmament and durable peace. It is a matter of satisfaction that the emerging detente between the USA and the USSR, as evidenced in the Moscow Communique, is aimed at helping parties to regional conflicts find peaceful solutions which advance their independence, freedom and security and also emphasises the importance of enhancing the capacity of the United Nations and other international institutions to contribute to the resolution of regional conflicts. This approach is consistent with the aims and objectives of the Non-aligned Movement and the policy of the Government of India.

## **DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES**

The Department of Defence Production and Supplies has been functioning as the instrument of the Government to achieve self-reliance in Defence production, through a network of 35 Ordnance Factories, 8 Defence Public Sector Undertakings and by mobilising production capabilities in the civil sector industry.

## ORDNANCE FACTORIES

Gross production (including interfactory demands) in Ordnance Factories registered an impressive increase, from Rs. 1359 crores during 1985-86 to Rs. 2140
-102>

crores during 1988-89, and issues increased from Rs. 920 crores in 1985-86 to Rs. 1435 crores in 1988-89. The high-technology items productionised in Ordnance Factories since 1985-86 include night vision devices for the recoiless gun and tanks, sighting equipment for anti-tank weapons, high strength aluminium alloy rocket tubes, colour and smoke shells for artillery, ammunition for 23 mm Schilka guns, 23 mm ghasha inert ammunition and 105 mm light field gun. The new Ordnance Factory at Medak commenced production of infantry Combat Vehicle `Sarath' and its first vehicle rolled out in August, 1987. A new tank called T-72 M I (AJAY) entered the production stage at the Avadi Factory, in

January, 1988. Ordnance Factories supplied the propellant used in the Prithvi missile launched in February, 1988.

#### DEFENCE PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

The total production in the 8 Defence Public Sector Undertakings increased from Rs. 1810 crore during 1985-86 to Rs. 2056 crore in 1987-88 and is estimated at Rs. 2346 crore for 1988-89. Consequent upon an increase in net profits, the Defence PSUs are expected to declare a dividend of Rs. 19 crore for the year 1988-89, as against Rs. 16 crore in 1985-86. Some of the significant achievements of the Defence Public Sector Undertakings during the last 4 years are:

- i) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. assembled the first Dornier 228 aircraft for Vayudoot. The first Jaguar aircraft was manufactured from the raw material phase and delivered by HAL in 1987-88. The first flight model of Indian Remote Satellite structure was delivered to ISRO in 1986.
- ii) Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. introduced a number of new products which included 10 Cu M mining shovel; 6.1 Cu M and 9.5 Cu M hydraulic excavators; 66 HP & 165 HP Bulldozers; 60-T Bottom Dumpers; 85-T, 120T and 170T Dump Trucks; 300 HP Wheeled Dozer; 3.1 Cu M WA 400 Loader; transmissions and final drives for ICV BMP II vehicles and BEML-TATRA heavy duty trucks. In addition, Aircraft Towing Tractors were delivered to IAF and the first BEML-TATRA heavy duty vehicle was manufactured by BEML in January, 1988. On 31 March 1989 BEML handed over to the Indian Railways two indigenously developed equipment viz. Overhead Electric Inspection Car (OHE) and Tracklaying Equipment (TLE). The OHE order was won in response to a global tender in competition with renowned foreign suppliers, while the TLE was developed by BEML ahead of another firm which has collaboration with a foreign company.
- iii) Mazagon Dock Ltd. (MDL) delivered 2 Godavari class frigates and the Cadet Training Ship, INS TIR, to the Navy. It installed 3 Jackets, 2 Process Platforms, 4 Main Decks and 2 Helidecks offshore, 83 Kms of infield pipeline and 13 risers for the ONGC in 1985-86. In 1988-89, MDL handed over the first Jackup Rig, 'Sagar Kiran' to ONGC. Garden Reach Shipbuilders Engineers Ltd. (GRSE) delivered Landing Ship, INS MAGAR, to the Navy besides 5 other ships, offshore Platform Support-cum-Standby vessel and 1 Bulk Carrier MV LOK PRATIMA. Similarly, more than 20 vessels were manufactured and delivered by Goa Shipyards Ltd.
- iv) Mishra Dhatu Nigam (MIDHANI) succeeded in developing, for the first time in the country, a premier grade maraging steel required for critical application in the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle. It is the sole supplier of molybdenum wire for the lamp -103>

industry in India. (It has commenced regular production of special steel for T-72 Tanks. It has also perfected a new process for the manufacture of Trail Tubes required for the field gun.

- v) Bharat Dynamics Ltd delivered the first batch of 122 mm Grad rockets and commenced phased indigenous production of a second generation anti-tank guided missile Milan.
- vi) Bharat Electronics Ltd. produced and supplied to the Armed Forces various critical equipments such as HF and VHF Communication Transmitters and Receivers, VHF, UHF and Microwave Radio Relay Equipmens, Troposcatter Equipments, Static and Mobile Radars for he Army, Radar and Communication Systems for Air Defence and Naval installations and ships, Vapour Cooled 45 KW Transmitting Tube and ICs and HMCs for telecommunication application. During 1988-89 Panchkula, Kotdwara and Taloja units of BEL went into commercial production. BEL has continued to receive awards for excellence in quality and productivity. Recently, it supplied to the Indian Air Force a low level radar, named INDRA, which incorporates many sophisticated features and state-of-the art technology.

#### CIVIL SECTOR

The civil sector industry, comprising both the Public and the Private Sector, is playing a complementary role in our efforts towards achieving self-reliance. It is the Governments' policy to utilise the total industrial infrastructure in the country, encompassing the defence and the civil sectors. Apart from components and spares, the civil sector units are also being entrusted with the production of complex assemblies subassemblies of sophisticated equipment. A large number of assemblies sub-assemblies of BMP vehicles and T-72 tank have been allocated to the civil sector units for development and productionisation. Many of these have already been developed and productionised.

There has been a progressive increase in the level of ordering on the civil sector for ab-initio development of items since 1985-86. The value of orders placed by the Supplies Wing of the Deptt. of Defence Production & Supplies for ab-initio development has thus increased from about Rs. 200 crore in 1985-86 to Rs. 214 crore in 1986-87 and to Rs. 229 crore in 1987-88.

## DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The achievements in the field of defence research and development during the past four years have been significant. Notable successes include the development of Low Level Tracking Radar (INDRA). Integrated Electronic Warfare Systen (AJANTA) for Naval use; Communication Equipment for Army's Plan AREN networks; night vision devices; a new family of light weight Small Arms of 5.56 mm calibre; Cluster Weapon System for MIG-21 Aircraft; Bridge

Layer Tank; Military Bridging System capable of withstanding Tank-load; Flight Simulators for Ajeet and Kiran Aircrafts; advanced metals, alloys, ceremics and composites for Defence use; Advanced Ship Sonars Systems, Sonobouys, and Electronic Counter measure Rocket for ship defence.

Several high technology projects are in various stages of design and development. These include Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme, Main Battle Tank (Arjun), Pilotless Target Aircraft (PTA), Gas Turbine Engine (GTX) and its variant for LCA, manufacture of FSAPDS ammunition etc. The successful completion of these projects would contribute significantly towards self-reiance in these de critical defence technology areas.

-104>

#### WELFARE SCHEMES

Welfare measures for the armed forces have received the highest attention of the Government. The ages of retirement of Major Arms and Services, Minor Corps and Special List Officers in the Army have been reviewed to prescribe a single age of retirement. Earlier, the case of every officer had to be reviewed one year before his minimum retirement age, creating avoidable uncertainty and anxiety towards the end of his service.

In accordance with the recommendations of the IV Central Pay Commission, pay packets, pensions and frings benefits of the Service personnel have been substantially improved. In order to ensure speedy sanctions, the processing of pension cases has been computerised in respect of armed forces personnel below the officer rank. The facility has also been extended for sanctioning pensionary benefits to Defence civilians in selected Units. Resultantly, nearly 1.5 lakh revision of pension cases of post January, 1986 retires were finaised within a short period of four to five months.

The Pension Adalat system has been introduced for on-the-spot redressal of pensioners' grievances. 10 Pension Adalats have so far been held and 70% of the approximately 2500 petitions received were settled on the spot.

## RE-SETTLEMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN

Presently there are about four million ex-Servicemen in the country. Approximately 50,000 other ranks and 1,200 officers retire annually. To assist these personnel in making a smooth switch over to civilian life suitable resettlement assistance is being provided to them. This includes support for securing employment, establishing self-employment and for receiving training.

The rehabilitation of the retired Defence personnel has been

accorded high priority by Government. The emphasis in recent years has been on promoting self-employment ventures amongst ex-Servicemen. Under the Self Employment for ex-Servicemen (SEMEEX) I Scheme, the Directorate General of Resettlement, in collaboration with the Industrial Development Bank of India, provide entreprenurial training, financial assistance and seed capital on easy terms to ex-Servicemen entrepreneurs. Under SEMEX-II, in collaboration with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, loans are provided to ex-Servicemen for agricultural and allied activities, including agro-based industries.

#### INDIAN ARMY

During the year under review, the Indian Army has demonstrated its versatility in providing assistance to the Government of Maldives and Sri Lanka, which received wide appreciation. The Indian army also guarded its land frontiers effectively, apart from rendering support to civil authorities in providing relief in the face of natural calamities.

The army has progressively modernised its weapon system and equipment to keep abreast with the latest technology. Its emphasis has been on force multipliers including electronic warfare capabilities. To increase its fire power, the army has modernised its tanks and infantry combat vehicles. The older generation of artillery guns are being phased out and replaced with indigenously developed and produced light field guns.

The Territorial Army, raised in 1949 is today an effective second line of Defence. One Infantry Battalion of TA was inducted to serve with the IPKF. Its units are now serving in Railways, General Hospitals, ONGC etc. apart from serving as ecological task force.

## INDIAN NAVY

During 1988-89, four ships, three submarines and 8 TU-142 M long range Maritime Patrol and Anti-submarine Warfare aircrafts were inducted. The College of -105>

Naval Warfare, a Mobile Coastal Batteries Complex and a Submarine Squadron were also established. Modernisation projects were taken up at the Naval Dockyard at Bombay and Visakhapatnam.

Apart from providing tactical and logistic support for operation in the Palk Bay and off the Eastern Coast of Sri Lanka, the Navy provided sea-lift with the assistance of chartered merchant ships, to personnel, vehicles and stores from Madras to Trincomalee Kankesanthurai. One of the most important task the Navy performed during the year was the interception of the mercenary ship MV 'Progress Light' used by mercenaries for the

attempted coup in Maldives. The Indian Navy captured the mercenaries and released the hostages.

#### COAST GUARD

Vajra, an Offshore Patrol Vessel constructed by Mazagon Dock Ltd. and eight intercept crafts were inducted into service during the year.

Twenty-four foreign fishing vessels alongwith 353 crew members were apprehended by various Coast Guard ships for illegal fishing in the martitime zones of the country from March 88 to January 89. Contraband worth approximately Rs. 61.33 crores was seized by Coast Guard ships during the period between February 88 and January 89.

#### INDIAN AIR FORCE

During the year the Indian Air Force effectively demonstrated its strategic airlift capability by swiftly airlifting the troops in tackling the situation arising out of the attempted coup in Maldives. The IAF also continued to provide essential logistic support to the IPKF in Sri Lanka. It was engaged in the airmaintenance of distant outposts and in assisting the civil administration in times of need.

In the combat fleet category, indigenous manufacture of MIG 27 aircraft at HAL and their induction in the combat squadrons, is continuing. Similarly the induction programme of IL-76, heavy transport aircraft, Dornier light transport aircraft is also progressing.

A number of preventive measures have been instituted to improve flight safety and minimise losses which includes new training schemes for pilots and technical personnel, defects investigation and reduce bird menace within its area of control.

KISTAN USA INDIA IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL NAMIBIA CHINA SAUDI ARABIA SWITZERLAND AFGHANISTAN ALGERIA SRI LANKA MALI MALDIVES BURMA BANGLADESH CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU RUSSIA LATVIA

**Date**: Apr 17, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

#### Shri K. C. Pant Reiterates India's Commitment to Peace

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 29, 1989 on the concluding remarks of the Indian Defence Minister at the International Conference on Co-operation for Peace and Security and Development in Asia Pacific Region:

The Defence Minister Shri K. C. Pant has reiterated India's commitment to peace and tranquality. Making concluding remarks at the 3-day International Conference on Cooperation for Peace, Security and Development in Asia Pacific Region in the global context organised by the International Institute for Asia-Pacific Studies here today, Shri Pant emphasised that India has never used military power for national aggrandisement and India has no territorial ambitions.

-106>

He pointed out that India was criticised in neglecting her defence when she suffered serious setbacks in 1960's. This, he asserted, compelled us to earmark somewhat larger resources for defence. Yet, when compared with the Defence expenditure of most major countries in the world, India's defence expenditure of under 4 per cent of her Gross Domestic Product and around 18 per cent of Central Government's expenditure was a low figure.

Shri Pant clarified that India has a long and disputed land border and long coastline besides off-shore oil platforms and other assets which are critical to her survival. She has island territories and a very large and extensive exclusive economic zone with great potential. India thus makes a modest effort to safeguard her interests, he said.

Shri Pant emphasised that regional cooperation was important to reduce tensions and expenditure on armaments in this region. He expressed his happiness that some worthwhile beginnings through South East Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) have been made, in this direction. Eventually, all countries will have to accept the logic of regional cooperation to reduce the scope of tension, he said, and added that there was no real alternative to that.

DIA USA

**Date**: Apr 29, 1989

# **Volume No**

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

## ITC Assistance for India Trade Centre Suggested

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 27, 1989 on I.T.C. assistance for India Trade Centre:

International Trade Centre (ITC), Geneva, is willing to consider the possibility of providing technical assistance by way of expert advice and guidance for setting up the India Trade Centre. This was indicated by Mr. G. Engblom, Executive Director of ITC, Geneva, UNCTAD/GATT, when he called on the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, here last evening. Mr. Engblom was responding to a suggestion made by the Minister that this could be considered as a possible area of cooperation with ITC. Such a Centre could help considerably in the expansion of exports by providing a focal point for effective dissemination of trade information as well as regular interaction between Indian exporters and the importers abroad. Shri Singh said that the possibility of greater cooperation in the area of quality control to enable the industry to match international standards could also be considered.

Mr. Engblom, who is on a week's visit to India, was accompanied by Mr. R. T. Griffiths, Chief of the Asia and Pacific Division, ITC. He apprised the Minister of the activities of ITC, which is the nodal agency in the UN, jointly operated by UNCTAD/GATT, for assisting developing countries in the area of export development, and expressed satisfaction at the progress of ongoing ITC projects in India. He indicated that such technical cooperation programmes could be expanded further as some of the donor countries such as the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) were likely to provide more funds.

Referring to the global trade scenario, Shri Dinesh Singh expressed concern over the possible negative implications of the integration of European Economic Community (EEC) by 1992 for exports of developing countries. While it may not be a Fortress Europe in the legal sense, the Minister cautioned that there might be many invisible barriers as larger enterprises would emerge in Europe with the consequent reduction in manufacturing costs. This could not merely mean more competition for developing countries but also the possibility of EEC countries switching to their EEC partners for some of the import requirements which they -107>

might currently be purchasing from the developing countries. He said all efforts would have to be made to meet the challenges arising out of the emergence of new economic groupings. Mr. Engblom agreed that an answer would have to be found to ensure that the share of the developing countries was not eroded.

The ITC representatives stressed the scope for cooperation in several new areas, including manufactured goods, processed foods, computer software and export packaging. They said in the field of computer software India had the potential to become the world's leading supplier. Similarly, India is ideally placed because of its climatic and locational advantage to export processed foods and other agricultural items in much larger quantities to the international market. Regarding manufactured goods, Shri Dinesh Singh said the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) would be asked to identify specific products which could be taken up for cooperation with ITC.

ITC's ongoing projects in India under its technical cooperation programme cover export development of several product groups including carved wood products from Saharanpur (UP), woollen knitwear from Ludhiana, spices from Kerala and the North-East and coir floor coverings from Alleppy, Kerala. Earlier, Mr. Engblom also held discussions on the progress of projects as well as the new areas of cooperation with the Commerce Secretary, Shri A. N. Varma, Finance Secretary, Shri G. K. Arora and the Industries Secretary, Smt. Otima Bordia.

DIA SWITZERLAND USA RUSSIA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Apr 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Smt. Mohsina Kidwai's Address at UNCHS Meet

The following is the text of a press. release issued in New Delhi on Apr 25, 1989 on Smt. Mohsina Kidwai's address at UNCHS Meet:

Smt. Mohsina Kidwai, Minister of Urban Development, has described the historic resolution on the 'Globar Shelter Strategy to the Year 2000' adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements (UNCHS) at its 11th Session in New Delhi last year and its equally momentous endorsement by the U.N. General Assembly, as landmarks in the history of human settlements.

Speaking as the outgoing Chairperson at the inaugural function of the 12th Session of the UNCHS at Cartagena in Colombia on April 24, 1989, Smt. Kidwai observed that the orderly movement from the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987 to the resolution on the Global Shelter Strategy at New Delhi in 1988,

and the further transition to the arena of action at Cartagena depicted the positive progress towards the new world order on the shelter front. She said several countries were preparing their national shelter strategy with the technical cooperation of the Commission and India had already formulated a National Housing Policy in May 1988.

A high level delegation led by Smt. Kidwai will be representing India at the 12th Session being held from April 24 to May 3, 1989. Other members will include Shri Dalbir Singh, Minister of State for Urban Development, Shri K. C. Sivaramakrishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Smt. Manorama Bhalla, India's permanent representative at the UNCHS headquarters and High Commissioner in Nairobi, and Shri P.S.A. Sundarama, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development. The current Session will, among other things, consider the Global Shelter Strategy plan of action, proposals for monitoring the implementation of the Strategy and financial implications.

Smt. Kidwai said that there was need for new understanding of the shelter pro -108>

blem, a major shift in attitudes towards people, a new definition of the house, a new role for the traditional housing agencies and a new vision of housing for the poor. It had now to be decided, individually, as Governments or collectively as an international community, what to do next; whether the promise that the Global Strategy held out should be given a chance for fulfilment, or fade away into emptiness like many such pious hopes. They had the choice to ensure that the dream of the poor for shelter with dignity did not remain a dream, she added.

The international community, Smt. Kidwai said, was agitated, and naturally so, over such global issues like nuclear disarmament, world debt crisis and serious imbalances in the eco-system. These issues were integrally related to more pervasive problem of poverty. She said they were concerned about distortions in the access of different sections of the population to affordable shelter and income-earning opportunities.

Smt. Kidwai commended the efforts of the UNCHS in bringing together nations in varied circumstances, on a common platform in order to agree on common aims for creating an enabling environment for access to decent and liveable shelter to all humanity within a definite time-frame. The Global Shelter Strategy in fact had emerged as a response to a need of the Governments for a sound framework within which concrete time-bound action could be taken to tackle the problem of homelessness and inadequate shelter.

The enabling approach, on which the shelter strategy was based, implied that the State concentrated on those aspects of shelter

production and delivery which it was uniquely able to provide, and which people could not easily provide for themselves, while at the same time removing constraints to housing activity by a variety of actors outside the public sector, the Minister said.

#### DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC COLOMBIA KENYA

**Date**: Apr 25, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **JAPAN**

Indo-Japanese talks on Air Services

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 27, 1989 on Indo-Japanese Agreement on Air Services:

Air-India in order to meet the traffic demand between India and Japan, Will operate two more services per week of the capacity of A-310 or one service of the capacity of B-747, in addition to the present four B-747 operations to Japan.

This was agreed to at the air services talks held recently between India and Japan in Tokyo. A civil aviation delegation led by Shri S.K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism participated in the air negotiations with Japanese authorities on behalf of India. The Japanese delegation was led by Mr. Kiyoshi Tarashima, of International Transport and Tourism Bureau (ITTB).

For growing traffic between India and Japan, Air-India has been seeking additional capacity to operate to Japan for quite some time. The main reason as to why more operations are not possible to

-109>

Japan is because of severe constraint of time slots at Narita airport.

Air-India has already introduced a direct service between Delhi and Tokyo as a part of the programme of product improvement and to carry tourist traffic out of Japan. It is expected that a further review will be made later when the timeslot position of Japan airport improves.

**Date**: Apr 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

**NEPAL** 

India Not Obstructing Essential Commodities Supply to Nepal

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 07, 1989 on Indian Supplies to Nepal:

India will not obstruct normal import of any commodity into Nepal from India or any third country, through normal trade channel. This was clarified to the Ambassador of Nepal in India by Revenue Secretary, Dr. Nitish Sen Gupta when the Nepalese Ambassador called on the Revenue Secretary last evening.

The Ambassador had drawn attention of the Revenue Secretary to difficulties being faced by Nepalese citizens in getting essential articles like medicines, salt etc. imported into Nepal through two functioning checkposts at Raxaul and Jogbani.

The Secretary (Revenue) informed the Nepalese Ambassador that the Government had already directed a senior Government of India Officer to fly to Raxaul and report on the difficulties emerging after the termination of the Indo-Nepal Trade and Transit Treaty and to remove procedural difficulties faced by local officials.

PAL INDIA

**Date**: Apr 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Namibia

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official

Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, in New Delhi on Apr 04, 1989:

In reply to a question, the Official Spokesman said that we deplore violence which has erupted in Namibia. If the re-ports which say that South Africans have been bombing civilians, are true, we deplore it. We are checking these reports. The UN Secretary General has said that these people came from outside Namibia. SWAPO, on the other hand, had said that they were people living in Namibia. What is clear is that the South Africans are res

ponsible for conducting and supervising the electoral process and for containing violence in Namibia. They should know that violence does not help the fragile situation there, and that elections should be held in a free and fair manner.

MIBIA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date**: Apr 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

-110>

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Kampuchea

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Apr 06, 1989:

We welcome the important statement of the three Indo-China States as a significant contribution to the peace process in Kampuchea. The announcement of withdrawal of Vietnamese troops by September, 1989, should indeed be linked to ensuring the non-return of Pol Pot, the cessation of arms supplies to the Kampuchean factions and an end to foreign interference as has been proposed by Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos.

This announcement should facilitate an early political resolution of the Kampuchean problem. We have always maintained that such problems can be solved only through political means. We have welcomed the Sihanouk-Hun Sen dialogue, the JIM process as well as the initiative taken by the nonaligned countries on the Kampuchean question. We regard these as complementary. We would continue consultations with all concerned so as to promote a

negotiated political solution. We are glad that the Sihanouk-Hun Sen meeting on May 2 will be followed by a high level meeting of the Working Groups of the Kampuchean factions by the end of May or early June.

We seek to ensure the long standing objective of a sovereign independent and nonaligned Kampuchea which would promote peace, stability and cooperation in the region.

In reply to a question whether the ICC will be under the United Nations, the Spokesman said that the proposal was being carefully studied. In the light of that study and further consultations, it may become possible to suggest the precise form which the proposed international control machinery should take.

DIA CHINA VIETNAM LAOS UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Apr 06, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Pakistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Apr 10, 1989:

In reply to a question, the Spokesman said that Mr. Aitzaz Ahsan, Special Envoy of the Pakistan Prime Minister is in Delhi and is scheduled to meet Prime Minister either today or tomorrow. He has brought a letter from his Prime Minister addressed to our Prime Minister. He is here for the Asian seat of the International Court of Justice. There are three candidates for the Asian seat, one each from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. He met External Affairs Minister this morning. They discussed the question of the candidature for the ICJ and the whole range of Indo-Pakistan bilateral relations. The Home Secretaries are going to meet next month in Islamabad. The Home Minister is hosting a dinner for him.

-111>

KISTAN INDIA USA SRI LANKA

**Date**: Apr 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Apr 11, 1989:

Government welcomes President Gorbachev's announcement in London on the 7th April, 1989, of the decision of the Soviet Union to cease the production, from this year, of enriched weapon-grade uranium. This is a major advance towards halting the nuclear arms race. The qualitative significance of this decision goes much beyond the quantities involved.

We hope that the Soviet initiative would lead to all the nuclear weapon States agreeing to a complete cut-off in the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes. India has for long advocated the cessation of the production of weapongrade fissionable material by all the nuclear weapon States, as constituting an important step towards halting the nuclear arms race. We have piloted several resolutions on the subject in the UN General Assembly and have included it as an integral part of our three-phase Action Plan for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

It is a matter of particular satisfaction to us that in his speech in London the leader of one of the most important nuclear weapon States has reiterated the need to do away with the doctrine of nuclear deterrence and to completely eliminate nuclear weapons, the objectives that constitute the very core of India's disarmament policy, duly reflected in the Action Plan.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date**: Apr 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Afghanistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Apr 12, 1989:

We have seen continuing press reports based on statemens made by certain sections of the Afghan Mujahideen based in Pakistan about the so-called presence of Indian military personnel in Afghanistan. We find these reports particularly puzzling because quite apart from the detailed denial issued by us on 2nd March where we categorically denied all such false and unfounded allegations and where we categorically stated that Indian pilots and technical personnel have never been engaged in providing any support whatsoever to the Afghan Air Force or the Afghan Government, we have no less an authority than the Spokesman of the Foreign Office in Pakistan on record confirming as recently as 5th April, that the Pakistani Government had no information about the "involvement" of Indian pilots or military personnel in the Afghan conflict as alleged by the Peshawar-based Afghan rebel groups. Additionally, we have seen press reports quoting Mr. Gulbadin Hikamatyar, Foreign Minister of the socalled interim rebel Afghan Government admitting that there were no Indian pilots bombing Afghan rebel positions. He is reported to have said that his group, amongst others, had heard about the possibility of Indian involvement, but that "on investigation we found it to be untrue".

-112>

## GHANISTAN INDIA PAKISTAN USA

**Date**: Apr 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Poland

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on, Apr 12, 1989:

The Polish Vice President and Deputy Chairman of the Council of

State of the Polish People's Republic, Dr. Tadeusz Szelachowski called on the Prime Minister today at 12 noon. The meeting lasted for half-an-hour and was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Bilateral relations were reviewed and satisfaction was expressed at the state of these relations. The Polish Vice President briefed the Prime Minister on the recent political and constitutional changes in Poland and felt that India's experience could be of relevance to Poland in the changing situation. He praised India's foreign policy in general and made specially warm references to India's principled policy of non-alignment. On our side, we expressed appreciation for the extensive projection that has taken place in Poland of the Nehru centenary celebrations.

The Vice President of Poland will unveil a plague at Jamnagar to commemorate the stay of a thousand Polish children there after the Second World War.

He is meeting the Vice President, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma today whose guest he is. He will be addressing a press conference on 18th April, 1989.

LAND INDIA USA

**Date** : Apr 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### AGNI Missile

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Apr 17, 1989:

In reply to a question about AGNI missile, the Spokesman said that we have seen press reports to that effect but we have not heard anything officially. Our programme is well-known. It is nothing but a demonstration of our technical capacity in this field.

We have an integrated guided missile programme which is an indigenous programme and is meant for improving some of the operational requirements of our services. It is a demonstration of our technology and of certain technologies we wish to develop. I do not think that there should be a cause of concern to anybody because this demonstration of our technology does not amount to

induction of a weapons system.

In reply to another question as to what was the range of AGNI missile, the Spokesman said that the range was immaterial. We should be concerned with the purpose which is for guidance and control. It is the purpose for which it is being developed rather than the range, that is significant.

DIA USA

**Date**: Apr 17, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Apr 25, 1989:

Spokesman told Pressmen that a number of consignments have been moved into Nepal, since the expiry of the trade and transit treaties, contrary to the information put out by Nepalese sources. The range of goods being sent across and the number of consignments have also been steadily increasing from about 11 on the 4th of March, to about 133 on the 16th of -113>

April. He drew attention to the fact that Nepalese allegations about so-called blockade and non-movement of goods by the Nepalese official sources were exaggerated. He gave a random sample of the despatch of consignments, since 27-3-1989:

March 29 -- 1 April 04 -- 11 April 07 -- 31 April 10 -- 40 April 13 -- 60 April 14-16 -- 133

Goods that had gone across included diesel, fresh fruit, vegetabes, medicines, chemicals, milk powder, salt, insecticides, spices, cloth, machinery and spare parts, coal, petrol, tobacco, pipes and hosiery products.

Among goods from third countries, entering Nepal were Soyabean Oil, synthetic yarn, tyres, tubes, baby food, industrial raw material and G. I. sheets.

There was a steady flow of goods through Jogbani and Raxaul. The average number of consignments passing through Jogbani and Raxaul in the period 27/28 March to 17/18 April, were 68 to 102 per day at Raxaul, and 11 to 47 per day at Jogbani.

PAL INDIA USA

**Date**: Apr 25, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Talks on Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 25, 1989 on Indo-Soviet talks on Economic Co-operation:

Week-long deliberations between the Soviet delegation headed by Dr. Y. P. Khomenko, Deputy Chairman of GOSPLAN, USSR, and the Indian team led by Member, Planning Commission, Dr. Y. K. Alagh, began here today. The discussions to identify areas of closer cooperation between the two countries, are being held under the aegis of Indo-Soviet InterGovernmental Commission on Long term Trade, Economic, Industrial, Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

In the plenary session held here today, the leaders of the two delegations emphasized the need of widening the parameters of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation to fulfil the ambitious trade targets set forth for the next 5-year period between 1990-95.

During the course of the deliberations issues relating to broad guidelines and directions for Indo-Soviet cooperation in major areas of economic activity and proposals for the expansion of trade list for the period 1995-2000 will be discussed in detail. In addition, closer mutual cooperation in the fields of power generation, inland reservoir fisheries, irrigation, underground water drilling, etc., would also be discussed.

The Soviet delegation is scheduled to have separate discussions with the Member Incharge of Infrastructure in the Planning Commission, Shri Hiten Bhaya; Adviser to the Prime Minister on

Technology Missions, Shri Sam Pitroda and Union Secretaries of Commerce, Finance, Electronics and Power.
-114>

The two delegations will also hold detailed discussions for the expansion and upgradation of commodity lists for trade for the period 1995-2000 and for the identification of new areas of cooperation.

DIA USA LATVIA

**Date**: Apr 25, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Coal and Lignite Projects

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 13, 1989 on Indo-Soviet Protocol on Coal and Lignite projects:

Indo-Soviet Working Group on Coal and Lignite has agreed to strengthen monitoring of all the coal projects with Sovietcooperation and to streamline working procedures so that projects are implemented as per schedule.

The Working Group which met for its 9th Session here, signed a protocol yesterday. The Group is also working out a comprehensive scheme for spare parts supplies and maintenance facilities, after an intensive review of all the coal projects with Soviet Cooperation.

The Soviet delegation was led by Shri A. G. Korkin, First Deputy Minister of Coal Industry of USSR. The Indian delegation was led by Shri T. U. Vijayasekharan, Secretary, Department of Coal.

India has a wide ranging programme of cooperation with USSR in coal sector. Some of our major coal projects, both for coking coal as well as non coking coal are being taken up with Soviet cooperation. Amongst opencast projects, Nigahi and Khadia are two major projects of Northern Coalfields Ltd. which are in advance stage of implementation with Soviet Cooperation. Similarly Jhanjra underground mine of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. is being developed with Soviet assistance in the sinking of the shafts and Powered Support Longwall equipment. A large number of other

projects being taken up with Soviet Cooperation are in initial stages like geological exploration, preparation of feasibility report etc. Use of shield mining method for extraction of Coal from thick and steep seams of Tipong (Assam) with Soviet technical assistance has been highly successful in increasing the percentage of extraction of coal from these mines.

DIA USA

**Date**: Apr 13, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### SOVIET UNION

## Growing India-USSR Cooperation in Agriculture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 17, 1989 on the meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture:

The Second Meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture opened here today with the resolve to identify more areas of cooperation between the two countries in agriculture and allied sectors. The Indian side was headed by Secretary (Agriculture & Cooperation Shri C. Srinivasa Sastry and the Russian side by Mr. Y. N. Balandin, Vice-Chairman of State Agro-Industrial Committee of the USSR (GOSAGROPROM).

Welcoming the delegates to the Plenary Session, the Agriculture Secretary expressed satisfaction at the follow-up of the schemes decided in the last meeting, especially in the areas of sericulture, oilseed processing, fruit and vegetable processing, and modern abattoirs. He said that the protocol between Indian enterprises and Russian team signed in June last year had progressed well. Such joint ventures at entrepreneur level should in

-115>

future be finalised even quicker and in a timebound fashion, he said.

Shri Sastry expressed the hope that the New Policy on Seed Development, in force since October last year, would offer good scope of cooperation between India and the USSR for exchange of quality seeds. Similarly, in oilseeds, long term cooperation was possible, especially for sunflower seed and technology.

The Working Group, besides reviewing the implementation of the protocol of the first meeting held in 1987 and the Long Term Programme of Cooperation upto 2000 A.D. in the field of Agriculture, would discuss the Action Plan for 1989-91 and identify specific areas of cooperation in agriculture.

The Working Group, after the Plenary Session, split into two groups, on Agriculture and Allied Sectors. Besides the Ministry of Agriculture, a number of Central Ministries and Public Sector Undertakings were represented in the Working Group.

Responding, the leader of the USSR delegation Mr. Y. N. Balandin said that deepening cooperation between the two countries would help them over-come many of the common problems in the field of agriculture experienced by the two nations. He said that the process of restructuring and reorganising taking place in the various sectors of the Soviet economy had improved the prospects of cooperation and taking up ventures in business-like manner.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Apr 17, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

India, United States Sign Agreement for Double Tax Avoidance

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 12, 1989 on an Agreement between India and the United States of America for the avoidance of double taxation of income of enterprises operating ships and aircraft:

An Agreement betweenIndia and the United States of America for the avoidance of double taxation of income of enterprises operating ships and aircraft was signed, here today. Dr. Nitish Sengupta, Secretary (Revenue), Ministry of Finance and Dr. John R. Hubbard, the Ambassador, United States Embassy in New Delhi, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

This Agreement amends the existing Agreement of 1976 which provided for mutual exemption of aircraft profits by the two countries. Under the present agreement, Air India and its 100 per cent subsidiaries and the shipping enterprises resident in India would be exempt from income-tax in respect of income from

international operations in the United States from the 1st day of January 1987 on a reciprocal basis. Similar exemption will be extended to American enterprises from income-tax in India. -116>

A INDIA

**Date**: Apr 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **VIETNAM**

Indo-Vietnamese Talks on Planning

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 12, 1989 on Indo-Vietnamese talks on planning.

The two-day deliberations between the Indian planning experts and the visiting Vietnamese delegation led by General VO NGUYEN GIAP, Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, ended here today. The Indian side was led by the Union Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Shri Madhavsinh Solanki. Shri B. S. Engti, Minister of State for Planning, was the alternate leader of the Indian

Dr. Y. K. Alagh, Member, Planning Commission, gave an overview of the agricultural and industrial development of India, during the past four decades. Prof. P. N. Srivastava, Member, Planning Commission, incharge of Social Services Sectors, dwelt on progress made in the fields of health, education and other social sectors. He said that while tremendous progress has been made in these fields, much still remains to be done. He said that while in percentage terms the literacy rate has gone up from 16 per cent at the time of Independence to around 40 per cent as of now, the number of illiterate people in absolute terms too has increased substantially.

The Advisor to the Prime Minister on Technology Missions, Shri Sam Pitroda, briefed the visiting team about the progress made in the field of science and technology and various technology missions undertaken by the Indian Government for accelerated process of growth in those specific areas.

The Union Planning Minister, Shri Madhavsinh Solanki, presented a set of books on Planning to Gen. GIAP.

General GIAP apprised the Indian side about the progress made by Vietnam in various fields of economic activity and the measures proposed by the Vietnamese Government to accelerate the pace of development for the benefit of the people.

The Vietnamese delegation evinced keen interest in the planning strategies adopted by Indian and the achievements made in various fields of economic activity. Gen. Giap made extensive enquiries about each of the five technology missions viz., literacy, drinking water, telecommunications, oilseeds and immunization. He also made queries about the recently added sixth technology mission on milk production.

The deliberations were conducted in a friendly and frank atmosphere and broader details of various development plans in respect of major programme of social importance were made available to the visiting team. The Vietnamese delegation is visiting India on the invitation of the Prime Minister of India and is due to call on various Indian dignitaries like the President, the Vice President, the Prime Minister and the Union Ministers of Finance and Defence.

-117>

ETNAM INDIA USA

**Date** : Apr 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## YEMEN

Indo-Yemen Cooperation in Oil Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 05, 1989 on Indo-Yemen Cooperation in Oil Sector:

India and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) have decided to participate jointly in exploration, exploitation and processing of crude oil and natural gas.

A high level delegation from Yemen led by Mr. Mahmood Mohd. Tarmoom, Deputy Minister of Energy and Minerals of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen met Shri Brahm Dutt, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, here, and discussed various areas of cooperation in oil sector, both upstream and downstream.

During the discussions, India also offered consultancy services in the areas of refining, LPG production, computer services and training of personnel from

Yemen in the Research and Development institutes of Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC)

The delegation separately visited the Petroleum Secretary Shri H. K. Khan, when a Memorandum of Understanding specifying immediate and future areas of cooperation, was signed between the visiting Deputy Minister Mr. Mahmood Mohd. Tarmoom and General S.C.N. Jatar, Chairman & Managing Director, Hydrocarbons of India Ltd. (HIL), in the presence of Shri Khan. The areas of immediate cooperation include ONGC & HIL doing reservoir modelling and basin evaluation studies for PDRY.

The delegation had earlier visited the ONGC Institute of Reservoir Studies, Ahmedabad, K. D. Malviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration (IPE) Institute of Drilling Technology (IDT) and Management Development Institute at Dehradun.

MEN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Apr 05, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Yugoslav Petrochemical Cooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 19, 1989 on Indo-Yugoslav Petro-Chemical Cooperation:

India and Yugoslavia have decided to share expertise in the field of Petrochemicals covering areas of research and development, marketing and joint ventures. To achieve this a memorandum of understanding was signed between Indian Petro-

chemical Cooperation Limited (IPCL) and Industrija Nafte (INA) of Yugoslavia. The agreement followed wide ranging discussion Shri M. S. Gill, Secretary, Chemical and Petrochemical had in Yugoslavia to promote mutual cooperation and trade between them in chemicals, petrochemicals, drugs and Pharmaceuticals.

IPCL also entered into a long-term Agreement for supply of 15,500 tonnes of

LDPE by INA during 1989-90. This quantity commitment on part of INA will help ease supply position for LDPE in the Indian market.

The agreement was signed by Hasmukh Shah, Chairman IPCL and Mr. P. Flekovic, President INA on behalf of the respective countries.

IPCL will INA products of viscosity index improvers for lubricating oils, water soluble copolymers and HDS catalyst. INA would reciprocate by promoting IPCL products of Linear Alkyl Benzene. (LAB), Acrylates, catalysts for reforming, isomerisation and paraffin dehydrogenation, molecular sieves in the Yugoslavian market.

-119>

## GOSLAVIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Apr 19, 1989

# May

# Volume No 1995 CONTENTS

Foreign Affairs

Record VOL XXXV No 5 1989 May

**CONTENTS** 

**ANGOLA** 

India Offers to Assist Angola in Agricultural
Development 121

AUSTRALIA

Contract to Australian Consultants for Pollution Control at SAIL Plants

121

### BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangla Talks on Flood Management Conclude - Joint Press Release 122 **BHUTAN** Indo-Bhutan Committee for Conservation of Trans-Border Forests Meets 122 **CHINA** Export of Iron-ore to China 123 DISARMAMENT Text of Declaration Issued by Six Nations 123 HOME AND ABROAD Discussion on Communal Situation - Prime Minister's Intervention 124 Prime Minister's Statement on the "Agni" Launch 129 INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS India Gets 41,95,900 Dollars UNDP Assistance 130 NEPAL India-Nepal Relations 131 OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS Yugoslavia 136 Palestine 136 Nepal 142 Soviet Union 142 Sri Lanka 142 Pakistan 143 **PAKISTAN** Indo-Pak Talks on Civil Aviation 144 Joint Press Release on Indo-Pak Talks 144

### **SOVIET UNION**

Efforts to Boost Indo-Soviet Cooperation in

Pharmaceuticals 147

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Cooperation in Promotion of Tourism 148

US Action Totally Unjustified - Commerce

Minister's Statement 148

**ZIMBABWE** 

Zimbabwe-India Sign Accord on Cooperation

Under AFRICA Fund 149

GOLA INDIA AUSTRALIA USA BANGLADESH BHUTAN CHINA NEPAL YUGOSLAVIA SRI LANKA PAKISTAN ZIMBABWE

**Date**: May 01, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### **ANGOLA**

India Offers to Assist Angola in Agricultural Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 15, 1989 on India's offer to assist Angola in Agricultural development:

India has offered to assist Angola in their agricultural development by way of supply of tractors, agricultural equipments and seeds. Shri C. Srinivasa Sastry, Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation who led the Indian officials for talks with the Angolan delegation, here today suggested cooperation in the area of agricultural research and education and transfer of technology with Angola. The leader of Angolan delegation, Shri Fernando Faustino Muteka, Minister for Agriculture said that in his country, agriculture occupies and important place in the new economic programme. His country could learn a lot from India in agriculture field as it had achieved self sufficiency in food production in a short span.

GOLA INDIA USA

**Date**: May 15, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **AUSTRALIA**

Contract to Australian Consultants for Pollution Control at SAIL Plants

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 04, 1989 on contract to Australian consultants for pollution control at SAIL Plants:

Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) have concluded a contract with M/s BHP Engineering Pty. Limited-Kinhill Engineers Pty. Limited, a joint venture of Australia for a consultancy study on Environmental Management and Pollution Control in the integrated steel plants of SAIL under a Technical Assistance loan granted by World Bank.

The terms and conditions of this contract conform to the guidelines prescribed by the World Bank. The study, including the time required to implement the recommendations is 23 months from the date of commencement.

This information was given in the Lok Sabha today by the Steel and Mines Minister Shri M. L. Fotedar in a written reply. -121>

STRALIA USA INDIA

Date: May 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **BANGLADESH**

Indo-Bangla Talks on Flood Management Conclude - Joint PressRelease

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1989 on Indo-Bangla Talks on Flood Management:

The Indo-Bangladesh Task Force held its fourth meeting at New Delhi from May 15-16, 1989. It was preceded by a meeting of the technical experts of the two sides also in New Delhi from May 13-14, 1989.

Discussions were held in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere. The Bangladesh team was led by Syed Shamim Ahsan, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, Government of Bangladesh and the Indian side by Shri M. A. Chitale, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.

Broad agreement was reached in the meeting for a joint and cooperative programme of action by the two governments on short-term measures for improving the flood forecasting and warning system, tying up of embankments along the common rivers and undertaking river training works in Bangladesh.

Long-term measures were also discussed. It was decided to discuss the matter further in detail in order to finalize an agreed approach.

NGLADESH INDIA USA LATVIA

**Date**: May 16, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### **BHUTAN**

Indo-Bhutan Committee for Conservation of Trans-Border ForestsMeets

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 09, 1989 on Indo-Bhutan committee for conservation of Trans-Border Forests:

The first meeting of the high-level Indo-Bhutan Committee for conservation of Trans-Border Forests serving as wildlife corridors was held here last evening.

The Indian delegation was led by the Inspector General of Forests and the Bhutanese delegation by the Surveyor General of Bhutan.

Both sides expressed their concern over the degradation and fragmentation of some of the unique natural forests of both sides due to encroachments and mining operations. A joint committee of senior officials from both countries was formed to study the

problems of conserving and protecting these trans-border forests and find out ways for establishing a continuous and integral corridor for migratory wildlife.

The Committee discussed the possibilities of creating a common protection force for anti-poaching operations and to have a common management plan for the contiguous protected areas. The other subject taken up was the question of identifying areas and corridors through which the protected area network of both the countries could be linked up.

-122>

UTAN INDIA USA

**Date**: May 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **CHINA**

Export of Iron-ore to China

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 05, 1989 on export of iron-ore to China:

A contract has been finalised with China to export 2.4 lakh tonnes iron-ore during the current year. Price realisation this year is higher than that of last year. specifications of iron ore to be exported to Japan and China are different and hence prices are strictly not comparable.

This information was given by the Union Minister of Steel and Mines and energy Shri Vasant Sathe in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.

INA INDIA JAPAN

**Date**: May 05, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### DISARMAMENT

### Text of Declaration Issued by Six Nations

The following is the text of a Declaration issued by six nation on May 22, 1989 on Disarmament:

When the Six Nation Initiative was launched in 1984, the International situation presented a sombre picture. Relations between the super powers were marked by distrust and suspicion, and absence of constructive dialogue. The arms race continued unabated with little being done to alleviate and eventually eliminate the threat of nuclear war. There was urgent need for common action, an impulse to peace. The Six Nation Initiative was born out of this conviction.

We come from diverse parts of the globe but are united in our common concern for the future of humankind. We seek to represent not only our own people, but the aspirations of millions spread over all continents and countries, including those within nuclear-weapon states, who want to see a world free from the threat of war, free from the fear of nuclear annihilation.

In the five years since May 1984, the international situation has seen important changes. The relationship between the two super powers has improved. There has been progress on arms limitation and disarmament measures. It has given us ground for optimism. Perhaps for the first time since World War II, a genuine opportunity exists for a radical departure from the confrontationist policies of the past. Events of the last two years have shown that, given political will, no obstacle is insurmountable.

At our meeting at Stockholm last year, we hailed the INF Treaty, as the first step in the process of nuclear disarmament. We also welcomed the political commitment of the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce their strategic nuclear weapons by 50 per cent. We urge them not to lose the momentum towards disarmament, but instead to give an added impulse to accelerate the process. We call upon them to conclude negotiations on strategic arms reductions as soon as possible.

We, as Members of the Six Nation Initiative, also stress that much more remains to be done before one can be con-123>

fident that the disarmament process is irreversibly under way. We take satisfaction that one of our initial objectives has been achieved with the creation of a more conducive climate of international relations.

But other challenges remain:

- --A comprehensive test ban treaty to be adhered to by all States is now more imperative than ever,
- --Nuclear warheads from dismantled arms systems must not be allowed to be used in other weapons systems,
- --A multilateral verification system in the field of disarmament should be established within the framework of the United Nations as soon as possible,
- --An international agreement banning all use of nuclear weapons, under any circumstances, should be concluded,
- --The threat of chemical warfare must be eliminated, through speedy conclusion of the convention on chemical weapons,
- --Outer space must be prevented from being turned into an arena for the arms race and military confrontation,
- --Reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons within a timebound framework.

In the five years since we launched our initiative, we have been encouraged by the support we have received from Governments and Parliaments, from the scientific community, from educational institutions, from people and non-Governmental organisations across the world.

In the final analysis, disarmament is not just about ceilings and conventions, warheads and launchers, even treaties and resolutions. It is about people and about the waste of human and material resources now being devoted to weapons of mass destruction. Poverty and hunger, disease and unemployment, stalk vast sections of humanity. These are issues too urgent to neglect.

The dialogue we called for five years ago has now been well initiated. The climate of distrust has changed. There is, in fact, a new search for common security for which we had endeavoured in our initiative. We now believe that the purpose of the initiative can best be pursued through the United Nations.

This quest for security presents enormous challenges and opportunities for the future. And we, the Six of us, are prepared to continue to work together and also with others in the United Nations and other international forums, for the finest aim of all: To ensure the world of a future in peace and security.

A SWEDEN PERU

**Date**: May 22, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### HOME AND ABROAD

Discussion on Communal Situation -- Prime Minister's Intervention

Intervening in the debate on the communal situation in various parts of the country, the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, said in the Lok Sabha on May 03, 1989:

Sir, a secular India alone is an India that can survive. Perhaps an India that is not secular does not deserve to survive. Sir, India and secularism must remain synonymous to assure the glory of our civilisation and the future of the country.

In every village of India, in every basti, and in every mohalla, there are

-124>

people of different faiths, of different languages, of different cultures who live together as neighbours. Secularism is a condition of our existence. It is the essence of our tradition. Secularism and our nationhood are inseparable.

We are a multi-religious society. We are a multi-lingual society, we are a multicultural, society, but we are not a multinational society. We are one people, we are one nation, we are one country and we have one common citizenship.

Sir, most civilizations posit nationhood and diversity as antithetical. The single greatest contribution of India to world civilization is to demonstrate that there is nothing antithetical between diversity and nationhood. Through 5000 years of living experience, we have demonstrated to the world that there can be a vibrant reality of our unity in diversity.

Sir, today's world is in desperate need of learning from India's experience. Peace and survival in the modern age depend on nonviolence, on tolerence, on compassion; and understanding depends on peaceful co-existence between diverse philosophies and diverse ways of life. Through technological development, the world is becoming smaller and is growing towards a global village. It is equally in need of unity and diversity.

India's secularism is a global need because the global secularism is inseparable from human survival, it is inseparable from our

inter-dependence, it is inseparable from global cooperation.

Sir, the history of humanity is spattered with the consequences of narrowminded nationalisms, equating community with nations, religion with nation, language with nation, ethnicity with nation. To escape history's trap of turbulence and tragedy, many countries and regional groupings are seeking to escape the exclusivisms of past. They are reaching towards multi-cultural societies, where

diverse faiths, languages and cultures live together in harmony, equality and confidence, in a confidence with them that they can conserve their heritage and their culture, in a self-confidence where they can exchange ideas and experiences. They can live together with cross-fertilization of ideas, preventing cultural genocide.

Sir, it is in this world-wide effort that the world is learning from India's unity in diversity. No other civilization has as long a record in evolving a composite culture. No other country has as long a record of a polity based on secularism.

Sir, notwithstanding thousands of years of secularism, the forces of communalism have not been vanquished. The history of India is a kind of dialectic between the forces of secularism, of tolerance and compassion versus the forces of communalism, fundamentalism and fanaticism. In the long run, secularism will always triumph. But the never ceasing running battle with the opposing forces of communalism continues and we must fight them.

Sir, it is also important to understand how India sees secularism, how do we understand secularism. First and foremost, it is not anti-religion or irreligious, it is a deep abiding appreciation of the rich vein of spirituality that runs through our culture, that runs through every religion of India. It runs through our history, it runs through every person who is an Indian. That rich vein of spirituality is the source of our moral values, of our ideals and our standards, of our goals and of our objectives. We venerate this spiritual tradition. We cherish its moral values. We respect all different forms in whicth spirituality manifests itself. The cardinal principle of secularism is equal respect for all religions, Sarva Dharma Samabhaay.

Our second great principle is that we respect all religions equally. No religious community is singled out for favours by -125>

the State, no religious community is subjected to disability or disadvantage by the State. The State has no religion; the state is above religion. For the State, religion is a private and personal matter for the individual. Whatever religion an Indian professes, whatever faith an Indian propagates, for the State it

is a personal matter. The State is concerned only with full protection for all, with equal opportunity for all, with equitable benefits for all. For the State, all Indians are Indians equal in the eyes of the State.

The third principle flows from the first and the second. Since religion has high value, it must remain in the private and personal lives and it has no role to play in the politics of the country.

Sir, injecting religion into politics is poisoning our body politic. Mixing religion with politics is against the traditions of our civilization, the canons of our Constitution and the survival of our State.

Sir, we have not forgotten, and we will never forget the terrible consequences of the freedom movement, of mixing religion with politics. From the war of Independence that started in 1857 to 1940, Indians of all communities, except communalists, were together in the battle to free India, to make India independent for all Indians irrespective of their creed or caste, living together as one nation, respecting and celebrating our glorious diversity, united in the belief that India belongs equally to all Indian.

Beginning with the Lahore Resolution passed by the Muslim League - the secular leaders of all communities and religions at that time were mostly in jail or had gone underground because of the Quit India movement - It gave an opportunity for the communalists to make inroads into the mainstream. Within less than a decade of the Lahore Resolution, India was partitioned. We shall never let another partition of India happen again. We shall never let the forces of communalism triumph over secularism.

A patriotic Indian is a secular Indian. A nationalist Indian is a secular Indian. A disciplined Indian is a secular Indian.

Sir, through forty years of independence we have shown that we are one nation. We have faced external aggression as a united nation. We have stood firm as one nation against the internal forces of fundamentalism and fanaticism. It is illustrated most dramatically by what had happened in Punjab. The protagonists of secession found common cause with religious fanatics. Together, they roped in terrorists, murcerers, hired assassins, gunrunners, smugglers and common criminals mixing politics with religion, mixing religion with criminality.

Gurdwaras were turned into criminal dens till Operation Black Thunder, proving that terrorism was not for religion. But it was for ulterior motives, and not for religious purposes the people were disguested at the defilement of the shrines and the misuse of religion. They were disguested with the intimidation of the Granthis and the oppression of the Sevadars. The people of Punjab have not given in. The tolerance of our people has triumphed. The brotherhood of centuries has triumphed. Innate secularism of our people has triumphed. The forces of communalism. have not accepted defeat; they are always on prowl, always looking for an opportunity to make mischief, always trying to insinuate themselves into the political life of the country working from behind the scene or using others as a front. If secular forces stand together, communalism can be contained. Danger arises when political parties for opportu -126>

nistic reasons lend weight and support to narrow causes.

There are political parties represented even in this House that have become tools willingly or unwillingly of fundamentalism and fanaticism masquarading as religion. Some political parties live on stoking fears of religious minorities. Other political parties live on stoking religious passions of the majority community. And then there are those who convert petty arguments and minor disputes into communal conflagration. There are those that create dispute where none exist. There are those that incite passions only to pose as protectors of faith. The Congress is pledged to have nothing to do under any circumstances with such forces.

As a government our foremost duty is to safeguard secularism and we invite the cooperation of every section of this House to join us in this great national endeavour. I welcome the suggestion that is being made by Shri Indrajit Gupta. I have already requested the Home Minister to call all the secular parties, all the national parties and to talk with them and work with them to see how we can build a common culture.

Our secular traditions began with the Veda and the epics. The concept of the Vasudhaiva Kuttumbakam developed by Buddha and Mahavira were the basis of the development of Indian civilization and our society. We welcomed Judaism in Kerala; we welcomed St. Thomas and Christianity: we welcomed Zorastrianism and today we have the largest parsi community: we welcomed the great Sikh Gurus from Guru Nanak to Guru Gobind Singh. We synthesized Islam with the great Sufi tradition of Amir Khusro and Kabir and Baba Farid and Shah Abdul Latif.

Our religious festivals are festivals not of one community but of all Indians and all communities. We celebrate them together. Over the last 40 years we have augmented our capacity to tackle communalism. It is reflected in the declining trend in communal incidents; it is reflected in the containment in numbers of the persons losing their lives and suffering injury in communal clashes. But the task will not end; it will not end till there are no more communal incidents, till there is no more loss of life or limb or property. Not even then as the highest vigilance will be required to keep communalism at bay. We will have to

fight it till it is defeated and ended and completely vanquished.

The law and order is a State subject. The Centre can at best consider national perspective, issue guidelines and assist State Governments, but the primary responsibility lies squarely with the State Governments. The State Governments have been assisted time and again by the courts, and I would specially like to congratulate the Bombay High Court and Justice Barucha for their historic decision.

Sir, we have commended to the Chief Ministers far-reaching recommendations of the National Integration Council's subgroups headed by Shri P. N. Haksar. There has been some effect, although the overall action has not been to our satisfaction the overall communal situation has become better than in the past. But there is no room for complacency. The communal monster must be laid low.

Indiraji fell martyr to the bullets of communalism. She was the author of the 15-Point Programme which was to be implemented by all the State Governments. I have chaired a number of reviews of that programme and although who have made much progress, I am not happy with the progress that has been made. Much more needs to be done and we will be seeing that the follow up is more effective. With each session that we have had the follow up has worked better and the results are showing the curve is on the upswing but it is too slow. It must be accelerated. We must urge for the pro

tection of the minorities, we must work for multi-religious forces and we must give special assistance for education and the economic advancement of the minorities. The challenge to secularism is not from one quarter, but from fanatics of all faiths steering trouble in various ways. Those that ignore our composite culture, who project to their followers a distorted and motivated picture of India's history creating grievances where there are none, making political capital out of the distressed religious sentiments. It is for the State Governments to be alive to such attempts, to set up an intelligence system for advance information about trouble makers and trouble spots. It is for the State Governments to take preventive action and quick, corrective measures.

-127>

No State government, Congress or Non-Congress, can claim an unplemished record. All State Governments, Congress and Non-Congress, have attempted to tackle the problem. No State Government has ever been refused the full assistance from the Centre in preventing or tackling the problems or a particular situation. It is not an issue between the Centre and the States it is not an issue between the Congress and other parties. This is a national issue and it is an issue that demands a national response.

The elements of response formulated through a general consensus and the consent of the country is what is needed. The secular injunctions of the Constitution must be carried out in good faith and with deep dedication. Religion must not be mixed with politics. No one doing so can run for elections today after our recent amendments. But still there are some political parties who have not amended their constitutions. Those political parties must amend their constitution and bring them into conformity with the nation's constitution.

The minorities needing educational and economic help must be assisted to avail of equality of opportunity as guaranteed by the laws. Genuine grievances must be tackled quickly, imaginary grievances must be quickly exposed. The mechinery of law and order must be insulated from all religious prejudices, from all communal overtones. The people of India must be involved in giving a practical expression to their innate secularism.

This year we are celebrating the birth centenary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He was one of our greatest secular leaders, perhaps one of the greatest secular leaders of all times.

When Gandhiji was felled by religious fanatics, the national responsibility of carrying forward secularism fell on Panditji's shoulders.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru staunched the bloodletting of partition reassured the minorities, reformed obsolete and oppressive mores of the majority community. He gave Indians of all faith, confidence that the State is above all prejudice, above all discrimination, above all narrowness. He assured every Indian honour and opportunity.

Sir, we would soon like to call a meeting of the National Integration Council to discuss the issue of communalism, and we would like that to be followed up after the Home Minister has his initial meetings with leaders and members of the opposition parties.

Sir, in a few days, we will commemorating the 25th anniversary of the passing away of Panditji. There can be no more significant manner of honouring Panditji's memory than in fulfilling his ideals in rededicating ourselves, in rededicating India and every Indian to the principles of secularism which Jawaharlal Nehru espoused and the unflinching application to the political and social life of our country.

-128>

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: May 03, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### HOME AND ABROAD

Prime Minister's Statement on the "Agni" Launch

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's statement on the "Agni" launch made in New Delhi on May 22, 1989:

At 0717 hours today, a long range guided missile was successfully launched from the Interim Test Range at Chandipur in Orrisa and, after accurately following the pre-determined flight path, impacted in the designated area in the Bay of Bengal.

This is a major achievement in our continuing efforts to safeguard our independence and security by self-reliant means. The technology demonstration carried out today is a reflection of our commitment to the indigenous development of advanced technologies for the defence of the nation.

Today's test is part of the Agni project being run by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Agni is an R & D vehicle, not a weapons system. However, the technologies proved in Agni are deeply significant for evolving national security options. Preliminary analysis of flight data indicates that the test flight has fully met the objectives we had set for it.

This test is part of our national endeavour to develop and demonstrate advanced missile technologies such as:

- --large multi-stage propulsion systems
- --precision closed loop inertial guidance
- --atmospheric re-entry and
- --terminal guidance.

Agni is one of the component projects of the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme. This Programme in-volves the participation of 15 DRDO laboratories and over 60 other work centres, including national laboratories, academic institutions and production entities in the public and private sectors. I would like to thank all of them. This is a national endeavour in the pursuit of self-reliance.

There is a great deal of misinformation and disinformation being spread by and in interested quarters about this technology. Agni is not a nuclear weapons system. What Agni does is to afford us the option of developing the ability to deliver non-nuclear weapons with high precision at long ranges. This provides us with a viable non-nuclear option of the greatest relevance to contemporary strategic doctrines.

The launch was postponed twice in the past four weeks. This has drawn comments, some positive and some negative. I would like our people to understand that such postponements are part of the intrinsic nature of any technology development and demonstration. The rigid requirements set for the first launch permitted a launch only when the test vehicle and associated instruments worked as designed.

The successful flight of Agni has fully met all range safety considerations. I hope that this will set at rest all apprehensions about our ability to ensure the safety and welfare of the people around the Range. I would like to thank the local people and the Government of Orissa for their cooperation in this project of national importance.

We lost our independence two centuries ago because we were disunited on the home front and not vigilant on the external front. We must remember that technological backwardness also leads to subjugation. Never again will we allow our freedom to be so compromised. It is our bounden duty to protect our national independence from all manner of foreign threat. It is our bounden duty to ensure

-129>

the inviolability of our frontiers. It is our bounden duty to guarantee the security and integrity of our nation. We must be true to the mandate bequeathed to us by our forefathers who fought for the liberation of our country, wrested our freedom from Imperialism, and consolidated our nationhood on the basis of self-reliance. Consistent with our principles and consistent with our worldview, we shall self-reliantly safeguard our security.

We are a non-violent country. We have no aggressive designs on anyone. We believe profoundly in the sovereign equality of nations. We are passionately committed to peaceful coexistence. For four decades, we have been in the vanguard of the movement for nuclear disarmament. We have set an example to the whole world of a refusal to convert nuclear capability into nuclear weapons. We wish to keep it this way. We have presented to the United Nations an Action Plan to free the world of nuclear weapons and anchor the international order in the principles of non-violence. The Action Plan derives its inspiration from our abiding commitment to the ideals and vision of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi.

On behalf of the whole nation, I congratulate our scientists, engineers and workers in the work centres, including national laboratories, academic institutions and production entities in the public and private sector, who have made this flight of the Agni a splendid success. The country is proud of their efforts.

#### DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date**: May 22, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

India Gets 41,95,900 Dollars UNDP Assistance

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 02, 1989 on UNDP's assistance to India:

India will get assistance of 41,95,90 dollars from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

This will be utilised for establishment of National Drilling Training Centre, Energy Conservation Project and Wind Energy Centre. These projects will be implemented by Mineral Exploration Corporation, Ministry of Energy and National Aeronautical Laboratory respectively and executed by United Nations Development of Technical Corporation for Development.

Three agreements to this effect were signed here today by Mr. Gamil M. Hamdy, Resident Representative on behalf of UNDP and Shri S. Varadachary, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of Government of India.

The establishment of National Drilling Training Centre for drilling technicians will help the Indian mineral, water and geotechnical agencies with adequate reserve of trained and qualified drilling technicians.

The project of Energy Conservation Programme would help in conservation activities in India based on developed and developing country experiences, assessment of potential for energy conservation and substitution, assessment of potential for petroleum fuel conservation and substitution in the transport sector and assess-

-130>

ment of the potential for energy conservation in the residential and commercial sectors.

The Wind Energy Centre project would help to test and assess systems and prototypes for certification, test compo-

nent and sub-assemblies including energy storage devices for performance and reliability on laboratory test rigs, certification of wind machines, assessment of innovative design concept and development and validation of structural design codes for system integration.

DIA

**Date**: May 02, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **NEPAL**

### **India-Nepal Relations**

Extracts from the speech made by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, in the Lok Sabha on Apr 26, 1989 on India-Nepal relations:

In spite of very short time at our disposal, many Hon. Members have made many important points. It is difficult to choose between having a debate with a guillotine hanging over once head or not having a debate at all. In some respects, not having it seems to be better. But since we are having it, we have to make it with the time that has been allotted to us for no one else' fault in particular. We were given to understand that we would have nine hours. We do not seem to have had even 40 per cent of that time.

All these matters are no coming before the House for the first time. They have been discussed again and again. They can be discussed and should be discussed because the latest position in respect of each of these issues has to be brought out clearly before the House. It is because we would like to take the House into confidence on each of these issues.

My colleague has dealt with three or four very important issues on Afghanistan, Kampuchea, Sri Lanka and of course in passing, Israel. Now, the most important issue which has been exercising the minds of the people of India and perhaps reverberating in other Capitals of the world, each with their own motivation, has been our relations with Nepal. As Mr. Indrajit Gupta has said this is not a sudden development. This has been going on for sometime. One has to go into the history. If we have not made any open official statements so far, it was because, we wanted to exercise restraint on a matter in which restraint is much better than a statement, howsoever compelling it is. But now the time has come and I think this is the best forum at which I should make the position of the Government of India clear on IndoNepal relations.

The recent months have witnessed some strains in the age-old relationship between India and Nepal. This has been a time of sorrow and regret for us. IndoNepal relationship has been truly unique. It cannot be easily summed up in cliches, like, special relationship. No other two countries of the region had anything like it. The open border between India and Nepal is crossed daily by thousands of nationals of both countries without visas for a variety of purposes as an evocative symbol of the Indo-Nepal relationship. Thus the Indo-Nepal border, though a political reality, is also part of a great social and cultural continuity. -131>

Indo-Nepal relations are very old and date from ancient times, long long before 1950 or the Treaty of Peace and Friendship. However, the 1950 Treaty is a uniquely significant landmark in the relationship because it goes far beyond the standard diplomatic format of relationship and seeks to concretise a grand vision handed down from centuries. This was the vision cherished by the great leaders of both countries, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and his Majesty King Tribhuvan. It was a vision of a Nepal and an India, both independent, sovereign and free, but indissolubly linked by unbreakable bonds. It was a vision of two countries which, of their own free will, promised each other's nationals treatment on Par with their own in all the vital aspects of life - in residence in ownership of property, in participation in trade and commerce, in industrial and economic development, in the grant of concessions and contracts related to such development and other similar privileges. It was based on the impeccable logic that if sovereignty gives the power to impose restrictions, it also gives the power to do away with restrictions if the States, in their wisdom, consider it fit to do so.

Over the years and decades that followed, India has sought to live up, both to the letter and the spirit of the 1950 Treaty. Thus it is that while there are very strict regulations against the employment for foreign nationals in India, millions of Nepalese live and work freely in all parts of India. Not many know that Nepalese are eligible to join not only the army, but also Government services in India expect the very limited posts of IFS, IAS and the IPS. Nepalese nationals have extensive property holdings in this country. They do business here without

let or hindrance. There is no restriction on their remitting any amount of money back to Nepal as their savings or profit.

Besides this, India, despite its financial constraints and its own struggle to raise the living standards of its people while emerging from the long era of colonial stagnation, has done its best to be of assistance to Nepal in the process of its economic development. India has fully financed and implemented mutual cooperation schemes for the development of Nepal's water resources like the Kosi and the Gandak projects. Our grant assistance for a number of other economic projects totals around Rs. 20-25 crores a year. About 275 seats, including a large number of engineering and medical seats, are offered to Nepalese students every year under various scholarships. Under various Trade and Transit Treaties since 1950, India has given Nepal highly preferential treatment, specially for Nepalese primary products and manufactured goods, on a non-reciprocal basis, plus very extensive transit facilities for Nepal's trade with third countries. The excise duty on India goods imported by Nepal is refunded to Nepal in full. A quota of essential commodities such as coal, iron and steel, sugar, foodgrains, baby food, milk products, normally banned for export, were made available to Nepal at preferential prices. India has also invariably responded positively to Nepal's request for emergency supplies of foodgrains, sugar, cement, etc. A revolving credit of Rs. 25 crores was extended to Nepal to meet temporary shortfalls in its Indian currency reserves. At the Calcutta Port, facilities superior even to those extended to Indian importers were extended to Nepalese importers, at a cost of about Rs. 1.5 crores every year incurred by the Government of India. Under the Product Exchange Agreement with Nepal, India took over Nepalese imports of certain refined petroleum products and crude at the port and supplied equivalent amounts of a whole range of other petroleum products at numerous points along the IndoNepal border. Nepal was charged only the actual expenses by the India Oil Corporation and that too in rupees.

Sir, I am submitting these details merely to show that within our own limitations, we have done our best in investing our relationship with Nepal with a content and spirit in consonance with our age-old man-spangled bonds and with a vision em-132>

bodied in the 1950 Treaty. All that India sought in return from Nepal was genuine appreciation of our concerns and an open and candid friendship on par with our own. This was why, though it was perhaps inevitable that the economic relationship between the two countries should tend to be mere on the side of India, in 1960 a bold attempt was made, in a new Treaty of Trade and Transit, to establish what amounted to a common market between the two countries. That this grand vision was not realised was not because it was unrealistic or over-ambitious, but because of domestic political changes in Nepal.

Unfortunately, the vision of 1950 has been eroded over the years. Its spirit has been weakened, its content whittled away practically in every sphere of the IndoNepal relationship. Sadder still has been the systematic discrimination against the relatively small community of Indians in Nepal, who number only about 150,000, in the important areas of their day-to-day existence. In contrast, the number of Nepalese in India are anywhere between 3 and 4 million, who continue to enjoy all the rights which I have detailed above. Stringent restrictions have been placed on ownership of property by Indians in Nepal. In April 1987 something much more serious happened. His Maiesty's Government of Nepal included Indians in the category of foreigners requiring work permits for employment in any organised sector. Beginning with three Districts around Kathmandu, this measure was later extended to the whole of the country in September 1988. While it has not yet been fully implemented on the ground, many Indian professionals including a number of teachers who have for long served the cause of education of Nepalese youth have been given notice of termination of service. There are other reports that Nepalese concerns, some very close to the Indo-Nepal border, are hiring workers only on the basis of Nepali citizenship certificates. There are official reports these are official reports - that the Government is planning to review all the citizenship certificates granted, largely to people of Indian origin, over the last 12 years. It is said that the number involved in this move is 6.48 million. What is even sadder are the cases in which Indian professionals, employed by third country firms executing contracts in Nepal, have been refused employment solely because they are Indians. All this adds up to a picture far from happy. It would be difficult to imagine anything further from the vision of Jawaharlal Nehru and His Majesty King Tribhuvan. Our representations against these moves have not received any satisfactory or even a considered response from the Nepalese side. Attempts have been made to dismiss these vital issues by stating, for instance, that the work permit system was introduced for security reasons, again that it was meant to collect statistics and then again that it was meant for fulfilling the Basic Needs Programme. The situation speaks for itself, nothing more needs to be said.

Not only are Indians as individuals discriminated against but Indian firms, having won contracts against international bidding, have been deprived of what is due to them through manoeuvres in favour of third countries. Here too, our representatives have received nothing more than assurances that are not fulfilled. in practice.

In the field of trade and transit, about which the most recent issues have emerged, India has always been more than accommodating, acknowledging that the Nepalese economy has special needs. As mentioned earlier, the 1960 Treaty of Trade and Transit was based on the subsequently unfulfilled vision of an

IndoNepalese common market. Even without this, the Indo-Nepal Treaties of Trade and Transit which expired on March 23, 1989, provided an extensive preferential regime for Nepalese exports and Nepal's transit trade with third countries. Nepalese primary products and manufactures with a certain degree of indigenous content were given duty free and quota free access to the Indian market. Trade was conducted on a rupee payment basis. Nepal was given

-133>

as many as 15 routes through Indian territory for its transit trade. In addition, there were separate transit routes for Nepal's trade with Bangladesh and Bhutan. Nepal was also allowed to move goods from one part of that country to another through Indian territory. As mentioned earlier, Nepalese importers were given special facilities at Calcutta Port. Sir, all these extensive facilities were given solely in the spirit of the 1950 Treaty. Otherwise, the strictly legal position is that Nepal is not a member of GATT. India has not ratified either the International Convention on Transit Trade of Landlocked countries or the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. Therefore in matters of transit, India has, strictly speaking, no legal obligations towards Nepal. But India has never sought to take refuge behind this legalistic position.

However, even in the area of trade, there has been no reciprocation of our sentiments. The only concession that India was allowed was a tariff regime for its exports to Nepal superior to those of third countries. This was in return for providing Nepal with a unique preferential access to an extensive market right next door. However, in June 1987, Nepal, through a budgetary exercise of tariff rationalisation, completely removed all these tariff advantages earlier available for Indian exports. Besides basic customs duty, additional customs duty was also imposed on certain categories of Indian goods. As a result, Indian exports to Nepal in 1987-88 dropped to half of the previous year's figures.

When the Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty ended in March, 1988, the new package worked out and initiated in October 1988 included two Nepalese commitments. Those were that, firstly, the additional customs duty on Indian goods would be removed and secondly, this facility would not be extended to any third country. However, Nepal did not live up to either undertaking. After a fruitless wait of five months till February 1989 despite repeated reminders to the Government of Nepal, we were left with no alternative but to ask for a new unified Treaty of trade and transit. It should be noted here that since no new Treaty has been signed, there was no question of our "abrogating" it as has been claimed by some official Nepalese spokesman.

The Government of India have always wanted, and had until 1978, a single Treaty of Trade and Transit with Nepal. This is because

for countries like India and Nepal, with a very long open border of 1700 Kms., trade and transit are indisolubly linked matters. The extensive transit facilities provided to Nepal were being misused for large scale smuggling, which has had a highly negative impact on the Indian economy. In 1978 India, despite reservations, agreed to separate Treaties, but the results have not been happy. That is why, we are now asking for a single Treaty.

The present situation is thus entirely a result of actions both of omission and commission on the Nepalese side. For its part, India made efforts right up to the end, to ensure that Nepal fulfilled the commitments made by it in October 1988. This has not been done.

As a result of the lapse of the Trade Treaty, the highly preferential regime for Nepalese goods has been replaced by the normal export-import regime applicable to India's trade with many other third countries. The Government have further taken steps to see that the problems created by this for the common people of Nepal are minimised. Though the Quota system for supply of essential commodities has lapsed with the Trade Treaty, it has been conveyed to the Nepalese Government that the full quota amounts for 1989 sought by them for commodities such as sugar, baby food, milk products, coconut oil, gur, etc. will be supplied in full. But Sir, on the other side, there has been no response. Their traders have not been asked to lift. They have not been asked to open LCs and therefore, some of these commodities are not moving into Nepal.

-134>

In the field of transit, a landlocked country has a right only to one transit route to the sea under International Law. Even without the Transit Treaty, Nepal now has the following facilities

- 1. Two transit points, Raxaul and Jogbani which are the closest to Calcutta Port and which earlier carried eighty to ninety per cent of the transit cargo.
- 2. Facilities at Calcutta port as detailed above.
- 3. Transit routes as earlier for trade with Bangladesh and Bhutan.
- 4. Nepal-Nepal transit routes through India.

The Nepalese Foreign Minister during his visit to New Delhi on March 26-27, 1989, handed over to us their new draft for a Trade Treaty. This draft is interesting in as much as it indicates that the Nepalese Government themselves wish to move away from the earlier regime and now towards MFN status. It is thus evident that the Government of Nepal has desired not to go back to the

earlier trade regime with India. This has been made even more clear by the extensive tariff changes implemented by them on April 11, 1989, which have removed any remaining tariff concessions for Indian exports. We do not understand, therefore, why India is being accused of causing hard ship to Nepal in the field of trade.

In the transit field, Nepal has sought a revival of the earlier Treaty.

While India seeks a unified Trade and Transit Treaty, the transit facilities available to Nepal I have already detailed.

In his New Year's message - this is the latest position - to the nation on April 13, 1989, His Majesty King Birendra has expressed his Government's readiness to settle the problems "imposed on us by our geography as a landlocked nation" through "a friendly dialogue and negotiation". Meanwhile the Foreign Minister of Nepal has, in separate interviews to the New York Times and to the BBC, reportedly said that Nepal no longer wants a special relationship with India, that over-dependence on any one country is bad, that what Nepal wants now is inter-dependence. He has also reportedly affirmed that the recent tariff changes introduced on April 11, are irrevocable, reiterating that the unique, or special or traditional relationship is "now over". Subsequently, there have also been statements attributed to the chief official spokesman of the Government of Nepal affirming that if there was to be one Treaty, Nepal would want it to be a Transit Treaty alone. He also reportedly added that since India apparently felt that Nepal had violated the 1950 Treaty, which Nepal did not accept, Nepal was ready for direct and detailed talks on the whole gamut of Indo-Nepal relations. He also reportedly re-asserted the determination of the Government of Nepal to go ahead with their citizenship and work permit drives for foreign residents in Nepal.

All these years, our only wish has been to continue our relationship with, Nepal for the mutual benefit of both countries and peoples. At the same time, we have all along assured them of our respect for their sovereignty, their identity as a nation and our desire for their prosperity now and in the future. The 1950 Treaty determined our mutual relationship on the basis of looking after each other's interests, and conveying to the world the strength of the unity of purpose between our two countries. I would like to assure the House that our overwhelming desire to have a mutually beneficial relationship with Nepal remains undiminished.

India has never, despite assertions to the contrary from Nepal, sought a review of the 1950 Treaty. Indeed our desire has always been, and continues to be, to ensure that both the letter and the spirit of the Treaty are fulfilled. Although no single thrust seems to be discernible in the various recent statements from the

Nepalese side, as I have just detailed, they have, on occasions, reiterated that they are happy with the 1950 Treaty. From this it would be clear that both countries could, with profit, go into the working of the Treaty, with a view to ensuring its implementation in letter and spirit. India is ready and willing for this as well as to discuss the whole gamut of relations.

We would like to see the Indo-Nepal relationship continue to be, as before, a model. As always, we wish the Government and people of Nepal well. What we desire is to continue our deeply cherished relationship on the basis of sovereignty, mutual trust, mutual benefit and reciprocity in understanding and safeguarding each other's interests and concerns. The people of Nepal will not find us wanting. We harbour nothing but the highest regard for their concerns and the best wishes for their future.

PAL INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN SRI LANKA ISRAEL RUSSIA BANGLADESH BHUTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Apr 26, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### Yugoslavia

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 04, 1989:

The Yugoslav Foreign Minister had a meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The two leaders endorsed earlier discuscussions held at the External Affairs Ministers' level on the need to make the Belgrade summit a success. Both sides share an identity of views on several issues, including global peace, security and development. It was emphasised that efforts should be made to work out strategies to solve global economic problems facing the non-aligned countries, including problems of protectionism, trade barriers and international debts. Both sides agreed that bilateral cooperation between India and Yugoslavia was developing satisfactorily, especially in the economic field and new areas of cooperation have been identified. Bilateral trade has increased from \$ 70 million in 1985 to \$ 212 million in 1988. Prime Minister assured the Yugoslav delegation that India would assist

in the preparations and political consultations relating to the summit.

The Yugoslav Foreign Minister inaugurated the Indo-Yugoslav Friendship Society in the afternoon.

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA

**Date**: May 04, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Palestine

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 04, 1989:

A group of Arab Ambassadors, including the Ambassador of Palestine and the Representative of the League of Arab States, called on the Prime Minister today and apprised him about the continuing Israeli atrocities. The Prime Minister reiterated India's steadfast support for the Palestinian cause. He appreciated the positive steps taken by Chairman Arafat to promote the peace process. He observed that failure on the part of the International community to respond constructively by speedily convening an International Conference to work out an equitable and

-136>

durable settlement of the Palestinian issue would have serious consequences for peace and stability in the region. The Prime Minister assured the Ambassadors that India would make every effort for the early convening of such a Conference.

DIA ISRAEL USA

**Date**: May 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 04, 1989:

In reply to a question about depletion of forests in Nepal, the Spokesman said that there have been a couple of news items in the press about the shortage resulting from Indian action, of POL in Nepal being the cause of depletion of forests in Nepal. It has been alleged that depletion of Nepal forests has taken place since 23rd March, 1989.

The following figures in this connection will be quite eloquent on how forests have been depleted in Nepal. In 1964-65 they had 6.69 million hectares under forest. In 1978-79, it became 6.31 million hectares. In 1986, it was down to 5.5 million hectares. This will show that in percentage terms, the forest area in Nepal was down from 45.41 to 37.4. This is the direct result of Nepalese official settlement programme. Nepalese official sources indicate that during the period 1950 to 1985, 1,03,968 hectares were cleared under the official settlement programme in the Shivalik and the Tarai regions. As you will see, the rate of depletion has been more rapid in the period 1978 to 1986. It is incorrect to say that all this happened in the last four or eight weeks.

In reply to another question about Indian reaction to the Nepalese about complaining against India to the UN, the Spokesman said that they are an independent, sovereign country and could go to any forum they liked.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 5, 1989:

External Affairs Minister and the Minister of State briefed members of the Consultative Committee atached to the Ministry of External Affairs this morning on the subject of India's relations with Nepal. Reference was made to Prime Minister's statement indicating that the door was always open and that India was happy and willing to negotiate with Nepal. The same sentiments were contained in the External Affairs Minister's comprehensive statement in the Lok Sabha and during his intervention in the Rajya Sabha debate.

The Ministers pointed out that a great deal of thought had gone into the entire question of India's relations with Nepal and the problem had been examined in all its aspects. Government is

conscious of the security environment and the factors which could easily disturb this environment. India had made it perfectly clear that it stood by the Treaty of 1950. Some statements of the Nepalese Foreign Minister and other Nepalese spokesmen give the impression that they too are apparently satisfied with the 1950 Treaty. If this is so, then it means that there is a meeting ground, from where negotiations could begin.

Over the years, the Treaty of 1950 has been eroded and has tended to become one-sided. It is our desire to remove the distortions and correct the imbalances that have crept in. It is also our objective to see how the 1950 Treaty can be imple--137>

mented faithfully in letter and spirit. If Nepal was to make itself clear as to what exactly it wanted, negotiations could be concluded in a short space of time. Nepal has not made itself clear yet.

External Affairs Minister and Minister of State assured members of the Committee that India viewed relations with Nepal in a balanced and matured fashion and that India would, while formulating its policy, take into account its paramount security interests, the interests of its citizens and people of Indian origin, as well as our oft-stated and firm objective to have friendly relations with Nepal and indeed with all our neighbours. There should be no apprehension, or doubt about the fact that India bore the greatest goodwill towards the people of Nepal and wished them well. It was India's desire that the people of Nepal should continue to enjoy the benefits that have accrued to them from their relationship with India. India was aware of the needs of the Nepalese people and knew how these needs have been met by India through our policy of friendship and cooperation with Nepal. It was because of this awareness that India had adopted a policy of restraint. India was awaiting a positive response from Nepal.

The members appreciated the parameters of India's policy towards Nepal. They were specially conscious that India's security concerns must take precedent over other considerations. Likewise, the interests of Indian citizens and persons of Indian origin must be given due emphasis in India's policy formulations.

All members expressed goodwill towards the people of Nepal and urged the Government to continue its efforts to convey the feelings of friendship that the people of India have, for the people of Nepal, using every possible channel of communication available. Members also urged the Government to continue to actively explore ways and means of resolving the differences that have emerged, in the relationship between the two neighbouring countries. Both External Affairs Minister and Minister of State assured the members that the Government was actively engaged in doing precisely this.

Some members familiar with the border region stated that the people living far away from this area could not imagine the hardships being faced by people of Indian origin in Nepal. The work permits that were being insisted upon, and the citizenship certificates that were being demanded by the Nepalese authorities were leading to enormous hardships. Many people whose families were living in Nepal for 200 years, have been asked to leave. Many teachers and other professionals have been thrown out of their jobs. People of Indian origin were being discriminated against, in the matter of employment and were being treated as third-class citizens. Because of this situation, the people of the Tarai region were most supportive of Government's principled policy towards Nepal. One member even congratulated the Government on its Nepal policy.

Other members referred to the dangers inherent in Nepalese attempts to internationalise the problem. Government were cautioned by these members about the attempts by certain outside elements to cause a rift between Nepal and India. Satisfaction was expressed over the fact that inspite of the machinations of such outside elements, who were being assisted by certain sections within the Nepalese ruling elite, all efforts to rouse anti-Indian feelings amongst the people of Nepal had not met with success.

Some members also referred to the democratic movement in Nepal and pointed out that certain elements in the Nepalese ruling circles were fearful of such democratic Nepalese organisations.

Some members referred to the vision that had inspired the leadership of Nepal and India in 1950 to enter into a treaty relationship for ever-lasting friendship,
-138>

and expressed disappointment that presentday perceptions of the Nepalese leadership were different from those of 1950.

The meeting lasted for 11/2 hours.

The Spokesman then gave the names of the members who participated in the meeting.

In reply to a question whether there was any member who did not agree with Government's policy, the Spokesman said that many members said that they would like the Government to continue with the efforts. They were not happy with the present state of relations with Nepal.

But they were very clear that we must make efforts to set things right. There should not be any acrimony in the relations with Nepal.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 8, 1989:

In reply to a question about a story in the Indian Express of 5th May that Nepal has accused India of not compensating it for damages following collapse of Gandak West Canal, the Spokesman said that the Gandak West Canal runs for 15 miles within Nepalese territory before entering India. The Surj Pura power house is situated in Nepal. The power house had tripped resulting in accumulation of water upstream and in the collapse of the canal. Although the Nepalese were aware of the consequences of the failure of the power house, which is operated entirely by them, they failed to inform the Indian authorities whose offices are just within half a kilometre of the power house, so that the situation could have been rectified immediately. If the Indian authorities had been informed immediately, excess water could have been diverted through a side canal on the Indian side. The maintenance of the canal is undertaken by the Bihar Irrigation Department. The Bihar Irrigation Department were aware of the collapse of the canal on the 12th March, and probably tried to take remedial measures. Our Ministry of Water Resources was informed of the collopse of 13th April; immediately the Bihar Irrigation Department was instructed to make arrangements to repair the damage on the Nepalese side. However, the Bihar Irrigation Department had been prevented by the local Nepalese population from beginning repairs until compensation had been paid to them. After some negotiations, the Nepalese authorities agreed that the compensation could be settled separately after a Joint Inspection Committee visited the site and worked out the claims, and meanwhile, repair work could be started immediately without any delay. Subsequently, even constraints to the transport of cement and other building materials resulting from the expiry of the trade and transit treaties were removed with the direct intervention of our Ministry of Water Resources with our customs officials; and at this point of time the repair work has already been started.

It boils down to the fact that the delay was on the other side. As soon as we came to know of it, instructions were issued to the authorities concerned to repair it.

-139>

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 11, 1989:

In reply to a question about discrimination against Indians in Nepal, the Official Spokesman said that the recent deterioration in India's relations with Nepal is a matter of concern and anguish for India. Over the centuries, India and Nepal have shared a relationship which is unique and in this context the 1950 treaty was a significant landmark which served to buttress

this very special relationship, a relationship which is not replicated in this region or anywhere in the world.

A matter which has aggravated the situation in recent weeks and which is of particular regret to India is the unnecessary and unjustified harassment of Indians and persons of Indian origin living and working in Nepal. They number around 150,000, or approximately 1130th of the Nepalese community in India. In recent weeks, stringent restrictions have been placed on even the pursuit of their vocations and professions. Even though they are prohibited from buying property or businesses, this small and industrious community is being projected as a threat to the Nepalese economy. It is ironic that Indians who have been working in Nepal for decades and whose families have been living in that country for generations, are now being harassed and are required to obtain work permits even to continue their residence in Nepal. The work permit scheme began in April 1987 originally in three districts, and in September 1988 it was extended from the original three districts to cover the whole country. If the intention of this work permit scheme is to, as it is being made out by some Nepalese spokesmen, club Indians and equate them with other foreigners, then this knocks the very bottom out of the 1950 treaty under which both countries were required to treat each other's citizens at par.

Nepalese firms have been instructed by Nepalese authorities not to recruit Indians and bringing similar pressure to bear on international firms undertaking contracts in Nepal, is carrying prejudice and discrimination to new lengths. Such Indian firms which have won international contracts through open tenders, have been discriminated against by Nepal. Indians need not only work permits for employment in any organised sector, but such of them engaged in commerce are finding it difficult to open bank accounts. Indian teachers with long years of service are having their jobs terminated without proper justification. Indians in the transport business are being refused registration of their vehicles. While India has consistently and scrupulously adhered to both the letter and the spirit of the treaty, the Nepalese, we must confess with much regret, have not responded in equal measure.

There were reports even as early as 1987, that the Nepalese Minister of Education had issued a circular to the District authorities that Indian teachers should be gradually eased out by 1991-92 In recent weeks, however, we have had increasing reports about teachers and other experts who have contributed to the educational upliftment of the Nepalese youth and to the economic development of Nepal, having to run from pillar to post seeking help to resolve problems that they face, the problems which jeopardise their very livelihood and existence in Nepal. Some reports indicate that when they seek redress, they are shown the door or turned away with bland excuses. They are unable to understand the Nepali Government's sudden insistence on

citizenship certificates. Even doctors in hospitals set up by India are having impediments put in their way and on their continued stay. Even private companies taking their due from government organisations, have begun to demand citizenship certificates from professionals, if they happened to be Indians. The contrast to this regrettable -140>

and deploralbe situation can be seen in the manner in which the 3.5 million or more Nepalese who live and work in this country enjoy unrestricted rights regarding employment, ownership and travel. Indian teachers from Bihar and UP who are being denied pension facilities, promotion, training opportunities and gratuity are now faced with the prospect of Nepalese Government's move to dismantle the Nepalese National Teachers Association. It is not unnatural that such individuals who have rendered selfless and yeoman service should feel a sense of betrayal and sadness.

Some cases of discrimination brought to our notice in recent days are as follows:

One gentleman from UP who worked in three schools in Nepal since 1981, has been denied permanency of job because of his Indian origin. In fact he has been dismissed from the last school on nothing but verbal orders of the Head Master.

Another gentleman from UP who worked as a teacher since the beginning of 1985, has been denied confirmation and permanent status, again because he is an Indian. He has also been denied payment for the last three months.

Yet another teacher from Faizabad, UP working there since 1985 has not been paid his salary for one year as he does not have a work permit. The work permit regime is being applied to him retrospectively.

Another gentleman who is working as an Assistant Head Master for 25 years and has obtained Nepali citizenship for himself, has been denied citizenship for his son who was born in Nepal.

A Sanskrit teacher who has been in Nepal for 36 years and another who has been there for the last three years, have also complained of non-payment.

We have also got complaints from the association of people of Indian origin in various districts stating that those who do not have immovable property are being denied citizenship, while those who do not have citizenship are being denied possession of immovable property. Likewise, Indian-born wives of Nepali citizens are being denied citizenship. Even those who have been residents of Nepal for 40 years are being denied citizenship. These problems have come up during the last year and half. There are some reports that the Nepali authorities are saying that no

student who does not have citizenship, will be allowed admission to medical or engineering courses. This is in sharp contrast to the fact that 275 places which are reserved for the Nepali citizens in this country, in all the best engineering and medical institutions.

The Government of India cannot but view with concern this growing discrimination, which can only have a negative impact and which will regretably add to the problems which are already being faced because of the current situation.

QUESTION: Any reciprocal moves from the Indian side?

ANSWER: No. As I said earlier, we have been adhering scrupulously to the letter and spirit of the 1950 treaty.

QUESTION: What will the Government do if the Nepalese refuse to redress the grievances?

ANSWER: The Government of India have taken into account all these factors and we will take appropriate action. All the cases that have come to the notice of our Embassy have been taken up expeditiously with the Nepalese Government and attempts have been made to redress the grievances.

-141>

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 29, 1989:

In reply to a question whether trade with Nepal was being conducted in hard currency after 23rd March, the Spokesman said that currently trade was not being conducted in hard currency as the rupee trade was prevalent on a wide scale.

In reply to another question whether payment in hard currency would be acceptable to India, the Spokesman said that it will be acceptable to us if Nepal wants its trade with India in hard currency. However, the question of introduction of hard currency would arise only after the two countries have decided on the kind of trading arrangements between them.

In reply to further questions, the Spokesman said that he could not react to such proposals on a piece-meal basis as it was one of the elements of the package. However, bilateral trade on the basis of most-favoured nation treatment would naturally imply trade in hard currency. As for POL, before expiry of agreement the Nepalese were paying for the oil in dollars. The refining and transportation charges were paid by them in rupees.

PAL INDIA USA CHINA TOTO LATVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC OMAN

**Date**: May 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Soviet Union

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 18, 1989:

Yesterday, the Indian Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Mr. T. N. Kaul handed over a draft for Rs. 4.7 crores to the Prime Minister of Armenia at Yeravan for the earth-quake relief fund. This assistance is in addition to the five plane-loads of relief supplies airlifted by the Indian Air Force between December 10 to 28, 1988. These consignments consisted of tents, blankets, woollen clothes, hospital beds, tin-food, blood donations and medicines. The goods sent in December were worth Rs. 2 crores and this cash donation which has been handed over yesterday is worth Rs. 4.7 crores. The contributions made by India in December and now are one of the highest made by any country for this disaster.

DIA ARMENIA

**Date**: May 18, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Sri Lanka

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 23, 1989:

In reply to a question on Amnesty International's report on the so-called IPKF's atrocities in Sri Lanka, the Official Spokesman said that we have seen the Amnesty Report which, we find, is onesided and biased. While the Report goes into considerable

detail about the alleged mis-deeds of the IPKF, it avoids reference to the misdeeds of the LTT, except at one point where they mention that "the LTTE, was blamed for killing 300 civilians in 1988 apart from other deaths as a result of clashes between rival Tamil groups".

-142>

The bias in the treatment referred to above is glaring and damages, indeed destroys, the credibility of the Report. It is also a matter of surprise hat apparently taking the cue from LTTE propaganda, the Report makes no mention at all of certain important political developments in Sri Lanka which impinge directly on the human hights situation there. I refer to a clear mandate for peace given by the people of Sri Lanka for the Provincial Council elections of November 1988, the Presidential elections of December 1988 and the parliamentary elections of February 1989. Further, no mention is made of the return of 40,000 refugees to Sri Lanka from India since 1987.

Every specific complaint received from any source about the behaviour of IPKF troops is invariably investigated. Wherever and whenever charges have been proved, the guilty have been punished in an exemplary fashion. The Government of India are conscious of the need to maintain the highest standards of professional discipline in the army and need no lectures from self-appointed watch-dogs of human rights.

Various independent observers of the situation in Sri Lanka and many Sri Lankans themselves have praised IPKF officers for their helpfulness and compassion and for doing a good job in a difficult situation. The Amnesty report ignores such testimony and focuses instead exclusively on affidavits of doubtful authenticity. The mechanics of the investigative techniques of Amnesty also show many obvious defects. Several wild allegations presented in affidavit form seem to be taken at face value without any rigorous scrutiny. It is unfortunate that Amnesty's one-sided report serves as grist to the LTTE's propaganda mills which indulge in the orchestrating of propaganda campaign with the sole objective of drawing attention away from their own misdeeds.

The mandate of Amnesty precludes it from dealing with the activities of nongovernmental groups. This narrowness of approach seriously undermines the credibility of the report. There has been considerable criticism from various quarters of this lopsided approach which has become an unfortunate hall-mark of Amnesty reports on Sri Lanka.

In reply to questions, the Spokesman stated.

(1) We do not have figures for the number of people who have been investigated or punished. But whenever someone has been found to be guilty, he has been punished according to Army rules.

- (2) The Amnesty is only focussing on the transgression of the IPKF. They are focussing on the criticism of one side. The report is lopsided. We are objecting to their approach.
- (3) If you are looking at a human rights situation, then you have to look at it in its totality and not from one side.

#### I LANKA INDIA USA

**Date**: May 23, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Pakistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on May 24, 1989:

In reply to a question about reaction in Pakistan on the AGNI launch, the Spokesman said that Gen. Aslam Beg has said that AGNI is no threat at all, while the Foreign Minister of Pakistan has said something different. The Nobel prize winner Dr. Abdus Salam has commended AGNI.

As far as the Pakistan Government's reaction is concerned, the Chief of Army Staff's view whether AGNI is a military threat or not will be a more creditable one. He has said quite clearly that AGNI is not a threat.

Prime Minister was very clear when he said in Bhubaneshwar on 16.5.89 that

-143>

the country's defence research programme has nothing to do with any other country and that we will carry out this research, inspite of what the other countries may say. We have also seen reports that the US Administration will continue its dialogue with India on transfer of high tech to India. Some other reports say that such discussions may be discontinued. We have had continuous discussions with the US Administration for the transfer of high technology.

**Date**: May 24, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **PAKISTAN**

### Indo-Pak Talks on Civil Aviation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1989 on Indo-Pak talks:

India and Pakistan have agreed to increase frequencies in the field of civil aviation and to adopt liberal approach to permitting operations of freighter services between the two countries. It was also agreed that the designated airlines of both the countries should meet more frequently to discuss matters of mutual interest in greater detail.

This followed discussions held recently in Karachi between the official delegations of India and Pakistan. The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Shri P.C. Sen, Director General of Civil Aviation.

Since the last Memorandum of Understanding between the two Governments was signed in August, 1985, the present talks ranged over a vide variety of issues, both commercial as well as operational which required resolution.

The talks were held in an extremely cordial atmosphere and solutions beneficial to both countries were arrived at and approaches to problems were agreed to. The main subjects discussed were increases in frequencies of air services between the two countries, reduction in route mileage and better functioning of Air Traffic Services Speech Circuits.

KISTAN INDIA USA

**Date**: May 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

### **PAKISTAN**

#### Joint Press Release on Indo-Pak Talks

The following is the text of a joint press release on Indo-Pak talks issued in New Delhi on May 24, 1989:

Following their meetings in Lahore (20-21 December, 1986), and in New Delhi (14-16 May, 1988), the Home Secretary of India and the Interior Secretary of Pakistan held a third meeting in Islamabad from 20-24 May, 1989.

The Indian delegation was headed by Mr. J.A. Kalyanakrishnan, Home Secretary and comprised the following officials:

1) H.E. Mr. J.N. Dixit, Ambassador of India.

2)Mr. H.P. Bhatnagar, Director General, Border Security Force.

3)Dr. A.P. Mukherjee, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

4)Mr. M.M. Bhatnagar, Director-General, Narcotics.

5)Mr. V.K. Jain, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. -144>

6) Mr. Suresh Chandra,Additional Secretary,Ministry of Home Affairs.

7) Mr. Satish Chandra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

8) Mr. C.T. Benjamin, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

9) Mr. R.R. Varma, Inspector General, Border Security Force.

10) Mr. T.C.A. Rangachari,

Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India.

The Pakistan delegation was headed by Mr. S.K. Mahmud, Interior Secretary and comprised the following officials:

1) H.E.Mr. Niaz A. Naik, Pakistan Ambassador to New Delhi.

2) Maj.Gen. Hakim Arshad Qureshi, Director-General, Pakistan Rangers.

 Mr. Dilshad Najamuddin, Chairman,
 Pakistan Narcotics Control Board.

4) Mr. Salman Khaliq,Director General,Federal Investigation Agency.

5) Mr. Aziz Ahmad Khan, Director General (SA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

 Mr. Hasan Raza Pasha,
 Joint Secretary,
 Ministry of Interior & Narcotics Control,
 (Interior Division).

The leader of the Indian delegation called on H.E. Mr. Ghulam Ishq Khan, President of the Islamic Republic of Palcistan, H.E. Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and H.E. Mr. Aitzaz Ahsan, Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control.

The talks were held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere. Both sides recalled the resolve of their respective Governments to establish good neighbourly and cooperative relations between the two countries in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement. They agreed that the problems discussed could find a resolution on the basis of good faith and mutual trust.

Both sides agreed to take the following concrete measures to contain terrorism, drug trafficking and smuggling, and illicit border crossings along the India-Pakistan border.

(i) Cooperative arrangements between the two Border Security Forces:

Both sides reviewed the interim measures agreed upon during the last round of Home Secretary-level talks. While the working arrangements already agreed upon represented a step forward, it was felt that more could be done and the following additional

#### measures were decided upon:

- (a) The Director General Pakistan Rangers and the Inspectors General, BSF, Punjab and Rajasthan shall biannually review the implementation of the agreed measures of cooperation with special focus on their efficacy in regard to combating trans-border crimes, in addition to the work relating to the maintenance of boundary pillars. During their meetings, they may also agree on such Ineasures including meetings at intermediary level, as may be conducive to improve cooperation between the two Border Security Forces.
- (b) The Border Security Forces shall undertake simultaneous coordinated patrolling along the IndiaPakistan border and the patrols shall be briefed and de-briefed jointly. The concerned officials from the two Border Security Forces will meet in June 1989 to finalise the modalities and implementation of this arrangement.
- -145>
- (ii) Cooperative Arrangements to combat Drug Trafficking and Smuggling: The two sides reviewed the escalating drug trafficking situation with particular reference to trans-border movement of drugs between the two countries and emphasised the resolute commitment of the two governments to wage a total war on drug trafficking and smuggling. They noted with satisfaction the work being done in this area by the Indo-Pak Committee to combat drug trafficking and smuggling, which was constituted in pursuance of the decision taken by the Home Secretary-level meeting in 1986. The Indo-Pak Committee has already held three meetings so far, the last one was held in New Delhi on 10111.5.1989. The two sides fully endorsed the decisions taken at the third meeting of the IndoPak Committee. With a view to further enhancing and intensifying cooperation between the two countries, it was agreed that:
- (a) Coverage of information to be, exchanged between the two countries should be widened to include organisation, powers, functions and addresses of different enforcement agencies, training material, equipment, legislation, data regarding seizures and other related matters, including modus operandi, routes followed etc.
- (b) There was merit in taking steps for harmonisation of laws against drug trafficking so that drug traffickers, in order to avoid harsher punishment in one country, do not flee to or operate from the other country;
- (c) There was -need for intensifying enforcement of drug laws for interception I interdiction of the drug traffic on both sides and for mounting a special vigil against their trans-border movement. The above arrangements were designed to give a clear message to drug traffickers that the two Governments are determined to take all measures to effectively eliminate drug trafficking. To this end the drug law enforcement agencies in the two countries should gear themselves for taking effective action for accomplishing

this task in a spirit of total cooperation.

- (iii) Cooperative arrangements to deal with fugitives from law etc: Both sides recognising the importance of speedy apprehension of fugitives from law of either country in the other, reviewed the response received from the concerned agencies of the two countries through Interpol channels with a view to ensuring more expeditious action in this area. They agreed that:
- (a) The Interpol Chiefs and their representatives in both countries should have greater interaction at personal level including fresh periodic meetings.
- (b) The FILA in Pakistan and the CBI in India, acting as the nodal agencies and in concert with other appropriate agencies in their respective countries, should take appropriate action in tracing out and arranging to hand over to the other countries wanted and absconding criminals. The modalities of actions in this regard is to be worked out by the FIA and the CBI representatives through discussion within the next three months;
- (c) The concerned agencies should act in close cooperation in neutralisation of organised gangs and touts indulging in infiltration of large groups of people in pursuit of employment etc. in each other's country.

It was agreed that the Home Secretary of India and the Interior Secretary of Pakistan shall remain in touch with each other and meet again before the end of 1989 in New Delhi.
-146>

KISTAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date**: May 24, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **SOVIET UNION**

Efforts to Boost Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Pharmaceuticals

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 10, 1989:

The pharmaceuticals and drug industry both in India and Soviet Union had reached a stage where they could mutually benefit by exchange of technologies, setting up of joint ventures and also through increase in trade. This was stated by Shri M. S. Gill, Secretary Chemicals and Petrochemicals at Moscow today where he is leading an Indian delegation representing pharmaceuticals industry.

Inaugurating a 3-day Seminar on Indian Drug Industry, he further said that both the countries could endeavour in the field of upgradation of technologies which could work to mutual advantage. The Indian pharmaceutical companies, had a vast array of technologies, which could fruitfully be made use of in the USSR. In certain areas India need technologies and some of these were available with USSR. The industry through this opportunity could identify technological transfers and reach agreements.

Shri Gill also referred to the setting up of the joint ventures both in Soviet Union and in India. The investment climate in India was very favourable, and the procedures and regulations for setting up of joint ventures, as well as for making investment had been simplified. All companies having foreign equity upto 40 per cent were treated in all respects at par with wholly Indian companies. India was conscious of the recent liberalisation of procedures and policies, specially in regard to joint ventures in USSR. He hoped that the participants from the Indian industry would be able to take full advantage of the new climate. Some preliminary negotiations had already taken place in some cases, it was expected that this was opportunity to finalise agreements.

The Secretary felt that the procedures of registration of drugs could be brought down to a period of something less than one year as compared to three years at present considering the rapid obsolescence in this industry.

Referring to the visit of the President of the USSR to step up the volume of trade by 21/2 times in the next 5 years as there was intense desire on the part of both sides to increase trade. Shri Gill pointed out that the main focus of drug industry in India was to increase trade. In 1988 the exports to the USSR had reached a figure of 1023 million rupees. The exhibition by Indian industries would provide opportunity, of getting a better view of the Indian pharmaceutical sector as a whole and would help to identify specific products and areas for trade. India would also welcome import, of such of the items, as are required from the USSR. This exchange would result in an increase in the volume of trade in the pharmaceuticals actor.

Shri Gill emphasised that the main focus of pharmaceuticals industry in India was ensuring quality medicines as they had bearing on the people's well being. Great importance had been attached to research, development and impeccable quality control. The Indian Pharmacopoeia, which was recognised the world over, had set very rigorous standards. The drugs manufactured in India, were of the highest quality. The business sessions of this Seminar will provide further opportunity to exchange technical

papers and hold discussions to our mutual benefit. -147>

DIA USA RUSSIA PERU

**Date**: May 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US, Cooperation in Promotion of Tourism

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 18, 1989:.

India and USA signed here today a Memorandum of Understanding on Planning for the protection and tourism enhancement of major Indian heritage sites. The five-year agreement between the U.S. National Park Service and the Indian Department of Tourism was signed by Secretary Tourism, Shri S. K. Misra and U.S. Ambassador H.E. Mr. John R. Hubbard.

Under the Agreement, the Department of Tourism and National Park Service will collaborate in documentation of historic structures, landscape design 'Interpretive planning, visitor use planning and other areas. Two projects to be implemented are the development of the Agra Historical Park across the river and behind the Taj Mahal and the development of the Sarnath and Bodh Gaya archaeological sites related to the life of Buddha. The two agencies will also cooperate in the development of training programmes for visitor services and the interpretation of the significance of India's natural and historical rites.

The National Park Service has cooperated with the Government of India for many years in environmental conservation and education projects. Cooperation under the new agreement emphasizes the mutual interests and responsibilities of both countries under the World Heritage Convention of 1972, which recognizes and affords protection to the most outstanding and unique natural and historical treasures of the world. As of 1988, 288 sites in 54 nations have been recognised as being of 'outstanding universal value to all mankind". India and the U.S. lead the list with seventeen World Heritage Sites each. The convention encourages co-operation among its 102 member nations in furthering the preservation of these sites.

Areas of potential cooperation and projects of shared interest to both Governments are reviewed and sanctioned by the U.S., India Joint Sub-Commission on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The new collaborative projects between the National Park Service and the Ministry of Tourism were endorsed by both Governments at the Sub-Commission's November 1987 meeting.

A INDIA

**Date**: May 18, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

-148>

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Action Totally Unjustified - Commerce Minister's Statement

The following is the text of a statement made by the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, in New Delhi on May 26, 1989 on the US action in naming India among the priority countries for unfair trade practices under the US Omnibus Trade Act, 1988:

We are dismayed that the United States has decided to act under its Omnibus Trade Act, 1988 and to name some countries for priority action under its so called Super 301 provision. We regard this law and action under it as totally unjustified, irrational and unfair. While comprehensive multilateral negotiations are being held to evolve a just and liberalised system of trade and to preserve and strengthen the multilateral trading system, the United States Government has decided to take unilateral action undercutting the multilateral process. This action is also violative of the United States' own commitmentsunder the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The US action is particularly surprising because the United States itself has built and retained a variety of barriers against access to its own markets. It is hardly in a position to ask others to lift barriers without doing so itself.

The US Government has informed the Government of India of its decision to name India as one of the priority countries under its so-called super 301 procedures. The Indian practices which have been named are trade-related investment measures (TRIMS) i.e., (control of investment, particularly performance requirements relating to domestic content and export obligation) and public

sector monopoly on general and life insurance.

A INDIA

**Date**: May 26, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **ZIMBABWE**

Zimbabwe-India, Sign Accord on Cooperation Under AFRICA Fund

The following is the text Of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 25, 1989:

Agreed Minutes on cooperation between India and Zimbabwe under the AFRICA Fund were signed on May 18, 1989 at Harare by H.E. Mr. N. Krishnan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of India for Africa and H.E. Mr. E. N. Mushayakarara, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Government of Zimbabwe. The High Commissioner of India, H.E. Mr. Ranjit Sethi, was present.

- 2. It would be recalled that the AFRICA Fund was launched at the 8th Non-Aligned Summit in Harare in September 1986. A nine-member Fund Committee (India (Chairnian), Zambia, Zimbabwe, Congo, Nigeria, Algeria, Yugoslavia, Peru and Argentina), set up to administer the Fund, issued an Appeal to the conscience of mankind at a Summit held in Delhi in January 1987. Since then, 54 countries representing more than one third of the international community from the East and West, the North and the South developed and developing, have contributed the equivalent of US \$ 422 million in cash, kind and technical assistance. India has contributed Rs. 500 million (Appx. US \$ 40 million) in kind, for assisting the Frontline States and Liberation Movements in Namibia and South Africa under the AFRICA Fund. Out of this, a total amount of Rs. 70 million (Appx. US \$ 5 million) has been earmarked for three projects in Zimbabwe. These three projects are:
- i) Supply of Tarpaulin for Zimbabwe Railway Rs. 5 million
- 1i) Supply of Heavy Duty Trucks -Rs. 25 million
- iii) Assistance for setting up a Refractory Brick Plant Rs. 40 million.

While the supply of tarpulins has already been received, the trucks are on their way to Zimbabwe. The details of the

Refractory Brick Plant are under discussion.

3. Briefing journalists on the occasion, the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of India for Africa, Mr. N. Krishnan stated that India attaches great importance to the AFRICA Fund, the objectives of which are (i) to strengthen the economic and financial capability of the Frontline States and to support the Liberation Movements in South Africa and Namibia in their un-149>

relenting struggle against racist and colonialist oppression, and (ii) to assist the Frontline States to enforce sanction against South Africa and to cope with any retaliatory economic action by the racist regime. The Indian contribution to the AFRICA Fund (apart from the contribution by the Government of India, individual Indian citizens have donated more than Rs. 20 million) is, as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has put it, "a message to our brothers and sisters in Southern Africa that they are not alone in their struggle against apartheid."

- 4. The Zimbabwe Finance Secretary expressed his deep appreciation for the assistance being offered by India. Such assistance under the AFRICA Fund, will no doubt reduce the dependance of the Frontline States on South Africa, he said.
- 5. Mr. N. Krishnan presented a cheque for US \$ 50,0001- to Mrs. Sally Mugabe, wife of President Robert Mugabe & Hony. President of Children's Fund for Southern Africa (CHISA), also on May 18. A decision to contribute this amount from the cash resources of the AFRICA Fund was taken at the last meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee held in New Delhi from February 14-17.

MBABWE INDIA USA CONGO ZAMBIA ALGERIA ARGENTINA NIGER NIGERIA PERU YUGOSLAVIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date**: May 25, 1989

### June

Volume No			
1995			
CONTENTS			

Foreign Affairs Record VOL XXXV No 6	1989	
CONTENTS	June	
CANADA		
Indo-Canadian Cooperation in Oil Sector		151
FRANCE		
Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research	151	
HOME AND ABROAD		
Common Concern Over Super 301 - Comm Minister Holds Discussions in Geneva	erce	152
EEC Supports India's Stand on Super 301 - Commerce Minister Holds Discussions in Brussels	53	
Cooperation with FRG and GDR in Coal an Lignite Sectors	id 154	
125th Year of Pioneer's Publication - Prime Minister's Speech	154	
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS		
India Elected Chairman of Asia-Pacific Inst tute of Broadcasting Development	i-	158
IRAQ		
India and Iraq to Further Strengthen Economic Ties	58	
JAPAN		
Indo-Japan Trade Ties to be Strengthened		160
Rs. 7.30 Crore Japanese Grant Aid for Thre Cancer Institutes	e 160	
Rs, 1146.50 crore Japanese Loan Assistance to India		

NETHERLANDS

Netherlands to Assist for Farm Women's

Training Programme 161

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Sri Lanka 162

IPKF's Withdrawal 162

SAARC Meeting in Islamabad 163

LTTE and Sri Lankan Army 164

POL to Nepal 164

Disinformation from Nepalese side 165

Australia 165

Singapore 166

Pakistan: Siachen 166

SAARC 167

Bangladesh 168

**PAKISTAN** 

Indo-Pak Defence Secretaries' Meet - Joint

Press Release 168

SOUTH AFRICA

India's Support for Liberation Movement in

South Africa Reaffirmed 169

SOVIET UNION

Major Step up in Indo-Soviet Trade 170

**ZIMBABWE** 

President's Banquet Address at Zimbabwe 171

Cooperation between India and Zimbabwe in

Telecommunications 174

NADA FRANCE SWITZERLAND USA INDIA BELGIUM IRAQ JAPAN SRI LANKA PAKISTAN NEPAL AUSTRALIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE BANGLADESH SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE

**Date**: Jun 01, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### **CANADA**

#### Indo-Canadian Cooperation in Oil Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 29, 1989 on Indo-Canadian Cooperation in oil sector:

Indian and Canadian Companies today agreed to increase collaboration in the field of Petroleum and Natural Gas, according to message received from Canada.

A high level team led by Shri H.K. Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas with senior representatives of Oil & Natural Gas Commission (ONGC), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) visited the oil fields factories and research organisations in Canada and also met senior officials of the Government as well as leaders of oil industry.

Speaking at a function organised at Canada and attended by over 150 representatives of the Canadian industry and senior official of the Government, Shri Khan gave an over view of the strides made by the Petroleum industry in India and invited collaborations including investment from Canada. Presentations of the achievements of ONGC, OIL, IOC were also made. Both the Government as well as industry representative showed keen interest in participating in India's oil programme.

Number of areas such as collaboration in technical and scientific fields, exchange of experts, sharing of technology in Oil and Gas exploration were identified. Canadian and Alberta state officials welcomed the visit and said it was most timely.

Large number of representatives from Canadian industry who turned up in the meeting showed great enthusiasm for cooperation with India. It was decided that delegation from Canadian industry would visit India in November 1989 for further discussions and for possible collaboration arrangements. It was also decided that two countries would jointly work together in third world countries.

NADA INDIA USA

**Date**: Jun 29, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **FRANCE**

Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 06, 1989 on Indo-French Centre:

The third meeting of the Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research is being held in New Delhi. The two day meeting which began yesterday will examine the various recommendations of the Scientific Council of this Centre and also deliberate on the byelaws and other basic regulatory matters. The Governing -151>

Body has five members from each side representing various Ministries. The two Co-chairmen of the Governing Body are Dr. Vasant Gowariker, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology on the Indian side and Mr. Jacques Laureau Director for Scientific Technical and Development Cooperation in the French Ministry of External Affairs, on the French side.

The Centre has been set up jointly by the Indian and French Governments to promote interaction between Indian and French scientists in frontier areas of Science and Technology. Since its inception the Centre has started of five joint research projects in various thrust areas of relevance to the two countries. An Indo-French Workshop on Bioclimatology and one on Geometry was also organised by the Centre. Three more Seminars Workshops are scheduled to be held during this calendar year.

ANCE INDIA USA PERU

**Date**: Jun 06, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND ABROAD

Common Concern Over Super 301 - Commerce Minister HoldsDiscussions in Geneva

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 15, 1989 on Commerce Minister's holding discussion in Geneva:

The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, has held discussions with the Ambassadors and Representatives of a number of countries including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Columbia, EEC, Egypt, Japan, Jamaica, Korea, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uruguay and Yugoslavia on developments in the trading system and progress in the Uruguay Round during his 2-day visit to Geneva on June 13 and 14.

Briefing newsmen in Geneva, Shri Dinesh Singh said that the countries which participated in the discussions shared a common concern on the situation arising out of the decision taken by US authorities in pursuance of Super and Special 301 provisions of the US Omnibus Trade and Competitive Act of 1988. There was apprehension amongst them that this action on the part of US would seriously impede the multilateral process of the Uruguay Round. Shri Dinesh Singh said that it also raised the issue of the commitment of US to the multilateral system. He added that the objective of GATT was to develop and evolve free trade. Unilateral or bilateral initiatives could only undermine the multilateral trading system and defeat this objective.

Shri Dinesh Singh raised the question as to whether meaningful negotiations could take place under the Uruguay Round if a major economic power decided to reserve for itself the right to act unilaterally at the end. With such a threat the exercise of negotiations under the Uruguay Round became meaningless. We have to decide in what manner and whether at all Uruguay Round negotiations can proceed in the light of the application of 301 by the US, he said.

While in Geneva, he also called on Mr. Julius Nyerere of Tanzania who was in town to address the ILO Conference. He also met the Director Geneval of GATT and the Secretary-General, UNCTAD.

Shri Dinesh Singh later left for Berne, where he will call on Swiss President Delamuraz for discussion on bilateral and multilateral matters.

-152>

ITZERLAND USA INDIA ARGENTINA BRAZIL CHILE CHINA EGYPT JAMAICA JAPAN KOREA PAKISTAN TANZANIA URUGUAY YUGOSLAVIA

**Date**: Jun 15, 1989

### **Volume No**

#### HOME AND ABROAD

EEC Supports India's Stand on Super 301 - Commerce MinisterHoldsDiscussions in Brussels

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 19, 1989 on the discussions held by Commerce Minister in Brussels:

Representatives of the European Economic Community (EEC) have said that the Community strongly disapproves of the recent US decision naming India, Japan and Brazil for unfair trade practices under the Super 301 as well as its decision under Special 301 under its Omnibus Trade Act, 1988. The EEC would support moves in various international for to convey to the US Administration as well as to the US Congress that unilateralism and bilateralism would impair the multilateral trading system and would undermine the multilateral negotiating process underway in the Uruguay Round. This was conveyed to the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, by the EEC Commissioner for Mediterranean Policy Relations with Latin America, Asia and North-South Relations, Mr. Abel Matutes, in Brussels on Saturday, Shri Dinesh Singh, who was on a visit to Brussels on June 16-18, had extensive discussions with the EEC Commissioner and other representatives on bilateral trade as well as multilateral trade matters, particularly recent developments in international trade. The EEC representatives also said that in the case of telecommunications, for which the EEC had received a request for negotiations under 301, it had been pointed out to the US that negotiations could take place only in the multilateral forum of GATT.

Shri Singh urged the dismantling of all barriers to India's exports to the EEC, in the context of the integration of the Community by 1992. He said that while integration of Europe would bring greater advantages for the EEC member countries, there was a danger of outsiders being put to disadvantage. While countries like Japan were trying to meet the challenge through investments, for others including India resource constraints might be an impediment. Hence, India would need dismantling of barriers to its trade as well as assistance in studying the market potential for specific products which it could supply competitively in the integrated market.

Imbalance in the trade flows between India and the EEC and ways to redress the imbalance were discussed. This also figured in the talks Shri Dinesh Singh had with Mrs. Lizen, Secretary of State in the Foreign Trade Ministry of Belgium. The discussions also covered the proposed loan of 250 million Belgium francs to be signed between Belgium and India in Brussels shortly. The Commerce Minister expressed the hope that India's interest in West Europe would be enhanced through greater cooperation in

terms of marketing and advertising of Indian products and assistance in product adaptation in Europe keeping in view that production would become highly specialised and competitive in the integrated market of 1992.

Earlier, Commissioner Matutes sought India's support for acceptance of European standards for high definition television. India could also have a share in the market which would be of the order of US \$ 100 to 200 billion as Europe would be willing to transfer technology.

Shri Dinesh Singh also met representatives of leading Belgian companies, who expressed growing interest in enhancing cooperation with India in trade and investment.

Shri Singh is currently in Moscow where he is scheduled to hold high-level discussions with his Soviet counterpart on bilateral trade and economic relations.

-153>

#### DIA BELGIUM USA BRAZIL JAPAN URUGUAY RUSSIA

**Date**: Jun 19, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND ABROAD

Cooperation with FRG and GDR in Coal and Lignite sectors

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 15, 1989 on Co-operation with FRG and GDR in Coal and Lignite sectors:

Both Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and German Democratic Republic (GDR) have offered to assist India in the development of Barsinghsar lignite mining and power project in Rajasthan which will be taken up by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC). The offers, which will be considered alongwith similar offers from other interested parties, were made at the joint working group meetings of Indian and German officials held recently in Bonn and Berlin. The Indian team was led by Shri T.U. Vijayasekharan, Secretary, Department of Coal in the Ministry of Energy.

GDR has offered a special credit for the expansion of first lignite mine at Neyveli from an annual production capacity of 6.5 million tonnes to 10.5 million tonnes. Feasibility studies by GDR

consultants on pilot projects for continuous mining, reclamation of mined-out areas and for geo-hydrological model for Neyveli basin are nearing finalisation. A lignite fuel-energy institute will also be set up at Neyveli with the GDR help. GDR has already supplied equipment and services for improving the NLC briquetting and carbonisation plants and for the Panandhro lignite project in Gujarat.

FRG has already provided substantial equipment and services for the second lignite mine and associated power projects of Neyveli Lignite Corporation. It has provided concessional assistance of DM 1037 million (Rs.850 crores) for these projects.

Ramagundam II opencast coal project of 2 million tonne annual capacity of Singareni Collieries Company will be developed with the FRG cooperation. The German assistance for this project will be DM 172 million (about Rs. 140 crores). The Chinakuri underground coalmine project of Eastern Coalfields will also be implemented with the FRG assistance of about DM 65 million (Rupees 55 crores) with the assured performance guarantee.

A deshaling plant with German drybeneficiation technology at Bina coalmine project of Northern Coalfields is likely to be funded by FRG. Studies for some underground coalmine projects of Western Coalfields are also being carried out presently by German consultants under technical assistance from FRG.

DIA GERMANY USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA

**Date**: Jun 15, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### HOME AND ABROAD

125th Year of Pioneer's Publication - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a speech made by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi on Jun 07, 1989 at the function to celebrate the 125th year of publication of The Pioneer:

I would like to first congratulate the Pioneer newspaper and the whole Pioneer family on completing a 125 years - a 125 years that have set a very high standard for journalism. You have displayed journalistic integrity. You have always had perceptive comments to make on situations, on events and most of all you have participated in the task of building our nation after

#### Independence.

The Pioneer started of as a British establishment newspaper with, if I may say, very one-sided views but you very quickly changed over to the task of nationbuilding and have risen as a nationalist newspaper with a stature which is known throughout the country. Your influence -154>

now extends well beyond U.P. to the other parts of India. I would like to congratulate you for this and we hope that you will maintain these high standards of objectivity, of integrity and of constructive spirit in the next 125 years.

A free press is integral to a democratic society. We cannot imagine a true democracy functioning with a gagged or suppressed press. And, in India we want a free press; we want a press that is objective, that criticises, that is outfront; but we would like to also see the press looking at the serious issues, perhaps even I go to the extent of saying, looking at the real issues that the country is sometimes facing. Sometimes we get carried away and we don't realise the implications of what is happening. Sometimes the press doesn't speak out when it should speak out. I will give a small example.

For almost two years we have been preparing for the launch of the Agni Missile from Orissa. We had an agitation going on at the launch site to prevent the launch and the testing of the Agni Missile. Now, this is an issue which affects the basic security, the self-reliance of our country. I don't think any paper picked it up and presented it for what it really was. So, these are I feel real issues which we cannot avoid. And, if an agitation is going on an issue which is critical for our security, why are people quiet about it? I don't want to give more examples but these are the sort of things which worry me. I don't see any differences in what the press wants to achieve and what the Government wants to achieve. But perhaps the goals need to be set out a little more clearly because I find that in today's atmosphere of media-hike, should I say, where anything seems to go we don't look deep enough. I find that there is a very strong thrust for economic development. This is good. I myself have given a very positive thrust and we will fight very hard to see that India develops faster and we break the old formulas which have kept us locked to the past and free all the energies in the country for development. But is development the end of the nation building process that we started with the freedom struggle which we continued with winning our independence in 1947? Or, is there something deeper that we must protect, that we must project?

I feel that one of the most important tasks that we have, whether it is the Government or the press or, well, the people of India, is to protect our heritage, to protect our culture, to protect the values which have held our civilisation together for

thousands of years. This is our strength as India. We have seen India as one India, as Bharatvarsh, even as there have been numerous kingdoms in the country. Even when we were colonised we did not lose this spirit. But today, we are under the threat of losing this feeling only because there is a very strong feeling of materialism, of quick material gain coming into our society. And, I feel that no matter how rapidly we develop economically, if we lose our roots we will be worse of than we were when we were colonised, because even when we were colonised, because even when we were colonised w had our culture, we had our Bharatvarsh, we were Indian. If you are willing to give that up for economic development, I think we are going the wrong road. I don't see enough debate on such issues. I don't see enough debate in the papers on basic structural issues which effect the country - the structure or the system that is functioning. Yes, there is criticism but there is no debate.

I feel that the newspapers, and perhaps even more so the plethora of magazines that are coming out, should address themselves to such much more serious issues, debate them and provoke debate within the nation.

Internationally, we are heading for a new era. The old equations are breaking down. We have been fighting to break these equations for the last fortytwo years and for the first time we find that we are making headway. There is recognition that non-violence is the only wayout. There is recognition that demilitarisation is -155>

needed to keep peace to protect humanity. There is a recognition that there are no permanent enemies; there are different ways of doing things; thre are different societies; there are different cultures; but there is really one truth, only different views of looking at it.

In this atmosphere of change in the globe, there is an opportunity for India to step out and come out much more boldly and strongly about the ideas and ideologies that have been part of our civilisation for thousands of years. Today, these are perhaps the only way to protect humanity from itself, from scientific development, from uncontrolled scientific development especially in the fields of defence and weaponry. These are the type of issues I would like the press to look at, raise and to link them back to the economic development process in the country. Unless we are strong at home, we cannot be strong outside. To be strong at home, we need to look at ourselves in much more depth. We are still dividing ourselves on religion, on caste, on language, on region and sometimes, we go into the sub, sub and sub categories of each caste, each religion and what not. This is perhaps the most dangerous trend in the country today. We see it in some parts of the country in terms of religion; in other parts it is ethnic; mostly, we find that it comes up because of a shortsighted leadership which is not willing to

recognise another point of view. Again, this is an area which the media must fight; it is not something that just the Government can fight.

Communalism is perhaps the biggest danger that is afflicting our country today and we must rid the country of this. We must be seen as united in fighting this menace. There can be no compromises with communalism, especially a compromise for political gains. Anybody who attempts to do that is selling the unity and integrity of the country for his own personal gain and we cannot allow that to happen.

We have seen in some parts of the country, movements have come up, in the North-east for example where a small ethnic group had felt isolated and felt neglected and felt pressurised, but mostly I had found our society as a whole has not recognised this as one part of India feeling that they are neglected or unwanted. We have not seen it in that way and that is why it has been difficult for us to try and pull them back into the mainstream. There is the example of the Gorkha agitation in the Darjeeling Hills. The whole nation was standing up and saying that this is an anti-national agitation. How can an agitation that is demanding Indian citizenship for its people be an anti-national agitation? But we labelled it so, we didn't try to think what is going on in the minds of those who are agitating or are agitated and it made it that much more difficult for us to pull them back into the mamstream. But we have shown that it is possible to pull back the most disillusioned people in every part of the country.

I feel that the media needs to pay much more attention to these areas which affect the growth and development of our nation.

I know you have certain problems which have cropped up very recently. The newsprint prices are causing us also tremendous concern. It is said that we have increased these prices deliberately to put pressure on the media and to pull them in line. Now, let me assure you that there is no such method in this price-increase and if I can let you into a secret, as I have discovered, prices are not controlled at all and we have no real control over it, although our Government mills have done this and a file did come to me for the increase of prices. I sent it back saying that I don't think this is the right thing and while my office was debating on it and we had two views, the economists who said that this must be done and the newspaper oriented people who said this is disaster, you will finish off the newspapers keeping in the mind that you have gone through some other price hike just recently; but while we were looking at this -156>

file, some of the mills in the South increased their prices and then we were caught in it. Well, that is the truth of the matter. The BICC have recommended the prices and the problem that was put to us was very real because paper is not controlled; if newsprint

prices were not increased, newsprint production would come to a halt and this was the balance that we had to look at. But like I said, it partly gather a momentum of its own before we could really get it by the scruff of the neck and get a hold of it. What we will see is to try and release what we have got as additional stocks as buffer stocks to see that you have no problems and to see what we can do in terms of import to help you keeping in mind that we do have a very real balance of payments problem and we have to keep a very tight check on that. We expect that this will tide over the present difficulties and the mills output will increase and will pick up some tempo. Specially, for the small and medium newspapers we will try and see that the newsprint, the preference prices are maintained and I hope that that will atleast help those who will be most adversely affected because I am sure that the stronger newspapers have the resilience to cope with such a situation but the smallest have the most difficulties.

Finally, the newspapers I feel must also look beyond just the political news. Too often, most of the newspapers are full from back to front with politics. Now, this is good, it is interesting, but there are so many other things happening in the country, in the world; Narain Duttji mentioned newspapers trying to get off the thin line from yellow-journalism to developmental journalism; but I was really thinking of going even beyond that; there is so much happening in the cultural field, in the humanities, there is so much happening in science, there are so many things taking place in the country, there are so many people who are important in their own right who should be projected for the work that they have done, for the achievements that they have achieved, rather than focussing only on those of us politicians who can make the biggest noise and get our pictures on to the front pages.

Development is one of the key areas that I feel that is not being projected adequately and sometimes when it is projected only the negative aspects are projected. I will give you an example. Some vears ago we had a spate of articles on Kalahandi in Orissa as one of our worst districts, of starvation deaths taking place, a few specific cases were mentioned and then I went there and we investigated and we found that although there was truth in the backwardness, there wasn't truth in the starvation and there wasn't truth in some of the ghory stories that had come out. But because there were such real problems in Kalahandi, we started a massive programme of poverty removal in the area. I don't think we had such an integrated comprehensive programme which looks at free food for the elderly and the young, jobs, changing the complete cropping pattern to match the climate, health, we looked at every single aspect and we brought a comprehensive programme, but there has been no follow up after that drama of starvation deaths. Yes, you pointed out something. We reacted to what you picked up. We would also appreciate your going again and seeing how the programme is running, tell us what is going wrong with

the programme, we will correct it further. But this is what I see does not happen. The press doesn't like to go into things in adequate depth. Sometimes the story is ruined when it has gone into in too much depth. I remember one reporter who visited a foreign country with me, he came back and we had a big splash of how vast amounts of money were wasted. And, then I asked one of our people to talk with him and say, look, this is not the truth because we didn't spend any money at all, we were guests of the Government; it was really not about us but about the big press party that we had taken. And when this was mentioned to the reporter, he said yes, but if I had asked you this before than how could have I printed the story.

So we need some more seriousness in our reporting, some more seriousness about debate on where the country is going, where would you like the country to go and involvement of many more people in such a debate. Now, we can only have that if the media really raises such issues and that is what I look forward.

The Pioneer has been at the forefront raising such issues, being objective. We look forward to your further lead and your influence spreading a little further."

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU

**Date**: Jun 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

India Elected Chairman of Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 27, 1989 on India elected chairman of Asia Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development:

India has been unanimously elected Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD). The Chairmanship is for a period of two years effective from January 1, 1990.

This was decided at a four-day meeting of the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development held at Kaula Lumpur from June 19 to 22, 1989 in which representatives of 22 member countries of the Asia and Pacific Region had participated. The Indian delegation to the AIBD meeting was led by Shri R.C. Sinha,

Joint Secretary (Broadcasting), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

India has also been elected on the Governing Council of the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD) for a period of four years effective from January 1, 1990. Incidentally, India had polled the highest number of votes in the election for the membership of the Governing Council of the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development.

It may be pointed out that the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting is an inter-Governmental Organisation functioning under the auspices of the United Nations. The Institute aims at improving the quality of broadcasting in the Asia-Pacific Region countries through training, seminars and workshops at the regional, sub-regional and in-country programmes.

DIA USA

**Date**: Jun 27, 1989

# Volume No

1995

#### **IRAQ**

India and Iraq to Further Strengthen Economic Ties

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 01, 1989 on India and Iraq to further strengthen Economic ties:

The President of Iraq, Mr. Saddam Hussain has expressed his country's keen desire to further expand economic ties with India. Mr. Saddam Hussain conveyed this to India's Railways Minister, Shri Madhav rao Scindia in Baghdad yesterday, when Shri Scindia called on the Iraqi President to personally hand over a special message from Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. -158>

It is understood that Shri Gandhi, in his message to Mr. Saddam Hussain, had expressed India's intention to further actively associate in the current phase of economic reconstruction and development in Iraq. in the true spirit of South South Cooperation. Responding very positively to Shri Gandhi's message, President Saddam Hussain recalled his visit to India in 1974 since when economic cooperation between the two countries has grown considerably. He told Shri Scindia that Iraq is keen to

further expand this co-operation in all possible areas including Transport, Railways etc. for mutual benefit.

The Indian Railways Minister appraised Mr. Saddam Hussain of India's Committment to the policy of South South Co-operation initiated by Late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi and vigorously being pursued by the present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Shri Scindia said that in the past few years, India has achieved all round progress including the Railways sector, and all these expertise is at the disposal of the Iraqi brothers.

Shri Scindia complimented President Saddam Hussain for impressive economic development achieved by Iraq under his leadership. He noted that in the present phase of peace and reconstruction Iraq is poised for an even greater growth.

President Saddam Hussain also mentioned other areas of possible economic cooperation which included Industry and higher education. He conveyed greetings and goodwishes for Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the people of India.

The meeting which lasted an hour, was described as very warm and open, reflecting the age old ties of friendship between India and Iraq. Others who were present during the meeting today were, the Minister for Transport and Communication of Iraq, Mr. Mohammed Hamza AI-Zubaidi and the Indian Ambassador in Baghdad, Shri Kamal Bakshi.

Earlier yesterday, Shri Madhavrao Scindia and Mrs. Mohammad Hamza, jointly flagged off the superfast express train at the Baghdad main railway terminal. The train, Al Anbar Express, running at a speed of 120 kilometres per hour will connect Baghdad with the western city of Hsaibah.

After the flagging off ceremony, a function was held at the Baghdad Railway Station, to celebrate the first anniversary of the operation and maintenance of the 516 kms. long Baghdad-Al Qaim-Akashat Railway Project (BAAR) by the Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES). This is the biggest ever Railway operations contract awarded by the Iraqi Railways to any foreign company. Speaking on the occasion Shri Madhavrao Scindia said that during its one year of operation of the BAAR Project, RITES have shown very good performance and have won the appreciation of the rail users. They have achieved the freight target of nearly 4 million tonnes and passenger traffic of half a million during the year, RITES by working in close cooperation with the Iraqi Railway personnel. Referring to the all round technical and economic progress achieved by India, Shri Scindia offered these expertise to the Iraqi people. He expressed the hope that Indo-Iraqi cooperation will expand in spheres other than Railways, under the inspiring leadership of President Saddam Hussain and the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Speaking on the occasion, Iraq's Minister for Transport and Communication Mr. Mohammad Hamza thanked RITES family in Iraq for their achievement in the first year of their operation of the BAAR project. He also erpressed the hope that, Indo-Iraqi Cooperation will continue to expand in the coming years.

AO INDIA USA TOTO

**Date**: Jun 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **JAPAN**

Indo-Japan Trade Ties to be Strengthened

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 07, 1989 on Indo-Japan Trade ties:

India and Japan are to promote closer cooperation in the field of trade and commerce, including cooperation in the area of joint ventures. This was indicated when the visiting ten-member Japanese delegation, led by Mr. Saburo Aoki, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Japan-India Business Cooperation Council called on the Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, here last evening. Shri M.R. Sivaraman, Joint Secretary (East Asia), Ministry of Commerce, was present. Mr. Aoki conveyed Japan's interest in promoting Indian exports to Japan as well as Japanese investment in India. They evinced keen interest not merely in promoting exports from India to Japan but also to third countries. Consistency in quality, continuity of supplies and competitiveness were of ulmost importance in this context, they felt.

Pointing out that the traditionally close political ties between India and Japan should be adequately reflected in the economic field, Shri Dinesh Singh said there were greater opportunities for cooperation between India and Japan in view of developments in the global economic scene including the coming together of powerful economies to form economic blocs such as Europe 1992 and also the recent US action. He called for enlarging the base of Indian exports to Japan by including non-traditional items like engineering goods and computer software. While welcoming the suggestions made by the delegation to improve India's share of the Japanese market which at present is roughly one per cent, the Minister said that collaborations and joint ventures would go a

long way in improving the competitiveness of Indian goods vis-avis its competitions from the developed countries in the Japanese market.

Mr. Aoki also suggested that Indian exporters should utilise the services of the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), which has its office in India, to make their products known in Japan.

On the issue of investment, Shri Dinesh Singh said that the liberalisation of the investment climate including introduction of the fast track should give confidence to the Japanese investor of the opportunities existing in India and said the Government would give the highest priority to cooperation with Japan. Referring to comparisons made with the liberal investment environment in other South-East Asian countries, the Minister pointed out that such comparisons did not reflect the advantages arising out of the size of the Indian market and the degree of political stability essential for promotion of investment.

#### PAN INDIA USA PERU FRANCE

**Date**: Jun 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **JAPAN**

Rs. 7.30 Crore Japanese Grant Aid for Three Cancer Institutes

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 27, 1989 on Japanese Grant Aid for three cancer institutes:

An Agreement was signed today in New Delhi between India and Japan for the Japanese grant assistance to India for the year 1989-90 of Yen 616 million equivalent to Rs. 7.30 crore app. This aid will be utilised for import from Japan of two CT Scanners as well as upto date cancer -160>

treatment equipment for the Cancer Institute, Madras, Dr. B. Barooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati and Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

The agreement was signed by the Finance Secretary, Shri G. K. Arora on behalf of India and Mr. Eijiro Noda, Ambassador of Japan to India on behalf of Japan.

#### PAN INDIA

**Date**: Jun 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **JAPAN**

Rs. 1146.50 crore Japanese Loan Assistance to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 27, 1989 on Japanese Loans assistance to India:

Government of Japan have pledged a loan assistance of Yen 96,710 million equivalent to Rs. 1146.50 crore approximately to India for the year 1989-90 for implementation of various developmental projects.

This loan assistance was pledged by Japan at the recently concluded Aid India Consortium meeting in Paris. The assistance from Japan this year register an increase of 10.10 per cent over the figure of Yen 87,834 million for 1988-89.

The loan will be extended through the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan, which is the official loan giving agency of the Government of Japan. The loan is repayable over the period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and carries an interest rate of 2.5 per cent per annum.

PAN INDIA USA FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jun 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **NETHERLANDS**

Netherlands to Assist for Farm Women's Training Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi

on Jun 29, 1989 on Netherland's assistance for Farm women's training programme:

India and Netherlands have signed an agreement for 'Training of Women in Agriculture' in Gujarat. The Project is aimed at improving the socio-economic status of women through skill-development in agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry.

The Netherlands government would provide an assistance of approximately Rs. 241 lakhs (Dfl 33.96 lakhs) of which about Rs. 234.4 lakhs (Dfl 33 lakhs) will be used for implementation of the Project and Rs. 6.8 lakhs (Dfl 96,000) for consultancy and evaluation.

The Project also seeks to encourage the exchange of experience among the participating farm women, researchers and extension personnel.

One of the objectives of the Project is to understand the relationship between nutrition, improved health conditions and food production.

The Project will be implemented through a village-based training programme to be carried out in six districts of Gujarat, viz. Panchamahal, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Junagarh, Surat and Kaira. -161>

DIA USA THE NETHERLANDS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jun 29, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Sri Lanka

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 02, 1989 on Sri Lankan President's speech:

To a question as to whether the Government of India had any reaction to the reports about Sri Lankan President's speech expressing the desire for the withdrawal of IPKF troops from Sri Lanka, by 29th July, 1989, Spokesman made the following statement:

We have seen press reports stating that the Sri Lankan President had spoken at a public rally when he had expressed the desire to ask India to withdraw IPKF. As we have said before, on several occasions over the last few months our policy on the question of withdrawal of troops depends on certain parameters. We are therefore a little puzzled about the request or rather the proposed request that is said to be in the process of being made. As the MEA Spokesman, had said earlier this year, with the successful holding of the Provincial, the Presidential and later the Parliamentary elections, the formation of the Provincial government and the beginning of some devolution of powers to the Provincial government, some of the Indian troops deployed in the North East Province are in the process of being withdrawn. In accordance with the process begun earlier this year, a couple of months ago, we announced that in the light of our policy laid down earlier and in the context of the emerging situation in the North East Province, it had been decided that a further reduction in force levels was possible. Accordingly, several units of the IPKF were withdrawn in the weeks following the making of this statement. The Prime Minister had also stated that India had to think about getting back the bulk of its forces as soon as practicable, but in a manner that would preserve the gains achieved by its presence so far. (Prime Minister's statement made at Army Commanders Conference, 24th April, latest withdrawal of IPKF - some units - in April, 89).

The Prime Minister had also at that time, stated that there were still some unresolved questions on the quality of the devolution of powers to the Provincial Council, as well as their ability to maintain law and order. As may be seen from these statements, our Policy on this question of withdrawal forms part of a continuous process, in which we have been engaged over the last several months. I would like to reiterate that the presence of the IPKF in Sri Lanka is at the invitation of the Sri Lankan government and the preservation of the integrity, territorial unity and sovereignty of Sri Lanka, were and still continue, to be the objectives of the Government of India.

I LANKA INDIA USA

**Date**: Jun 02, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

IPKF's Withdrawal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 12, 1989 on IPKF's withdrawal:

We have seen several recent statements issued by Ministers and officials in Sri Lanka - some fixing unilateral and unrealistic time-frames for IPKF's withdrawal, others giving one sided interpretations of various provisions said to govern such matters. These statements ignore the fact that there is a bilateral Agreement signed by the Heads of the two Governments, that certain actions have been -162>

taken and sacrifices made and that there is a mutuality of obligations. These statemens come at a time when efforts were being made through diplomatic channels to evolve an understanding between the two Governments on this question and in disregard of Sri Lanka's own request to us to avoid public statements.

The Government of India reiterates its firm commitment to the phased withdrawal of the IPKF as soon as practicable. We had in our statement on 1st January 1989 clearly stated that a phased withdrawal of the IPKF has started and that as the situation in the North-Eastern Province improves further; as the devolution of power becomes effective; as the Indo Sri Lanka Agreement gets progressively implemented; and as the mischief-making potential of extremist elements opposed to the Agreement is reduced; further withdrawals will be made in consultation with the Sri Lankan Government. This process had continued and, as attested by statements by the Sri Lankan Ministers themselves in their Parliament and elsewhere, substantial withdrawals have been made in this manner. This was being done in a spirit of consultation and cooperation between the two Governments and based on assurances that the process of implementation of the relevant clauses of the Agreement was going ahead. Recent actions and statements in Sri Lanka have, however, created an air of uncertainty in this regard.

The withdrawal schedule of the IPKF can only be decided by mutual consultations as has been done till now and hot through unilateral deadlines. The withdrawal must also be accompanied by the simultaneous implementation of the relevant clauses of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. Specifically, there has to be a devolution of effective powers to the Provincial Council and the creation of a credible and effective law and order machinery in the North-Eastern Province so that the Tamils can live with safety and security and are guaranteed their democratic rights within a united Sri Lanka.

DIA SRI LANKA USA **Date**: Jun 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### SAARC Meeting in Islamabad

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 26, 1989 on the SAARC meeting in Islamabad:

In reply to a question about Sri Lanka not proposing to attend the SAARC meeting in Islamabad, the Spokesman said that we have seen some reports to the effect that this particular country has sought to raise bilateral matters in a SAARC Forum. We understand that they have also written to Pakistan, the current Chairman of SAARC, in this connection. This attempt to introduce bilateral issues in SAARC Fora is against the letter and spirit of the Charter of SAARC, specifically Article-X which reads as follows: "General Provisions:

- (1) Decisions at all levels shall be taken on the basis of unanimity.
- (2) Bilateral and contentious issues shall be excluded from the deliberations."

This is the third time that this particular country has attempted to raise bilateral issues on the eve of a SAARC meeting. We refuse to accept such blatant violation of the SAARC Charter.

In reply to another question as to which were the other two occasions when they raised bilateral issues in a SAARC Forum, the Spokesman said that in May 1985, in Thimpu a similar threat was held out because of a statement by the then Minister of State (EA) made on the treatment of Tamils in Sri Lanka and later in June, 1987, at the Delhi SAARC Foreign Ministers Meeting after the dropping of relief supplies in Jaffna.

-163>

In reply to another question about the allegations levelled by Sri Lanka against India in the communications to the SAARC Chairman, the Spokesman said that he had no comments on these allegations. The allegations are inadmissible on the basis of the Charter of the SAARC and are outside the scope of the Charter. Attempts to introduce a bilateral issue in a SAARC Forum are inadmissible on the basis of the Charter.

**Date**: Jun 26, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### LTTE and Sri Lankan Army

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi about cessation of hostilities between LTTE and Sri Lankan army:

In reply to a question about cessation hostilities between LTTE and Sri Lankan army, the Spokesman said that we have seen reports claiming that LTTE and the Sri Lankan army have decided on a cessation of hostilities. As is well-known, the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement provides for a cessation of hostilities between the Sri Lankan army and Tamil militants. The Accord also provides for the Sri Lankan forces to be confined to their barracks. Both these provisions of the Accord were achieved as soon as the IPKF started arriving in Sri Lanka. Since then, the Sri Lankan forces have, by and large, been confined to barracks in the North-Eastern Province and there has been an effective cessation of hostilities between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan forces for the last two years.

The only logical significance of yesterday's announcement seems to be that the LTTE has now agreed to give up its demand for Eelam and has accepted Sri Lanka's unity and integrity as provided for in the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. We hope that they will now take the next logical step of resuming the process of laying down arms as well as working for Tamil unity.

In reply to supplementary questions, the Spokesman said that Prime Minister's letter to President Premadasa has been delivered yesterday. We are waiting for a reply. We continue to believe that important matters such as the withdrawal of the IPKF can be resolved only through consultations.

I LANKA INDIA

**Date**: Jun 26, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

POL to Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 07, 1989 on supply of POL to Nepal:

In reply to a question about supply of POL by the Soviet Union to Nepal, the Spokesman said that there used to be an agreement between Nepal and the Soviet Union for supply of 60,000 tonnes of POL by the Soviet Union. That used to come to India first and then used to go to Nepal under the transit arrangements. Our information is that the agreement has lapsed with the expiry of the Indo-Nepal Transit and Trade Treaties, since it operated through the IOC and Nepal Oil Corporation. We understand that there will be no other agreement between Nepal and the Soviet Union, this year or the next year. If Nepal buys POL from the Soviet Union and it comes to India, transit facilities will be available.

PAL INDIA USA

**Date**: Jun 07, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

-164>

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Disinformation from Nepalese side

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on disinformation from the Nepalese side:

In reply to a question, the Spokesman said that we understand that the Nepalese Foreign Minister has said to our Ambassador that he is rather busy in June as he is going out of Nepal. He has requested that talks, if any, should be scheduled for the second week of July; owing to preoccupations in June, such as his visit abroad, a SAARC conference and the Rashtriya Panchayat.

In reply to another question, the Spokesman said that there continues to be disinformation from the Nepalese side about so-called blockade. The facts were different. For instance, the amount of levy sugar that was to be given to Nepal under the special arrangement for 1989 was 15,000 tonnes. We are going ahead with the supplies regardless of the fact that the special arrangement has come to an end. We are going ahead with the original quota even though this year India is going to import sugar. In fact, in 1987 when we were suffering one of our worst droughts ever, there was no let up in our supplies to Nepal.

Another instance was POL supplies. They import POL at Calcutta port and we give to it them in Nepal. Total NOC import from April 1988 to March 1989 was Rs. 42.47 crores. On 1-4-88, the reconciled balance due to them was Rs. 6.46 crores. These total upto Rs. 48.93 crores worth of POL. However, the actual amount sold to NOC from April '88 to March '89 was worth Rs. 53.47 crores which means they have actually obtained from us an excess amount of POL equal to Rs. 4.54 crores, which is \$ 3 million. We are puzzled about their propaganda that POL is not moving into Nepal. The above figures speak for themselves.

PAL INDIA USA

**Date**: Jun 07, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### Australia

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 08, 1989 on the visit of the Hon. Gareth Evans:

The visit is basically a follow-up of the very successful visit of the Australian Prime Minister made earlier. During that visit, a decision was taken to institute a ministerial-level Joint Commission. Senator Evans met Mr. Dinesh Singh, our Commerce Minister today. Our Commerce Minister will be the co-chairman from our side of the ministerial-level Joint Commission. Its first meeting is set for 26-27 July. The co-chairman from the Australian side will be Mr. Michael Duffy, Minister for

International Trade Negotiations.

The Joint Commission will provide a forum for discussing various issues, among them, the four MOUs which were signed at the time of the visit of the Australian Prime Minister, on railways, telecommunications, meterology and concessional finance. It will also review the agreements on cooperation in Science & Technology and agricultural research, both signed in 1986.

Mr. Gareth Evans also met the External Affairs Minister, from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. They discussed current international, bilateral and regional issues. We -165>

have agreed to participate in the proposed Chemical Weapons Conference in Canberra from 18 to 22 December. There will also be official level talks between the two countries in January on disarmament.

Mr. Evans will meet Prime Minister this evening and soon after that he will meet Mr. Natwar Singh, MOS. He will meet MOS (S&T), Shri Narayanan tomorrow.

STRALIA USA INDIA

**Date**: Jun 08, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Singapore

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 16, 1989 on the rejection of the appeal by Singapore High Court for visa overstay of 9 Indians:

The Judicial Commissioner of the Singapore High Court yesterday rejected the appeal of 9 Indians sentenced by a District Court on 28th April for visa overstay under the new law which came into force on 1st April and provides for the brutal punishment of caning. The appeal was dismissed without stating any reasons for rejection despite the fact that the 9 Indians should have been tried under the old law as the period of 90 days prescribed under the new law had not yet expired. Their lawyer has submitted a plea for clemency on their behalf.

- 2. On learning of this decision, the Government of India has expressed its concern. In the absence of the High Commissioner, the Acting High Commissioner of Singapore has been called in and been handed over an Aide Memoire, with a view to impress on the Singapore authorities that the imposition of the sentence of caning under the new law in this case would give rise to grave misunderstanding.
- 3. Both Governments have already been in touch with one another regarding the problem of visa overstays. Through cooperative efforts, repatriation of 1752 Indian nationals who had voluntarily registered themselves with the High Commission was arranged last month. Consideration is also being given to evolving practical procedures for minimising the incidence of illegal overstaying and for humane implementation of the new law. These efforts would be set at nought if the sentence of caning under the new law should be carried out against persons to whom the old law should apply. Such action would only serve to undermine the growing cooperation between India and Singapore.

PUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jun 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Pakistan: Siachen

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 19, 1989 on positions of administrative control in Siachen:

To a question about the authenticity of reports quoting Pakistani Foreign Secretary that India and Pakistan have agreed to pull back to the pre-2nd July, 1972, positions of administrative control in Siachen, Spokesman gave the following clarifications:

"I would like to draw your attention once again to the Joint Press Release issued in Rawalpindi on 17th June, 1989, in particular to the following portion of this press release, which I quote: "The discussions were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Both sides discussed specific proposals aiming at an early settle-

-166>

ment of the Siachen issue in accordance with the Simla agreement. There was agreement by both sides to work towards a comprehensive settlement, based on redeployment of forces to reduce the chance of conflict, avoidance of the use of force and the determination of future positions on the ground so as to conform with the Simla Agreement and to ensure durable peace in the Siachen area. The Army authorities of both sides will determine these positions.

They agreed that after an indepth examination of such proposals the next round of talks between the Defence Secretaries will be held at New Delhi in the near future."

The above statement was made by the Defence Secretaries jointly after they negotiated together for three days, indicates that there is an agreement on approach and an agreement on the exploration of proposals. The army authorities of both sides have been charged with the responsibility of examining the question and of putting up proposals to their respective governments.

When a correspondent drew Spokesman's attention to the fact that the news reports quote the Pakistani Foreign Secretary, Spokesman clarified that the Pakistani Foreign Secretary was not present at the said talks. The joint press statement was drafted by the two Defence Secretaries and "I think we should go by that".

When asked to clarify what the situation in Siachen had been before 1972, Spokesman said "I have nothing further to clarify on that. This matter is being looked into by both the Army Commanders and it would be most accurate to go at present by the joint press statement. The statement indicates an agreed time-frame and also carries the assurance that the two Defence Secretaries will meet again at Delhi, in the near future." He drew attention to the fact that there is absolutely no indication of any agreement or disagreement regarding pre-1972 positions in Siachen, in the joint press statement.

Spokesman refused to comment when one Correspondent asked whether the Pakistani Foreign Secretary was indulging in disinformation. He also did not agree with a correspondent's suggestion that the Simla Agreement would go the way of the Sri Lankan Accord and would not be binding on both countries. Spokesman clarified that both governments were set on resolving their problems through a process of negotiation and friendship.

KISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA

**Date**: Jun 19, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## **SAARC**

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 27, 1989 on Sri Lanka's nonparticipation in the SAARC Foreign Minister's meeting at Islamabad:

To a question about Sri Lanka's nonparticipation in the SAARC Foreign Ministers' meeting at Islamabad, Spokesman said: "We deplore attempts to disrupt the functioning of SAARC by Sri Lanka - by introducing bilateral issues into this forum. We attach considerable importance to the concept of SAARC, and welcome the progress, the organisation has made in recent years, in improving people to people contact in the South Asian region. We have a number of our senior officials already in Islamabad, working with their colleagues from other SAARC countries, Our Foreign Secretary will join this team of officials today. We will continue to work with our other partners in SAARC towards building better a future for the peoples' of this region."

When asked to comment about reports from Islamabad that the Sri Lankan

-167>

position might break the SAARC organisation itself, Spokesman said that it was too early to comment on such a report. He had no comments on certain reports in the press that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto would mediate between India and Nepal, or that India had halted its troops withdrawal from Sri Lanka.

DIA SRI LANKA PAKISTAN NEPAL

**Date**: Jun 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Bangladesh

The following is the text of a statement made by the Offical

Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 28, 1989 on alleged military assistance to chakmas:

In reply to a question regarding alleged military assistance to Chakmas (Shanti Bahini), the Spokesman said that we have not been giving any assistance. There has been an increased flow of Chakmas refugees in the last one month, May June. 14,000 of them have come in. All these refugees who come from Chittagong hill tracks, have entered Tripura. We are extremely concerned about their plight and have repeatedly asked the Bangladesh authorities to make arrangements to take them back. In fact, at the end of May 1989 a Bangladeshi delegation came and interviewed these refugees in the camps in Tripura. However, according to our information after this last influx, there has been an increased reluctance on the part of these refugees to go back to Bangladesh because of the disturbed conditions across the border.

NGLADESH INDIA USA

**Date**: Jun 28, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **PAKISTAN**

Indo-Pak Defence Secretaries' Meet - Joint Press Release

The following is the text of joint press release issued simultaneously at New Delhi and Rawalpindi on Jun 17, 1989 on IndoPak Defence Secretaries meet:

The fifth round of talks between the Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan was held in Rawalpindi from 15 to 17 June 1989.

The Indian delegation comprised the the following:

Shri Naresh Chandra, Secretary Defence; H.E. Mr. J. N. Dixit, Indian Ambassador at Islamabad; Shri N. N. Vohra, Secretary Department of Defence, Production and Supply; Shri A. K. Chatterji, Joint Secretary (G) Ministry of Defence; Shri Satish Chandra, Joint Secretary (AP), Ministry of External Affairs; Lt. Gen. V. K. Singh, Director General Military Operations; Major Gen. R. K. Gulati, Additional Director General Military Operations; Brig. M. R. Sharma, HQ Northern Command; Shri Ranga Chari, Deputy Chief of Mission, Indian Embassy in Islamabad; and Brig. B. N. Raizada, Indian Defence Attache, Islamabad.

The Pakistan Delegation comprised the following:

Mr. Syed Ijlal Haider Zaidi, Secretary Defence; H.E. Mr. Niaz A. Naik, Pak Ambassador at New Delhi; Lt. Gen. Imtiaz -168>

Warraich, Director General Joint Staff, Joint Staff Headquarters; Maj. Gen. Raja Mohammed Iqbal, Additional Defence Secretary -I; Maj. Gen. Anis Ali Syed, Surveyor General of Pakistan; Maj. Gen. Jehangir Karamat, Director General, Military Operations, General Headquarters; Mr. Aziz Ahmad Khan, Director General (SA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Naimat Ullah, Joint Secretary (IS), Ministry of Defence; Brig. Ali Kuli Khan Khattack, HQ 10 Corps; Brig. Ikrarm-ulHaq, Director, Military Operations (Ops); and Gp. Capt. Qazi Javid Ahmad, Pak DAA at New Delhi.

During the visit, Shri Naresh Chandra, Defence Secretary of India called on the President, the Prime Minister, the Adviser for Defence and the Chief of the Army Staff. In these meetings, the Defence Secretary of India conveyed the greetings and good wishes of the Indian leaders and their desire to see an early and peacefully negotiated settlement of the Siachen issue.

The discussions were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Both sides discussed specific proposals aiming at an early settlement of the Siachen issue in accordance with the Simla agreement. There was agreement by both sides to work towards a comprehensive settlement, based on redeployment of forces to reduce the chances of conflict, avoidance of the use of force and the determination of future positions on the ground so as to conform with the Simla Agreement and to ensure durable peace in the Siachen area. The Army authorities of both sides will determine these positions. They agreed that after an indepth examination of such proposals the next round of talks between the Defence Secretaries will be held at New Delhi in the near future.

KISTAN INDIA USA **Date**: Jun 17, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## SOUTH AFRICA

India's Support for Liberation Movement in South AfricaReaffirmed

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official

Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 16, 1989 on India's support for Liberation Movement in South Africa:

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Prof. K. K. Tewari has reiterated that the Government and the people of India are deeply committed to the liberation movement in South Africa and its leaders, and have always been unequivocal in support of their struggle. The contributions made in that cause, and in implementation of UN resolutions, were never regarded as a sacrifice but a national duty. Our support of freedom movements in Africa; our initiatives on apartheid in world fora such as the UN, NAM and Commonwealth; and, our consistant moral and material support to all oppressed peoples will continue till the last vestiges of colonialism, racism and exploitation are banished from our planet.

Prof Tewary was speaking at a function organised by the World Youth Action Against Apartheid on the occasion of "International Day of Solidarity" here today.

Prof. Tewary pointed out that our President had recently visited Zimbabwe, Zambia and Tanzania and reiterated India's stand on apartheid. The system was an abhorrent one and must be dismantled. South Africa was today a police state. Indefinite detention without trial was widespread and even little children -169>

had become a major target of the South African Police and security forces. Detainees were at the total mercy of interrogators.

The Minister said that unless international pressures through comprehensive mandatory sanctions were maintained on the Government of South Africa, the process of dismantling apartheid would be prolonged and the brutal system would continue to maim, kill and repress the majority of its people, leading to an inevitable violent reaction. It was with a heavy heart that we heard about the extension of Emergency in South Africa. We pledge afresh our solidarity with South Africans who had sacrificed their life and liberty in the fight to eradicate apartheid and establish a united, non-racial and democratic society.

Prof. Tewari said that we have stood shoulder to shoulder with our African brothers to combat racist oppression and apartheid in South Africa. Our contribution to the freedom movement in South Africa was more than an act of solidarity. It had deep roots in India's own struggle for freedom and dignity. He said that the humiliations to which the people of Indian origin were subjected in South Africa, and the struggle for their emancipation led by Mahatma Gandhi had a great impact on the Indian National Movement. This movement which began in the 1880s and the South African National Movement which began three decades later,

developed on parallel lines - in organisation, forms of resistance and ideology - in protracted struggles against powerful forces. We earned our birthright of freedom - no power on earth would deny them theirs.

## UTH AFRICA INDIA USA TANZANIA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

**Date**: Jun 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **SOVIET UNION**

Major Step up in Indo-Soviet Trade

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jun 05, 1989 on step up in IndoSoviet Trade:

It has been decided to further step up Indo-USSR trade during 1990 in the recently concluded meeting of the Working Group on Trade in Moscow. The Indian delegation was led by Shri A. N. Varma, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce during the meeting.

The review of bilateral trade with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations of USSR has brought out that contracts for more than Rs. 5800 crores have already been signed for delivery during the current year. This includes export contracts for more than Rs. 3000 crores, a growth of more than 25% over the earlier periods. A major step up in exports of India has taken place in respect of consumer items like detergents, soaps, tooth pastes, instant coffee, packaged tea, knitwear and hosiery, linoleum, storage batteries, medical equipment and pharmaceutical machinery and textile machinery.

It has also been decided to finalise the contracts for construction of seven hotels at Urgench, Khiva, Frunze, Alma Ata, Vladivosto K, Nakhodka and Khabarovsk in the Asian Republics and in the Far East

The Sub-Group also considered problems regarding export of certain commodities from Soviet Union due to shipping -170>

problems particularly metal scrap and chemical fertilisers. Discussions at the working level were also held to sort out these issues. It is further planned to discuss these in a separate SubGroup in order to find out shortterm and long-term solutions to the problems of shipping due to increased volume of trade.

The two sides have also discussed during the course of the meeting the renewal of Agreements for the period 1991-95 and long-term proposals for their expansion.

Discussions were also held during the meeting on other related issues, like setting up of India Trade Centre in Moscow. These will now be followed up.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Jun 05, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **ZIMBABWE**

President's Banquet Address at Zimbabwe

Address of the President of the Republic of India, Shri R. Venkataraman at the Banquet hosted by the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe H.E. Mr. Robert Gabriel Mugabe at Harare on Jun 07, 1989:

My wife and I, and members of my delegation, are delighted to be in your country of surpassing beauty. The warmth of the reception accorded to us by the leaders and people of Zimbabwe has made such a deep impression in our hearts that it cannot be adequately expressed in words. The cordial welcome extended to us testifies amply to the ties of exceptional amity and friendship which have developed between our countries and peoples.

We have already had a glimpse of your enchanting capital. It has given a most promising introduction to the renowned beauty of your country, its remarkable natural endowments and - above all - the determination of its people to press on with the challenging tasks of economic development and nation building.

Mr. President, we in India, watched with great admiration the relentless and inspiring struggle waged by your people for freedom. India has actively supported the freedom struggles of Zimbabwe and other countries of the region in the U.N. and other fora. Your cause was uppermost in our minds throughout the bitter years of UDI. The transition towards independence in Zimbabwe was long and arduous. We saw your leadership qualities demonstrated

at the time as a vibrant page in the history of decolonisation. And so, in February 1980, when Government passed into the hands of the sons and daughters of Zimbabwe, India rejoiced. The thunder of Mosi-Oa-Tonya reverberated across the world at that moment. Proclaiming the truth that Human Dignity lies in Human Freedom.

Zimbabwe's history as an independent nation spans only nine years. I would like Mr. President, to felicitate you and through you all the Zimbabwean people on the great progress made in this short period not only in agricultural, industrial and technological development but also in social services through enlightened programmes of education, health and social welfare.

Mr. President, I recall with pleasure your visit to India to participate in the AFRICA Fund Committee summit. I had the privilege to receive you when you delivered the Maulana Azad Memorial Lecture on the stirring theme of "War Peace and Development in Africa". Your -171>

lecture, which has later been issued in the form of a book was acclaimed as an important reference text by scholars and academic institutions the world over.

It is evident that the policies pursued by your Government under your inspiring leadership will ensure rapid economic growth, industrial development, rising employment and high living standards. Zimbabwe, like India is a pluralistic society and faces similar problems. We are happy to note that these problems have been handled through the democratic process.

India has been engaged in the gigantic task of utilising our material and human resources to achieve high levels of productivity and thereby alleviate poverty and ensure social justice. We have encouraged our people to participate actively in the development process from the grass roots level. We are seeking to use the tools of science and technology to build a modern and self-reliant nation while preserving intact our rich cultural diversity and values. India like Zimbabwe, has come a long way on the path to development but with the consciousness that there is a long way yet to traverse. We can confidently meet this challenge by sharing our experiences to mutual benefit.

Our bilateral relations have blossomed. During your visit to India in 1981, as Prime Minister, agreements were concluded on trade, culture and economic cooperation. That cooperation is now being carried forward through the mechanism of the Joint Ministerial Commission. Indian technicians and experts are consequently engaged in diverse fields stretching from telecommunications, power and railway transportation to banking, insurance, computer engineering and fiscal planning. Trade exchanges have also been growing. The progress has been

impressive although the full potential is yet to be realised.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited Zimbabwe in 1986 and was present when you, Mr. President, assumed the mantle of the Chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement. It was a conscious decision by the movement to hold its eighth summit in a Front Line State in Southern Africa to underscore our abiding concern about the grave implications of the pernicious policy of apartheid practised by the racist regime of South Africa, for freedom and human dignity in that country and for the security and stability of its neighbours.

The Harare summit established the AFRICA Fund as a concrete expression of the collective will and commitment of the Non-aligned Movement to confront the challenge posed by South Africa's aggressive intent towards its peace loving neighbours. We are gratified by the good work done by the AFRICA Fund, though we remain disappointed that contributions have not been forthcoming from those most capable of making them.

Mr. President, South Africa came to be deeply imprinted on our consciousness and conscience long before our own independence. It was on South African soil that Mahatma Gandhi forged the unique tool of satyagraha or non-violent resistance to colonial oppression and racial discrimination. India was in the vanguard of action to sever all ties with South Africa and to raise the issue of South Africa at the United Nations. It is distressing that since those early initiatives there has been no progress towards meaningful political reform.

To aggravate matters, rigid press censorship is keeping the world in the dark about the enormity of the crimes perpetrated by the racist regime against the majority population. The demand for the release of political prisoners including the brave Nelson Mandela has fallen on deaf ears. Only comprehensive mandatory sanctions by South Africa's main trading partners are capable of bringing the regime to its senses. Alas, they are not forthcoming. On the other hand, South Africa has been encouraged in its abhorrent policies by the un-willingness of influential Governments to apply sanctions against South Africa. In the circum-172>

stances, the South African liberation movements have perforce had to return to armed struggle to attain their ends.

The Pretoria regime must understand that unless political reform through dialogue ensures freedom and human rights for all South African citizens the only alternative will be violence on an unprecedented scale. We remain attentive to the views of Zimbabwe and other Front Line States on the coordinated steps to be taken to secure the dismantlement of apartheid preferably through peaceful dialogue and realistic negotiations.

Mr. President, international agreement has been reached on Namibia's transition towards independence. The earliest stages of the process have been marked by entirely avoidable violence and loss of precious lives. This trend must be reversed and all the parties must scrupulously observe the agreements reached. The United Nations and the international community must work energetically to ensure free and fair elections as a prelude to genuine independence.

I have already referred to the Non-aligned Movement which, Mr. President, has been under your able Chairmanship since 1986. The rapidly evolving global environment whose positive aspects were prompted by the persistent efforts of the movement calls for a thorough reassessment of the goals, priorities and methodology of the movement in order that it may continue to be a vibrant and relevant factor in international relations. Such an exercise is currently under way. Peace, disarmament and development remain our goals. We must seek to achieve these through the restoration of the rightful role of the United Nations and the genuine democratisation of the decision making process which will involve solutions worked out in consultation with the parties concerned rather than through the imposition of the will of a powerful few. The challenge is daunting but can be faced with confidence.

The detente between the super powers has led to the conclusion of the INF Treaty which constitutes the first small beginning towards nuclear disarmament. This has not yet been followed by more meaningful agreements in this field. India has proposed a time bound Action Plan for the achievement of a non-violent world free of nuclear weapons. We commend this plan for serious examination and adoption.

A cease fire has been established in the Gulf War but negotiations towards the emergence of durable settlement between Iraq and Iran have made little progress.

The Palestinians have engaged in a heroic intifada in the occupied territories only to become the victims of unmitigated violence. Chairman Arafat has made a number of statesmanlike moves to promote the peace process but the response has been negative. The international community has a serious responsibility to bring about an equitable and durable Palestinian settlement without further delay failing which the threat to peace and stability in the region will be seriously aggravated.

In our region there have been important developments with our neighbours. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation has continued to work harmoniously and to increase the areas of cooperation between member countries. It is our hope that we can graduate from technical cooperation in agreed areas to increase trade and economic cooperation. Our Prime Minister's visits to China and Pakistan last December have enhanced the scope for

normalising our relations with both countries. We have particularly welcomed the restoration of democracy in Pakistan which has facilitated the dialogue we need to resolve outstanding issues. The Indo-Sri Lanka Accord has been implemented to a substantial degree. This has contributed significantly towards resolving the ethnic conflict in the island within the framework of the unity and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka.

The Geneva Accords were expected to restore peace and normalcy to war torn

-173>

Afghanistan. The Soviet Union has completed its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. However other parties are continuing to violate the accords at will. This has resulted in continuing conflict and tension. What is needed is the immediate termination of all external interference and intervention and a serious effort by the Afghan people through their own efforts to establish a broadbased Government acceptable to and representing it.

Mr. President, I would like in conclusion to express my deep gratitude for the warm reception and generous hospitality which members of my delegation and I have received. I am confident that my visit to Zimbabwe will furnish a timely opportunity to review all matters of mutual interest and will lead to the further consolidation of the friendly ties and warm understanding between our countries and peoples.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to join me in proposing a toast:

- to the personal well being of the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Madame Mugabe;
- to the progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Zimbabwe; and
- to the further strengthening of the cordial ties between Zimbabwe and India.

MBABWE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA IRAN IRAQ CHINA PAKISTAN MALI SRI LANKA SWITZERLAND AFGHANISTAN

**Date**: Jun 07, 1989

# Volume No

## **ZIMBABWE**

Cooperation between India and Zimbabwe in Telecommunications

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 19, 1989 on co-operation between India and Zimbabwe in telecommunications:

His Excellency Dr. Witness Mangwende, Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Zimbabwe, who is on a visit to India at the invitation of Shri Giridhar Gomango, Minister of State for Communications, expressed his satisfaction at the existing cooperation being extended by the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India, through their consultancy organisation, Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL). TCIL is assisting the Zimbabwen Posts and Telecommunications Corporation for the last five years in expansion, operation and maintenance of their telecommunication network. TCIL has deputed an expert team of engineers and technicians to the Corporation.

Zimbabwe is now giving top priority for training of their technical personnel in different fields of telecommunications and has asked for India's assistance in this regard.

Shri Gomango on whom the Zimbabwen Minister called on today said that India was willing to extend the existing cooperation in the manufacturing field of telecom equipment and materials specially the C-DOT developed Switching Systems.

-174>

MBABWE INDIA OMAN RUSSIA

**Date**: Jun 19, 1989

# July

# Volume No 1995 CONTENTS

Foreign Affairs Record VoL XXXV No 7 1989	
CONTENTS	July
AUSTRALIA Dinesh Singh Discusses,Trade with Australi Agreed Minutes Signed	ia - 175
FRANCE	
Indo-French Cooperation in Coal	176
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	
India and GDR Signed Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement	176
HOME AND ABROAD	
Cooperation in the Railway Sector with Malaysia, 1ndonesia and Australia	177
HUNGARY	
US Dollar 200 Million Hungary Credit to In	ndia 178
INTERNATIONAL OBGANISATIONS	
Statement by Shri K. Natwar Singh at the International Conference on Cambodia in Pa	aris 178
OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS	
Nepal 18	31
Consultative Committee Meeting - 10th July 1989	182
Export of Thionyl Chloride	184
Sri Lanka 184-186 Discussions between the Indian and Pakistani Foreio Ministers 186	
'Discussions on SAARC between Pakistan Foreign Minister and External Affairs Minister 187	
PAKISTAN	
Prime Minister's Banquet Speech in Islamabad 188	
Joint Press Release	190

External Affairs Minister's Statement at the Inaugural Session of the Third Meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission

191

Joint Press Release

193

SOVEET UNION

1000 Million Rouble USSR Credit for India

195

STRALIA USA FRANCE INDIA MALAYSIA HUNGARY CAMBODIA NEPAL SRI LANKA PAKISTAN

**Date**: Jul 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **AUSTRALLA**

Dinesh Singh Discusses Trade with Australia - Agreed MinutesSigned

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 27, 1989 on trade with Australia:

The First Indo-Australian Joint Ministerial Commission meeting concluded with the signing of Agreed Minutes in Canberra yesterday late in the evening. The Union Minister of Commerce, Shri Dinesh Singh, who is leading the Indian delegation signed the minutes on behalf of India and Mr. Michael Duffy, Australian Minister for Trade Negotiations signed on behalf of Australia.

During the course of discussions both sides agreed to strive for doubling trade turnover to 1.2 billion dollars by 1992 between the two countries. The Australian side agreed to provide assistance for the better understanding of Indian's ability to produce a diverse range of produce and also to diversify its products to Australia. Besides this, several other areas such as bio-technology, electronics, alternative sources of energy, control of environmental pollution were identified for interaction between Indian and Australian experts.

It was also agreed to assist each other by way of expanding the two-day trade. Australian Government proposed a line of credit arrangement to Indian financial institutions. The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, directed the State Trading Corporation (STC) to host a buying mission from Australia for leather goods and drugs and pharmaceuticals.

The Australian Minister for Trade Negotiations, Mr. Michael

Duffy, expressed his keenness to collaborate with India in post harvest technology and genetic engineering to improve crops and livestock. Apart from other things, both sides had a useful exchange of views on the Uruguay Round of negotiations and recognised that successful outcome of these negotiations was important for the future of balanced growth and orderely of international trade. Both sides agreed to engage in a regular dialogue with each other and continue the mechanism of JTC.

The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, also had a meeting with the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Bob Hawke, and discussed matters of bilateral trade. The Commerce Minister also had discussions with Mr. Senetor John Button, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Senator Gerath Evans, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia.

The Indian delegation accompanied with the Union Commerce Minister include Shri Surendra Singh, Special Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Shri I.P. Khosla, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri S. Kanungo, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Shri M. S. Sivaraman, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

A AUSTRALIA INDIA URUGUAY

**Date**: Jul 27, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## FRANCE

Indo-French Cooperation in Coal

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 13, 1989 on Indo-French cooperation in coal:

India and France have affirmed to further strengthen their cooperation in coal sector at the conclusion of two-day discussions of Indo-French Working Group on Coal.

The Indian side was led by Shri T. U. Vijayasekharan, Secretary (Coal) in the Ministry of Energy, and the French delegation by Mr. P. Couture, Secretary, Gas, Electricity and Coal Division in the Ministry of Industry.

India proposes to develop a number of coalmine projects with the

French assistance in the areas of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., South Eastern Coalfields Ltd., Western Coalfields Ltd., North-Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

In his remarks, Shri Vijayasekharan said that the bilateral cooperation with French in the coal sector was envisaged to benefit India's coalmining operations through induction of specialised French technologies for thick seam mining such as sub-level caving, blasting gallery method, multi-slice long-wall mining etc. These technologies were expected to help achieve higher productivity as well as higher coal recovery, he added.

The Coal Secretary also underlined the importance of suitable and adequate training for Indian mining personnel so as to facilitate the quick absorption of French technologies.

Mr. Couture reiterated their keen interest in cooperating with India in the development of coal sector, not only by supplying equipment but also through the transfer of technology and knowhow.

ANCE INDIA USA **Date**: Jul 13, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

India and GDR Signed Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 26, 1989 on India and GDR signed double taxation avoidance agreement:

India and German Democratic Republic signed an agreement here today for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital. Shri P. K. Appachoo, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Wolfgang Grabowski, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the GDR to India signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

Under this Agreement business profits of an enterprise of one country shall be taxable in the other country only if it maintains a Permanent Establishment like a branch, office, factory, place of management etc. in that other country.

The Agreement provides for mutual exemption of aircraft profits of enterprises of the two countries. In respect of shipping profits, while freight earnings on national cargo in bilateral trade will be totally exempt in the source country, profits from third country trade will be exempted upto 50 per cent of tax otherwise leviable. Dividends, interest, royalties and fees for technical services will be taxed in source country at concessional rates as laid down in Agreement.

The Agreement will enter into force upon exchange of notes between the two countries notifying the approval or ratification of Agreement. The agreement will help in growth of Indian industry by encouraging flow of technology and capital in essential areas. It should also increase our export capability.

## DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jul 26, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HOME AND ABROAD

Cooperation in the Railway Sector with Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 19, 1989 on cooperation in the Railway Sector with Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia:

India has offered its expertise and technology for the development and expan sion of railway network of Malaysia. This offer was made during the recent visit to that country by the Minister of State for Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia. The Malaysian Government has agreed to consider the association of Indian companies in various developmental projects and to avail training facilities in railway technology available in India. There is a strong possibility that the Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) who are already working on a Rs. 100 crore project for track rehabilitation in Malaysia may get further contracts for railway signalling works, highway and bridge construction and to set up advanced training centre in Malaysia.

The possibilities of cooperation in the fields of Railway Construction, upgradation of railway network and construction of bridges by using Indian Railway expertise were also explored in Indonesia. IRCON have recently secured a contract for railway electrification in Indonesia worth Rs. 7.5 crores and are pursuing further participation in railway and road modernisation projects.

Various aspects of bilateral cooperation were also discussed with the Australian Government and State Railways which included collaboration in heavy-haul transport technology, double-decker E.M.U. services and cooperation between Railway Research Organisations of both countries. Areas of possible cooperation between consultant agencies of two countries including the possibilities of joint ventures in Third Countries were also explored.

This information was given by Shri Madhavrao Scindia, Minister of State for Railways in the Rajya Sabha today in a written reply to questions of Shri Kapil Verma and Smt. Veena Verma.

(The Minister of State for Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia recently led a high level Railway delegation to Malaysia, Australia and Indonesia).

-177>

DONESIA MALAYSIA AUSTRALIA USA INDIA

**Date**: Jul 19, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HUNGARY

US Dollar 200 Million Hungary Credit to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 07, 1989 on Hungary's credit to India:

Hungary has extended US Dollar 200 million credit to India.

An Agreement to this effect was signed here today, by the Finance Secretary, Shri Gopi Arora and Hungarian Deputy Minister for Finance, Dr. A. S. Patko.

The credit carries a rate of interest of 41/2 per cent and is repayable over 15 years, including a grace period of three years. The credit can be utilised for financing commercial contracts concluded between Hungarian and Indian companies, enterprises and

institutions in India, for setting up projects in the field of energetics, power mining, machine building, etc., and can also be utilised in the establishment of Indian assisted projects in third countries, as may be mutually agreed upon by the two Governments.

Utilisation of the credit is expected to start soon to finance Hungarian participation in the establishment of Neyveli Lignite Corporation's project for an additional 210 MW unit to the II Thermal Power Station, Stage I (Zero Unit).

The Hungarian credit offer had figured prominently in official discussions during the visit of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Hungary in June 1988. After identification of the project to be financed out of the proposed credit, terms and conditions of the credit were settled during negotiations in Budapest by an Indian official delegation led by Shri A. C. Sen, Joint Secretary (Foreign Trade), Department of Economic Affairs, in May 1989.

NGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jul 07, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Statement by Shri K. Natwar Singh at the International Conferenceon Cambodia in Paris

The following is the text of a statement by H.E. Shri K. Natwar Singh Minister of State for External Affairs of India at the International Conference on Cambodia at Paris on Jul 31, 1989:

I should like to begin by extending my sincere gratitude to the Government of France for having extended to us and the other delegations their invitation to come to Paris to participate in a conference which might well mark a turning point.

Earlier this month, in this great city, the Bicentenary of the French Revolution was celebrated. So were liberty, equality and fraternity; Also the Rights of Man. The melancholy and adamantine fact is that 200 years after 1789, real liberty, real equality, real fraternity are still on the agenda of humanity.

President Mitterrand and other members of his Government, notably

Foreign Minister Dumas, the Co-Chairman, have played a vital role in bringing us together for this International Conference on Cambodia.

I should like to extend my delegation's warm wishes for the success of this Conference. H.E. the Co-Chairman of the Conference, the distinguished Foreign Minister of Indonesia, has been in the forefront of his country's efforts to find an equitable solution to this problem, which has faced us for several years. The role played by the Government of Indonesia in organising the informal meetings at Jakarta has indeed paved the way for our presence here today. We would like to thank you also, Mr. Co-Chairman, for your efforts and we would like to express the wish that under the joint chairmanship of both distinguished personalities, this Conference will achieve success.

Mr. Co-Chairman, the presence of the Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement in our midst is a recognition of the collective contribution of its members towards resolving disputes peacefully. In the particular instance of Cambodia, the Nonaligned Movement has been complementing the regional and other initiatives. I sincerely hope that in the near future we in the Non-aligned Movement will have the pleasure of welcoming Cambodia to take its rightful place in the Movement.

As recently as two years ago, it would have been difficult to imagine this Conference taking place. Much has happened since the first direct meeting between Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen. India was of assistance in initiating this dialogue between these leading personalities in December, 1987. I, myself have kept in close and continuous touch with the leaders in Indo-China and ASEAN. Several multilateral meetings have been held and important bilateral contacts undertaken between the various parties and countries concerned. The most notable among these have been the Informal Meetings held in Jakarta. The Jakarta Informal Meetings have resulted in the enunciation of a consensus covering many aspects of a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian question, including the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops linked to the cessation of all external interference and military assitsance to the Cambodian factions and the non-return of the genocidal policies of the Pol Pot regime. It is our hope that the International Conference on Cambodia will take this process further and enable us to reach agreements on the many aspects involved

India's historical links with South East Asia have been long and multi-faceted, involving as they have inter-actions in philosophical, religious, cultural and commercial fields. We have been deeply pained at the tragedy and suffering which have befallen this part of the world in recent years. We have, therefore, striven and will continue to strive to achieve a lasting peace, to bring an end to the agony of the Cambodian people. Several distinguished delegates have alluded to the

spirit of the Khmer people as symbolized in the marvellous structures at Angkor. Mr. Chairman, we recognise and admire this spirit and we would be gratified to witness its restoration. The recognition of the symbolic importance of this monument to the Cambodian nation has inspired India to undertake the restoration of the temple complex at Angkor over the last few years.

Mr. Chairman, you and other distinguished Ministers are aware of the role which India played since 1954 as Chairman of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Cambodia. In spite of the many problems which the Commission faced and which have been referred to by my distinguished colleague the Foreign Minister of Canada, India learnt much from this experience, just as we have learnt from our participation in other peacekeeping operations in Korea, the Congo, Gaza, Cyprus and Namibia.

We strongly support the call for an International control Mechanism to under -179>

take well-defined responsibilities for implementing an agreed solution to the Cambodian question. In order, however, to avoid the difficulties which were experienced in the earlier International Control Commission, we would also lend our strong support to the call for the assignment of specific responsibilities and a clear mandate to the International Control Mechanism which can be, inter alia, expected to monitor the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Cambodia. Equally important would be the functions of supervising the cessation of the inflow of military assistance to the Cambodian factions, the nonreturn of the genocidal practices of the Pol Pot regime and the supervision of general elections.

We fully support the position stated by many delegations that a comprehensive solution would be the best way to ensure stable peace in Cambodia. We are, however, equally conscious of the fact, which has been repeatedly stated, that a political solution cannot be imposed from outside, because ultimately the Cambodian people must decide for themselves. It is a tribute to the wisdom of the Co-Chairmen of this Conference that they have foreseen the necessity for the discussions among the Cambodians to continue in parallel with the proceedings of the International Conference itself. We urge the Cambodian parties to display the necessary spirit of flexibility and constructive compromise and come to an understanding amongst themselves, so that the International Conference can recognise and guarantee the agreements arrived at among them. At the same time, however, the emphasis should be on the parallel nature of the Conference, which means that we should work hard in the various Committees to be set up, to ensure that the necessary environment is created for the achievement of a comprehensive solution.

Since it is the Cambodian people that will ultimately have to decide their future, it is imperative that fair and free elections are held under international supervision with a reasonable period of time, so that the will of the Cambodian people prevails. Their verdict must be accepted, if Cambodia is to leave behind its winter of discontent, and go forward to a new dawn.

There is general agreement that Cambodia should be a sovereign, independent, neutral and non-aligned country, at peace with itself and its neighbours. This clearly means that foreign military bases or forces will not be present in Cambodia. We have noted the Declaration of Permanent Neutrality of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia enshrining these principles.

We have listened with interest and respect to the points made by the distinguished Secretary General of the United Nations which have found general acceptance in the Conference. The details regarding the role that the United Nations can play will be worked out by the Working Committees in the next few days. However, Mr. Co-Chairman, may I emphasise India's view that the effective role of the United Nations can only be based on the broad consensus of the countries members of the organisation and which takes into account the various points of view. The exclusivity of reserving decisions to a small number of countries cannot have the desired results.

Once peace has been restored to Cambodia, it will facilitate the return of Cambodian refugees to their home without let or hinderance. The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees has the necessary experience and machinery for coordinating this process.

Cambodia will need considerable assistance for its rehabilitation and reconstruction. The international community should be generous in providing means for the rebuilding of Cambodia. We in India have several ongoing programmes, of which the restoration of the Angkor Wat, which I referred to earlier, is among the most important. We have provided other assistance including doctors, medical equipment and technical experts. India, a developing -180>

country itself, has the experience and expertise to extend assistance in many fields such as small scale industries, forest and agro-based industries, fisheries etc. We are willing to share them and train Cambodian personnel in agriculture, water resources, manpower planning, irrigation, telecommunications, cooperative sector, rural development, etc.

We have assembled here to try to find a political solution for what is called the Cambodian problem. The tragedy of Cambodia has lasted long enough. While it will take a lot of effort from us all to ensure the success of this important conference, any one of us, by taking an inflexible approach, can hinder its success.

This, we must not allow. We must endeavour to dissipate the blinding mist of misunderstanding and breakthrough the mounting wall of prejudice. The building of peace, the enlarging the areas of agreement, are more important than anything else. Should we not, here ensure that future of Cambodia no longer lies in the past? What we need is good will, understanding. Confidence building takes time, so does healing of wounds. Benjamin Franklin's formula to a diplomat was, 'sleepless tact, immovable calmness and a patience that no folly, no provocation, no blunders can shake'.

For too long the people of Cambodia have looked at dark clouds without a silver lining. That silver lining is now more than discernible. Having come so far we cannot, we must not fail. Diplomacy does not offer salvation, it does offer hope. That is why we are here.

Mr. Chairman, let me conclude with a verse from the Rig Veda, which is perhaps the oldest Book known to Humankind dating back to between 2000 - 1500 B.C.

"Meet together, Talk together;

May your minds comprehend alike; Common be your action and achievement; Common be your thoughts and intentions; Common be the wishes of your hearts So may there be union amongst you."

MBODIA FRANCE INDIA USA INDONESIA UNITED KINGDOM CHINA VIETNAM CANADA CONGO CYPRUS KOREA NAMIBIA LATVIA

**Date**: Jul 31, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jul 07, 1989 about the Nepalese Spokesman's statement:

In reply to a question on reports about the Nepalese Spokesman's statement about agenda for talks, the Spokesman said: "We have seen reports carrying remarks allegedly made by the Nepalese

Chief Spokesman in which he is reported to have said that it is the Nepalese who have forwarded a detailed agenda to India." In point of fact, it is India which has consistently been approaching the Nepalese for the finalisation of an agenda. It will be recalled that on 19th April 1989, we made a formal demarche to them in this connection. The External Affairs Minister, while addressing the Lok Sabha on the 26th of April, repeated his call for detailed talks. On the 8th May 1989, the Nepalese were reminded again by us. When the External Affairs Minister and the Foreign Secretary met the Nepalese Foreign -181>

Minister in Harare on the 16th and 18th May, 1989, once again a call for comprehensive talks was made. It was only after these several approaches, that we received a note from the Nepalese on the 25th May, 1989. The note spoke of a limited agenda and not the comprehensive one that we had envisaged. It will be recalled that on the 16th June, 1989, the External Affairs Minister replied in a comprehensive manner to the Nepalese note, in the form of a letter addressed to his Nepalese counterpart. The letter included a full scope agenda. In fact, in his subsequent letter of 26th June, 1989, the Nepalese Foreign Minister has spoken of the External Affairs Minister's "statesmanship in proposing a comprehensive agenda.... comprising the most important and relevant aspects of the Indo-Nepal relationship". This reply of the Nepalese Foreign Minister of the 26th June has made some suggestions regarding certain amendments; these are being examined.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on July 7, 1989 in reply to a question about Nepal accusing India of sending Gurkhas to Sri Lanka:

In reply to a question about Nepal accusing India of sending Gurkhas to Sri Lanka, the Spokesman said: "We have seen reports regarding the use of Gurkhas in Sri Lanka. We are astonished to observe that the Nepalese authorities have chosen to view this issue in narrow communal terms." The IPKF went into Sri Lanka to protect the Tamils who were in danger. These Tamils include persons professing different religious faiths. Incidentally, the LTTE itself is not an exclusively Hindu organisation. The section of the Treaty of 1947 to which a reference has been made in these press reports, is Annexure III, para (3) which reads: "Gurkha troops shall not be used against Hindu or other unarmed mobs." It will be recalled that there were certain historical reasons for the inclusion of this clause in the tripartite treaty; the events in Amritsar in 1919 had been seared permanently into the consciousness of all patriotic Indians. Indeed, the Nepalese themselves were fully conscious of this sentiment and, therefore, a clause of this nature was included.

**Date**: Jul 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Consultative Committee Meeting - 10th July 1989

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jul 10, 1989 on the consultative committee meeting:

The Consultative Committee of Parliament attached to the Ministry of External Affairs at its meeting on the 10th of July 1989 under the chairmanship of the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, "placed on record its deep appreciation of the selfless and dedicated services rendered by the Indian Peace Keeping Force in Sri Lanka, in extremely difficult conditions and also expressed Its gratitude for the sacrifices made by the Indian Peace Keeping Force".

This resolution of the Committee commending the role of the IPKF was passed in the context of a detailed and comprehensive presentation made by the External Affairs Minister on the situation in Sri Lanka. The External Affairs Minister emphasised that earlier this year, consultations with the Sri Lankan Government for a phased withdrawal of the IPKF, linked with increasing devolution of powers to the north-eastern provincial government, had begun. When he met the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister in Harare,

-182>

these consultations were continued and the visit of the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister to India, as part of this process, was also discussed.

The External Affairs Minister said that a time-frame for completing the process described above, which both the Government of India and the Sri Lankan Government found reasonable, was jelling. Then, suddenly, came the demand of President Premadasa in his speech of 1st June. The External Affairs Minister in his presentation, underlined the importance of negotiations and mutual consultation as a basic pre-requisite for continuing the twin processes of withdrawal of the IPKF and implementation of certain aspects of the Indo-Sri Lanka accord.

All members of the Committee, without exception, agreed that there could be no question of withdrawal based on a unilateral demand from one party to the Accord, they were also agreed that there could be no withdrawal without a concomitant implementation of essential aspects of the Accord, such as devolution of power and the setting up of a viable framework, for the governance of the north-eastern province.

Some members congratulated the Government and the country for the restraint shown, despite the provocation offered by the unilateral demand made for withdrawal of the IPKF. Several members also made reference to the "saner elements within Sri Lanka who expressed their abhorrence for the unilateral deadlines set by the Sri Lankan President". Other members referred to the general consensus in India that the Government's response to the developing situation in Sri Lanka has been "both responsible and positive".

There was also agreement that it was not in order for Sri Lanka to have made a bilateral issue a matter of debate and dispute at multilateral forums, including at the recent meeting of SAARC at Islamabad.

In supporting Government on the stand taken by it, many members spoke of the need to pay due heed to India's security concerns. There was wide-spread recognition in India and abroad that by entering into accord, India and Sri Lanka jointly had pre-empted the entry of third powers into the region. Mention was made in this context of the appreciation expressed for the Accord and the role it has played in bringing stability to the region by leaders in the United States, the United Kingdom, the USSR and at the Commonwealth summit.

All members urged the Government to continue its process of consultation and some pleaded that India ought not to "abdicate our duties undertaken legitimately in accordance with the international law".

All members, without exception, said that the country supported the role that the IPKF has played and that the Indian force had won the admiration of the people at large. The objectives which promoted India to send the army in, viz., the upholding of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Sri Lanka and ensuring the safety of the Tamil population in the horthern parts of the country, were widely acclaimed. It was recognised that it was the IPKF which had been able to persuade several Tamil groups to lay down their arms on the promise that devolution would be granted.

There was general recognition amongst the members of the Committee that the Sri Lankan Government in issuing its ultimatum had been prompted primarily by domestic considerations and that this unilateral demand for the withdrawal of the IPKF by a particular date was "unjustified" and "unreasonable".

## DIA SRI LANKA ZIMBABWE USA PAKISTAN

**Date**: Jul 10, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Export of Thionyl Chloride

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jul 11, 1989 on export of Thionyl chloride:

In reply to a question, the Spokesman said that the ship that came back from Dubai with this chemical returned as a result of an agreement between the Indian and the West German firms who had agreed not to proceed with this export. The Government of India is not directly involved in this at all because there is no ban on the export of this chemical and, therefore, the Indian firm was not violating any Indian laws. It was, in fact, the German firm which was violating its own laws because the Germans have a law banning export of this particular chemical.

The Government of India is against the manufacture, stockpiling or deployment of chemical weapons. We are working hard to try and see that a comprehensive treaty is worked out to make a ban on the manufacture, stockpiling or deployment of chemical weapons a reality. We would like this to be a comprehensive and not a partial ban or any adhoc arrangement for the banning of the export of this particular chemical as some countries would like us to accept. The reason for this is that it is discriminatory and it is like the NPT which seeks to ban the nuclear weapons in a discriminatory fashion, and secondly we believe that we have to ensure that in regulating the flow of this chemical we do not hurt our chemical Industry. This chemical can be used for the production of pesticides.

DIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Jul 11, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

## Sri Lanka

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jul 12, 1989 on Sri Lanka:

Shri B. G. Deshmukh, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister met President Premadasa today at 1730 hours. He initially met the President alone for 20 minutes and handed over the letter from Prime Minister. He conveyed a verbal message. Thereafter,, there was a larger meting at which the High Commissioner of India and Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs who deals with Sri Lanka, were present from the Indian side. From Sri Lanka side, the Foreign Minister, Foreign Secretary, Secretary to the President were present among others. Principal Secretary would be meeting the President tomorrow at 7.30 a.m. again. This meeting will be followed by official level talks.

The following is the text of a statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi Delhi on July 15, 1989 on the recent round of talks with Sri Lanka:

Replying to a question regarding the recent round of talks with Sri Lanka, the Spokesman said that in addition to Shri Deshmukh's two exclusive meetings with President Premadasa, two rounds of official level talks were held. In these two sessions, issues such as withdrawal of IPKF, suspension of IPKF's operations against LTTE and implementation of devolution package were raised. These talks were of exploratory nature.

In reply to another question on a statement made yesterday by the Sri
-184>

Lankan Foreign Minister Wijayaratne, the Spokesman said that the Sri Lankan press carried remarks at a press conference addressed by the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka yesterday. Since there is press censorship in Sri Lanka, what has appeared in the papers is the official view of the Sri Lankan Government. We checked with Foreign Minister Wijayaratne late night regarding some of the answers attributed to him. We are waiting for an official denial. If it is not forthcoming, we will have to take a view on continuing our discussions with the Sri Lankan Government.

Replying to another question on the assassination of TULF leader Amrithalingam, the Spokesman said that the assassination of TULF leader Amrithalingam by the LTTE only confirms the validity of the clarifications sought by Prime Minister in his message to the President of Sri Lanka of 30th June.

Replying to another question on four premises set out by President Premadasa in his letter to Prime Minister on 12th July, the spokesman said that these premises were given to the Sri Lankan Government official delegation by President Premadasa as the framework in which the Sri Lankan delegation would hold discussions. During discussions, these premises were not raised.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on July 27,1989 on Sri Lanka:

When questioned about Government of India's reaction to LTTE's statement in the Hindu today, alleging that reports about Prabhakaran's death were a disinformation campaign on the part of Indian Government, Spokesman said "I have over the last few days given indications that we have no confirmation of stories eminating from Sri Lanka about Prabhakaran's death. We still have got no confirmation about this incident. But, we have reason to believe that stories about this so-called death have emanated from the LTTE itself and that the motivation behind this is an attempt on their part to divert attention from the killing of Mr. Amrithalingam, which has hurt the image of the LTTE considerably. Also these rumours and the manner in which they have emanated are in keeping with the pattern of disinformation that the LTTE had hither-to followed. When asked whether intense diplomatic consultations were on between India and Sri Lanka, as stated by Vijayaratne himself, Spokesman said, "I can confirm them, but I cannot comment on these consultations."

When asked about Indian reaction to the attacks on Indian establishments in Sri Lanka, he said that, he has seen reports that the High Commission has asked the Sri Lankan Government for more security, but there is no confirmation as yet to these reports.

To a question about whether, IPKF could confirm the cremation of a body that had been lying for the last couple of days for public viewing in the North East, Spokesman said that, we have no information.

He did not comment on the ENDLF report that 18 IPKF soldiers had been killed in a mine blast that had been engineered by the Sri Lankan Army.

To another question about possible unilateral abrogation of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord by Sri Lanka, he said that, "we have examined this from the legal angle also and unless such an

agreement provides for unilateral abrogation specifically this is not possible in international law."

Spokesman also refused to comment on possible Commando action reported in today's papers to rescue Indian diplomats.
-185>

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on July 28, 1989 on the signing of a Joint Communique by the High Commissioner of India in Colombo and the Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka:

The High Commissioner of India in Colombo and the Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka signed a Joint Communique on 28-7-1989, which is as follows:

The President of Sri Lanka has requested the Prime Minister of India to recommence the withdrawal of the IPKF. The withdrawal will commence on the 29th of July, 1989. The High Commissioner of India reiterated the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs of the Government of India to the Foreign Minister of the Government of Sri Lanka to visit India to discuss the time schedule for the withdrawal of the remaining IPKF contingent in Sri Lanka. This invitation has been accepted. This opportunity will be used to review the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. During the visit of the delegation the question of cessation of offensive military operations by the IPKF and the safety and security of all communities in the North-Eastern Province of Sri Lanka will also be discussed.

Spokesman said that the Joint Communique is symbolic of the traditional friendship between India and Sri Lanka, and is in keeping with our age old ties. It was not just a compromise but much more than that. It shows that reasons, goodwill and goodsense have prevailed.

Spokesman said that the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mr. Wijeyaratne will be arriving in Delhi on 29th July, 1989 with a high powered delegation to discuss a whole package of issues. He said, India is optimiste about the talks.

I LANKA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jul 12, 1989

## **Volume No**

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Discussions between the Indian and Pakistani Foreign Ministers

The following is the text of a statement by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jul 24, 1989 on discussions between the Indian and Pakistani Foreign Ministers:

There was a discussion on bilateral relations with Pakistan, when both sides warmly applauded the substantial forward movement that the recent meeting of the Joint Commission had been able to accomplish. They referred specifically to the improved people to people contact, establishment of improved Visa regulations and improvement of trade matters. It was decided by both Foreign Ministers, that both sides should quickly decide the date from which the new travel regulations are to come into force.

They also noted that the military groups of both sides are scheduled to meet again next month. The two sides also expressed the determination to work together and persue vigorously all vital economic issues affecting the third world. They agreed that some seminal thinking has taken place in this sphere and that by working together both countries could benefit.

Spokesman said that the Pakistan Foreign Minister would be calling on the Prime Minister on 25th July, 1989, and would be returning the same afternoon to Pakistan.

-186>

DIA PAKISTAN USA

**Date**: Jul 24, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Discussions on SAARC between Pakistan Foreign MinisterandExternal Affairs Minister

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Jul 24, 1989 about discussions on SAARC between Pakistan Foreign Minister and External Affairs Minister:

Pakistan Foreign Minister had a meeting with External Affairs

Minister which lasted for one and half hour. Pakistan Foreign Minister was accompanied by D.G., in his office, Mr. Ariffat Mehdi, Niaz Niak, Pakistan Ambassador, Khaliq Mehmood, Additional Foreign Secretary incharge of SAARC, and others. External Affairs Minister was assisted by Minister of State, Foreign Secretary, Secretary (ER), Joint Secretary (SAARC) and Joint Secretary (AP).

Pakistan Foreign Minister came here in persuance of his discussions with External Affairs Minister in Islamabad, where he had informed External Affairs Minister that the Pakistani Prime Minister has asked him to travel to Colombo, to see what could be done to convene the Ministerial Council of SAARC.

Pakistan Foreign Minister gave his account of his meetings with Sri Lankan President and Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, and said that the objective of his visit was to see how SAARC could be put on the rails and how the Ministerial Meeting which was aborted earlier this month, could be convened. The External Affairs Minister thanked Mr. Yakub, for his assessment and said that Mr. Yakub Khan's visit was an important one, because hopefully it would end the need for such visits in future. On no account should SAARC activities be held up as they were on this occasion. SAARC has no place for discussions on anything beyond agreed areas of substantive cooperation. SAARC had laid down fool-proof guidelines to ensure that its meetings adhere to this cardinal principle.

Such things as happened on the last occasion should not be allowed to happen ever again. It was agreed by both sides in the context of the Pakistan Foreign Minister's recent visit that certain pending items such as the approval of the budget, the SAARC calender, the approval of the extension of the term of the Secretary General, could be concluded by correspondence. Also, the Sri Lankan government has indicated that technical meetings such as the one scheduled to discuss education at Dhaka, should go ahead (in the next couple of weeks).

There was some discussion also on the extension of SAARC. Visa privileges to include more categories of people eligible for such concessions.

There were several questions put on the subject of the discussion between the two Foreign Ministers' to Spokesman. When questioned about Pak Foreign Minister's assessment of his visit to Sri Lanka, Spokesman said "Sri Lanka appeared to him to be committed to SAARC and they regretted their inability to attend the last meeting and hoped to attend the next, whenever convened."

To another question, Spokesman said that, Pakistan's Foreign Minister does not seem to have got the impression that Sri Lanka would pull out of SAARC. India's position about SAARC not being the forum for discussing bilateral issues had been made clear to the Pakistani side.

To a question about the hosting of the next Summit, Spokesman said that the matter was not discussed.

When questioned on reports about Prabhakaran's death, Spokesman said that these reports were not confirmed.
-187>

## KISTAN USA INDIA SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BANGLADESH

**Date**: Jul 24, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **PAKISTAN**

Prime Minister's Banquet Speech in Islamabad

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's speech at the banquet hosted in his honour at Islamabad on Jul 16, 1989:

There was a lapse of over ten thousand days between the last visit of a Prime Minister of India to Pakistan and my visit here last December. Within two hundred days, I have come back to Islamabad. This is a measure of the promise of enduring friendship that has been heralded by the democratic decision of the people of Pakistan to place you, Madam Prime Minister, at the helm of affairs.

The restoration of democracy in Pakistan has been greatly welcomed by the people of India. There is deep admiration, Madam Prime Minister, for the courage with which you have overcome your travails. By the same token, there is deep sincerity in our congratulations on your accession to the leadership of your country.

It is given to all of us to be the creation of history. Let us, for our part, try to create history.

We hear around us voices that counsel caution. Accepting the status quo is always easier than change. Change means unceartainty. It frightens all but those with a vision for the future, and the courage to shap the future you, Madam Prime Minister, are endowed with both -- vision and courage. Let us have the vision and courage not to be too constrained by counsels of caution.

When our two countries attained independence, I was a child, almost an infant, and you, Madam Prime Minister were yet to be born. You and I have grown, as the vast majority of our peoples have grown, in a world in which India, as she is now, and Pakistan, as a sovereign, independent entity, are established realities.

It falls upon our generation to safeguard our sovereignties not through the illusory pursuit of military strength but through the conscious pursuit of friendship between ourselves. It falls upon us to silence the guns that have given no peace and to seek the enduring solutions that only peaceful coexistence can ensure. It falls upon us to work together in the great struggle that lies ahead. Ours is a shared mission to end the injustice and oppression inflicted upon our countries and other developing countries by the inequities and irrationalities, the exploitation, the cruelty and the violence of the present international order. We are summoned to greater tasks than assiduously aggravating the scars of history. In the larger global context, we must rise above the stoking of petty problems, unworthy of our larger destiny. There is a great destiny that lies before India and Pakistan. It is a destiny we can achieve together, as friends and good neighbours.

India and Pakistan are heirs to a great civilization that transcends the borders which now separate us. Mehrgarh and Mohenjodaro, Koldihawa and Kalibangan, take us back to the very beginnings of organized human settlements, villages whose antiquity matches Jericho and Jarmo. We are the proud inheritors of among the most ancient and most unbroken civilizations known to human history. Our shared heritage is woven into the warp and woof of our being. Ajmer Sharif and the Taj Mahal are part of what you are, even as Taxila and Nankana Sahib are inseperable from what we are. We are united by the cultural history of the last five thousand years -- or, indeed, the last -188>

eight thousand years, as Mehrgarh indicates.

That said, we are realists. We recognised that, notwithstanding all the goodwill in the world, there are between us real problems on the ground and real differences in perception. These have to be resolved before we can definitively move together forward.

Your father and my mother showed at Simla seventeen years ago this month how this might be done. We started down that path. It was possible because the will of the people of Pakistan determined the will of the Government of Pakistan. Then, the movement forward stalled. Now that the will of your people is once again sovereign, the processes of progress have been resumed.

We seek an end to actions aimed at infringing our integrity. We believe you have the will and the strength to stop it.

We seek an end to the clashes and conflicts that have led to the loss of so many precious lives in the forbidding, icebound terrain of the north. The constructive discussions held on the subject contain encouraging pointers to a possible settlement.

We seek an end to disputation between our representatives on problems which are ours alone in forums where other interests prevail. Our two countries are wise enough and mature enough to find solutions to bilateral issues strictly within the framework of mutual respect for our independence, sovereignty and integrity. We do not need the intervention of others. The Simla Agreement lights our path.

Friendship between neighbours such as ourselves cannot be built by governments alone, or even primarily by governments. Our friendship has to be built, most of all, by our peoples, among themselves. Nothing is more important than removing the roadblocks that have been placed in the way of our peoples getting to know each other. Travel is almost entirely confined to relatives on either side of the border, and hampered by needless harassment. Trade between our countries is derisory, economic cooperation nonexistent. Newspapers and magazines are stopped at the frontier. The flow of thought and information is staunched or filtered. Films are seen clandestinely, or through mounting taller and taller antennae! Cultural exchanges are highly treasured but have been rendered a rarity.

We cannot build trust between our countries unless we trust our peoples. There was a time when many of the men and women of India and Pakistan shared common memories that antedated the political divide. The present generation has grown up looking not to each other but elsewhere. Yet, as anyone who has been to the Gulf or West Asia, Europe or North America will testify, when an Indian and a Pakistani meet, as human beings in a human encounter, there is an instant mutual recognition, an affection that swells from some inner core of our existence, an embrace that transcends the passing passions of politics. Why must we go abroad to meet each other? Why can we not meet in each other's hearths and homes? It is incumbent on us to give joyful expression to the natural affinities that bind our peoples.

The greatest Indian of our century taught us to rise above the two greatest weaknesses that beset humankind -- fear and hatred. Let us remove the fear that has permeated our relationship. Let us remove all hatred. Let us work together in peace and friendship.

I request all of you to please join me in raising your glasses:

--to Her Excellency Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Janab Asif

Ali Zardari;

-189>

to the memory of the architects of the Simla Agreement: Indira Gandhi and Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto;

-- to peace, cooperation and friendship, now and forever, between our countries and our peoples.

## KISTAN USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Jul 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **PAKISTAN**

#### Joint Press Release

The following is the text of a Joint Press release issued at Islamabad on Jul 17, 1989 at the end of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi's official visit to Islamabad:

His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India paid an official visit to Pakistan from the 16th to 17th July, 1989, at the invitation of Her Excellency Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

- 2. Accompanying His Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on this visit to Islamabad were Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, and senior officials of the Government of India.
- 3. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi and the Minister of External Affairs, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, called on His Excellency the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Begum Ghulam Ishaq Khan and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest.
- 4. Prime Minister Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had detailed and cordial discussions in an atmosphere of mutual trust.
- 5. The two Prime Ministers had an extensive exchange of views on the developing international situation and on the manner in which further progress could be ensured in the normalisation of India-Pakistan relations and strengthening cooperations between

Pakistan and India.

- 6. The two leaders took note of recent positive developments in the international situation aimed at defusing tensions and confrontation and furthering the cause of international stability, disarmament and equitable economic development. They agreed to encourage and support these processes through mutual cooperation bilaterally as well as in multilateral fora. They discussed the situation relating to SAARC and expressed the hope that SAARC activities wil be resumed at the earliest.
- 7. Both sides reviewed developments in bilateral relations since the last meeting of the two Prime Ministers in Islamabad in December 1988. The Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction about agreements reached between the two sides on cooperation in the fields of railway communications, civil aviation, border security arrangements and controlling illegal transborder activities. They agreed that Indo-Pakistan consultations at appropriate levels should continue on a regular basis for devising further measures to improve cooperation in all these spheres. In this context, the Prime Ministers agreed that the Survyors General of India and Pakistan will reconvene their discussions on the Sir Creek and maritime boundary between Pakistan and India.
- 8. The two leaders expressed satisfaction at all procedural measure having been completed on the agreements signed between the Government of Pakistan and the Government of India on the avoidance of double taxation on air transport income, and bilateral cultural relations. It was also agreed that remaining procedural requirements for implementing the agreement on non-attack on nuclear installations in each other's countries should be completed in the near future. The Prime Minister of India informed the Prime Minister of Pakistan that India had -190>

finalised arrangements in this regard and was willing to ratify the agreement as early as feasible.

- 9. The two Prime Ministers reviewed the discussions held on the Siachen issue at the levels of Defence Secretaries and the army authorities of Pakistan and India in June and July 1989 respectively. In this context, they approved the joint statement issued at the end of the Defence Secretaries' talks on the 17th of June. 1989.
- 10. Taking note of these discussions, the two Prime Ministers directed that the Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan, should in their future meetings work towards a comprehensive settlement in accordance with the Simla Agreement and that this settlement should be based on the re-deployment of forces to reduce the chances of conflict and avoidance of the use force, and further directed that the army authorities should continue discussions to determine future positions on the ground to which

re-deployment would take place so as to conform to the Simla Agreement and ensure durable peace in the area. The next meeting of the Army authorities is being scheduled during August, 1989.

- 11. The two Prime Ministers emphasised that India-Pakistan relations, in all respects, will be structured and strengthened on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for the sovereignty, territorial integ-rity, non-aggression, non-interference in internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, within the framework, content and spirit of the Simla Agreement. The Simla Agreement provided a firm basis for the progressive development of bilateral relations between Pakistan and India and for the resolution of all outstanding differences including the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.
- 12. The indepth discussions between the two Prime Ministers were animated by their earnest desire to chart out a new and meaningful path of friendship and mutual cooperation transcending historical inhibitions and doubts which have affected relations between India and Pakistan.
- 13. His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and Mrs. Sonia Gandhi expressed deep appreciation and thanks to the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the warm and friendly hospitality accorded to them during the visit.
- 14. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi extended an invitation to Her Excellency Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and to Mr. Asif Zardari to visit the Republic of India at their earliest convenience. The invitation was accepted wits pleasure. The dates for the visit will be decided through diplomatic channels.

KISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date**: Jul 17, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

## **PAKISTAN**

External Affairs Minister's Statement at the Inaugural Session of the Third Meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission

The following is the text of a statement made by the External Affairs Minister at the inaugural session of the Third Meeting of

the India-Pakistan Joint Commission at Islamabad on Jul 18, 1989:

Your Excellency, Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Ladies and Gentlemen.

2. I would at the outset like to thank you and through you the Government of Pakistan for the gracious hospitality which has been extended to the members of my delegation and myself as well as for the warm words of welcome. The close affinity between our peoples and the traditional Pakistani courtesy and warmth make Pakistan for us a home away from home. Having so much in common and given the favourable prevailing political climate, we should draw upon this shared heritage to forge cosper links in -191>

all possible fields in mutual interest and mutual benefit.

- 3. Excellency, let me now introduce the members of my delegation.
- 4. This third meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission is taking place in the background of a particularly favourable climate in India-Pakistan relations. There has been a marked improvement in our relations with the meeting between our two Prime Ministers in December 1988. Their subsequent meetings both in Paris and now again in Islamabad will further serve to accelerate the normalisation process between our two countries in accordance with the Simla Agreement. This will not only benefit our peoples but also promote peace and stability in our region.
- 5. We also meet at a time of momentous and positive changes in the international environment. Old rigidities are gradually giving way to new constructive thinking, with a view to attempting to solve hitherto intractable problems. However, the new detente will largely remain incomplete and ineffective if it leaves out the bewildering array of world economic problems particularly of the third world, from its purview. Any act or omission which tends to perpetuate the dominance of the developed countries, and the technological backwardness of the developing is bound to prove counter-productive for both.

I am happy to note that in the purely bilateral context and in keeping with the mandate from our two leaders we have in the first half of 1989 had a series of India Pakistan meetings. These have covered almost the entire range of India-Pakistan relations and have been productive either in enlarging areas of cooperation or in narrowing down differences on the more intractable issues. Particularly significant have been the meetings between the Water Resources Secretaries, the Home Secretaries, the railway and aviation officials, the Defence Secretaries and the Foreign Secretaries of our two countries. These have succeeded in strengthening in frastructural linkages and setting up institutional arrangements to deal with cross border crimes including inter alia drug trafficking, smuggling and the movement

of fugitives from law. We are both committed to a comprehensive and peacefully negotiated settlement of the Siachen issue in accordance with the Simla Agreement and are on the way to putting this problem behind us. I welcome the understanding arrived at during the Foreign Secretaries' meeting to coordinate with each other for various candidatures in international bodies as well as to hold suitable follow up meetings to sort out a variety of issues in the bilateral context.

- 7. This meeting of the Joint Commission is taking place after an unforeseen gap of four years. When the Joint Commission had been set up in 1983, the idea was to provide an institutional framework for fostering growing contacts and cooperation between our two countries and peoples in various areas of mutual interest and benefit. Through this mechanism we have achieved some, even though modest, progress. We were able to develop a Cultural Cooperation Exchange programme should be ready during our present meeting. Infrastructural links particularly in the field of communications have een steadily strengthened.
- 8. In other areas, progress has been slow, perhaps due to a desire to be cautious. However, given the mandate of our two Prime Ministers and the desire of our two peoples, I submit that now is a time for boldness and not hesitation.
- 9. Given the felt needs of the peoples in our two countries, a lot more needs to be done. The various agreements and protocols that we sign should be implemented fully and meaningfully. On trade, we continue to give Pakistan MFN status and we hope you will be able to extend similar facility to us before long. We were particularly surprised that, in contrast to the developments in other areas, Pakistan has singled out India as the only country to which it will not provide GSTP facilities.

  -192>

Industrial cooperation between our two countries including in third country projects should be encouraged. Our efforts to bring about a more relaxed travel and visa regime will be welcomed by large sections of our peoples.

- 10. There is a much greater convergence of thinking in the two countries on measures to increase people to people contacts. I therefore hope that this session of the Joint Commission will achieve a break through in devicing significant steps for increased exchanges between the two countries in education, culture, the media and in the economic and commercial sectors. I would like to assure you that our approach in this respect is positive and any new ideas or proposals that you may have will receive our most constructive consideration.
- 11. The Government and people of India sincerely desire cordial, cooperative and good neighbourly relations with the Government and people of Pakistan. Adverse propaganda and distortion in

publications and books should be consciously corrected and an effort should be made to project each other objectively and without bias. This would help to create positivity in India-Pakistan relations.

12. In conclusion, Excellency, I would be remiss if I failed to mention our good fortune in having you here as Co-Chairman to guide our deliberations. Your innate abilities, vast experience and Rampur charm will, I am confident, help make this meeting memorable and successful.

KISTAN INDIA USA PERU FRANCE MALI

**Date**: Jul 18, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## **PAKISTAN**

### Joint Press Release

The following is the text of a Joint Press Release issued at the end of the Third Meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission held in Islamabad on Jul 18, 1989:

The Third Meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission was held in Islamabad on 18-19 July, 1989. The Pakistan delegation was led by His Excellency Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Foreign Minister of Pakistan. The Indian delegation was led by His Excellency Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs of India, His Excellency Mr. Iqbal Akhund, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and National Security also participated in the proceedings of the Joint Commission.

- 2. During his stay in Islamabad His Excellency Mr. Narasimha Rao called on His Excellency Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on July 18th and Her Excellency Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on July 19th.
- 3. The discussions during the meetings of the Joint Commission and the four Sub Commissions were held in a warm and cordial atmosphere. The approach of both sides was positive and constructive.
- 4. In accordance with the directives of the Prime Ministers of Pakistan and India the two sides agreed upon a number of concrete

measures to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in a number of areas. These include:

## I. Planning:

The two sides will exchange documents and data relevant to furthering the process of development. A seminar on mobilisation of savings, population and local planning, irrigation programmes and policies will be held during 1989.

## II. Industry:

Both sides agreed to exchange delegations of businessmen in order to

-193>

increase bilateral industrial cooperation.

## III. Agriculture:

Revised schedule of visits will be implemented and seminars will be held on already identified subjects in Pakistan (September 1989) and India (November 1989).

#### IV. Postal Service:

Philatolic exbitions will be organized on a reciprocal basis in India and Pakistan.

## V. Health:

Both sides agreed to an exchange of medical research delegations in the field of Oncology and Coronary Heart diseases.

## VI. Double Taxation:

Both sides agreed to initiate negotiations for a comprehensive convention for the avoidance of double taxation

## 5. TRADE:

The two sides noted with satisfaction the growth in bilateral trade and agreed that there was still considerable scope for further expansion of trade between Pakistan and India in the mutual interest of both the countries. The Pakistan side announced enlargement of the list of items to be imported from India in the private sector by another 322 items under the Harmonised System of classification. Both sides agreed to the setting up of a Joint Business Council. It was also agreed to participate in Trade Fairs in each other's countries. Pakistan would be participating in the India International Trade Fair 1989.

## 6. CULTURE:

The two sides adopted a three-year Cultural Exchange Programme for 1989-1991. The CEP provides for cooperation in the fields of

- (a) education including providing fellowships scholarships to students in other country; exchange of educationists, historians, scientists, academicians and other experts in the field of education and
- (b) art and culture including exchange of musicians, artists, folk dance and music, theatre groups, exhibitions of arts and crafts, writers, poets, painters and sculptors.
- (c) Both sides also agreed to exchange exhibitions onminiature paintings and contemporary art. The two sides further agreed to participate in painting exhibitions, folk festivals, seminar etc., organised by each other. The two sides also agreed to send delegations of children youth.
- (d) Sports: Both sides agreed to encourage exchange of sportsmen, athletes, coaches etc., in various sports.
- (e) Radio, TV, Press and Films: Both sides agreed to exchange radio and TV programmes and delegations of radio and TV professionals.
- (f) Both sides agreed to permit commercial exchange of newspapers and periodicals.
- (g) Both sides agreed to allow the posting of more newspapers and agency correspondents in each other's country on a reciprocal basis.
- (h) Both sides agreed to participate in each other's film festivals and exchange films delegations.-194>

## 7. TRAVEL & TOURISM:

- (a) Both sides agreed to increase the number of places that can be visited by nationals of either country from the present 4-8.
- (b) Both sides agreed that persons with visas valid upto 14 days will be exempted from police reporting on reciprocal basis. This visa will be non-extendable.
- (c) Both sides agreed that visitors travelling by air could enter at one point and exist at another point-provided that the visa is so endorsed.
- (d) Both sides agreed to introduce a new category of tourist visa to cover group tours by approved tour operators valid upto 14 days. Private tour operators travel agents duly approved by

respective governments would be permitted to operate group tours. Such groups must consist of 10 or more persons who would be granted non-extendable tourist visas valid for 14 days and for a maximum of 8 places. Individual members of the group will not be required to register with the police. The tour operators will inform the registration authorities at various places in advance.

(e) Both sides agreed to increase the number of pilgrims and places of pilgrimages. Indian side agreed to increase the number of pilgrims as follows:

#### From To

- I. Shrine of Hazrat Moinuddin 300 500 Chishti, Ajmer Sharif
- II. Shrine of Hazrat Nizamuddin 180 250 Aulia, Delhi
- III. Shrine of Hazrat Amir 120 200 Khusro, Delhi
- IV. Shrine of Hazrat Mujadid 120 200 Alaf Sani at Sirhand Sherif
- V. Shrine of Hazrat Kh. 120 200 Alauddin Ali Ahmad Sabir at Kalyer Sharif
- (f) Pakistan side agreed to permit two visits annually to Katasraj of 200 pilgrims for each visit.
- (g) Indian side agreed to open the shrine of Hazrat Hafiz Abdullah Shah (Agra) for visit by 150 Pakistani pilgrims.
- (h) Pakistan side agreed to open Sadhu Bela (Sukkur) shrine and the Shrine of Hazrat Data Ganj Baksh (Lahore). Pakistan side indicated that the pilgrimage to Sadhu Bela would be combined with the pilgrimage to Hyat Pitafey and the number of pilgrims would be increased from 200 to 400.
- 8. The Indian side expressed its warm appreciation to the Government and people of Pakistan for the hospitality extended to the Minister of External Affairs of India and his delegation.

KISTAN INDIA USA LATVIA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Jul 18, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **SOVIET UNION**

#### 1000 Million Rouble USSR Credit for India

The following is the text of a press release issued at New Delhi on Jul 26, 1989 on USSR's credit to India:

USSR has offered a credit of 1000 million Rouble equivalent to approximately Rs. 1850 crore for Power Stations and Transmission Lines to be established in India. This was disclosed by H.E. Mr. V. F. Mordvinov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations, USSR when -195>

he alongwith his delegation called on the Union Finance Minister, Shri S.B. Chavan here today. The Union Finance Minister, Shri S.B. Chavan expressed satisfaction on the progress of talks on credit agreement.

Both sides expressed satisfaction on the understanding reached between the two countries on a three year agreement on centralised rate of remuneration payble to Soviet specialists in India.

The two sides also reviewed the progress made in the expansion of trade. The visiting USSR Deputy Minister informed the Union Finance Minister that the trade turnover of his country with India since 1986 had doubled, from Rs. 3800 crore to Rs. 7000 crore in 1989.

The two sides also discussed the possibilities of increasing export of consumer goods from India. The leader of the USSR delegation said that the export of medicines from India to USSR have also doubled in the current year.

-196>

DIA USA

**Date**: Jul 26, 1989

# August

# **Volume No**

1995

## CONTENTS

Foreign Affairs Record VOL XXXV No 8 1989 August **CONTENTS** AFRICA FUND Senior Officials of AFRICA Fund Committee Meet in New Delhi. 197 Rao Opens AFRICA Fund Meeting Amidst Lavish Praises from World Leaders 200 **CHINA** Seminar on India-China Relations 201 **FRANCE** Indo-French Space Programme 202 Increasing Cooperation between India and 203 France HOME AND ABROAD An Unwarranted Encroachment on India's Sovereignty 204 Suo Moto Statement by Minister of State for **External Affairs** 205 Suo Moto Statement by Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs 206 President's Message on the Eve of Indepen dence Day 1989 207 Prime Minister's Independence Day Address 210 Foundation Stone of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute Laid 216

**ITALY** 

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Statement Adopted on 30 August, 1989 by the International Conference on Cambodia, Paris

217

## NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

South-South Cooperation in Trade to Figure in NAM Agenda

219

#### OFFICL4LL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Cambodia 220

Sri Lanka 220

South Africa 223

Nigeria 224

Nepal 224

Iran 225

#### SOVIET UNION

Two More Nuclear Power Stations With

Soviet Help 226

DIA CHINA FRANCE USA CAMBODIA ITALY SRI LANKA SOUTH AFRICA NIGER NIGERIA NEPAL IRAN

**Date**: Aug 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## AFRICA FUND

Senior Officials of AFRICA Fund Committee Meet in New Delhi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1989 on AFRICA Fund:

The Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid (AFRICA) Fund was constituted by the 8th Summit of Heads of State Government of the Movement of Non-aligned countries in Harare in September, 1986. The Fund Committee consisting of 9 countries under the chairmanship of India held a Summit meeting in New Delhi in January, 1987. The Summit adopted a Plan of Action for the Fund and issued a universal Appeal seeking support and solidarity for the Fund. A Sub-Committee of the nine under the

Chiarmanship of Zambia was also set up to consider the issue of utilisation of cash resources and pledges of donors. Immediately after the Summit, the Prime Minister as Chairman of the Fund Committee had written to all Heads of State Government of Nonaligned and other countries, Secretary General of the UN and the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth and President of EEC forwarding the Summit documents and requesting their support. Similar action was taken to forward the documents to the Heads of other international organisations with a letter from the then EAM. In response to the Appeal of the Prime Minister, we have received pledges in cash, kind and project assistance equivalent to US \$ 426 million from 54 countries. Actual cash contributions received by the Fund are approaching 1 million US Dollars. A list of donor countries and the pledges announced by them may be seen in Annexure 1.

- 2. The first meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee since the Summit, at the level of Senior Officials, was held in New Delhi from 4th to 6th August, 1987. In consultation with Zimbabwe, Chairman NAM, and Zambia, Vice Chairman AFRICA Fund Committee, the first meeting of the Sub-committee, was also held in New Delhi on 6th August, 1987 with Zambia in the Chair. Representatives of Frontline States and liberation movements attended the meeting of the Sub-committee as Observers when modalities for utilisation of pledges from donor countries were discussed. Representatives of donor countries and UN and other multilateral agencies also attended the metting as Special Invitees. The presence of representatives of both groups in New Delhi provided a very useful opportunity for informal contacts and interaction between them. Donors were requested to give careful consideration to the projects and areas requiring urgent assistance presented by the Frontline States and liberation movements. They were urged to identify projects that could be taken up for bilateral implementation. The Fund sees its role primarily as that of a catalysit in promoting additional flow of assistance to Frontline States and not as an Implementing agency.
- 3. A report on the progress made by the Fund was presented to the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of delegation of Nonaligned Countries to the General Assembly of the UN held in October, 1987, at New York.

4.opportunities afforded in various international fora are being utillised to dis -197>

seminate information regarding the objectives and progress on the activities of the AFRICA Fund. Shri N. Krishnan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister for AFRICA was invited to attend a twin conference on Apartheid hosted by Association of West European Parliamentarians for Action against Apartheid (AWEPAA) in Harare in March 1988. He addressed the European Parliamentarians and presented a paper on the AFRICA Fund. The Special Envoy also

participated in an international NorthSouth Round Table Conference held in Harare under the aegis of UNICEF during December 1-3, 1988. A presentation on the progress of the activities of the AFRICA Fund was also made at the Conference.

- 5. The second meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee at the level of Senior Officials was held in Brazzaville (Congo) from 14-16 January, 1988. A meeting of the Sub-Committee was held on 15th Jaunary. The meeting reviewed the progress on the activities of the Fund since the first meeting held in New Delhi in August, 1987, outlined the modalities for utlisation of pledges in cash and in kind from various donor countries, received the statement of accounts for the year 1987 and considered further measures for mobilisation of public opinion and additional financial resources. Different donors reported on projects being taken up for implementation by them.
- 6. After launching the appeal contributions were received from individuals as well as organisations in India. A Society under the S.R. Act 1860, called AFRICA (Public Contributions India) Fund, to manage these contributions received in Indian rupees has been set up.
- 7. The Society has received contributions totalling Rupees 2.36 Crores, including Rupees two Crores contributed by Coal India and the JBCCI and the State Bank of India presented to the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi on 10th December, 1988, the 40th anniversary of the Human Rights' Day. As decided at the first meeting of the Governing Body chaired by SEPM, medicines worth Rs. 25 lakhs were sent to Mozambique through the State Trading Corporation. Plans are under way for utilization of the balance in consultations with recipient countries and international agencies.
- 8. India had announced a contribution of Rs. 50 crores spread over a period of three years. We have selected several projects. Out of the identified projects, the following have been implemented: Angola (i) Supply of medicines, (ii) Scholarships for 38 Angolan students, Botswana (i) Supply of Medical Equipment, Tanzania (i) Supply of Transport Vehicles etc. (ii) Supply of Medicines, Zimbabwe (i) Supply of Tarpaulins, ANC (i) Supply of essential goods like tents, medicnes, clothings, vehicles etc. SWAPO (i) Supply of transport vehicles etc. Negotiations are under way with suppliers such as STC, PEC, Tatas, Mohan Exports, MECON, HSCC and NSIC for the remaining projects. Agreements on the implementation of Indian AFRICA Fund projects have been signed with Botswana, Tanzania, Angola and Mozambique. Similar agreements with Zimbabwe and Zambia are being worked out.
- 9. An idea of the impact that the Fund is hoping to make on the ground can be had from the following examples: Czechoslovakia, India, Italy and USSR have been active in the supply of items

such as foodstuff, medicines and other essential commodities. In the transport sector, Algeria, India, Norway, Sweden and Netherlands are undertaking projects. Argentina, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Hungary, Malaysia, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Vietnam, USSR and Cuba are taking up programmes of human resources development covering diverse sectors. Several other posibilities are under active consideration of donor Governments as well as recipients. For instance, Yugoslavia is considering schemes in agriculture and agroindustry among other areas. A number of projects assisted by Peru are expected to become operational shortly. Nigeria is actively identifying possible projects in different sectors - so also Congo, Ghana, -198>

France, Poland, Republic of Korea, DPR Korea and Cuba.

- 10. A brochure on AFRICA Fund for distribution in U.S.A. and Europe, financed by the United Nations Centre against Apartheid was released in New York on 28th of July, 1988. An inter-agency meeting of different UN organisations to discuss the ways of assisting the AFRICA Fund was also held in New York under the chairmanship of the Under Secretary General of the United Nations.
- 11. At a meeting held in London on 9th August 1988 anti-Apartheid movement of UK expressed its keen interest to cooperate with the AFRICA Fund in mobilising public opinion and raising funds in the UK and the continent. Support for AFRICA Fund has been specially sought in one of its latest pamphlets distributed in UK.
- 12. The third meeting of the AFRICA Fund Commiteee at the level of Senior Officials was held in Lima, Peru from 2nd to 5th August, 1988. The donors who have pledged contributions to the AFRICA Fund and UN and other specialised international agencies were invited to attend this meeting along with the recipients the Frontline States and liberation movements. The meeting reviewed the progress on the activities of the Fund including utilisation of contributions, mobilisation of public opinion and additional financial resources. Satisfaction was expressed on the progress of the Fund with more than 1/3rd of the entire community of nations from the East and the West, the North and the South joining in this Non-aligned initiative. Among the important results on the meeting was a decision to donate a modest but symbolic sum of US \$ 50,000 to the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa to be held under UN and OAU auspices in Oslo. In addition, the meeting considered and adopted a report to be submitted on behalf of the AFRICA Fund Committee to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Nonaligned countries scheduled to be held from 5th to 9th September, 1988 in Nicosia, Cyprus.
- 13. Shri K. K. Tewary, Minister of State for External Affairs

attended the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa under UN & OAU auspices and announced the AFRICA Fund's symbolic contribution of US \$ 50,000 for the displaced persons and returnees in the Frontline States. The Conference Declaration included a laudatory paragraph on the AFRICA Fund and recommended further international support to it.

- 14. A comprehensive report on the AFRICA Fund was submitted by Shri N. Krishnan on behalf of the AFRICA Fund Committee to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Nonaligned countries held in Nicosia, Cyprus during September 5-10, 1988. The Final Declaration of the Conference made appreciative references to the progress made so far by the AFRICA Fund and called for more support to the Fund and also early fulfilment of the pledges made.
- 15. The 4th Meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee at the level of Senior Officials was held in New Delhi from 14th-17th February, 1989. Apart from the Frontline States and Liberation Movements and the Committee Members there were 37 donor countries and 19 International Organisations/Agencies, making it the best attended meeting so far. As an innovative procedure, arrangements were made for a series of separate bilateral meetings between donors and recipients. This procedure helped to review the projects already initiated and to identify new ones for implementation. It is estimated that out of the total pledges of approximately US \$ 422 million nearly one half has already been redeemed or is in the pipeline.
- 16. The meeting decided to disburse US \$ 7,70,000 immediately available in the Fund Account as follows:

SWAP US \$ 400,000 ANC US \$ 200,000 PAC US \$ 50,000 Children's Fund for Southern Africa (CHISA) & UNICEF US \$ 120,000 -199>

The amounts earmarked for SWAPO and PAC have already been transferred to them. Projects to benefit women and children in Southern Africa are being identified in consultation with Children's Fund for Southern Africa (CHISA) to be implemented by UNICEF. As for the amount earmarked for ANC, Shri K. K. Tewary, the then Minister of State for External Affairs handed over a cheque to Mr. Thomas N'kobi, Treasurer General of ANC when he called on the Minister on Friday 21st April, 89 at New Delhi.

17. At the meeting of the Foreign Ministers NAM coordinating bureau held at Harare in May, 1989 Shri N. Krishnan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister for Africa, made a presentation on

the activities of the AFRICA Fund.

- 18. During the recent visit of President Shri R. Venkataraman to the Southern African States, namely, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania, AFRICA Fund was discussed by the leaders.
- 19. The Fifth Meeting of Senior Officials of the AFRICA Fund Committee is currently in progress at New Delhi. At this Meeting the Committee would review the progress in the activities of the Fund since the last meeting held in New Delhi in February, 1989 and also prepare a consolidated report on the AFRICA Fund to the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Nonaligned countries in Belgrade in September, 1989.

DIA ZIMBABWE ZAMBIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CONGO MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA BOTSWANA TANZANIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA ITALY ALGERIA SWEDEN ARGENTINA BULGARIA EGYPT HUNGARY MALAYSIA PAKISTAN PERU POLAND CUBA VIETNAM YUGOSLAVIA NIGER NIGERIA GHANA FRANCE KOREA UNITED KINGDOM CYPRUS

**Date**: Aug 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### AFRICA FUND

Rao Opens AFRICA Fund Meeting Amidst Lavish Praises from WorldLeaders

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1989 on AFRICA Fund Meeting:

- 1. The Senior Officials of the AFRICA Fund Committee commenced today its four days deleberations in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri N.Krishnan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister for Africa to review the progress in the activities of the Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid (AFRICA) Fund. The Committee would also prepare a consolidated report on the activities of the AFRICA Fund since its inception at the Eighth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Nonaligned countries at Harare in September, 1986.
- 2.Over sixty delegations from Member States of the Committees, the Recipient countries, the liberation movements, United Nations Agencies and other International Organizations are participating in the Meeting.
- 3. The Inaugural address was given by Minister for External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. Messages were also sent to the

Meeting by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Chairman of the AFRICA Fund, H.E. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, Vice Chairman of the AFRICA Fund, Secretary General of the United Nations, and Commonwealth Secretary General.

- 4. In his inaugural address the Minister for External Affairs commended the progress achieved by the Fund so far but urged the Meeting to continue its efforts in converting the pledges into projects and beenfits to the Frontline States and liberation movements in Southern Africa and Namibia. He pointed out that fifty four nations from all over the world including countries outside the Nonaligned Movement had pledged the equivalent of US \$426 million in cash, kind and project assistance in a short space of two and a half years since the process started with the AFRICA Fund Summit in New Delhi in January. 1987. He stated that while most of the pledges had been committed to specific projects and supplies, much of the implementation was yet in the pipeline.
- 5. The message from Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Chairman of the -200>

AFRICA Fund Committee, while appreciating "the considerable success" of the Fund in mobilising pledges, urged the Committee to intensify efforts towards implementation and execution of projects. Noting the progress on the question of Namibian independence and "stirrings of change" within South Africa, the Prime Minister stated that the Fund has a significant role to play in the struggle against Apartheid.

- 6. President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia as the Chairman of the Organization of the Frontline States in a message to the Meeting conveyed the gratitude of the people of Southern Africa for the assistance that has been made possible through the AFRICA Fund. Terming this cooperation as "an unprecedented level of expression of international solidarity on the issue of the fight against Apartheid", he stated that with the impending achievement of independence in Namibia, "the needs of the people of South Africa will be even higher since the battle over South Africa will be the final battle against Apartheid". In this struggle, he was confident that with the assistance that has been made possible by the AFRICA Fund, "the people of Southern Africa will not be alone".
- 7. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, in his message referring to the Fund as "a true expression of solidarity" assured the Meeting of "the full support and cooperation of the United Nations in your drive to assist the people of the Southern African subregion to achieve their legitimate aspirations".

**Date**: Aug 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **CHINA**

### Seminar on India-China Relations

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 28, 1989 on the address of the Commerce Minister:

The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, has said that the effort to promote liberalisation of world trade in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and the imminent establishment of economic groupings by the developed countries are not in harmony. The EEC is set to be a single market by 1992, the North American economy entity is now a reality and efforts are under way to establish a Pacific Rim Community. These developments taken together could be a considerable disadvantage to other countries, especially the developing countries. Speaking at a Seminar on India-China Relations at Hyderabad today, Shri Singh cautioned that these groupings would have considerable economic clout to influence trade liberalisation in their favour and their attempt could be to force other countries to open their markets without any reciprocity. In such a situation, Shri Dinesh Singh said countries with large markets and considerable growth potential like India, China and the Soviet Union could play an important role to restore the balance between the emerging economic entities and others coordinating their economic strategies.

He said it would be mutually advantageous to enter into dialogue to evolve common strategies to acquire foreign capital and technology which would protect their domestic industry and fulfil the growing needs of the people. Between themselves, India, China and also the Soviet Union could share their experiences -201>

and enter into a variety of joint ventures to hasten the pace of economic development in their countries. "This is not to suggest that China and India or even China, India and the Soviet Union build and exclusive economic club, but only to propose that they should engage themselves in close cooperation to protect their interests and follow a path of liberalisation and development to enable their people to develop their enterprises with such foreign cooperation as may be necessary" he said.

The Minister said that Mahatma Gandhi's ideal of a "World without arms" was far from the reality today, but his philosophy of replacing value systems based on force to that of cooperation was beginning to be understood. He said China and India, which had the potential to play a major role on the international stage, now had the opportunity to cooperate in the process of changing the global climate from military confrontation to peaceful competition. Being developing countries and having the potential to become major economic powers, China and India could help set the ground rules for transfer of capital, technology and management from the developed to the developing countries in a manner which would bring economic benefit to all, free from exploitation.

Shri Singh stressed that the setting up of the Ministerial-level Joint Commission following the visit of Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to China in December, 1988 was a welcome sign of the renewed desire on both sides to work together to iron out differences peacefully and cooperate in the economic and scientific fields to face common challenges.

Referring to the common features, Shri Singh said India and China together accounted for one-third of the world population. They have continental size economies, constituting in numbers the world's largest market with a growth potential greater than that of any existing economic groupings. They are both developing countries with a relatively short period of industrialisation. Both have tried liberalising their economies to participate in global trade and face international competition. China opened its 14 coastal sites to foreign investment, in addition to the four Special Economic Zones and it permitted foreign investors not only to export from these centres but also to have access to its domestic market. India's cautious approach has enabled it to liberalise its economy in a more orderly manner. India set up export zones and units but did not permit them unrestricted access to the domestic markets. Shri Singh said these developments only highlight the inherent advantages in learning from each other's experience and the potential that exists for close cooperation between China and India

INA INDIA URUGUAY USA PERU

**Date**: Aug 28, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

**FRANCE** 

## Indo-French Space Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 07, 1989 on Indo-French Programme:

India has entered into an agreement with France for cooperation in Space Research programmes. This agreement was signed on June 21, 1977 and is still operative. Under the agreement, the following joint projects have been completed successfully.

Sounding rocket experiments from Tuhmba for investing the dynamics of the thermosphere. -202>

Manufacture of French Centaure sounding rockets by ISRO under licence from M/S Sud Avionics, France. Transfer of French Knowhow and technology of Viking Liquid Engine (currently being used in the French Ariane launcher) to ISRO in return of India manufacturing and supplying 7,000 pieces of transducers for the Ariane programme.

Launch of INSAT-IC Satellite carried out with Ariane launch vehicle on July 22,1988.

Reception and distribution of French SPOT satellite imageries by ISRO for applications in earth's resources survey.

However, no specific proposal for any tie-up in launching joint Space programme is under contemplation at present.

This information was given in the Lok Sabha today by Shri K.R. Narayanan, Minister of State for Science and Technology in a written reply.

ANCE INDIA RUSSIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Aug 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **FRANCE**

Increasing Cooperation between India and France

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi

on Aug 09, 1989 on the increasing co-operation between India and France:

The 3-day Indo-French meet on Planning began here today. Inaugurating the first plenary session of the meeting, the Union Planning Minister and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Shri Madhavsinh Solanki, envisaged increasing economic and technical cooperation and collaboration between India and France in the coming years.

The Minister said that the economic relations between our two countries are being organised and monitored by IndoFrench Joint Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation. Periodical deliberations of the Joint Committee have successfully explored various avenues of trade, investment, technological cooperation and industrial and business collaboration, he added.

Shri Solanki said that a discussion and dialogue between the French and the Indians on the subject of Planning inevitably draws considerable attention for the reason that the two countries have been practising planning systems which have a number of things in common. Both France and India are mixed and planned economies. Both of them recognise the importance and crucial roles both of public and private sectors, yet believe in some degree of direction and guidance by the State in the operation of the economic system. Therefore, the two countries have a lot to share and learn from each other's experience, he added.

The Minister said that recent trends in the system of planning and economic management in different parts of the world go to suggest that the French system of planning has much greater merit and efficacy than other systems. He said that our own planning, operating as it does in the framework of a mixed economy, has used a combination of public investment, regulation and incentives as instruments of achieving its goals. The discussion on the planning techniques and the role of public and private sectors, during this seminar would, therefore, be not only intellectually stimulating but also practically rewarding to us, he added.

The leader of the 8-Member French delegation, Mr. Lionel Stoleru, Minister of State for Planning, Republic of France, said that his country attaches great importance to the exchange of views with the Indian planning experts. He said that we must deliberate in a spirit of equality, without complexes and reservations. -203>

The French Minister drew attention to the development of market forces which play an increasingly greater role in the world economy. He said that India and France should know each other's problems and cooperate in overcoming them.

The French Minister presented a copy of the 10th Four-Year Plan of the French Republic. The Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission reciprocated by presenting the Seventh Plan document.

The Indian delegation is led by Shri Abid Hussain, Member, Planning Commission.

In the business session that followed the inaugural session, Dr. Raja J. Chelliah, Member, Planning Commission, explaine the background of the formulation of India's Eighth Five Year Plan. Prof. M.G.K. Menon, Member, Planning Commission, apprised the French delegation about the current status of population growth in India, the country's resolve to end illiteracy and increasing empasis on science & technology in the development plans.

Shri Hiten Bhaya, Member, Planning Commission, Shri P.B.Krishnaswamy, Secretary Planning, and other senior officers of the Planning Commission were also present.

Mr. Arnaud Lagarde, Technical Adviser and a member of the French delegation, gave a brief description of the evolution of French planning over the last 40 years.

ANCE INDIA USA

**Date**: Aug 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HOME AND ABROAD

An Unwarranted Encroachment on India's Sovereignty

The following is the text of Commerce Minister's statement in the Lok Sabhaon Aug 04, 1989 regarding "Situation arising out of naming India as 'Unfair Trader' by the Government of the United States of America under the Super 301 provision of the United States Trade Act and the reaction of the Government with regard thereto":

"I share the serious concern of the Members at the unilateral decision of the U.S. Government listing India as a priority country under the so called 'Super 301' provision of the U.S. Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988. The US has listed certain aspects of our policies on investment and insurance as priority practices whose elimination it must seek within a time bound period. The U.S. is seeking to assume jurisdiction to deter

mine whether certain aspects of our domestic economic policies are fair or equitable. The step is as unwarranted encroachment on India's sovereignty. We are under no international treaty obligations in these areas and we are free to pursue policies in pursuance of our development objectives.

By initiating investigations under its laws the U.S. has brought about some uncertainty in our export trade. Given the provision of US law and the past precedent there is a real threat to our exports to United States. Both India and U.S. are contracting parties of GATT, which requires prior authorisation before any retaliatory step is taken against trade in goods. By ignoring this provision we believe that U.S. is endangering the multilateral trading system.

-204>

As Members are aware India is participating in the current Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations whose agenda includes trade related investment measures and services. By seeking to obtain concessions from India under coercion in these areas U.S. has put these negotiations in jeopardy. It has clearly violated the political commitment on 'stand-still', which it had undertaken at the time of launching of the Uruguay Round.

The U.S. Government has not yet approached us for negotiations in the context of Super 301 decision. We have, however, made it clear that Government of India will not participate in any negotiations under threat of retaliation. We have used every opportunity in GATT as well as in the various negotiating groups of the Uruguay Round to voice our concerns. India's stand has received wide support and the U.S. action has been criticised by both developed and developing countries. We hope that the pressure of international opinion will deter U.S. from pursuing its path of unilateralism.'

DIA USA URUGUAY **Date**: Aug 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HOME AND ABROAD

Suo Moto Statement by Minister of State for External Affairs

The following is the text of a Suo Moto statement by Minister of State for External Affairs Shri K. Natwar Singh, regarding

International Conterence on Cambodia, on Aug 07, 1989, in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha:

I would like to inform the House about the International Conference on Cambodia which is currently being held in Paris. As the House is aware, we have for the past two and a half years been quietly active in finding a political solution for the Cambodian problem. We have age old ties with Cambodia. In recent times we have played a constructive and helpful role in the Indo-China and Cambodian International Control Commissions in the 1950, 60 and 70s.

- 2. Last year, President Mitterand stated that France was ready to call a Conference on Cambodia for finding a negotiated settlement of this vexed problem. After holding consultations with different countries, including India,the Conference began with a ministerial level meeting on 30th July, 1989 in Paris. This ministerial level meeting ended on 1st August and it is expected to resume on August 28. In between, senior officials of the different delegations are meeting to prepare draft final documents which are expected to encompass all the external and internal elements of a solution. The resumed ministerial level meeting is expected to sign these agreements.
- 3. The Conference is co-chaired by France and Indonesia. As Members are aware Indonesia had taken the lead in holding the Jakarta Informal Meetings (JIM) at which the regional countries of ASEAN and Indo-China, including the four Cambodian factions, met face to face for the first time in a series of informal contacts. Altogether 19 countries and the UN Secretary General in his personal capacity were invited by France for participation in this Conference. Apart from India, the other countries participating are the six member states of the ASEAN, the three Indo-Chinese countries (including the four Cambodian factions), the five Permanent Members of the Security Council, Australia, Canada, Japan and Zimbabwe.
- 4. The ministerial level meeting has already achieved some progress in that decisions were taken to establish three working committees in addition to the co-ordination committee. India is the Co-Chairman along with Canada of the first Committee which has been set up "to -205>

define the modalities of a ceasefire and the mandate as well as the principles which shall guide the creation and operation of an effective international control mechanism in order to supervise and control the comprehensive implementation of a settlement".

5. The other committees deal with guarantees regarding the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and neutrality of Cambodia as also the matters relating to the return of the refugees and an international plan for the reconstruction of

### Cambodia.

6.In addition to these three committees, an ad-hoc committee has also been established which will deal with the question of national reconciliation and the setting up of a quadripartite interim authority under the leadership of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. This Ad-hoc Committee will also examine matters relating to the holding of an internationally supervised election. The Ad-hoc Committee consists of the four Kampuchean factions as well as the two Co-Chairmen of the Conference.

- 7. The ministerial level conference also took an important decision in accepting the proposal made by the Secretary General of the United Nations to send a fact finding mission to Cambodia to gather technical information which will be relevant to the work of the first committee of which India is a Co-Chairman.
- 8.At the Conference we were active and endeavoured to be constructive and helpful. Our statement at the opening was well received. Apart from meeting the Foreign Ministers of the countries represented in the halls of the Conference, I had separate meetings with Prime Minister Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk. I held lengthy discussions with many Foreign Ministers.
- 9.I am confident that the Indian Delegation will continue to play a useful role and I am guardedly optimistic that an agreement is likely to emerge at the end of this Conference. The implementation of this agreement will, hopefully, lead to a politically negotiated settlement of this extremely complex and difficult problem. We would like peace and normalcy to return to Cambodia, a country with which India has had cultural links from ancient times. The people of Cambodia and indeed of all Indo-Chinese countries, will then be able to devote their energies for their economic and social development and this troubled region of the world would be able to settle down. As I told the Conference: "For too long the people of Cambodia have looked at dark clouds without a silver lining. That silver lining is now more than discernible. Having come so far we cannot, we must not fail. Diplomacy does not offer salvation, it does offer hope".

Thank you.

MBODIA USA FRANCE CHINA INDIA INDONESIA AUSTRALIA CANADA JAPAN ZIMBABWE UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Aug 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

## HOME AND ABROAD

Suo Moto Statement by Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of Statefor External Affairs

The following is the text of a Suo Moto Statement by Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, regarding "International Convention on Tibet and peace in South Asia" in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on Aug 11, 1989:

We understand that an "International Convention on Tibet and Peace in South Asia" is to be held in New Delhi shortly.

2. The Government of India have consistently regarded Tibet as an autonomous region of China. There are close religious and cultural ties between the people of India and those of Tibet. HH the Dalai Lama is a respected religious and spiritual leader. Our commitment to the welfare -206>

and wellbeing of Tibetan refugees in India remains.

- 3. Activity that complicates the dialogue between His Holiness the Dalai Lama as well as the Tibetan community on the one hand and the Chinese authorities on the other is inopportune and should be avoided.
- 4. It is the view of the Government of India that the holding of the planned Convention will not contribute to the positive evolution of this dialogue. In its effects, it is likely to be counterproductive.

DIA CHINA USA

**Date**: Aug 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

## HOME AND ABROAD

President's Message on the Eve of Independence Day 1989

The following is the text of the President Shri R. Venkataraman's broadcast to the Nation on Aug 14, 1989:

On this auspicious forty-second anniversary of our Independence I

have great pleasure in extending to all fellow citizens residing in India or abroad, my heartiest greetings and good wishes. To our devoted kisan and mazdoor brethren who are the backbone of the country and the valiant members of our defence forces who are the guardians of our freedom and frontiers, I would like to add a special word of felicitation.

Even as the nation celebrates this anniversary, our thoughts turn to the devastating floods in several parts of the country which have caused immense loss of life and property in recent months. The Nation's sympathies go to all those affected families.

Each anniversary of our Independence reminds us of the epic struggle for freedom that was waged for well-nigh a century. Brave sons and daughters of India faced persecution, repression and even death, with no desire other than winning freedom for the country. They regarded no price and no sacrifice, not even of their very lives, as too great for swaraj. In that great flashpoint in our history, the First War of Independence that was fought in 1857, countless Indians including the legendary Rani Laxmibai of Jhansi, fell smilingly before the might of British arms. Undaunted, the people of India, irrespective of regional, linguistic or religious denominations, continued to fight the foreign yoke as one man. We are reminded today of Veerapandiya Kattabomman in the South; Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Chandrasekhar Azad in the North; Vasudev Balwant Phadke and Tilak Maharaj in the West, Maniram Datta, Gopalbandhu Das and Aurobindo Ghose in the East, to name a few of the pioneers, who cheerfully plunged their lives into the fire of struggle. Our thoughts also turn to Netaji Subhas Bose and his ringing call 'Dilli Chalo'.

Above all we are reminded today of that Revolutionary among Saints, Mahatma Gandhi of sacred memory. Softer than the cotton he spun in his compassion, but harder than steel in his resolve, Gandhi galvanised the entire nation into heroic action. Men became heroes at his touch and inspirations became movements, as he took the country to the dawn of freedom.

We salute, today, the entire grand tapestry of India's struggle for freedom in which the services and sacrifices of all those noble Indians are woven in beautiful strands of gold.

But mere salutations are no substitute for emulation. We will be disappointing the souls of that great galaxy of freedom fighters if we were to remain content with singing the praise of their sacrifices. They would expect us to carry the struggle for ward towards the goals which they had set before us, namely, the eradication of poverty and inter communal conflicts. -207>

This latter task is a formidable one and still remains to be achieved though we have taken rapid and confident strides towards that goal.

Our foremost and most spectacular achievement has been our established record of regular, systematic and orderly elections which are the very foundations of democratic governance. There are not many among the nations that became free after the Second World War, which like India can claim to have a vibrant parliamentary form of government based on periodic general elections. The credit goes to the great architect of democracy Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, who with his colleagues in the Constituent Assembly took the bold and courageous step of trusting the masses of India with universal adult franchise.

Critics and sceptics both in India and abroad wondered how an orderly election could be held in which 180 million illiterate persons unfamiliar with electoral processes would be called upon to vote. But the Indian masses took the entire world by surprise by the mature manner in which they exercised their franchise and chose their representatives. The massive turn out of women at the polling booths and the meticulous way they voted showed that they were nowhere behind their compatriots anywhere in the world.

In the eight general elections and innumberable other elections to State legislaures, the Indian voter has shown himself to be skilled and decisive. Given the proper environment the Indian voter knows his mind and exercises his franchise with great discrimination.

In the next few months the country will face the ninth in its series of general elections. They are our single greatest national event. Straddling all regions, languages, creeds and classes, they articulate the political ethos of our people as a whole. Indeed all Indians, rural or urban, rich or poor, educated or illiterate, become 'We The People' on election day, that supreme collective entity which our Constitution speaks of.

As you are all aware, the voting age has been recently lowered from 21 to 18 in order to secure the active participation of youth in our democratic system. Their idealism will no doubt play an effective and responsible role in the electoral proceedings.

I wish to take this opportunity to impress upon all those who will be contesting the ensuing elections to abjure acrimony and rancour and to give no quarter to violence. I would like to make a special appeal to contestants and campaigners to ensure that nothing that they say or do aggravates communal or caste feelings. They must also exhibit a respect for the rights of others and a tolerance for contrary points of view. Elections can and do rouse passions. But let those passions be converted into light, not heat. Let the elections be fought with dignity, decorum and decency.

The use of money or muscle power and the totally unacceptable practices of voterintimidation and booth-capturing offend the

very foundations of our socio-political order. Political parties, whether ruling or in the opposition, shoulder a grave responsibility in this regard. Ultimately it is their campaign style which can make or mar an election. Election ethics, as I have said on earlier occasions, are not a matter of procedure alone; they are the veritable life-breath of the political system which our people have given unto themselves.

And so, as the next round of elections draws near, may I express my confidence, hope and expectation that the elections will be free and fair. Officers on election duty must discharge their responsibilities as a sacrament, no less. The electoral mechanism must continue to function, as it has in the past, with impartiality and objectivity.

The great Tamil poet Subramania Bharati sang in the twenties of this cen -208>

tury when freedom was a dim distant goal,

"We are all sovereigns of the Country".

The poetic benediction has come true. But the sovereignty of the people will become illusory unless the true will of the people is reflected in the legislatures through fair elections. Ensuring free elections must be the joint endeavour of all parties and the sacred duty of the Nation. I am sure that nothing will be done by anyone to cut at the very roots of democracy.

India's enviable record in the matter of elections is matched with its record of all-round socio-economic progress. The instrumentality of planned economic development bequeathed to us by that great statesman Jawaharlal Nehru, whose birth centenary we are celebrating this year, has yielded rich dividends, enabling us to meet the hostilities of 1965 and 1971 with success, withstand successive natural calamities like droughts and floods, cope with fluctuations in international trade and its protectionist trends and the steep rise in international oil prices.

The chronic food shortages which bedeviled us in the fifties and sixties are now a thing of the past. Foodgrain production is expected to reach a record of about 172 million tons this year. I would like to take this opportunity to felicitate the kisans of India whose traditional skills, hard work and readiness to innovate have contributed to this phenomenal achievement. Our public distribution system has been stabilised and we are geared to meet any crisis situation.

Our industrial infrastructure has firmed up and among developing countries, we are in the frontline in the production of basic industrial goods. The policy of economic liberalisation ushered in the early eighties has further widened in coverage and depth and anachronistic controls have been gradually removed. Our admiration and gratitude are due to the industrial labour force and to the entrepreneurs and managers who have rendered this growth possible.

In the field of science and technology we have achieved a significant breakthrough. Our achievements have been particularly notable in electronics, oceanography and defence research. It should now be our endeavour to provide a firm foundation for research-based industrial activity. Our Universities should, in the process, become Centres of Excellence and generators of new ideas. They should become engines of social transformation through application of science and technology to the needs of the masses. The nation is proud of its scientific community and looks upon it with confident expectations of higher and ever-higher achievement. The recent successful launching of 'Agni' has brought vividly to life the pace and power of our technoindustrial progress through self-reliance.

But apart from the satisfaction afforded by these indices of progress, there is the even greater satisfaction of seeing tangible improvements in the quality of our people's life. Thus, for example, the death rate which stood at 27.4 per thousand in 1950 has come down to 10.9 in 1987 and life expectancy has gone up from 32 to 58 years.

Extensive programmes of poverty alleviation launched by the Goverment, combined with renewed efforts to strengthen village-level democracy and foster employment through the Jawahar Rozagar Yojna, bid fair to further improve the quality of life in rural India. Much has been done but more remains to be done for the removal of the curse of illiteracy among our people. The status of the weaker sections, especially our women and those belonging to the scheduled castes and tribes, needs continuing attention. Crimes against women are a blot on our conscience and we must spare no effort to punish the perpetrators of such crimes.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my anxiety over the continuing growth of population which threatens to nullify our progress. Rising numbers have accentuated problems of urban squalor and placed heavy strains on -209>

the available food and housing facilities, and on basic civic services. Our population is projected to reach a 986 million by 2001.

The pressure of population has also led to deforestation with disastrous consequences to ecology. It has also caused discord, tensions and the outbreak of violence.

India has been a pioneer in adopting voluntary family limitation

as a national policy. It is essential that all sections of our society become alive to the urgency and imperative need for population stabilisation.

It is gratifying that outstanding sociopolitical disputes such as assailed Tripura and Darjeeling have been satisfactorily resolved since the last Independence Day. Acts of terrorism perpetrated in the Punjab and its environs continue to anguish us, especially since the victims are invariably innocent men, women and children. But in one major respect the terrorists have been tasting defeat after defeat. The people of India have, by and large, refused to be provoked into hatred and violence. They have given no room to communal discord and have upheld the values of communal harmony and nonviolence which our saints and statesmen have instilled in us. We must never give the slightest quarter to the canker of communal hatred and must continue to reject the evil of violence as a barbaric practice unbecoming of any society, much more so of a civilization such as ours.

It is, again, our tradition of maittri and ahimsa that has made us seek good neighbourly relations with all countries in our region. The concept of a nucear free non-violent world which India has consistently propounded is gaining more and more acceptance in the world. Our own cultural traditions have strengthened our faith in the peaceful settlement of problems.

The message of the Buddha went from here to the world. It is here that Kabir, Nanak and, in our times, Gandhi preached the gospel of tolerance and broad-mindedness. Those who speak narrowly in terms of community and sect, are scarce remembered even by their community and sect. Their small gains achieved, they pass into oblivion. But those who speak of unity and brotherhood - aims that are truly big - remain permanently enshrined in the pages of History.

I am reminded today of the memorable lines written by Mohammad Iqbal in his great poem 'Naya Shivaalaya'. One unforgettable stanza in it says:

Come let us build a new Temple in our land Its pinnacle rising higher than that of any other Its Kalash touching the bosom of the sky

Friends, on this Independence Day, let us resolve to raise in our hearts and minds, an edifice, of which the bricks will represent our rich diversity, and the matter, our indestructible unity. And may that edifice soar skywards, and proclaim the eternal truth.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam -

The world is one family

JAI HIND

**Date**: Aug 14, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND ABROAD

Prime Minister's Independence Day Address

The following is the free rendering in English of the Independence Day address in Hindi by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, from the ramparts of the Red fort on Aug 15, 1989:

My fellow countrymen, today I want to convey my greetings on the Independence Day. I convey my greetings to everyone from Kanya Kumari to Karakoram and from Kutch to Arunachal Pradesh and also to those Indians living in different parts of the world. India attained Independence 42 years ago when at this very Red Fort, Panditji hoisted the -210>

Tri-colour for the first time in free India.

Today while hoisting the flag, I feel that I am not alone but with me in unfurling the flag are the hands of 80 crore people of India. Ours is a historic flag. Under this tri-colour we have fought for our freedom, we have made the country strong and taken it forward. Flag hoisting on independence day symbolises freedom of India and freedom of every Indian. Today, on the occasion of Independence Day, our thoughts go back to lakhs of freedomfighters, many of whom we do not know, and their names are buried in history. Sacrifices of thousands of them are not recorded in history. To those freedom fighters who are with us today, we express our gratitude. We are reminded of our freedom fighters whenever we think of Independent India. They faced numerous challenges to liberate the country, to strengthen and to take her forward. They made great sacrifices and waged a relentless struggle. But, today, our thoughts turn specially to Gandhiji, Shastriji and Indiraji. Gandhiji charted a new course for our struggle for freedom, Panditji gave a new direction and led the nation on the path of progress. Shastriji and Indiraji faced formidable odds in strengthening and protecting the unity and integrity of India.

Today we must also keep in mind that the freedom struggle of India was a unique revolutionary movement. There have been only two or three such movements earlier in history. One was that of America, the other that of France and yet another was of Russia. Then came the revolutionary movement of India in the world. But while the earlier three movements were marked by waves of violence. India under the leadership of Gandhiji innovated a new course. During the dark days of Servitude, Gandhiji showed us a path derived from the heritage of our country. This brought us back to the course of our history and culture. India grew strong by that principled approach. On the strength of those very principles we could win Independence, grow strong and could preserve our freedom. But what were the principles propounded by Gandhiji? They were not new and he only rediscovered them from our history and culture for us. Foremost amongst them was Ahimsa (non-violence). But when Gandhiji talked of Ahimsa he had a much larger perspective in his mind. By Ahimsa he did not mean merely the absence of violence, what he meant was that we should not even have a feeling of violence in our hearts which has to be suppressed. He led us on the path of truth, non-violence, tolerance and compassion. He taught us that history and heritage of India clearly reflected that humanity was one, irrespective of caste, colour, creed, religion, language and region. With these ideals, Gandhiji made us strong. These very ideals which gave us strength, also gave us freedom and enabled us to sustain it.

Gandhiji taught us that if India has to develop, if people of India were to be really free, then this freedom, then this freedom and development have to start from village level. Only then an we really claim that we are free. Gandhiji strove hard but certain capitalist forces did not let him succeed. His hands were tied and development at that time could not start from the village level.

Entire country had great affection for Gandhiji. It is difficult to describe in words the deep and strong bonds that existed between Gandhiji and the people of the country, yet there were a few amongst us who killed Gandhiji.

Gandhiji was assassinated by the communal forces. We must understand and be clear in our minds that communal forces did not kill Gandhiji only to eliminate him but to disintegrate the newly independent country before it got its moorings. However, these designs could not succeed because Gandhiji had given such strength to India that it would never fall or break.

After the assassination of Gandhiji, Panditji led India on the road to develop -211>

ment and nation building. He led India to carve out a place for her in the world. From the ramparts of this Red Fort, Panditji on numerous occasions reminded us about the tryst that the Congress had made with destiny and now after 42 years of Independence we have got an opportunity to redeem that pledge. Had Panditji been in our midst today he would have seen how India has built herself up on the foundaion that he had laid. I am confident that today's India would have filled Panditji's heart with pride. This is the year of Panditji's Birth Centenary. If he had an opportunity to have a look at our progress during last 42 years, a look at our farmers, our agricultural labourers, our workers, our women, our children, our scientists, our youth, our Armed Forces, our industries and our alround progress, I am sure he would have felt extremely delighted and proud. But he would have noticed a few drawbacks too. He would have discovered that despite immense progress and development a few deficiencies still persisted and our tasks remained incomplete. Panditji had reminded us from this very Red Fort of the words of Gandhiji that so long as we do not wipe out tears from the eyes of every Indian, we cannot rest. Even today, we have not been able to wipe out tears from every eye and therefore there is no time to relax. We have a stupendous task and a long struggle ahead this calls for great sacrifices.

Panditji very much wanted to fulfil the dream of Gandhiji's Gram-Swaraj. To achieve this, he started Panchayati Raj. But we could not complete the task. We could not accomplish this mission because of the infiltration of power brokers who did not allow it to succeed. They ensured that real power did not slip off their hands to the hands of people and Bharat. After introducing Panchayati Raj, Panditji did not live long enough to fight the power brokers to ensure that the power that Gandhiji had wrested from the Britishers reached the people.

Indira Gandhi dedicated her entire life to the poor people and the weaker sections of India. She made every effort for the upliftment of downtrodden. She started with bank nationalisation so that the people of India have access to capital. Today we are not facing those problems. We must remember that 20 years ago when the Banks were nationalised, there was almost no branch of any bank in rural India and the poor people were neither getting any help nor did they derive any benefit out of the capital in banks.

Even in independent India, wealth was getting circulated among the affluent people. Indiraji changed the scene by nationalising the banks. She invested the funds to alleviate poverty and also for the welfare and upliftment of the poor.

For the first time, the 20-Point Programme of Indiraji succeeded in reducing poverty in India. For the first time, we saw that the benefits of big projects and programmes started reaching the poor and weaker sections. Indiraji devoted her entire life for fighting and eliminating the capitalist forces. If there was anything dear to Indiraji than poverty alleviation, it was the freedom of India and her unity and integrity. Indiraji spared no effort to ensure that India became stronger. She did not take any

step which would have in anyway encouraged any element which would weaken the country. But Indiraji also had to lay down her life because of fissiparous forces. It was yet another attempt to disintegrate India just as by killing Gandhiji an attempt was made to break India.

I still remember the critical phase through which India passed when Indiraji was assassinated about four and a half to five years ago. Dark clouds were hovering all over the country. There were agitations in different parts threatening to break the country. After the assassination of Gandhiji, perhaps this was for the first time that India was facing such a crisis. An agitation was continuing in Punjab to disintegrate the country. In Tripura, -212>

Mizoram and Assam and in the Hills of Darjeeling also certain developments were taking place. In South, because of the developments in Sri Lanka some weaknesses were beoming apparent in our country. Delhi never witnessed the type of terrorism which manifested itself. Anybody who observed the situation at that time could not have believed that the country would come out of the crisis. All that is now a thing of past. At that time, in November, the only aim I had was to bring the country back to the path shown by Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji. To realise the dreams of Gandhiji and Indiraji and to realise the dreams of the people of India.

The killers of Indiraji wanted to break India. This conspiracy was not hatched in our country, but it was conceived abroad and thrust upon us. This conspiracy aimed at breaking and destroying our country. The assassination of Indiraji was the first step in this direction. The traitors took Indiraji away from the people of India. Those traitors snatched my mother away from me, I took a vow that I would not let them succeed in their aims. We would not allow anyone to dismember the country whatever be the price, whatever be the sacrifice we may have to make. My mother Indiraji had taught me that no sacrifice is great for the country. What ever be the difficulties and whatever be the sacrifices, we are prepared to make them and are prepared to lay down our lives. We have to carry forward the struggle started by Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji. We have to carry forward the same movement because Gandhiji's movement was not only to liberate India. It aimed at ushering in a new era for the people of the world. Gandhiji showed that it was the only way to save the world civilisation. Today there is a growing realization in the world that humanity can be saved only through the path shown to us by Gandhiji and Panditji who for the first time gave new ideologies to the world. For the first time, they impressed upon the super powers that the world cannot move forward and humanity cannot be saved by powerblocks. They asserted that a new world-vision is required. This vision is of Ahimsa, truth, compassion and tolerance and above all this is a vision to view humanity as one entity. This was our

strength and that is how India has emerged as a strong nation. But in pursuit of this ideal we have had to encounter various forces and had to face many challenges. At times, we have faced conservative forces and even today, this confrontation is going on as the conservative forces have not been finished.

We know how the conservative elements are active even today in encroaching upon the rights of women. We can see for ourselves how these conservative forces instead of cooperating in the developmental process of the country, in the service of the people and making the country strong, and protecting its unity and integrity, are busy in singing and dancing. India cannot be built in this fashion, and we cannot make it strong in this manner. Similarly, the forces are still active in weakening and breaking the country. This is a matter of deep regret. I said earlier that if Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji were alive today they would have been proud of the progress India had made but some of our deficiencies would have tormented them. Had they seen that the traitors moving about freely and be able to be in our Parliament, had they seen that the traitors could support the murderers of Indira Gandhi and accepting saropas at the citadels of these murderers they would have been pained. It would have distressed them to see how some people amongst us are supporting the resolution which aimed at weakening the country, dismembering the country. Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji would have felt distressed to see how the communal forces are becoming active and how politics is being dominated by communalism. Perhaps it would have pained them most to see that some people have deviated from the path shown to us by Gandhiji and are conducting their politics in a different manner. There are people in our political life who can say goodbye to principles. This is very sad because India gave up her -213>

principled path, we moved towards slavery and ultimately became slaves. We will be facing the same consequences. We became strong only because we adhered to principles. But today unfortunately, opportuinsm and appearament are rampant in Indian politics.

Very few people are willing to talk about principles. We must remember that when anti-national, secessionist, and communal forces joined hands in an unprincipled manner India was divided. We must remember how this happened. Today, all our energies must be geared up to defeat the designs of communal, divisive, antinational, feudal and conservative forces because if they join together, it would mean the division of India. The people of India must remember that if they allow these forces to unite and grow strong, India will disintegrate, her freedom will be lost and India would again become a slave. Such opportunism would nullify the struggle which was carried on for years, nay centuries. We will ensure that these forces do not join together and we will fight to eliminate them. Our fight would not cease till these forces are banished from India and are destroyed

completely. Whatever may be the challenge, howsoever arduous be the struggle and whatever may be the sacrifice; no sacrifice can be great to protect India from such elements.

A review of the progress achieved during the last four-five years would show that India has made significant strides. Even from the point of view of unity and integrity of the country, the darkness that enveloped the nation during October November, 1984 has been dispelled. Today, we see the bright light of development and India is marching ahead with speed.

In the intervening period, we had to face severe drought but despite that the momentum of agriculture in India was sustained and the farmers of India faced the drought with courage and determination. The workers also laboured hard to give impetus to industrial development. But the new emphasis that we laid on the 20-Point Programme of Indiraji, and Jawahar Rojgar Yojana that we have launched in the Birth Centenary Year of Panditji, has also made an impact in removing the poverty and improving the lot of poor people and weaker sections of India.

Today, I wish to express my gratitude to the people of India. But for their hardwork this would not have been possible.

I wish to thank the farmers who have made us self-reliant in the production of food-grains. We want to express our gratitude to the workers and agricultural labourers as it is their toil and hard work that has industrialised India.

India has emerged as a new power in the world. I am grateful to the Jawans of the country who have made sacrifices and have valiantly protected the unity and integrity of India and maintained peace in the region during these years. Be it Jawans on the borders or on high-snow clad mountains peaks, or be it our Sailors with the Navy on the sea, be it in the Maldives to help a neighbouring country or be it in Sri Lanka to protect the Tamils, the Jawans and the officers of Indian Forces have raised the prestige of India and have strengthened India. Similarly, the scientists of the country have also turned India into a new force by new innovations and reaching new frontiers.

Be it the test of Prithvi missile or the launch of Agni, be it biotechnology for the benefit of farmers, or development of new drugs, our scientists and technologists in different fields have charted new paths to remove poverty and unemployment and to make India stronger.

I also wish to thank our administration because without an efficient administration the unity and integrity of the country cannot be so strong, peace and stability cannot be maintained and India could not have carved out a place for herself in the -214>

world. There may be a few deficiencies and weaknesses in our administration but there are many strong points without which India could not be strong and capable of marching on the road towards development.

I wish to thank our businessmen and industrialists as they have accelerated the pace of India's industrialisation. I also want to thank our public sector which has made its wholehearted contributions to India's development. I want to specially thank the women of India who have emerged as a new force during last few years and have lent a new strength to India. I want to compliment the youth of India as they have set out on a new course to eliminate conservatism. For the first time, the youth would get an opportunity for active participation in India's poiltics. We have full faith in the youth of India; they have fought during the freedom struggle and they have also protected the frontiers of India. Today we have full confidence that the youth would root out conservatism, feudalism, casteism, and communalism from the soil of India. This would be the real liberation of the country. I wish to thank the minorities of India who have made significant contribution in developing and strengthening the country. I am specially grateful to Harijans and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; without their moving forward India could not have marched ahead. Had they not joined together to strengthen the country, it would not have been possible for us to win freedom and to come out of that dark phase.

Your contribution has enabled India to stand with her head high in the world. We will demonstrate to the world with dignity that no one can keep India backward. Now India is moving ahead towards development and progress. During these years we have achieved a lot yet much remains to be done. There are several deficiencies. Gandhiji had talked of Gram Swaraj. Panditji made an attempt to start Panchayati Raj. Today, for the first time, we are transferring power to the people of India by passing two Bills in the Lok Sabha. For the first time real Swaraj is being established. It is your own Raj. In spite of this we find that opposition forces are creating obstacles. They do not want to strengthen the hands of people of India. They do not want that the people of India should decide their own course of development. The power brokers, the capitalists, the conservatives and feudal forces are now coming together. They are joining hands to prevent the transfer of real power to the people of India. It is sad that communal forces and traitors also have combined with them. We have to face all of them because it is only by facing this challenge that we will be able to strengthen the hands of the people of India, give them social justice and provide strength to the weaker sections and better their lot. For the first time we are giving power to the weaker sections, women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in our polity and democracy by taking special steps to ensure that criminals and anti-social elements do not infiltrate into our democracy. For the first

time, stern measures have been taken to keep them away from politics and democratic process. We will complete this task despite all the challenges that we may face. After this we have to undertake atleast two major tasks in the coming years. The first relates to justice. Much has been done in India but one cannot honestly claim that justice is available in villages at the grassroots level. There is so much delay and expenditure involved that I think we cannot claim that justice is being done in the real sense. In the coming years we have to see that justice is done. Just as we are strengthening the Panchayati Raj institutions to make democracy strong and give impetus to development and just as we are strengthening the Nagar Palika institutions to provide resources for the development of urban areas of India, we will also take steps to ensure that justice is available. If it requires a change in the structure we are prepared to do that as we are not prepared to deny justice to the people.

-215>

We have the opportunity before us to give India a new personality in the world. Today we have an opportunity to make India as great as she was before her slavery. Before India lost her freedom people from different corners of the world came to India to discover her wealth and to acquire knowledge. But hundreds of years of slavery have emaciated India. India degenerated and became poor and weak. Today for the first time, we have an opportunity to restore the same old glorious position to India. We have to remove poverty and injustice from India. We have to make India self-reliant. We have to develop India into a great power in the world but not like other great powers who have risen by suppressing others. In pursuance of the ideals of Gandhiji, Panditji and Indiraji, India will not suppress anyone but would champion the cause of poor of the world. India will generate a new spirit that would eliminate groupism and would establish the supremacy of humanity which would save the civilisation and make it richer. Today we have an opportunity to make India a great nation. Let us take a pledge to make India great and strong and to take it forward. I thank you and it is my fervent hope that today on the auspicious occasion of Independence Day every Indian will place a hand on his or her heart and take the pledge to make India great and to take it to new heights of glory.

Thank you, Jai Hind.

DIA USA RUSSIA FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA TUNISIA MALDIVES

**Date**: Aug 15, 1989

# **Volume No**

### HOME AND ABROAD

### Foundation Stone of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute Laid

The following is the text of a speech made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, after laying the foundation stone of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute in New Delhi on Aug 16, 1989:

I would like to first congratulate the Institute on the beginning of the construction of this new building. It is a new phase in the life of the Institute and appropriately it is coming when the Institute is 21 years old and gaining maturity. The Institute has played a role in developing friendship between the peoples of India and Canada. It has done a lot of good work. It has achieved this through involving voluntary organisations and it has done this in the name of one of our great leaders, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Shastriji lived and died as a man for peace. He was a simple person, warm, always identified himself with the people of India. But, perhaps, what was really important was that he had the courage of his convictions to stand up for what he believed in. The message that will come with this new building, with the work that you are doing, is the message that Shastriji wanted to transmit. The objectives that your institution is following support and promote what Shastriji stood for. It is the relevance of these objectives which has given this institution its strength.

By exchanging knowledge between the people of India and the people of Canada, you are sharing what is perhaps the most important commodity today. Although we give priorities to all sorts of things that our bureaucrats and statisticians can put down in numbers, what is really important is how humanbeings interact with each other, how they get to know each other and that is how civilisation will develop in a more positive direction. You have contributed towards this. And it is also important to note that this work has been done between two countries like Canada and India.

Although we are almost on exactly the opposite parts of globe, there has always been a strong bond between Canada and India. It started with the relationships at the highest level immediately after our independence, between your Prime Ministers and our Prime Ministers and I am very glad that it has continued right down to

-216>

today; but I am very pleased to say that there is a very strong

friendship between Prime Minister Murloney and myself and we have found on a number of occasions where things are very difficult to sort out and they look very complicated, when we get together, when Canada and India get together, we are able to catch the right threads and sort out the most entangled problems. It just shows that there is something between the two countries which goes beyond just words and numbers. Perhaps, it is the character of the two countries. Both our countries are very large in area and both have peoples that speak a different language. You have your problems with two languages, we with sixteen. But I do not see it really as a problem because what we are trying to do - and I believe you in Canada and we in India are not working very differently on this - is to build a human civilisation which does not look for divisions of language or religion or region to divide humanity, but looks to united humanity with one outlook for a one world and this is where the challenge that we fare is so similar and perhaps that is where the bonds between our countries become strong and that is where we can really get together and contribute.

Globally, we are very clearly shifting away from groupings and blocs that seek to dominate. Yet, there is a tendency for those that still believe in that outdated thinking to try and keep some sort of blocs going. This is the next challenge that faces all our countries, to break out of this thinking which really belongs to the 18th century and bring in the 21st century with the new thinking, a thinking, a mindset that looks at humanity as one, with the diversity of cultures, of religions, of languages, that enrich our civilisation. It is this challenge that we will be working together to face I am sure in the future.

Let me wish the institution all the very best. I have no doubt that in the challenges that lie ahead - challenges for humanity, challenges for civilisation - the work that you are doing will help the world become a better place.

DIA CANADA USA

**Date**: Aug 16, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Statement Adopted on 30 August, 1989 by the International Conference on Cambodia, Paris

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi

on Aug 31, 1989 on the statement adopted by the international conference on Cambodia in Paris:

At the invitation of the Government of France and under the Co-Chairmanship of His Excellency Roland Dumas, Foreign Minister of France, and His Excellency Ali Alatas, Foreign Minister of Indonesia, the International Conference on Cambodia met in Paris from July 30 to August 30, 1989. Participating in the Conference were the representatives of Australia, Brunei Darus salam, Cambodia, Canada, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vietnam and Zimbabwe, in its capacity as current Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement. Cambodia was represented by the four Cambodian parties. The Secretary-General of the United Nations and his representatives also participated in the Conference.

-217>

The Conference, mindful of the previous efforts made at the Jakarta Informal Meetings and elsewhere, achieved progress in elaborating a wide variety of elements necessary for the reaching of a comprehensive settlement to the tragic conflict in Cambodia. The Conference noted, however, that it is not yet possible to achieve a comprehensive settlement. It was therefore decided to suspend the Conference.

The Conference urges all parties concerned to intensify their efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement. To facilitate these efforts, the Co-Presidents of the Conference shall lend their good offices as required to participating parties and countries who can facilitate a comprehensive settlement, including the reconvening of the Committees as appropriate.

The Co-Presidents will begin consultations within six months with the participants in the Conference with a view to reconvening the Conference,

The French Government expressed its readiness to make the appropriate arrangements to reconvene the Conference in due time in Paris.

The Indonesian Co-President and all the participants expressed their sincere appreciation and deep gratitude to the Government and people of France for hosting this important Conference and the excellent arrangements made as well for their generous hospitality extended to all delegations.

A CAMBODIA FRANCE INDIA INDONESIA AUSTRALIA BRUNEI CANADA CHINA JAPAN MALAYSIA PHILIPPINES REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE THAILAND IRELAND VIETNAM ZIMBABWE

**Date**: Aug 31, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **ITALY**

#### Indo-Italian Collaboration in Small Sector

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 07, 1989 on Indo-Italian collaboration in small sector:

Under the UNIDO project of arranging enterprise to enterprise level cooperation between small and medium industries of India and Italy, four sub-sectors of the industry have been selected. These sectors are metal engineering, leather processing and leather goods, granite and marble and food processing and packaging.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Industrial Development, Shri M. Arunachalam in Rajya Sabha today in a written reply to a question by Shri Ashok Nath Verma.

He informed the House today that the scope of the cooperation did not exclusively envisage turnkey assistance but included areas such as technical know-how, machinery & equipment, training, experts, marketing including possibilities of buyback, etc.

Shri Arunachalam informed the House that the units would vary from unit on mutual acceptance basis. However, the individual units concerned had to take approvallearance from the Government as per existing rules and regulations. Main areas of terms and conditions on cooperation, related to technical know-how, designs and drawings, training, plant and machinery, commissioning of the project, experts, buy back arrangements, he added.

The Minister further said that units interested for participation in the project -218>

and sponsored by industry associations, Small Industry Service Institutes under SIDO, Tool Room and Training Centres and State Governments and having potential for future growth had been considered.

ALY INDIA USA

**Date**: Aug 07, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

South-South Cooperation in Trade to Figure in NAM Agenda

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 22, 1989 on South-South Cooperation in Trade to figure in NAM Agenda:

The Union Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh has suggested that the importance of strengthening cooperation among the developing countries in trade should be re-emphasised at the meeting of non-aligned movement (NAM) countries in Belgrade next month. During discussions with the Nigerian Foreign Minister, Major-General Ike Nwachukwu and his delegation here today, Shri Dinesh Singh said there was tremendous scope for promoting trade among the developing countries themselves and the recent agreement on the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) for exchange of tariff concessions among the developing countries should help facilitate this process. Shri Singh further suggested that visits should be organised to identify trade prospects in each other's countries. The Commerce Secretary, Shri A. N. Varma, was also present.

Shri Dinesh Singh also emphasised the need for the developing countries to effectively coordinate their activities in the multilateral negotiations under the Uruguay Round. India and Nigeria have been working very closely in this regard. Shri Singh said there was now a better understanding of the position taken by India, Nigeria and Brazil on issues of interest to the third world countries and this process would have to be strengthened. Sounding a note of caution, he said, "we have to take a very active interest in the Uruguay Round as it might set a new trading regime for the next decade and the developing countries will find themselves in a disadvantageous position unless they are able to safeguard their interests now".

Both the leaders expressed the desire to further strengthen mutual trade and economic ties between India and Nigeria.

Mr. Nwachukwu invited Indian businessmen to invest more in joint projects in Nigeria which could also be for exporting to third countries utilising the cheap labour. This would provide India access not merely to the African market as a whole but also to Latin America. He suggested that India could consider investing in the setting up of a new oil refinery in Nigeria for exports.

Referring to the issue of emerging economic blocs, the Nigerian Minister mooted the idea of cooperation between India, Africa and Latin America including countries like Nigeria and Brazil. Such an arrangement would facilitate better utilisation of resources on a mutually beneficial basis and give a boost to the process of South-South Cooperation as a means of dealing with challenges arising -219>

out of the emergence of new economic groupings.

India will be participating in the International Trade Fair in Nigeria in February next year.

Mr. Nwachukwu is currently leading a high level delegation from his country to the second meeting of the Indo-Nigerian Joint Commission which began here yesterday.

DIA YUGOSLAVIA NIGER NIGERIA USA UNITED KINGDOM URUGUAY BRAZIL

**Date**: Aug 22, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Cambodia

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi: on Aug 08, 1989 on Cambodia:

The first phase of the ministerial level meeting of the International Conference on Cambodia ended yesterday with agreement being reached on setting up 3 committees. The first Committee dealing with the International Control Mechanism will be jointly chaired by Canada and India.

I would have to define the modalities of a cease-fire, and the mandate as well as the principles which would guide the creation and operation of an effective International Control Mechanism to supervise and control the comprehensive implementation of the settlement.

The Second Committee which deals with guarantees for Cambodia's status as a sovereign, independent, neutral and nonaligned country will be co-chaired by Laos and Malaysia. The third

committee on the return and rehabilitation of refugees will be co-chaired by Australia and Japan.

The Conference also set up an adhoc Committee to examine questions regarding implementation of national reconciliation measures and the setting up of a quadriparite interim authority under the leadership of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. This Committee will be composed of the four Cambodian factions and the two co-Chairmen of the Conference, i.e., Indonesia and France.

A coordinating Committee has also been formed consisting of the two co-Chairmen of the Conference and six co-Chairmen of the three committees. Our PR in New York, Ambassador C. R. Gharekhan who is the co-Chairman of the First Committee is a member of the Coordinating Committee. India is represented at the Conference by Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State (E A).

MBODIA INDIA CANADA USA LAOS MALAYSIA AUSTRALIA JAPAN UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE INDONESIA

**Date**: Aug 08, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Sri Lanka

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Aug 04, 1989 on Sri Lanka:

At the invitation of the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, a Sri Lankan delegation led by Foreign Minister, Shri Ranjan Vijayeratne, visited Delhi, from Saturday, the 29th of July, till Friday, 4th August, 1989. During their stay here the Sri Lankan delegation called on the Prime Minister on two occasions. They also had a meeting with the -220>

Defence Minister and had detailed discussions with the External Affairs Minister and other Officials. They are scheduled to leave this evening.

The discussions were cordial and frank and were characterised by a constructive approach. There were large areas of un-derstanding and a better appreciation of each other's concerns.

The Sri Lankan delegation is carrying back ideas and specific suggestions which have emerged during the discussions. The delegation will convey these to the Sri Lankan President, so that both sides may decide on how to proceed further.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on August 7, 1989 on Sri Lanka:

The Prime Minister met the Indian participants to the Conference on Nonalignment in International Relations today. Referring to the discussions held recently with the Sri Lankan delegation led by their Foreign Minister, Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne, Prime Minister said that he felt that India was able to convince them about our concerns. There were really no simple solutions and both sides had to take hard decisions.

Prime Minister described the talks with the Sri Lankan delegation as "good" and said that he felt that while on the one hand we have been able to convince the Sri Lankan side about our concerns, we also got an understanding of the serious problems that Sri Lanka faced.

The Prime Minister recalled that there was an explosive situation in Sri Lanka in 1987, and even in Sri Lanka it was recognised that it was really the IPKF which had played an important role in preserving Sri Lanka's unity. Prime Minister said that there were difficulties for both the Sri Lanka Government and the Provincial Government with regard to actual devolution of powers. He hoped that a forum would be constituted where discussions could continue on the question of devolution so that there could be an effective devolution of powers. Prime Minister added that it was important for the Tamils themselves to be convinced about the security arrangements being provided for them in the wake of deinduction of the IPKF. This was an issue on which there had been lengthy discussions. He hoped that this would be discussed in depth in Sri Lanka. This was an issue which should be looked into seriously as it would facilitate return of the IPKF from Sri Lanka. India did not want the IPKF to stay in Sri Lanka a minute longer than necessary.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on August 17, 1989 on Sri Lanka:

A group of LTTE militants under cover of darkness sneaked into a civilian hospital in a heavily populated area of Manner, broke open the windows of the main hospital building and in utter disregard for the patients, opened fire on an IPKF picket, which was in the vicinity of the hospital for security and policing duties. The LTTE used rocket propelled grenades, rocket-launchers and machine guns against the IPKF. But the IPKF soldiers in

deference to the inmates of the hospital, did not use heavy weapons to retaliate. As a result, 24 IPKF soldiers were killed and a portion of the hospital alongwith a temple -221>

in the vicinity were damaged. The hospital was one of the biggest in the Northern province of Sri Lanka and had 200 beds. It had 89 patients and a large number of staff at the time of the incident.

It would appear from the kind of tactics that the LTTE is adopting since the commencement of the talks between the Governments of India and Sri Lanka that they have reverted to their old methods and are using densely populated areas to create difficulties in the functioning of the IPKF. There is a clear political motive to disrupt the IPKF and to bring it into disrepute, to demoralise the civilian population and to jeopardise ongoing Indo-Sri Lankan talks.

Incendiary bombs were used to cause maximum damage to property and to destroy civilian morale. The hospital was used in total disregard of the 89 patients within. Since the IPKF could not retaliate, they suffered heavy casualties. The incident occurred late last night early this morning. Operations are on to mop up the remaining LTTE militants in the area.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on August 23, 1989 on Sri Lanka:

In reply to questions about the Financial Times report on Velvettitural carried by today's Indian Express the Spokesman said that 2 IPKF patrols were operating in the crowded market place in Velvettithurai at 1000 hours on the 2nd August when they were fired upon by the LTTE. Approximately 40 LTTE militants had taken positions for this ambush in houses and shops in the market place. They used weapons, including AK-47s, rocket launchers, grenades and improvised explosive devices. In making this attack, the LTTE militants showed callous disregard for the safety of 800 civilians who were present in the market at the time. The IPKF suffered 6 killed and 10 wounded in this initial burst of fire. They were forced to return fire in self-defence and this exchange went on for about an hour. 5 LTTE militants were killed and, unfortunately, 24 civilians died in the cross-fire. It is obviously impossible to determine who died due to the LTTE's fire and who on account of the IPKF's. It is quite clear that civilian casualties are entirely the result of a deliberate policy of the LTTE to fight in densely populated areas using human shields in order to inhibit the IPKF from returning fire. This position has been explained to the prominent citizens of Velvettithurai and the Secretary-General of EROS, who have accepted this.

In yet another incident, which I mentioned a couple of days ago, at Mannar on the night of 16-17th August, the LTTE again

displayed the same callous disregard for civilian life by sneaking into a civilian hospital under the cover of night and using heavy weapons, including rocket launchers and machine guns fire on an IPKF detachment outside the hospital killing 24 soldiers. Had the IPKF not shown the utmost restraint, the casualties could have been much higher, as there were 89 civilian inmates in the hospital at the time when the LTTE made this attack.

The heavy loss of civilian life as a result of IPKF activity and their disregard for civilians contradicts their professed concern for their fellow citizens.

I would also like to draw your attention to a statement made by the Sri Lankan Permanent Representative at the 41st session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in Geneva, and the Indian Repre -222>

sentatives's statement. I would quote from the Indian Representative's statement:

It is a matter of regret therefore that this force (IPKF) should be subject to a campaign of rumours and false allegations. The propaganda war against IPKF is an integral part of the campaign of terrorism. The credentials of some of the organisations making such allegations are themselves suspect, particularly as they have been silent about the appalling record of terror and intimidation of the LTTE. Surely the violent elimination of political rivals by the LTTE of which the murder of Amrithalingam and Yogeshwaran in Colombo in July is only the most recent example, is the ultimate violation of human rights of the Tamils. This and other recent incidents clearly reveal that the LTTE has not recounced violence.

Let me assure this Commission that every specific complaint about the conduct of IPKF has been investigated and will be investigated. We will not compromise on the discipline of our armed forces, whether in India or abroad. We do not take our responsibilities in this regard lightly. Whenever charges have been found to be true the guilty have been punished. More often than not the allegations levelled against the IPKF have been found to be fabricated. Mud is being thrown at the IPKF in the hope that some of it will stick.

I LANKA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWITZERLAND

**Date**: Aug 04, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### South Africa

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Aug 09, 1989, on the participation of the Rugby teams from UK, Australia and France in the centenary celebration of the South African Rugby Board:

We have seen reports that a 16-man Cricket team from England is to tour South Africa in January next year on the invitation of the South African Cricket Union. The tour is estimated to cost the South African Cricket Union approximately œ1.5 million. We are also aware of reports that Rugby teams from U.K. Australia and France may participate in the centenary celebrations of the South African Rug Board.

We deplore and condemn these attempts by South Africa to lure individual players to break the international sports boycott for monetary gains. Clearly this is part of South Africa's determined effort to break out of its international isolation, an effort which include the payment of large sums, an effort which has gathered strength at a time when domestic developments would appear to be forcing the minority racist regime to the negotiating table. If the players, so seduced by financial incentives were true sportsmen, they would see that their participation in sports contacts with South Africa not only contributes to the South African regime's attempts to ignore the continuation of its cruel and harsh suppression of the majority of the people of that country but also draws disrepute and condemnation on their heads.

India supports all the efforts currently being undertaken to dissudade these players from playing in South Africa. -223>

UTH AFRICA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM AUSTRALIA FRANCE USA

**Date**: Aug 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### Nigeria

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Aug 22, 1989 on Nigeria:

External Affairs Minister and the Nigerian Foreign Minister signed the agreed minutes today. They felt that we should give a new momentum to IndoNigerian relations with special emphasis on stepping up cooperation in the economic field. They identified areas of mutual cooperation and reviewed progress made in those fields. They have agreed to set-up two joint committees, one for industrial development and the other for science and technology. They agreed that there should be a formal agreement on science and technology which will be signed within the next three months. It has also been agreed by the Joint Commission that there will be a cultural exchange programme for the period 1990-92 and this will also be finalised within the next three months.

The Nigerians have projected a requirement for additional ITEC experts. Presently we have 10 ITEC personnel in Nigeria. As a partial response to their request, it has been agreed to raise the number of ITEC experts from 10 to 30, but the figure of 30 is only indicative and if requests are made for larger number of experts in other areas, it will be agreed.

During their stay here, the Nigerian delegation has been put in touch with institutions like the ICAR and the CSIR. This has been in response to their desire to have institutional linkage with centres of excellence.

The Nigerian Foreign Minister met Shri Dinesh Singh, Commerce Minister, Shri S. B. Chavan, Finance Minister and also called on the Prime Minister. He also had a luncheon meeting with the FICCI. Matters of bilateral interest were also discussed during the Foreign Minister's stay in New Delhi.

GER NIGERIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Aug 22, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Aug 23, 1989 tn Nepal:

At the invitation of His Majesty's Government and the Foreign Minister of Nepal, Mr. S. K. Upadhayay, the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, will be visiting Kathmandu on August 25, 1989, to initiate the process of discussion on Indo-Nepal relations. External Affairs Minister will be returning to India on August 26.

In reply to a question about the agenda for the meeting, the Spokesman said that the agenda will be as indicated in External Affairs Minister's letter of 16th June to the Nepalese Foreign Minister, which was review of Indo-Nepal relations, framework for a durable relationship, the working of the 1950 treaty in letter and spirit, work permits, restrictions on Indians in Nepal, trade, transit, unauthorised trade, supply of essential commodities, economic cooperation, and security matters.

JS(North), Mrs. Shyamala Cowsik is accompanying the External Affairs Minister to Nepal.

In reply to a question whether a meeting between the King of Nepal and the -224>

Prime Minister was likely to take place at Belgrade and whether this subject would be discussed, the Spokesman said that while the Prime Minister was going to Belgrade, we do not know the programme of the King and, therefore, it would not be possible to make a comment on this at this stage.

PAL INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA

**Date**: Aug 23, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Iran

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official

Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Aug 29, 1989 on Iran:

The Iranian Foreign Minister H.E. Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, is accompanied by 9 others, including the Deputy Minister on Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Javad Mansouri, the Head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of Majlis, Mr. Saeer Rajai Khorasani, MP, Director General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Abdul Qasem Tabatabai. On the Indian side, there were External Affairs Minister, the Foreign Secretary and other officials from the Ministry of External Affairs. The External Affairs Minister welcomed Dr. Velayati on his first visit to India immediately after the confirmation by Parliament. The External Affairs Minister expressed his satisfaction at the frequency of meetings between the two countries where matters of mutual interest can be discussed. The External Affairs Minister also said he greatly appreciated the manner in which Iran has taken India into confidence and made the effort to have mutual consultations at frequent intervals. The Minister said that since Dr. Velayati's visit to Delhi was in that spirit, it was most welcome. Also it came at a very crucial time, in that it was on the eve of NAM Summit. The Iranian Foreign Minister said that the Iranian Government, on their side, were satisfied that in the last few months, important steps have been taken for the promotion of bilateral relations between the two countries. There was broad agreement on a wide-range of political issues between India and Iran. Specifically, the Iranian Foreign Minister expressed warm appreciation for the positive outcome of the recent talks held in Tehran by the Finance Secretary Mr. G. K. Arora, which has resulted in a number of agreements, including a solution of the Kudremukh problem. The Iranian Foreign Minister expressed the hope that the Indo-Iranian Joint Commission would meet in the very near future in Tehran. He said there was wide expectation that the Joint Commission would usher in a new period of cooperation between the two countries. He said that Iran was beginning a major programme of reconstruction and he was sure that India could play a positive role in the re-construction of Iran.

Then, there were discussions on regional matters. The Iranian Foreign Minister gave a detailed briefing on the current state of negotiations on the implementation of UN Resolution 598. This covered the question of exchange of prisoners of war and registration of prisoners of war. The Iranian Foreign Minister and his Indian counterpart also discussed the situation in Lebanon and the urgent need to find a solution to the unending conflict in that country. There were also discussions on Afghanistan. The Iranian Foreign Minister referred to the recent series of meetings that have been taking place between Iran, Soviet Union and Pakistan and said that all efforts should be made, to ensure that Afghanistan's non-aligned status is respected by all parties. There was also a discussion on the forthcoming NAM Summit at Belgrade. The External Affairs Minister

and the Iranian Foreign Minister agreed that the forthcoming summit is being held in a changed situation, since the emerging detente between the Super Powers has resulted in some relaxation of tension in areas of conflict. However, there were areas such as Cambodia and Afghanistan -225>

where the NAM Movement had to redouble its efforts. Similarly, on the economic front, NAM must act as a catalyst and a real representative of the 3rd World, and should raise its voice for removing the many inequalities with which the countries of the 3rd World are burdened

AN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM LEBANON AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN YUGOSLAVIA CAMBODIA

**Date**: Aug 29, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### **SOVIET UNION**

Two More Nuclear Power Stations With Soviet Help

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1989 on two more Nuclear Power Stations with Soviet help:

The present installed capacity of nuclear power in the country is 1230 MW from the six units in operation. The first unit of Narora Atomic Power Project of 235 MW has been recently synchronised to the Northern Grid. Seven 235 MW units with an aggregate capacity of 1645 MW are in various stages of construction at Narora, Kakrapar Kaiga and Rawatbhatta. A decision has been taken by the Government to locate additional four 235 MW units and six 500 MW units. Action on advance procurement of long delivery equipment and obtaining project financial sanctions for these reactors is in progress. With this, the nuclear power capacity would increase to 7050 MW. In addition, a decision has also been taken to set up two 1000 MW units of VVER type in co-operation with the Soviet Union.

An Inter-Governmental agreement between Soviet Union and India was signed on November 20, 1988. The terms of reference for preparation of Detailed Project Report are being finalised jointly by Soviet Union and India. Detailed site investigations are continuing. Preliminary activities for land acquisition and

setting up of site infrastructure are in progress. Construction work is expected to commence in 1992. The first unit is expected to be commissioned in 1998 and the second unit one year thereafter.

This information was given in the Rajya Sabha today by Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology, Shri K. R. Narayanan in a written reply. -226>

DIA USA

**Date**: Aug 08, 1989

# September

# **Volume No** 1995 **CONTENTS** Foreign Affairs Record VOL XXXV No 9 1989 September **CONTENTS** AFRICA FUND Summit Meeting of AFRICA Fund Com mittee - Prime Minister's Opening Remarks 227 Report by Chairman Rajiv Gandhi 229 BANGLADESH India and Bangladesh Signs Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade 232 **CHINA** India, China Agree on Measures to Promote 232 Trade and Economic Tles

#### **DENMARK**

Indo-Danish Double Taxation Avoidance Convention Notified 234

**GUYANA** 

Rs. 100 Million Indian Credit to Guyana 235

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

21st International Population Conference Prime Minister's Inaugural Address 235

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

External Affairs Minister's Intervention on NAM 240

Natwar Singh's Statement at the Economic Committee of NAM 242

Prime Minister's Address at the Ninth Non aligned Summit 244

Declaration 255

**ITALY** 

Italy to Provide Rs. 8.83 Crore to India 262

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Pakistan 263

Expulsion of Indian. Official by Islamabad 264

China 264

Fiji 264

South Africa 265

Nepal 266

SRILANKA

Joint Communique 266

PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

President's Luncheon Speech at Bonn 268

President's Address at Institut for Ausland Politik 269

Lunch Hosted by First Mayor of Hamburg -President's Reply 276

Dinner by the Minister-President of Schleswig

Holstein - President's Reply 277

Lunch Hosted by Minister-President of

Hessen - President's Reply 279

Dinner Hosted by Minister-President of

Bavaria - President's Reply 280

**TURKEY** 

Meeting of Indo-Turkish Joint Committee

281

NGLADESH INDIA CHINA DENMARK GUYANA ITALY PAKISTAN FIJI SOUTH AFRICA NEPAL GERMANY USA TURKEY

**Date**: Sep 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### AFRICA FUND

Summit Meeting of AFRICA Fund Committee-Prime Minister's Opening Remarks

The following is the text of the opening remarks by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the Summit Meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee in Belgrade on Sep 03, 1989:

"I welcome you all to this meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee. I thank you for responding to my invitation and making it convenient to be here.

The purpose of our meeting this evening is to review the progress made by the Fund and also to consider the tasks ahead and how we shall address them.

We met together in New Delhi in January 1987 to launch the AFRICA Fund. The appeal we then made to the universal conscience has evoked a good response. The resources mobilised by the Fund are approaching the equivalent of half a billion US dollars-476 million to be exact. This is heartening.

Fifty-four countries have come forward with pledges in kind and cash. The United Nations and several international organisations have extended their cooperation. I must make particular mention of IFAD which has earmarked 50 million US dollars for projects in the area of Agricultural and Rural Development under the fund.

You will note that while a number of least developed countries in our nonaligned fraternity have contributed, several affluent countries like the USA, UK, FRG and Japan have not responded to our appeal. This is not for lack of trying on our part.

The attitude of Western countries is not altogether surprising since they do not share our political approach on sanctions. As for economic assistance, it would seem that they prefer to do it bilaterally or through SADCC rather than through a NAM Fund. The Gulf countries in NAM have explained that they are already doing all they can through the Fund mechanisms they have themselves set up and would find it difficult to do more through AFRICA Fund.

All this is fully documented in the Report prepared by our Senior officials which is before you. It will be circulated as an official document tomorrow at the Summit.

You also have before you a small brochure which sets out in brief the story of the Fund and its achievements to date. This small brochure is for wider distribution to the public.

Our Senior Officials save been meeting periodically to review the working of the Fund and to plan and coordinate its activities within the parameters set by us at New Delhi in January 1987. I take this opportunity to commend them all for their devoted and diligent labour.

As you will see from the Report the amount received so far in cash is modest -about one million US dollars. I should point out that US dollar 13 million of the cash pledged is still to be paid. Out of -227>

this, disbursements have been made to SWAPO, ANC and PAC. Some amounts have also been paid to SARRED, UNICEF and CHISA for providing much needed relief and assistance to the affected population, in particular women and children, in the region. The cash accounts of the Fund has been duly audited.

As the bulk of the pledges are in kind, we adopted a project oriented approach. The contributing countries and recipients have been encouraged to meet face to face and to work out projects of cooperation and arrangements for implementation. This practical approach has been effective. The Report shows that assistance in a number of sectors of our Action Plan is already flowing to the region. The Developing of Human Resources is a vital sector and many donor countries are concentrating on this. Supplies of

essential commodities as well as medicines and medical equipment have also been sent. Another crucial sector-Transport and Communications, is also receiving special attention.

It has not been too easy to collect and reconcile all the relevant data from donors and recipients. In broad terms, 90% of the pledges in kind by donor countries has been allocated and 37% already utilised. I am told that this rate of utilisation compares favourably with similar assistance and cooperation programmes at the multilateral level.

The mission entrusted to us at Harare in September 1986 was challenging one. We have carried out this mission successfully.

I wish to thank all of you for the cooperation you have so readily extended in making our Committee effective and purposeful. My special thanks are due to our Vice Chairman, President Kenneth Kaunda, and to the Chairman of our Movement, President Mugabe. I also thank our host, President Janez Drnovsek, for the excellent arrangements made for our meeting.

Before we start our discussion, It me also make a few remarks about the future of the Fund

The work of the Fund is not quite over. Even from the limited viewpoint of implementation of pledges already made, more than half the job is yet to be completed. We must maintain the momentum.

Prospects for further fund raising are none too bright. We should be realistic. We cannot be too hopeful of many new donors joining us. Countries like USA and UK are unlikely to change their attitude. The economic situation of most nonaligned and developing countries remains difficult, if not precarious. Another round by way of replenishment may not yield much.

We must focus on converting pledges into concrete programmes and projects. We must achieve total fulfilment of the pledges made to the Fund as soon as possible.

The purpose for which the Fund was set up remains. Even as Namibia approaches independence, its needs will increase. The struggle against apartheid inside South Africa will intensify even as there are ongoing efforts for a dialogue. At this juncture, it is important that we do not send a wrong signal to the Pretoria regime and its supporters.

To conclude the question before us is, would this be the time for the Fund to appear peter out? Should we not persevere with the task of mobilisation of public opinion, particularly in the West, even if mobilisation of significant new resources is difficult?

I hope that our discussions will enable us to clarify these and

other questions, so as to enable us the Nonaligned Summit to take appropriate decisions. -228>

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA JAPAN UNITED KINGDOM ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

**Date**: Sep 03, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### AFRICA FUND

Report by Chairman Rajiv Gandhi

The following is the text of the report on AFRICA Fund by Chairman, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India on Sep 04, 1989 in Belgrade (NAM Summit):

- 1. On behalf of the AFRICA Fund Committee, I have the honour to present the Report on the work done by the Fund and the progress recorded in fulfilment of the responsibility bestowed on the Committee by the Nonaligned Movement at its last Summit in Harare.
- 2. When we met at Harare three years ago, the situation in Southern Africa had grown to grave and disquieting proportions. There was invasion and in Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe. There was colonialism in Namibia, in defiance of the UN Security Council's Plan for the Independence of Namibia. There was apartheid in South Africa, an institutionalised racism which bound an entire people in chains.
- 3. Out of our determination to give expression to our solidarity with the people of South Africa was born the AFRICA Fund, the acronym for Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid. As we saw it, the need was for ACTION and ACTION WITHOUT DELAY. It was necessary to mount a programme of emergency assistance to those on the Frontline and those in the Liberation Movements.
- 4. The Harare Summit established a Committee comprising the Heads of States or Government of Zambia, Algeria, Argentina, Congo, Nigeria, Peru, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe and India to constitute the Fund, establish the rules of procedure for its management, and prepare a Plan of Action. The Fund Committee met at Summit level in New Delhi in January 1987 and accomplished these tasks. We

have had another meeting at Summit level last night to adopt our Report, take stock of the progress made and chart directions for the future. I wish to place on record my gratitude to my colleagues who have extended to me their unstinting cooperation in this noble task entrusted to us by the Nonaligned Movement.

- 4(a) It is the unanimous view of the AFRICA Fund Committee that the AFRICA Fund should continue. We commend this for your consideration. We have requested the Chairman of the Movement to undertake consultations with memberstates/with a view to determining the composition and chairmanship of the Committee for the ensuing period.
- 5. The fight against apartheid is not only a struggle of the Nonaligned countries. Nor is it a struggle only of those of us who have waged and won our battles against colonialism. It is a struggle of all those who regard apartheid as a crime against humanity, as an affront to the dignity of man, as a violation of the values we cherish most. That is why we decided to transcend the boundaries of our own Nonaligned fraternity and appeal to the universal conscience of humankind for urgent, concerted and resolute action to forestall invasion, dismantle colonialism and end apartheid in Southern Africa.
- 6. I am happy to inform you that the world at large has responded to our appeal in a most heartening manner. Fifty four nations and several international organisations have pledged to our cause the equivalent of almost half a billion US dollars 476 million dollars to be exact in cash, kind and technical assistance.
- 7. Contributors to the Fund include nations with severe resource constraints like Peru and Equador, Nicaragua and Venezuela, Ghana and Kenya, Congo and Cameroon, Guyana and Vietnam; least developed countries like Afghanistan and Bangladesh, Laos and Nepal, Rwanda and Uganda; island developing countries like Barbados and Brunei, Seychelles and Nauru, Cuba and Cyprus, Mauritius and -229>

Maldives; Arab countries locked in the struggle for Palestine like Algeria and Libya, Jordan and PDR Yemen; small nations like Djibouti and Guinea-Bissau; populous developing countries like Argentina and DPR Korea, Egypt and Indonesia, Malaysia and Nigeria, Pakistan and Yugoslavia and developing countries outside the Nonaligned Movement like Thailand and the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Turkey. India had the honour of making the first contribution.

8. Contributors also include developed Western countries like Sweden and Norway, France, Italy, and the Netherland, and almost all the socialist countries of East Europe from the Soviet Union to Bulgaria.

- 9. Our contributors cover the North and the South; the East and the West; developed and developing; aligned and nonaligned. They have all come together in an unprecedented expression of solidarity to participate in the relentless endeavours of their brethren to secure peace with human dignity in South Africa.
- 10. It is indeed a matter of satisfaction that we have been able to raise this magnitude of resources in a world environment not altogether conducive to raising funds for multilateral initiatives. Several of our members are assisting the frontline States and Liberation Movements through other mechanisms. Those of our members who have not as yet contributed to the Fund might wish and consider joining our efforts soon. This would strengthen the credibility of our Movement, often criticised by others for too much talk and too little action, and promote the concept of concerted South-South action.
- 11. AFRICA Fund is perhaps the first concrete manifestation of a united effort based essentially on effective South-South cooperation. Almost 80% of the contributors are from developing countries -nations hard pressed for resources and trying desperately to cope with their own problems of development. It is a lesson to all of us. It shows that if we are of really firm resolve, we can go beyond mere words to develop interdependence and mutual self-help and genuine South-South cooperation among ourselves by sharing resources and technology, knowledge and experience. This will make us less vulnerable to exploitation and pressure from the world outside, as also help ensure better lives for our own people.
- 12. So far, about 90% of the country pledges (US \$ 358 million out of US \$ 412 million) have been committed and nearly 40% (US \$ 157 million) actually realised. Several donors have made direct cash contributions to recipients. The pledges in kind have covered various sectors of our Plan of Action. Donor assistance extended includes supplies of essential commodities, and medical assistance, project assistance in vital infrastructure sectors like transport and communication, and assistance in the area of human resource development. From cash contributions so far received by the Fund, the Committee has allocated US \$ 400,000 to SWAPO, US \$ 200,000 to ANC, US \$ 50,000 to PAC and various amounts to the UNHCR Fund for Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa (SARRED), to the Children's Fund for Southern Africa (CHISA) and to UNICEF.
- 13. One of the priority sectors in our Plan of Action is assistance to the Liberation Movements in South Africa and Namibia. They have received considerable assistance in kind in various sectors as well as direct financial help from the Fund's cash resources.
- 14. The mobilisation of public opinion is one of the key objectives enunciated in the Fund's Plan of Action. Committee

members have been active in creating an awareness of the Fund and soliciting support through bilateral contacts, exchange of visits, international conferences, regional meetings and seminars. In various countries, the support of groups and organisations active in the campaign against apartheid has been sought to spread the -230>

message of the Fund. Special brochures on the Fund, published in various languages, have been widely distributed. A short TV Film on the AFRICA Fund has been produced.

- 15. Since the Fund was created, Southern Africa has witnessed important changes. The process of Namibia's independence is gathering momentum. Within South Africa, there are stirrings of change and indications that at least some sections of the white community have begun to realise the need for fundamental political reforms leading to the dismantling of apartheid. Southern Africa today is face to face with one of the most crucial moments of her history. It is important that at this critical juncture we carry forward the struggle against invasion, colonialism and apartheid with renewed vigour. There must be no wavering at the moment when the people of Southern Africa most urgently need our support and assistance.
- 16. Long years ago, even before our tryst with destiny gave us our independence, Jawaharlal Nehru, whose birth centenary we celebrate this year, declared:

"India does not intend to recognise or submit to the theory and practice of racial arrogance and discrimination ... It is true that at the present moment we are not strong enough as a nation, or as a people, to put an end to racial discrimination and national indignity ... (but) whether we are strong enough or not, one thing, however, should be certain - that we prefer any consequences to submission to this evil."

- 17. Our African brothers and sisters, and in particular those who live in the Frontline States and within the boundaries of Pretoria's evil empire, have demonstrated through decades of courageous struggle that they too refuse to submit to the evil of apartheid, whatever the consequences.
- 18. As Abyssinia fell to Mussolini in 1936 and the League of Nations remained criminally silent, our national Poet, Rabindranath Tagore, in his haunting poem "AFRICA", saw the clouds of the coming World War gathering ominously on the horizon and addressed the colonial powers thus:

"While the last rays of civilisation still illumine your sky, And before the approaching darkness Quite envelopes your world, Beg of Lady Africa Her forgiveness, In the midst of this Clamorous cacophony of violence Let "Forgive us" be Your sacred words of parting."

19. The curtain is finally beginning to be drawn over the era of humiliation, racial discrimination, oppression and exploitation to which Africa has been subjected. We must continue to stand together. The AFRICA Fund is the earnest of our commitment to stand by the people of South Africa as destiny carries them to a famous victory.

Thank you. -231>

DIA YUGOSLAVIA ZIMBABWE ANGOLA ZAMBIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ALGERIA ARGENTINA CONGO NIGER NIGERIA PERU USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC GHANA NICARAGUA VENEZUELA CAMEROON GUYANA KENYA VIETNAM AFGHANISTAN BANGLADESH LAOS NEPAL RWANDA UGANDA BRUNEI CUBA CYPRUS NAURU SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS MALDIVES JORDAN LIBYA YEMEN DJIBOUTI GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU EGYPT INDONESIA KOREA MALAYSIA PAKISTAN PHILIPPINES THAILAND TURKEY FRANCE ITALY NORWAY SWEDEN BULGARIA

**Date** : Sep 04, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **BANGLADESH**

India and Bangladesh Signs Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 22, 1989 on Inland Water transit and trade between India's and Bangladesh:

India and Bangladesh have agreed to renew the existing protocol on Inland Water, transit and Trade between the two countries for a period of two years. The existing protocol is due to expire on October 3, 1989. The new tenure of the protocol will be effective from October 4, 1989 and will be valid till October 3, 1991.

The protocol envisages uninterrupted movement of inter country trade between India and Bangladesh as also provides transit facilities for Indian vessels to north-east.

The protocol was signed here today by Shri P. M. Abraham, Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport from Indian side and Janab Narul Momen Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, Government of Bangladesh on behalf of his country.

**Date**: Sep 22, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **CHINA**

India, China Agree on Measures to Promote Trade and Economic Ties

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 20, 1989 on Indo-China agreement on wide range of measures to promote Trade and Economic ties:

India and China have agreed on a wide range of measures to develop and expand bilateral trade, economic and technical cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis. Both sides have recognised the scope for further expansion of bilateral trade and agreed to work towards further development and strengthening of trade as well as economic and technological cooperation in diverse fields. This is indicated in the agreed minutes of the first meeting of the India-China Joint Commission on Trade and Economic Relations and Science and Technology which concluded here today. The Minutes were signed on behalf of Government of India by Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of Commerce and head of the Indian delegation and on behalf of the People's Republic of China by Mr. Zheng Tuo Bin, Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade who headed the 14-member Chinese delegation.

Reviewing developments in bilateral trade, both sides expressed satisfication at the sizeable increase in the content and volume of trade between China and India in 1988. The Chinese side has noted the existence of a favourable balance in its trade with India since 1983 and has since taken measures to expand its imports from India which resulted in a reduction in the trade imbalance in 1988. China has agreed to continue to increase its imports from India and has hoped that India would do the same in its imports from China. -232>

According to the Trade Protocol between India and China for 1989-90 which was finalised during the Joint Commission deliberations, China has agreed to import from India upto one million tonnes of iron ore during 1989-90. It is also expected to increase its imports from India of items like Chrome ore, agricultural products such as tobacco, coffee beans, tea, medium and shortfibres cotton, chemicals, jewels and processed diamonds, urea and

engineering products including power generation equipments, textile machinery, transportation system such as commercial vehicles and electronic components and computer software.

Among the items India expect to import from China during 1989-90 are pig iron, raw silk and silk yarn, some agricultural products and native produce including pulses, metals and minerals, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and petroleum products.

The Trade Protocol, which was signed here today by Shri M.R. Sivaraman, Joint Secretary (East Asia), Ministry of Commerce, and Mr. Chen Zhixiao, Director, Department of Regional Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of China in the presence of Shri Dinesh Singh, Mr. Tuo Bin, Shri P. R. Dasmunshi, Minister of State for Commerce and the Commerce Secretary, Shri A.N. Varma, indicates that the import of specific items and quantities will be decided by both sides in accordance with each other's needs and capabilities. The Protocol will come into force from 20th September, 1989 and shall remain valid till 19th September, 1990.

Both sides have agreed to exert themselves to expand direct trade with each other, to promote exchange of delegations in specific areas and encourage their respective trade organisations and traders to explore possibilities of promoting bilateral trade through various forms of trade cooperation. The Protocol does not preclude encouraging trade in other commodities also as to increase trade between the two countries.

In another significant development, India and China have agreed at the Joint Commission to explore possibilities of economic cooperation in the following areas, keeping in view that economic cooperation between the two countries is still at an initial stage:

- (i) Setting up of joint ventures in India and China in fields to be mutually identified and examination of proposals received in this regard;
- (ii) Both sides expressed their desire to participate in international tenders, proposals and supply to technological services for projects in either country to be financed by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank or other international financial organisations; and
- (iii) Efforts to be made to explore the possibility of joint participation by the corporations of the two countries in contracting third country projects.

Both sides noted the interest expressed in investing in the two countries and felt that the process of exchange of delegation between India and China to promote awareness of each other's capabilities should be continued and strengthened.

On technological cooperation, China and India have their own specific strengths in certain areas of technology and a fairly strong industrial base, and therefore there is considerable scope for further expansion of cooperation. Both sides have agreed to strengthen cooperation for promotion of greater technical collaboration between the two countries through licensing arrangements, dissemination of relevant information and development of various forms of technological cooperation such as co-designing, co-production, technical consultancy etc. -233>

Both sides have also agreed upon a programme of cooperation in Science and Technology for the years 1989-91.

The two sides also exchanged views on how to coordinate their respective positions in the multilateral trade talks under GATT to safeguard and promote the justified interests of the developing countries.

The Chinese side expressed its appreciation of the cooperation extended by India to China on its request for resumption of its status as a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade and hoped that support and cooperation in this respect by the Indian side would continue. The Indian side expressed that it would continue its support.

INA INDIA ITALY USA

**Date**: Sep 20, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

#### **DENMARK**

Indo-Danish Double Taxation Avoidance Convention Notified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 26, 1989 on Indo-Danish Double Taxation avoidance convention:

India has entered into a Convention with Denmark for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital. The Convention has been notified in the Gazette of India extraordinary dated 25th September, 1989. Denmark has also been declared a reciprocating country for the purposes of Wealth-tax Act, 1957

vide the notification in the Gazette of India extraordinary dated 25th September, 1989.

This Convention had entered into force on 13th June, 1989 and will replace the existing Agreement between India and Denmark signed on 16th September, 1959. It will have effect in India in respect of income arising in any fiscal year beginning on or after 1st April 1990 and in respect of capital held at the expiry of such a fiscal year.

Under the new Convention, business profits derived by an Indian or Danish enterprise, will be taxed only in the country of its residence, unless the enterprise carries on business in the other country through a "Permanent Establishment" situated therein. The Convention restricts allowance of head office administrative expenses of Danish enterprises in India to limits laid down in our domestic law. Gross income from royalties, fees for technical services, dividends and interest will be taxed at concessional rates as laid down in this Convention.

Under this Convention, double taxation on income shall be avoided generally by the credit method according to which the country of residence will allow credit for the taxes paid in the country of source in respect of the doubly taxed income against its own taxes. Denmark would not only give credit for taxes levied in India but also for the taxes which would have been levied but for exemptions or reduction of tax granted under specified incentive provisions in the Indian Tax Laws.

NMARK INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Sep 26, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### **GUYANA**

Rs. 100 Million Indian Credit to Guyana

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 28, 1989 on Indian credit to Guyana:

India will provide credit worth Rs.100 million to Guyana. The credit will be available for financing export of capital goods and consultancy services from India and would provide assistance for key projects in the development of the economy of Guyana.

These projects include paper recycling plant, polysack project and bicycle plant.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Shri A. C. Sen, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Dr. C. Rajana, Head, Department of International Economic Cooperation, Guyana, on behalf of their respective Governments.

This is the first Government-to-Government credit being extended by India to Guyana and is in pursuance of the Indo-Guyanese Joint Commission meeting held in New Delhi in January, 1989. The new credit assistance should be a major stimulus in the development of Indo-Guyanese trade and economic cooperation.

YANA INDIA USA

**Date**: Sep 28, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

21st International Population Conference - Prime Minister's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a Prime Minister's Inaugural address at 21st International Population Conference held in New Delhi on Sep 20, 1989:

I have great pleasure in welcoming to our capital city all the delegates of this important Conference, in particular our friends from abroad.

As we have been reminded, the International Population Conference returns to Delhi after thirty-eight years. It is not without significance that the first time our country was given this honour was in the very year that we launched our family planning programme. In 1951, India became the first country in the world to have an official government-sponsored family planning programme.

The cruel paradox is that in the 10 year period 1971-81, the growth of population in India was the highest ever recorded in the history of the country. The fall in the death rate has been so dramatically more significant than the fall in our birth rate that, despite an impressive measure of success in spreading our family planning programme, the overall growth of population has surged forward. In the current decade, there are some indications

of the rate of growth of population having been moderated, but there is still cause for deep concern and need for a fresh appraisal of everything we have done so far. It is evident that the answer does not lie in applying more of the same. We have to see what changes of emphasis or alternative options are necessary to achieve our objectives. Indeed, if a thorough overhaul -235>

is required, we should be prepared for it. It is not enough to have been the world pioneer in family planning. It is essential for us to be also in the forefront of success. So large is India's share of world population, and so significant is our contribution to world population growth, that it would not be too much of an exaggeration to say that a solution to India's population problem would, in large measure, amount to a solution of the world's population problem.

The single most important lesson that we and the world have learnt in the last four decades is that the answer to population growth does not lie in some simplistic or mechanical attempt to bring declining birth rates in equilibrium with declining death rates. In other words, it is not the activities of the agencies involved in family planning that uniquely determines the outcome of the family planning effort. More realistically, it is the nexus between development and its impact on the people that determines the success or failure of family planning programmes, more specially, its effect on the life of women. That is to say, the mechanics of any family planning programme have to be set in the context of the development processes as a whole.

The development process itself is strongly conditioned by the global political and economic environment. In a world at war, or in a world where tension and conflict lead to the building of vast arsenals, the international community as a whole just does not have the resources required to spare for development. Where the developing countries are starved of resources for development, the slow pace of economic growth ensures a fast rate of population growth.

We have placed before the United Nations at its Special Session on Disarmament last year an Action Plan for a world free of nuclear weapons and anchored in nonviolence. I would go so far as to assert that the keystone of the arch of our population policy is our Action Plan. If it leads, as envisaged, to the phased elimination within the next two decades of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, accompanied by a reduction in conventional weapons to minimum levels dictated by the demands of defence alone, that will result in the release of resources for the development of humankind which, in turn, will curb the growth of the world's population to levels that our planet can sustain. This is not a demand made by a poor developing country on the charity of those better off than ourselves. It is a plea for the recognition of the essential truth that all of us belong to one

humanity, we inhabit one globe, and therefore, the poverty of the developing countries impoverishes the globe as a whole. It renders more difficult the solution of problems like population growth, whose implications are not confined to the political boundaries of particular countries but have immediate and long-term implications for our planet as a whole, indeed, for survival on our planet.

The present international economic order is not geared to the demands of development. Financial assistance for development is running at such low levels that we are witness to the shame of the net transfer of resources being not from the rich countries to the poor, but from the poor to the rich; not from the developed to the developing, but the other way round; not from the North to the South, but in the reverse direction. It is true that our country has been able to accelerate the tempo of development while remaining in relative fiscal equilibrium, but around the world the burden of an induced debt is crushing the economies of developing countries who are neither able to cast off the burden themselves nor accept the onerous conditions imposed by others as the precondition for relieving the burden. The international trading system is seriously skewed, with the door being shut on the exports of the developing countries precisely in those areas and at the time when they become most competitive. Access to technology on fair and equitable terms is denied. Instead of a cooperative international endeavour to bring prosperity to -236>

all, there is resort to exclusive economic groupings that trample on the interests of others, especially of those developing countries who are pulling themselves up by their own bootstraps. Instead of global interdependence, the chief characteristic of the present international economic order is the pursuit of dominance and the cynical manipulation of the levers of economic control. A more just, equitable and cooperative world economic order is idispensable if effective and sustained global population stabilization is to be realised. If this global objective is not achieved, the developed countries are going to rue their short-sightedness as much and more than the developing.

The same applies to problems of the environment. The developing countries are ready to accept their responsibility and integrate the costs of conservation into the costs of development. Fortunately, the developed countries are not making this an issue of North-South confrontation but readily acknowledge their responsibilities and accepting the need for a major contribution by them to global environmental protection. Against this background, and in this light, I proposed at the Ninth Nonaligned Summit in Belgrade earlier this month that a Planet Protection Fund be established, with all participating countries paying an equal share of their Gross Domestic Product, with a view to financing research into, as well as the purchase of,

environmentally safe and friendly technologies, which would then be available gratis and without discrimination to all participating countries. I pointed out that with as small a contributions as one thousandth of the GNP or 0.1 per cent of GDP, the annual contribution to the corpus of the Fund would be in the region of 18 billion dollars.

One probable cause of the surge in population growth in India in the decade 1971-1981 was, perhaps, the relatively low growth rate of the economy in a decade marked by war with Pakistan, two severe droughts and a period of political instability. In the Eighties, there has been a significant upswing in growth rates. taking our average annual growth rate to over 5% in the current VIIth Five Year Plan Period and poising the economy on the threshold of an even higher rate of growth in the forthcoming VIIIth Five Year Plan. The acceleration of economic growth has been accompanied by the launching or fruition of a whole series of programmes of direct poverty alleviation and social development. A Minimum Needs Programme, rural employment guarantee programme and family asset-creation programme for those below the poverty line have resulted in a sensible decrease in absolute and relative levels of poverty. Particular attention has been paid to the education of girls and adult literacy for women. Care has been taken to conscientize women to their rights as human beings, and men to their duties vis-a-vis women, so as to enhance the status of women in our society Nutrition programmes for infants and children, and supplementary feeding for pregnant and lactating mothers has lowered infant mortality and child mortality rates as also the survival and health of mothers. The primary health care network extending throughout the country and the Auxiliary Nurse Midwife has become the fulcrum of the health and family welfare delivery system at the grassroots. Our proudest achievement in recent years has been universal immunization programme. Voluntary organisations and government together have helped women better organise and equip themselves for employment and equitable wages, training and skills formation, self-employment and cooperative activity and greater control over economic assets and income generation. Also, there has been a marked step-up in urbanisation. One of the first things our government did was to set up a National Commission for Urbanisation; and in the next Plan we will be looking very carefully at how human settlements are developing and how to reduce the concentration of urban settlements in a few urban areas and to multiply the urban areas, spread them across the country and to balance this urbanisation process that is taking place. -237>

The lesson to be learnt is that family planning programmes should be regarded as part of the development process and not as autonomous programmes. For developed countries, the lesson to be learnt is that population control objectives cannot be attained by increasing financial assistance for population programmes while curtailing development assistance as a whole or restricting the access of developing countries to the markets of the developed. For developing contries, the lesson to be learnt is that there has to be a holistic perception of the development process, of which population policy constitutes but one component, albeit a significant component.

Even a cursory examination of demographic trends in a country as vast and varied as India would indicate that the nature of the demographic problem varies immensely from one part of the country to another. In the decade 1971-81, population growth rates were as low as 17.5% in Tamil Nadu and as high as 33% in Rajasthan. The birth rate not only differ significantly between States but also between rural areas and urban areas within States and between States. Thus the estimated 1987 birth rate in rural India is as low as 21.5 per thousand in Kerala and over 39 per thousand in Uttar Pradesh. In urban India, West Bengal has a low of 21 per thousand and Uttar Pradesh a high of 32 per thousand. When it comes to such crucial parameters of population policy as fertility rates in different age groups, we find the variations even more dramatic. For example, in the 15 to 19 years age group, the age-specific fertility rate is just 23 per thousand in Punjab but right up to 144 per thousand in Andhra Pradesh. In the next age group of 20 to 24, however, the relatively prosperous and progressive States of Haryana and Punjab jump almost to the top of the ladder, but decline for subsequent age groups. Similarly, there is no homogeneity to the pattern of death rates or the decline in the death rates. In Kerala, the low death rate is comparable to Scandinavian standards, being as low as 6 per thousand, as against more than 15 per thousand in rural Uttar Pradesh and close to 8 per thousand in urban areas of Assam, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

It is, thus, clear that there is no homogeneity in the parameters of population growth in the country as a whole and, therefore, all India averages are something of a statistical illusion. There are vast variations from one region to the other, from one State to the other, even one district to the other.

The implication is that there is little scope for a uniform all-India population programme, whether in regard to actions which operate on the birth rate or in regard to actions which operate on the death rate. Yet, to a very large extent, our family planning programmes are more or less uniform throughout the country. Virtually the same package is delivered to the high population growth areas as to the low population growth areas. Only tentative beginnings have been made in area-specific projects, largely concentrating on nuances of infrastructure requirements rather than sociologically significant features. There is little fine-tuning for such critical important factors as variations in the nuptiality pattern of the average age at marriage. There are virtually no adequate or satisfactory statistics available for differences in regard to the parameters

of fertility between socio economic groups or ethnic groups within any given region. The administration of family planning is concentrated too much on the chasing of targets, imposing virtually uniformly throughout the country, rather than based on sensitivity to, or even knowledge of, the differential impact of the same programme on different regional, socio-economic and ethnic groups. It is this which has, perhaps, contributed to the cruel paradox I referred to earlier of there being an adequate casual connection between our family planning programmes on birth rates, death rates and the consequential growth in population. For the money we invest in family planning, we deserve much better marginal rate of return in terms of an accelerated decline.

-238>

in birth rates. In fact, the rate of increase in financial outlays on family planning is not matched by a commensurate decline in birth rates.

Uniform norms of planning are not a characteristic only of planning for population control. The practice of uniform norms has been characteristic of our planning in all sectors. In agriculture, we have broken this syndrome by dividing the country into fifteen identified agro-economic zones so as to tailor agricultural policy to the specific requirements of each of the zones. The time has come for a similar approach to population policy. We need to divide the country into different zones where the relevant parameters are approximately homogeneous, and adapt policies and programmes to the specific characteristics of these different ones. We would need to go further and, within each zone, adapt programmes to the specific requirements of different socio-economic and ethnic groups. Through such a differentiated approach to the demographic diversity of India, we will perhaps succeed in effecting a closer connection between the achievement of programme targets and the realisation of policy objectives.

We also have to recognise that, despite all our efforts, the family planning programme remains essentially an official, govenment-sponsored programme and not a people's programme. Successfully family planning is such an intensely personal, private matter that Government agencies can, at best, contribute to raising awareness, creating an ethos and making available the required supplies, but the success of the programme depends upon the personal and private decisions of a myriad individual human beings. What we need is congruence or convergence between the national objective of population stabilisation and each couple's perception, especially the woman's perception, especially the woman's perception, of the desired family size. This perception is most influenced by the values and ethos of the local community or neighbourhood. How could this be determined monolithically by a Central agency? It has to be devised and determined at the grassroots, in the villages, slums and settlements where the people live.

Therefore, there has to be a great degree of decentralization in the implementation of the programme so that awareness, ethos and motivation are created more by the local neighbourhood than by some remote official agency. We have recently introduced two major Constitutional Amendment Bills in Parliament to revamp, recast and rejuvenate our institutions of local self-government in the villages and urban settlements of India. Through these Bills we hope to assure both democracy at the grassroots as well as devolution of powers and the assignment of responsibilities to institutions of local self-government for their own development.

Family welfare is one the most important subjects being entrusted to these institutions. To the extent that it is the people themselves and their representatives who will determine the contours of the family planning programme to be delivered at the community level to each local community, we might expect a far greater degree of responsiveness to diverse local conditions than has been evident so far. By the same token, we might anticipate a far greater measure of success in linking the implementation of programmes to specific results in terms of lowering the birth rate and thus the rate of growth of population. The revolution in local self government bids fair to promote a revolutionary decline in birth rates in India.

Moreover, we have in hand plans and programmes for concerting and rationalizing delivery systems for all the different schemes relating to women and child development, especially in rural areas. At present, a host of different official agencies, operating independently of each other, despite their inevitable inter-linkages, are approaching the same target group of women and children with little cooperation or coordination among themselves. The net result is that delivery costs -239>

eat up a vast proportion of programme resources, and the absence of a holistic approach sharply reduces the impact or these programmes. We are attempting to bring all the different programmes together in either a single or well-coordinated delivery system, and to link that delivery system to our new institutions of local self-government, which provide for the reservation of 30% of seats for elected women representatives in all local bodies. Family planning will be an integral element of this system.

The programme will thus get tied in at the grassroots level with the development process as a whole, and be part of a planning and implementation process which intensely involves the people's own participation, including the participation of women and all the weaker sections in our society. I would hazard the prophecy that a delivery system run and supervised by the poor, deprived and largely illiterate people of India will prove far more effective

than the paternalistic model of planning, administration and implementation which we have realised upon so far.

These are ideas which, in the first instance, I put not to a purely domestic audience but to an international audience of specialists in the scientific study of population. I do so deliberately. The scientific temper and the study of human problems admit no artificial political boundaries between people and people. The scientific temper and the study of human problems admit no problems between countries and countries. We welcome you to India as experts who are as deeply sympathetic to, and as empathetically involved, as we ourselves are in our problems of population policy. Your disinterested scientific acumen and your vast collective knowledge of human behaviour in relation to demographic issues make it possible for us to welcome each of you equally to India as one of us, as friends of India. We invite you to ponder upon these issues I have raised and to let us have your considered views on what needs to be done. For, I repeat, a solution to India's population problem, in large measure, constitute a solution to the world's population problem. We, for our part, are ready to join in a global cooperative endeavour to study and recommend solutions for population policy the world over.

DIA USA YUGOSLAVIA PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ITALY OMAN

**Date**: Sep 20, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

External Affairs Minister's Intervention on NAM

The following is the text of the intervention made by Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs on Sep 01, 1989 at the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Meeting:

Since this is the first time I am taking the floor let me say how happy I am to see you in the Chair and to be here in your country, Yugoslavia has, since the very inception, played a leading role in the work of our Movement. We have full confidence that given your long experience and diplomatic skills you would guide us successfully in preparing for the Meeting of our Heads of State or Government.

28 years ago, on this very day, the first Summit Meeting of

Nonaligned countries was inaugurated in this beautiful city. We have come a long way since. The international climate has undergone important -240>

that changes. It has been our constant endeavour to adapt our Movement continuously to these changes. As far back as in 1976, the Heads of State or Government of non-aligned countries examined the profound changes in the global climate and considered it to be an opportune time to assess the role of the Nonaligned Movement. Today, with the onset of a fresh detente, the inherent importance of an introspective examination of our Movement cannot be overemphasised.

Improving the methods of work and reorientation of activities of such a large Movement with no organisational structure, is no easy task. It was not expected of the Ministerial Committee on Methodology to come up with a comprehensive solution to all problems before the Non-aligned Movement in such a short space of time from the September meeting till now. However, the Committee under the Chairmanship of our esteemed colleague from Cyprus George Iacovou has performed a commendable task, in producing a set of recommendations which are forward-looking, specific, practical and achievable.

The Coordinating Bureau in Harare provided an opportunity to meet of us to carefully consider the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee and to express our considered views and suggestions on them. Subsequently, the Ministerial Committee adopted this Document for submission to the Heads of States at this Conference. It is the view of my delegation that given the importance of the issues focussed upon in the report, it should be brought to the attention of our Heads of State or Government, particularly since many of them have evinced keen interest in this matter. It would be relevant that some of the recommendations contained in the Committee's report relate to the procedure of work of the Summit Conference. As such, it would be only appropriate that our Heads of State or Government should themselves look into these recommendations with a view to direction an early implementation of the many pragmatic and innovative suggestions contained in the Report.

Mr. Chairman, these recommendations constitute an important milestone in the evolution of our Movement. I am glad to find that some of the recommendations are already moving towards implementation. The documents submitted for this Conference are welcomingly compact and focussed. A special feature is the Draft Declaration highlighting our Movement's concerns and suggesting future actions.

The Report has rightly stressed the need for a dialogue between NAM and other key groupings and factors in world affairs. This dialogue has become long overdue. The present is the propitious

time to commence it. This is the only way in which the international community can begin tackling the complex issues facing our interdependent world. Our support for multi-lateralism and the need for a more broad-based participation in the process of detente, has been rightly underlined in the Report.

The Report has made some very valid and practical recommendations which need to be pursued actively. The suggestion that Ministerial Meetings should not be held unless absolutely essential and the Foreign Ministers' Meeting prior to the General Assembly should focus only on issues before the General Assembly will certainly enable us to save a lot of time and focus on the essential.

The Report recognises the importance of stepped up coordination. For this, consultations in other major world cities in addition to the Coordinating Bureau, has been proposed. Exchange of views between the NAM Chairman and the Non aligned Caucus in the Security Council, as well as with the UN Secretary General, would ensure that the Movement can make its due contribution to finding solutions to global and regional problems affecting its members and the entire international community.

The suggestion that positions of the Nonaligned countries in different forums should be consistent with the positions or the Movement and that member countries should lend full support of the institutions created by consensus decisions of the Movement needs to be emphasised.

Pronouncement by the Movement of important issues in concise non-repetitive succinct documents emphasising practical and action-oriented measures would enhance the credibility and affectiveness of the Movement. The structuring of the Meetings to allow for informal consultations between Heads of States or Governments, to discuss specific issues, during summit and Ministerial Conferences would result in and effective utilisation of the time available to us.

While we are very happy at the increased interest being manifested by a number of countries in attending Non-aligned Meeting as Guests, and we fully support the present practice of inviting them, we feel it is necessary to address ourselves to the issues of laying down criteria for inviting guests in order that the principles and policies of our Movement are not allowed to be diluted.

Mr. Chairman, the process that we have undertaken now of identifying measures for revamping and revitalizing our Movement, should be a continuing one. This will ensure that our Movement will retain and indeed enhance its dynamism, which has so far contributed to its ability to respond to the challenges facing it. Thus while we should adopt and speedily implement the ideas

and suggestions contained in this Report, we should continue the process of examining the orientation and priorities of the activities and the method of work of the Movement, in the changing global context.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

#### GOSLAVIA USA PERU CYPRUS ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Sep 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Natwar Singh's Statement at the Economic Committee of NAM

The following is the opening statement made by Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs as Chairman of the Economic Committee of the IXth NAM Summit on Sep 02, 1989:

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of you to the Economic Committee of the 9th Summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of Nonaligned countries. I am greatly honoured by the confidence that you have reposed in me and in my country by inviting me to guide the deliberations of this Committee. My delegation and I shall do our utmost to live up to your expectation.

It would not be an exaggeration to State that some of the most important issues before our leaders at this Summit Conference lie in the economic field. Since the early 1980s, the world economy has been passing through a highly uncertain phase, characterised by persisting imbalances and relatively low rates of growth. The position of the Non-aligned and other developing countries has been particularly difficult. In a large number of these countries, per capita incomes have remained stagnant or even declined. The process of development has virtually come to a standstill. The implementation of strenuous adjustment measures in a highly unfavourable external environment has resulted in immense human suffering and social tension and conflicts.

International measures designed to assist developing countries have not been commensurate with the gravity of problems faced by them. On the contrary, International cooperation for development has suffered a setback. Protectionist measures, applied very frequently in a discriminatory manner against the exports of

developing countries, continue to proliferate. In spite of the various plans pro--242>

posed for alleviating the problems of external indebtedness, the debt problem continues to grow and debt burdens have reached unmanageable proportions. At a time when financial resources are crucially needed for development, we are witnessing the anamoly of a reverse flow of resources from developing to the developed countries.

In the Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations, the major concerns of the developing countries have not been given the priority attention that they deserve. On the other hand, the major developed countries are using the leverage of their dominant economic position to extract concessions from the developing countries in the new areas which have been brought under negotiation in the Uruguay Round.

Environmental problems have emerged as a major concern which may even become a threat to life on earth. The unthinking exploitation of the nature's resources due to profligate consumption and waste in the developed countries has brought us to this pass. We have to work together to ensure that solutions to these problems take into account the glaring disparities of consumption between the developed and developing countries, and are in the over all interest of the development of developing countries.

The new detente by creating a more favourable political climate provides a good opportunity to address the tasks in the economic field. However, the spirit of detente does not as yet extend to the economic areas, and has yet to be reflected in any attempt towards a more equitable and broad-based management of the global economy. It is necessary for us to give a call and make concrete suggestions in this regard from the Summit Conference.

I would like to compliment and thank the Delegation of the host country, Yugoslavia, for the excellent documents they have prepared for our consideration. These will greatly facilitate the deliberations of the Committee. The documents broadly cover the most important areas and the most pressing concerns of the developing countries at this crucial juncture. They bring out the constructive role that Nonaligned countries are willing to play for the growth and stability of the world economy.

You would no doubt wish to further refine and improve the texts. Given the spirit of mutual understanding and give and take which characterises our Movement, I see no reason why we should not be able to conclude the task before us speedily and expeditiously.

The documents before us reflect the prevailing mood of reform in our Movement. They are short and direct and eschew platitudinuous statements. I would strongly urge all members to contribute their comments and suggestions in the same spirit, so that a clear message which responds to the need of the hour, should go out from the Summit on issues which are agitating the minds of the entire international community.

Distinguished Delegates,

On this occasion, as we are setting out to deal with the economic issues before this 9th Nonaligned Summit Conference, I am reminded of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's prophetic words to the Asia Relations Conference as far back as in March 1947. He said:

"Peace can come only when nations are free and also when human beings everywhere have freedom and security and opportunity. Peace and freedom, therefore, have to be considered in both their political and economic aspects... These economic problems demand urgent solution or else crisis and disaster may overwhelm us. We have, therefore, to think in terms of the common man -243>

and fashion our political, social and economic structure so that the burdgens that have crushed him may be removed, and he may have full opportunity for growth."

These words still constitute the basic spirit in which the Nonaligned Movement has approached economic issues; the spirit which I hope will continue to guide us here in our deliberations.

A URUGUAY PERU YUGOSLAVIA

**Date** : Sep 02, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Prime Minister's Address at the Ninth Non-aligned Summit

The following is the text of address by the Prime Minister at the Ninth Non-aligned Summit at Belgrade on Sep 05, 1989:

We meet together in Europe on an anniversary imbued with high significance, for Europe and for the world, a portent of the past as much as a warning for the future.

For this is the 50th anniversary of that historic week in September 1939, which saw the outbreak of the most devastating war in the history of humankind. It signalled the commencement of a depraved genocide, the carnage of millions, the laying waste of country after country, the ruthless destruction of all that lay in the path of war, from humble hamlets to noble cities, the unprecedented horror of the atom bomb, the utter nihilism of nuclear weapons.

It marked the end of one epoch. It intimated the beginning of another. The great Poet of our Renaissance, Rabindranath Tagore, his life of boundless creativity drawing to a close as the world plunged into a brutal orgy of destruction, pronounced with prophetic vision but heavy heart:

"As I look around I see the crumbling ruins of a proud civilization strewn like a vast heap of futility. And yet I shall not commit the grievous sin of losing faith in Man. I would rather look forward to the opening of a new chapter in his history after the cataclysm is over and the atmosphere rendered clean with the spirit of service and sacrifice. Perhaps that dawn will come from this horizon, from the East where the sun rises. A day will come when unvanquished Man will retrace his path of conquest, despite all barriers, to win back his lost human heritage... It is the mission of civilisation to bring unity among people and establish peace and harmony."

That is the vision which inspires us yet as, on this anniversary of war, we gather together in this great city of peace.

Here, in this city, twenty eight years ago, Jawaharlal Nehru, Josip Broz Tito, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Kwame Nkrumah and Ahmed Soekarno met, along with twenty other colleagues, to chart an aternative vision of the world order. It was then and here that we of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries began together our relentless quest for peace and harmony among the nations of the world, for unity among the people of the world, for retracting humanity from the path of conquest to help humankind recover its lost human heritage.

To return to Belgrade is to return to the birthplace of the Nonaligned Movement. It is homecoming, after close on three decades of persistent endeavour in quest of peace, development and justics in the world. What brought us together then? What inspired us to persist? Where do we go from here?

Above all, what brought us together was our conviction that, in this nuclear age, the obsolete mindset which had led humankind time and again to war, conquest and domination, had to be discarded and destroyed. The Belgrade Declaration of September 1961 discarded war as an "anachronism" and affirmed the need for -244>

the international community to organise its life "without resorting to means which actually belong to a past epoch of human history." It called for an end to colonialism everywhere, citing specifically Algeria, and Angola, both of whom are happily with us today as free and independent nations. The Declaration went on to demand:

"the restoration of the territorial integrity to the rightful people in countries in which it has been violated in Asia, Africa and Latin America."

The leitmotif of our first Declaration, which has remained the leitmotif of our Movement, has been the assertion of our right to "unity, self-determination and independence" by virtue of which we have the right to "freely pursue" our "economic, social and cultural development without intimidation or hindrance."

An end to dominance was what we sought, an end to the outdated belief that it was in any way legitimate for nations with muscle to impose any kind of hegemony -- military, political or economic -- over other nations. We set out to persuade the world to change its worldview by bringing to a close the dangerous and ultimately self-destructive pursuit of military domination, by ending "pulicies of pressure in the economic sphere", and by working towards an international order in which there is no "intimidation, interference or intervention."

Our endeavours began in the human mind for it is the human mind that is, at once, the repository of the detritus of the past and the engine of change for the future. In doing so, we pitted the moral force of Nonalignment against the muscle power of bloc politics. Here in Belgrade in 1961, Jawaharlal Nehru said:

"The power of the nations assembled here is not military power or economic power; nevertheless it is power. Call it moral force."

It is that moral force which has proved decisive in the last three decades.

Colonialism has crumbled. In Indo-China and Central America, in Southern Africa and West Asia, the limits of military might have been exposed in the developing world as a whole the battle has been joined to keep aloft the banner of economic sovereignty, even as economic power has been misused in a myriad ways to try to undermine the independence and freedom of States. This is a continuing struggle.

There have been successes. There have been setbacks. And the path ahead is strewn with problems.

From Belgrade to Belgrade, we can look back with confidence and conviction on three decades of serious challenge and effective response, on three decades of unremitting effort, on three

decades of concerted endeavour not unmixed with success.

The greatest success of our Movement has been the ending of colonialism. Here in 1961 we demanded:

"the immediate, unconditional, total and final abolition of colonialism."

That is a pledge we are now close to redeeming as Namibia, virtually the last bastion of alien rule, moves towards an imminent independence.

It is also a vindication of the vision of our founding fathers that almost every country that emerged from the thralldom of foreign domination has joined our Movement. The Nonaligned Movement has proved not only to be the harbinger of the End of Empire. It has also proved to be the harbour from which the ship of independence has sailed out into the world. Together, we today constitute the majority of humankind and two-thirds of the comity of nations. Our worldview is no longer a minority view. It represents the voice of much of humanity. We speak not only for our peoples but also for a growing segment of public opinion in countries

that still remain mired in military blocs. More significantly still, our thinking is beginning to permeate the thought processes of the power blocs, our idiom is increasingly becoming the idiom of international diplomacy, our goals are becoming not Nonaligned goals alone but global goals, the path we chart is becoming the world's path.

-245>

That said, let me straightaway introduce a note of caution. We may recall with justifiable satisfaction the fulfiment of our demand of 1961 that colonialism be brought to a definitive end. But let us also remember that here in Belgrade in 1961 we resolved:

"to make a concerted effort to put an end to all types of new colonialism and imperialist domination in all its forms and manifestations."

That is a task that still remains to be accomplished, for colonialism might have ended but domination has not ceased. There can be no rest for the Nonaligned till we usher in a new world order based on the sovereign equality of nations, reflecting a true democratisation of international relations, anchored in nonviolence and oriented towards the benefit of humanity as a whole.

In the three years that have passed since we met at Harare, the world has witnessed events of momentous significance. We pay tribute to our friend, President Robert Mugabe, who with skill and high statesmanship has steered the Nonaligned Movement through these momentous times. We thank him for all he has done to keep our Movement dynamic, vibrant and united through this period of critical significance in world history.

We welcome too Yugoslavia's resumption of the stewardship of our Movement. We are confident, Mr. Chairman, that in the great traditions set by our first Chairman, Josip Broz Tito, you and your colleagues will lead us to a fuller realization of the noble vision of our founders. We are at a great conjuncture of opportunity. We place in your hands the responsibility of taking us, and the world, forward to a more hopeful future. We thank you for the warmth of your hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for this Conference.

The last few years have seen the Nonaligned Movement asking itself what role it should play in the new era that is emerging from the old, for these years will go down in history as the period during which the power blocs began seeing the world our way. It is the period during which the first tangible, if tentative, steps towards nuclear disarmament were taken. It has been a period of profound restructuring in internal and international relations. It has been a period of new departures and, perhaps, of new beginnings.

To Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev goes much of the credit for the new vistas that are opening out to humankind, Soon after our last Summit at Harare, he visited New Delhi. We signed together the Delhi Declaration through which the Soviet Union affirmed its commitment to nonviolence as the basis of community life and to a world free of weapons of mass destruction, a world without war. Within a few weeks, concrete expression was given to this commitment by the initiation of the negotiations which led to the INF Treaty and the agreement in principle to a reduction in strategic nuclear weapons.

As foreseen by the founding fathers of the Nonaligned Movement, the process of nuclear disarmament has engendered an atmosphere in which confrontation has given way to dialogue, and dialogue has led to the easing of conflict and the beginnings of cooperation. The guns have fallen silent on the Iran-Iraq border. Soviet troops have withdrawn from Afghanistan. A solution to the Cambodian problem is in the making. The esquipulas process slowly but steadily gains ground in Central America. At long last independence beckons in Namibia.

There is a new hope in the air, a measure of optimism that few would have dared hope for when we last met together. The post-War world, with its vain rivalries and bristling confrontations, its rejection of peaceful coexistence and its reliance on nuclear deterrence, is slowly giving way to dialogue and discussion, to detente and the defusion of tensions, to the possibility of

peace, and not the certainty of war, being the arbiter of human destiny. That is all to the good. That is what we, the Nonaligned, have been advocating since the very first Summit, where we said:

"All peoples and nations have to solve the problems of their own political, economic, social and cultural systems in accordance with their own conditions, needs and potentialities. Furthermore, any attempt at imposing upon peoples one social or political system or another by force and from outside is a direct threat to world peace... under such conditions the principles of peaceful coexistence are the only alternative to the cold war and to a possible general nuclear catastrophe."

It is the growing acceptance of the need for coexistence which gives us cause for optimism. But let optimism not yield to euphoria. There is little to be euphoric about. The promise of December 1987 has not led to any further measures of nuclear disarmament. Nuclear armaments still remain capable of destroying the world fifty times over. The extension of the nuclear arms race to new dimensions continues unabated. The misuse of science for the augumentation of the already awesome arsenals of Armageddon continues. Such cooperation and coexistence as we have seen are essentially tactical in nature. In strategic terms, reliance continues to be placed on the deathdealing demons of nuclear deterrence. There is as yet no vision of a new world order in which domination and the pursuit of dominance will come to an end

In the emerging new dispensation, high priority is attached to questions of human rights and human dignity. We believe in human rights and human dignity. We believe that every human being has an inalienable right to lead a life or dignity.

Human rights, however, are not a matter exclusively of the individual citizen's relationship with his own government.

His rights as a human being can and are being abrogated by the actions of others who deny him a fair livelihood by perpetuating an exploitative world order.

His rights as a human being can and are being assaulted by the actions of others who deprive him of his destiny by making him and his country the battleground for the proxy confrontations of the power blocs.

His rights as a human being can and are being suborned by the actions of others who subject him and his country to subversion and sabotage engineered from without.

His rights as a human being can and are being undermined by the actions of others who make his heritage hostage to the technological oligopolies that control the means of

#### communication.

How can any society which claims to be concerned about human rights extend succour and support to the obomination of apartheid? How hollow rings the claim of concern when military and economic collaboration with the professed racists of Pretoria takes precedence over the immediate dismantling of a system erected on the denial of human rights and the trampling of human dignity! For more than a quarter of a century. Nelson Mandela and thousands of other political prisoners languish in jail for no crime other than the urge for freedom.

At the last Summit, we warned against the bloodbath that is in store in Southern Africa if Pretoria does not mend its ways. The only way of forestalling -247>

this dreaded bloodbath -- which nobody wants and all must strive to avoid -- is dialogue between Pretoria and the genuine representatives of the people of South Africa to pave the path to a peaceful negotiated dismantlement of apartheid. For such a dialogue to commence, two key conditions have to be fulfilled.

First, a climate conducive to dialogue has to be created. Indispensable elements of the required climate would include the lifting of the state of emergency, the cessation of censorship, the freeing of all political prisoners, no more detention without trial, the termination of all other repressive measures and the ending of vioence all around.

Second, the unambiguous affirmation by Pretoria of the only possible objective of such a negotiating process: the dismantling of apartheid and the establishment of majority rule by universal adult franchise in a united and non-fragmented South Africa, within a specified timeframe.

Till these two conditions are fulfilled, and to mount the pressure for them to be accepted by Pretoria, the litmus test of any country's commitment to human rights remains its willingness to seek the enforcement against the Pretoria regime of comprehensive, mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

On this fiftieth anniversary of the War against Racism, we demand the final disavowal of the ultimate immorality of apartheid.

From its inception, the Nonaligned Movement has been in the forefront of the struggle against apartheid. The 1961 Belgrade Declaration described apartheid as:

"a grave violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

As an earnest of our endeavours in this regard, we established at the last Summit a Fund for Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism & Apartheid, under the acronym: AFRICA Fund. The size of the Fund already amounts to nearly half a billion dollars. The vast majority of contributors to the Fund are from within the Movement, including even a number of least developed countries. They have generously come to the assistance of Southern Africa. notwithstanding their own problems and constraints. Our contributors also include some governments of the West and the Socialist countries, whose commitment to human rights has persuaded them to participate in our initiative. International organisations too have contributed to the Fund. We, the Nonaligned, are proud of this initiative which has brought together on one platform men and women of conscience from the East and the West, the North and the South, in an unprecedented show of solidarity with our brothers and sisters of Southern Africa.

In Namibia, Pretoria persists in imperilling the prospects of free and fair elections. The elections must be free and fair. The intentions of the United Nations must not be thwarted, its endeavours must not be subverted or sabotaged. The United Nations must be imparted the strength and given the support to successfully accomplish its noble mission. In Afghanistan, the flow of blood is still to be strounched. Between Iran and Iraq, a ceasefire is in effect but peace is yet to be established. In Cambodia, the refusal to identify and condemn the practitioners of a genocide, every bit as barbaric as Hitlers's holocaust, stalls the search for a solution. In Fiji, following the military overthrow of a democratic regime, an attempt is now being made to give Constitutional sanction to the institutionalization of racism. The people of Palestine are denied a State of their own in their homeland and subjected to unspeakable cruelties in the Occupied Territories. The Intifida is an authentic revolution of our times. We welcome the proclamation of -248>

the State of Palestine and extend our unstinted support to the initiatives taken by President Yasser Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization to bring lasting peace to West Asia by ensuring secure borders for all the countries of the region. In Central America, interference countinues in various overt and covert forms. The involvement of outside powers exacerbates regional tensions and aggravates regional conflicts. Soutions are imposed and the search for solutions made dependent on external exigencies. In short, the cold war may, in some measure, have been suspended but durable peace remains a distant mirage.

Peace cannot be bought through the mere control of armaments while encouraging the development of newer generations of weapons, nuclear and conventional. Peace demands an end to the fanning of conflicts by proxy. Peace requires the diversion of resources from armaments to development. Peace demands a

wholesome environment and the conservation of Nature's gifts to life on planet Earth. Peace means an end to terrorism, whether by States or individuals. Peace needs a world freed of the menace of drugs.

Detente notwithstanding, such a peace is nowhere in sight.

Such a peace can only be secured in a world purged of the quest for dominance. Dominance by direct colonial rule has virtually ended, but the pursuit of political dominance by more subtle means continued. Dominance by military strength has been successfully resisted, but the quest for dominance by subversion and proxy continues. It is dominance by economic pressure that is now emerging as the single most important threat to the independence, freedom and stability of the Nonaligned countries.

So long as domination and the quest for dominance in any form prevails, thus long the work of the Nonaligned Movement cannot be complete. We concerted our efforts against colonial, political and military domination. Over these, in large measure, it is our Movement that has prevailed. Equally must we concert our efforts against economic domination, for, if we do, I am convinced that it is our Movement, once again, that will prevail.

The quest for dominance is a condition of the mind. It is that mindest which seizes upon the problems of others to expand its sphere of influence through interference or intervention, which seeks solutions to specific issues and specific situations in terms of extraneous interests, which perpetuates a world power structure that denies the common humanity of humankind. It is that mindset which has to be metamorphosed. It is that mindset which has to be converted to the principles and perceptions of our vision of the world. It is that mindset which has to be persuaded of the need for the true democratization of the world order. The unity of human family has to be affirmed even as the diversity of human civilization is cherished and celebrated. That, in sum, must be the Non-aligned Movement's task for the future.

Therefore, it not only remains the solemn duty of the Nonaligned Movement to give all the impetus it can to the processes of disarmament and detente and the resolution of regional conflicts, it also becomes incumbent upon our Movement to inspire the world community with a comprehensive vision of the world order required to ensure sustained peace in a world beyond nuclear weapons. It still remains our duty to be, as Nehru said, the moral force in world affairs.

India presented to the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament last year a blueprint for a world without nuclear weapons and for a world order based on equality, justice and nonviolence. We consider our Action Plan as constituting a basis for discussion within the international community, as well as between ourselves and the nuclear weapon powers. -249>

However, durable peace cannot be secured by nuclear disarmament alone. We have to alter strategic doctrines which rely on deterrence and violence. We also have to alter the international order which sets store by confrontation and rivalry, inequality and domination. A world without war can be sustained only by a world order that sees the world as one, that sees all humanity as one. International security rests not only on arms reduction and confidence building. Ultimately, it must rest on the elimination of the real scourges of humankind: hunger, disease, illiteracy, poverty and exploitation. There is no lasting security to be found in a world segmented into the rich and the poor, the developed and the developing, North and South.

There are changes of great significance taking place in international economic relations. The preponderance of a single country in the global economy is being replaced by several centres of economic power. Japan has emerged as a major economic force, The integration of the European Community brings into play an economic grouping of significance and influence. Reform and restructuring is opening the prospect of a substantial accretion in the economic strength of the member-states of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, The Pacific basin bids fair to become a major theatre of growth by the next century. Indeed, Asia as a whole, developed or developing, has done well in the last decade.

Yet, all these changes notwithstanding, little has changed, or is set to change, in the world economic power structure, as between the developed North and the developing South. The central issue in the present international economic order is the domination of the global economy by a few without regard to the interests of the many.

Till but a few decades ago, such domination was regarded as legitimate. Our Movement challenged this claim to legitimacy -- and colonialism has ended, disavowed even by the perpetrators of yesteryear. It is now incumbent upon our Moveemnt to challenge the doctrine of domination in the economic sphere. There is nothing legitimate about a system which mortgages the long-term interests of all to the short-term gains of some. There is nothing legitimate about a system which marginallses the developing countries in the management of the global economy. There is nothing legitimate about a system which cannot offer the prospect of rapid development to the developing countries. There is nothing legitimate about a system which perpetually poses a grave and present threat to the economic independence of developing countries.

The present international economic order remains focussed on preserving positions of privilege, on persisting with the kind of domination which is being rendered obsolete in international political relations but remains rampant in international economic relations. The critical global issues of development and the removal of poverty have just not received the kind of attention they deserve if genuine international security is to be achieved.

In these circumstances, the task of the Nonaligned Movement must be to give substance to their political sovereignty through true economic sovereignty. Our struggle against domination continues. Our commitment to one world and one humanity translates into a struggle to end the iniquities of a system in which the prosperity of the prosperous is pursued in disregard of the problems of the poverty of the poor. Our struggle is for the establishment of a system of international economic relations based on the interdependence of the global economy, a system in which the common interest of all prevails, as much the interest of those who fall within the charmed circle of the developed countries as of those who fall without. Ours is a call for revolution, but revolution of a different kind -- not to bring down those who have climbed the ladder of economic success but to enable those -250>

who remain at the bottom to climb the rungs of opportunity.

In contrast to our aspirations for one world and one humanity, we are witnessing a fragmentation of the global economy. Multilateral institutions for international cooperation are being weakened or ignored. In the guise of economic groupings, there is a resurgence of economic regionalism. Our objection is not to economic groupings as such but to the exclusivisms which they often represent. Even as we welcome the incipient retreat from the bloc politics of the cold war, so, by the same token, are we concerned at the incipient exclusivisms of the emerging economic groupings. Let these groupings not become new blocs of trade wars and economic confrontation.

Buoyancy in the Asian economies, and indeed development everywhere in the developing world, is threatend by the protectionism and discriminatory trade practices of the developed countries. This is particularly unfortunate at a time when many developing countries are undertaking major domestic economic reforms, aimed at opening out their economies to greater interaction with world markets. If this process is to be maintained, it needs to be sustained by greater resource availability, especially through expanded trading opportunities. Growth in Africa, and economic reform elsewhere in the South, is jeopardised by the drying up of soft-term development assistance. Latin America, and others elsewhere, reel under the burden of an induced debt, their prospects of sustained development seriously endangered by the conditions imposed to ease the burden of debt. Complicating and compounding these problems is the shameful anomaly of the net flow of financial resources being from the poor to the rich, from the developing to the developed, from the

South to the North.

We need a strong multilateral trading system to ensure global economic stability and accelerated development. The developing countries can only have confidence in a system which responds to their special needs and facilitates the integration of their economies with the world economy. The present international trading system is seriously skewed. The Uruguay Round offers the international community the opportunity of addressing itself to these distortions, establishing a rational framework of international trade, and strengthening the multilateral trading system. We have entered the negotiations in good faith, in the confidence that global interdependence and the long-term interests of all will prevail over economic exclusivisms and narrow vested interests.

Unfortunately, there is little in the negotiations thus far to reassure the developing countries that their concerns will receive priority attenion or, indeed, any attention at all. The unfinished business of the Tokyo Round -- the business which concerns us, the developing countries, most -- languishes in the background. The focus is almost entirely on new areas of special interest to a few developed countries. What is worse, those of us who have dared raise our voice have been threatened with retribution. We are not going to be cowed by such pressures. We shall hold our heads high. We shall assert our sovereign equality. We shall continue to negotiate in good faith. There is time and opportunity for the privileged few to find common ground with the disadvantaged many.

The major economic powers are determined to perpetuate their dominance over the global economy. That is not acceptable to us. We fought colonial power without becoming colonialist ourselves. We fought military power without becoming militarists ourselves. Let us fight economic power without becoming exploiters ourselves. Let us concert our efforts. Let us present to the world a united front.

We do not want confrontation. We want dialogue. Decisions regarding the world economy should not be taken unilaterally by a small group of countries, however rich or military powerful. We, the developing countries, constitute much -251>

the larger segment of the world community. It is we who suffer most the deleterious consequences of the structural imbalances which afflict the world economy. We must be party, therefore, to decisions which effect the world economy.

We have attempted to pursue a path of dialogue with the developed countries. We are prepared to talk to them in the United Nations. We are prepared to talk to them in more limited forums. India, Egypt, Senegal and Venezuela jointly proposed in Paris this July

a Summit-level dialogue on economic and environmental issues with the industrialised countries. We know something of their individual reactions. Their joint response is awaited. We are sure the Nonaligned Movement will support this initiative and help bring it to fruition.

North-South issues have tended to over-shadow questions of South-South cooperation. The two are inter-related. We must seek to change the present unjust and unequal international economic order through a revival of the North-South dialogue. At the same time, we must become more self-reliant, individually and collectively. We must reduce our vulnerability to external economic factors over which we have little or no control, over which, in fact, the dominant economic powers are denying us our right of control.

To achieve these objectives, we must make South-South cooperation a much more decisive factor in international economic relations than it is at present. For the South to count, the South must stand up and be counted. We of the South have between us much that can assist us in accelerating development, eradicating poverty, and bringing prosperity to our peoples: a rich reservoir of natural resources, financial wealth, technology, technical skills, and abundance of talent, labour and brain power. What is wanting is greater knowledge about each other and the political will to pool together these resources in the common cause of development in the South. Yesterday, we heard Mwalimu Julius Nyerere tell us about the work of the South. Commission. The Nonaligned Movement must relate its work in regard to South-South cooperation and North-South cooperation, to the valuable documentation and research activity being undertaken by the South Commission.

We know far too little about each other. It is the absence of contact among our professionals in different disciplines that is the single most important factor responsible for our failure to realise the potential of South-South cooperation. I hope at this Summit we will be able to draw up a timetable for interaction among our experts and professionals over the next three years.

Our decision-makers, whether in government, business or the media, instinctively turn to traditional sources of goods, technology and expertise, not because of any animus towards new sources but because the infrastructure of colonial communication has still not been adopted to the needs of South-South cooperation. We must break the chains of dependence. We must get to know more of each other. We need to diversify the channels of economic, commercial, scientific and technological communication among ourselves. We should explore the possibility of mutually beneficial direct financial inter-mediation between developing countries with financial surpluses and developing countries with the ability and potential to put these surpluses to productive use. We will then find that there is enormous scope for mutually

beneficial cooperation among ourselves.

A high degree of political will is necessary to give the needed impetus to South-South cooperation and to accept the temporary sacrifices required in our mutuar long-term interest. We should streamline the institutional machinery for promoting South-South cooperation. Both the Group of 77 and the Nonaligned Movement have their programmes for economic and tech-252>

nical cooperation. These programmes should be rationalised and mutually harmonised. Specialized institutions of cooperation should be strengthened, where they exist, and established, where required. Growth and diversification are greatly expanding the areas of complementarity between the economies of the South. In the field of trade we have the Global System of Trade Preferences under which developing countries offer preferential tariffs to each other to stimulate South-South trade. We need to undertake a similar exercise to facilitate joint ventures, mutual investment flows and the transfer of technology among ourselves on a preferential basis.

In the years since Harare, questions of the environment and sustainable development have come to occupy a prominent place in international economic discussions. We strongly support international cooperation in the field of environment. It is an area which manifesty requires a concerted, multilateral approach.

Much of the blame for the depletion of the ozone layer, for global warming, for the dumping of hazrrdous wastes, and for deforestation lies at the door of the industrialised countries. Their high levels of consumption and production not only strain available natural resources but also lead to an alarming emission of pollutants into the atmosphere. The main responsibility and burden for combating pollution and environmental degradation must necessarily be their. The Pollutor Pays Principle must apply.

Let it be said to the credit of the industrialised countries that they acknowledge these facts and own their responsibility. We too acknowledge our responsibility. We recognise that sustainable development begins at home, that the costs of development must integrally include the costs of conservation, which, if not paid for now, will be exacted from the development process later or elsewhere. The environment is not, and should not be made, yet another issue of North-South contention. Nevertheless, in any global endeavour, the legitimate concerns and interests of the developing countries must be fully met. We cannot isolate environmental protection from the general issues of development. We need positive and supportive measures to assist the developing countries in exploring and implementing environmentally-benign policies of development. Environmental degradation is an issue which transcends not only national boundaries but also, in some ways, narrowly conceived national interests. We are ready to do

our part.

In her renowned Address to the U.N. Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in June 1972, Indira Gandhi said:

"There are grave misgivings that the discussion on ecology may be designed to distract attention from the problems of war and poverty. We have to prove to the disinherited majority of the world that ecology and conservation will not work against their interest but will bring on improvement in their lives. To withhold technology from them would deprive them of vast resources of energy and knowledge.

We need a global effort to bring within the easy reach of all, developing and developed, the technologies that exist and are yet to be developed to combat pollution and environmental degradation. We cannot leave these matters to the mere play of market forces. Those with inadequate capacity to pay for environmentally-sound technologies would then be left with no alternative but to let development proceed without due regard for the environment. Equally, those who are denied access to such technologies would have no option but to fall into the same trap. It is not only these countries that will pay the price of environmental neglect, it is a price that will probably have to be paid by the world as a whole and by future generations. The international community has a common stake in sustainable development. We need a global effort to ensure access to environment-friendly tech--253>

nologies and the funding of research and development into such technologies.

With these ends in view, I propose the establishment of a Planet Protection Fund (PPF), under the aegis of the United Nations. The Fund will be used to protect the environment by developing or purchasing conservation -- compatible technologies in critical areas which can then be brought into the public domain for the benefit of both developing and developed countries. All technologies over which the Fund acquires rights will be made available gratis, and without restriction, to all constituent members of the Fund. I would wish to stress that contributors to, and beneficiaries of, the Fund would include not only developing countries but also the industrialised countries. We would wish to work towards universal membership of the Fund.

We propose that all constituent members of the Fund, developed and developing, contribute a fixed percentage of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to the Fund, with exemption but full access granted to the least developed countries. The annual contribution to the corpus of the Fund would be around \$ 18 billion at as low an average contribution as of 0.1% of GDP. That is, for environment-related work, the international community

would have at its disposal as significant a sum as eighteen billion dollars a year, if only each country were willing to part with but a one-thousandth part of its GDP.

Such a Fund would become the fulcrum for a truly cooperative global endeavour to measure up to a problem of global dimensions and global implications, Such a Fund would be proof of our commitment to saving all creation and our planet Earth.

Mr. Chairman, in a few weeks from now, we will be celebrating the birth centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru. More, perhaps, than any other single individual, Nehru conceived the philosophy of Nonalignment and translated it into practical policy. He derived the basic principles of Nonalignment from the ethical principles that had guided our Freedom Movement and our successful experience of using nonviolent means to bring to its knees the mightiest military empire then known to history. He believed that means were as important as ends and that wrong means vitiated just ends even as right means reinforced them. He had a profound understanding of the diversity of human life and the cocial and economic systems devised by the human mind. He saw that each system had its justification in terms of the circumstances of its setting and its historical origins. He, therefore, stressed peaceful coexistence as the only way of living with the diversity of systems fashioned the world over by different kinds of human experience. He saw further that the only alternative to peaceful coexistence is war which, in this nuclear age, spells the end of life, as we know it, on this planet, the sudden and brutal end of all that has been so painstakingly constructed by human genius as human civilisation.

Nehru loved liberty. He had not devoted his life to fighting for the freedom of India only to have that freedom mortgaged to the exigencies of the power blocs of others. He saw Nonalignment as the grand design for guaranteeing the independence of the emerging nations. He saw Nonalignment as endorsing our freedom of choice, as enabling us to determine our friends, to chart our own ways of life and to control our destinies. He rejected the attempts of a handful of States to arrogate to themselves the right to run our affairs, to impose solutions on us or to determine our future. In Nehru's personality were brought together the ethical imperatives of the Indian tradition, the practical experience of Mahatma Gandhi's nonviolence, the fierce determination of a nationalist to remain independent, the vision of an internationalist to welcome global inter-dependence, and the wisdom and foresight of a greater world statesman to see that the dawning of the nuclear age had rendered obsolete the resort to war as an instrument of policy. Nehru's family -254>

was all of humanity. Nehru's word embraced the entire planet.

In dedicating ourselves to furthering the cause of a new world

order, we dedicate ourselves to Jawaharlal Nehru's vision of peace through peaceful coexistence, of nonviolence as the sheet anchor of enduring peace, of tolerance and compassion replacing the primeval urge to dominate, of one world and one humanity replacing the segmentation of the human family into segregated compartments.

In Josip Broz Tito, Nehru found a friend and companion whose worldview accorded in essential particulars with his own and the Nonaligned Movement secured as its founder-Chairman a brave and independent-minded statesman, who profoundly understood the link between the freedom of his country and the freedom of emerging nations the world over, whose struggle for the freedom of his country was integral to the world-wide struggle against domination in all its forms.

Jawaharlal Nehru lived but a few years after the first Summit in Belgrade. Tito remained with us for nearly two decades to guide the Movement along its way. Had they been with us today, as I am sure they are in spirit, their hearts would have filled with pride at our fidelity to their principles and our perseverence along the path they indicated.

Thank you.

GOSLAVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA ALGERIA ANGOLA CHINA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE INDIA IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN CAMBODIA SOUTH AFRICA PERU FIJI JAPAN URUGUAY EGYPT FRANCE SENEGAL VENEZUELA SWEDEN

**Date**: Sep 05, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

#### Declaration

The following is the text of a Declaration made at the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries held in Belgrade, Sep 4-7, 1989:

The Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at their Ninth Conference held in Belgrade, September 4-7, 1989,

Aware that the present stage of mankind's development is distinctive for its technological, economic and political changes, making overall progress possible, but at the same time also for its many obstacles, old and new, to the building of a more peaceful, secure, just, equitable democratic and humane world.

Bearing in mind the role and responsibility of non-aligned countries to make their maximum contribution towards safeguarding peace and promoting cooperation for development of all countries and thus paving the way for the well-being of nations and peoples based on peace, equity and justice,

Inspired by the principles and objectives of non-alignment, reaffirming their lasting validity, drawing upon the Movement's experience, aware of its invaluable contribution to international developments and of its even greater potentials today,

#### DECLARE:

- 1. The world is at a crossroads: tension is no longer at breaking point but neither is peace stable; stagnation is not general but neither is development. While there may be reason for hope, there is no cause for undue optimism. The world must decide which way to turn, as we face new challenges as well as new opportunities.
- 2. Scientific and technological advances, as well as shared tribulations, increase global interdependence. But they have yet to quench aspirations towards freedom, independence and national identity. Equality rather than domination and subordination should form the basis of interdependence. The irreversible and encouraging integration processes now asserting themselvse ought to be in the interest -255>

of all and not aimed at establishing new hegemonies. The present asymmetry in economic and technological development can only be redressed through a balanced development of the entire international community and through efforts aimed at the broadest possible democratization of international relations.

- 3. The world political climate has improved, although not sufficiently. Encouraging progress has been made towards finding solutions to regional and global problems wherein the non-aligned countries rendered a substantive contribution. There has been a ferment of new economic and political ideas in many parts of the world. These province a propitious setting for fresh initiatives. On the other hand, if economic imperatives and particularly the requirements of developing countries are not accommodated, the resulting strains may very well undermine the current trends towards global peace and harmony. A detente devoid of economic content is unlikely to endure.
- 4. Many countries in the world today are undertaking wide-ranging policy reforms in an effort to adapt to the realities of a rapidly changing world. A greater degree of openness and

cooperation is vital for the success of the trend towards global integration.

- 5. The pursuit of complete disarmament especially in weapons of mass destruction is imperative since it is necessary for securing the very existence of the human race on our planet. The somber contrast between enormous military expenditure and dire poverty underlines the importance of giving concrete shape to the concept of the link between disarmament and development. Given enhanced disarmament prospects, new opportunities are opening for all countries, especially those possessing the argest nuclear and conventional arsenals for rechannelling additional financial resources, human energy and creativity into development. The close relationship between disarmament and development must be seen as a contribution to the wider efforts to give precedence to economic development over the priorities imposed by the dangerous and irrational race for military might.
- 6. The non-aligned countries do not pretend, nor are they in a position, to change the world by themselves; but neither can the world be reshaped without them. The non-aligned favour concordance rather than confrontation, regardless of whether common problems of mankind or issues of regional interests are involved. The non-aligned countries stand ready to take active part in their accommodation and resolution, proceeding from the policy and objectives of non-alignment and from the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, which are mankind's historical legacy and the imperative of humanity.
- 7. The major military-political alliances, the chief protagonists of the cold war are still present, though their cohesion and continuing relevance are being seriously questioned. Although the threat of bloc confrontation has receded, no stable peace is yet in sight.
- 8. The Soviet Union and the United States have embarked upon the path of reducing their huge military arsenals and armed forces. They are also engaged in a wide-ranging dialogue designed to improve their mutual relations which leads to the easing of world tension. The resulting detente is a window of opportunity for the international community. It is above all based on the realization of the impending danger to the survival of human species posed by the nuclear arms race, by other military and non-military threats to security such as armed conflicts, occupation, use of force, gross economic inequality both within and among nations, poverty, hunger, deprivation, debt burden, disease, drug abuse and all forms of terrorism, as well as by the degradation of the environment. The solution of such vast and complex problems calls for a concerted and coherent approach within a multilateral framework.

-256>

9. Some focal points of crisis in the present-day world are of a

long-standing nature. These conflicts which more often than not have deep-lying regional causes are aggravated and have acquired new dimensions by interference, intervention and involvement of outside powers. The resultant conflicts undermine international relations, cause great human suffering and prevent the international community from addressing the major problems of today. That is why the Non-Aligned Movement is determined to actively participate in all efforts towards a successful resolution of hotbeds of crisis in the world, irrespective of their historical or contemporary causes ensuring that solutions are not imposed by outside powers to the detriment of the interests of the parties directly concerned. In this context, the Non-Aligned Countries particularly express their solidarity with all those peoples who have not yet exercised their right to self-determination.

- 10. Economic situation in the vast majority of the developing countries has deteriorated dramatically, especially in the least developed ones. They suffocate under the outflow of capital and their diminishing purchasing power. Accelerated economic and social development of developing countries is not only an imperative necessity for them but is also in the interest of the world. As fifteen years ago, the New International Economic Order remains a difficult but valid goal. The fruits of development should benefit the largest segments of the population. What is needed are structural adjustments in all spheres, in accordance with their development objectives and priorities, in order to respond to the challenges of advanced technology, specially the technology of tomorrow. The developed countries, for their part, should not overlook the fact that their affluence is not assured once and for all nor can it remain stable in an overall impoverished global environment. We appeal to the developed world to face, with maximum will and determination and without prejudice, the conflict which is older and deeper than the cold war and bloc confrontation -- the conflict between affluence and poverty.
- 11. Growing environmental problems, which pose a threat to the very survival of mankind, testify to the interdependence of interests of all nations. We all suffer the consequences of environmental degradation. There is no doubt that the advanced countries have contributed the most to the dramatic increase of that threat. These countries also have the resources and technology to cope with the problem. In developing countries, protection of the environment has to be seen as an integral part of the development process. Initial, albeit insufficient, international efforts are being made to study and remove the menace to the environment. Our movement and our countries stand ready to make their fullest possible contribution to this end. It is important, however, that such international cooperation should be based on full respect for the sovereignty of States.
- 12. The important process of decolonization from which a large

number of sovereign States have emerged -- most of whom are members of the Movement today -- is entering a decisive stage. While expressing our satisfaction with this epochal achievement to whose inevitable but dearly paid triumph we have contributed a great deal, we cannot but be acutely conscious that not all forms of dependence, particularly economic dependence, have disappeared with the accession of nations to independence and that there are still peoples suffering under colonial bondage or barely disguised neo-colonialism. The total eradication of colonialism and economic emancipation of all peoples as an indispensable precondition for maintaining and strengthening their political independence, remains a priority task of our Movement.

13. Racism and discrimination based on colour, creed, ethnic origin, culture or way of life are still practised in this age which has all the possibilities to become an era of true reason, human dignity and freedom. Racism and discrimination have al-257>

ways been regarded by the Movement as historical anachronism and a disgrace to our civilization. In the vision of a more humane and more democratic world, there can be no room for any form of racism and of national, religious or any other form of intolerance.

We recognize that apartheid is a particular and repugnant form of institutionalized racism which civilized nations have rightly condemned as a crime against humanity. We shall accordingly increase, widen, intensify and tighten the sanctions aimed at isolating this abhorrent regime, and eradicating the apartheid system. We call upon the community of nations to join us in this important undertaking.

- 14. It is a truism that all forms of terrorism, including state terrorism, violate the fundamental rights of the individual, threaten stability within and among nations and deserve to be universally condemned and countered by every legal means possible.
- 15. Illicit drug trafficking, unabated production, demand for drugs and increased terrorism associated with them have assumed dangerous proportions. The principle of shared responsibility is a fundamental element in the struggle against this curse.
- 16. Notwithstanding all the challenges, the United Nations system has stood the test of time. Even those who tended to ignore the United Nations as a forum for collective action by States increasingly realize that the World Organisation is an irreplaceable instrument for regulating international relations and resolving international problems that concern all. Without the United Nations, it would not be possible to realize the fullest and broadest possible democratization of international relations, which has always been one of the primary objectives of

the Movement. Our countries and our Movement have contributed towards expanding the activities of the United Nations aimed at eliminating the causes of war, promoting development and restoring faith in the dignity of the human person and of nations. Peace and harmony among peoples and nations require strict observance and further enhancement of international law. In this context the outcome of the recent meeting of non-aligned countries at the Hague and its initiative for the Decade of International Law represents an important contribution.

17. In the endeavors to formulate a strategy that will enable our Movement to exert a more active influence on the world situation and on international relations and to create the best possible conditions for the development of our countries on the eve of the 21st century, the collective vision of the great founding father of non-alignment continues to serve as an inexhaustible source of inspiration. Strong support for the validity of our action can be found in the contribution we have made to changing the world and in the uninterrupted continuity from Belgrade in 1961, Chairo in 1964, Lusaka in 1970, Algiers in 1973, Colombo in 1976, Havana in 1979, New Delhi in 1983, Harare in 1986, to Belgrade in 1989.

18. We opposed bloc divisions and confrontation which carried the risk of nuclear annihilation and impeded the struggle of peoples for national liberation. At the time of sharp ideological divisions, we created a movement based on the principle of ideological pluralism and advocated peaceful coexistence in international affairs, which today constitutes the basis of negotiations and accommodation between the great powers and other major actors in international relations. The call given by our Movement to halt and reverse the arms race has in no small measures led to the current actions and efforts aimed at establishing a more stable and peaceful world. Without our historic contribution to the successful implementation of the decolonization process, the emerging multipolarity of the world characterized by growing interdependence of all members of the international community -- would be inconceivable. Our faith in the power -258>

of negotiations and cooperation is today being brought to bear on the ongoing efforts to resolve focal points of crisis through respect for the legitimate interests of all parties involved. The sense of justice imbuing our peoples and the aspirations of our countries to progress, acting as a driving force in their quest for a better world, cannot countenance inequities and discrimination of any kind, anywhere. Still less can they reconcile themselves to enormous differences in economic development and prosperity becoming the tragic and persisting destiny of mankind.

19. Following the example of our great predecessors who had the capacity to anticiptae and the courage to change, we set

ourselves the formidable task to assess critically and comprehensively our position and role in the present-day world of transition and change and to identify a realistic order of priorities in pursuing, on the basis of our principles, the objectives of our Movement.

20. Guided by the vital interest of our countries to safeguard the freedom of action and to bring about fundamental changes in the existing system of international political and economic relations, our credo during the period of the cold war was not to take a part in the division that were being imposed.

Now that the world is becoming multipolar and is increasingly integrating, our basic interests and the need to enhance the effectiveness of the Movement, demand that we play an active and direct role in the management of world affairs. Only in such a way can we partake fully in the process of economic and technological advancement leading towards greater interdependence and integration of the world.

- 21. Our active participation in and comprehensive contribution to the ongoing development processes and trends at the global, regional and subregional levels, and our widening association, with all countries sharing with us basic perceptions of and aims regarding these processes and trends will aso further expand the scope and the concept of non-alignment.
- 22. In responding to the challenges of a changing world, we are not to be burdened with prejudice or dogma. That was never a trait of our Movement. We were the first to draw attention to the untenability of the postulates of the cold war. Our approach to the contemporary phenomena and development is to be realistic, far-sighted and creative so that we can live up to the historical mission of our Movement and act as the authentic interpreters of the interests of our countries.
- 23. This also calls for more effective actions on our part and for improved functioning. In the past, the non-aligned countries refused to be drawn into the false notion that their action could be strengthened through the creation of a third bloc. They have never accepted anything that would endanger the democratic character of the Movement and the relationships of equality inherent in it. It is of vital importance, however, to constantly explore new avenues and improve methods of action in order to enhance the efficiency of our Movement.

GOSLAVIA USA PERU ALGERIA CUBA SRI LANKA ZAMBIA INDIA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Sep 4-, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

II

Strengthened by our past achievements in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid and all forms of domination, inspired by the challenges and demands that we face today as nations and as a Movement, and guided by the principles and concept of the policy of Non-Alignment in our efforts to achieve a world of peace, equality, co-operation and well-being for all, we have agreed to act in conformity with the following priorities in our joint endeavours.

First, until an enduring and stable peace based on a comprehensive, viable and readily implementable structure of international security is established, efforts for peace, disarmament and settlement of -259>

disputes by peaceful means continue to be our first and foremost task.

We have contributed to the creation of international conditions conducive to the elimination of the causes and the horror of war. The general rapprochement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics contributes to the relaxation of international tensions and the creation of basic prerequisites for establishing lasting peace. We are encouraged by the positive development in the field of disarmament brought about by the INF treaty. We are however concerned by the recent loss of momentum in nuclear disarmament. The history of disarmament negotiations abounds with instances of missed opportunities. The world is still threatened by the massive nuclear arsenals which are being further refined and added to. The only hope for nuclear disarmament lies in discarding the balance of fear and in the nuclear weapon powers embracing the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. However, we are fully aware of the fact that both nuclear and conventional disarmament cannot be accomplished without the participation of all international factors.

Second, we are desirous to engage in a joint search for effective and acceptable solutions to the outstanding problems in international economic relations. We are prepared to established a constructive and productive dialogue with the developed world on economic issues affecting not only the interest of our

countries but of the international community as a whole. There can be no stability nor better prospects for the world without reducing the disparities in the level of global development.

The task facing us will become much easier if it is undertaken in the context of an expanding and growing world economy. The major challenge is to work out a package of policy which would ensure the return of the world economy to higher rates of growth.

Sustained growth in the world economy can be ensured only if all its constituent parts grow in harmony.

Accelerating development requires above all a substantial increase in the net transfer of resources to developing countries, especially to the least developed ones, a lasting and comprehensive solution to the problem of external indebtedness of developing countries, liberalization of world trade by removal of protectionist barriers and remunerative commodity prices and stable monetary conditions.

We are not unmindful of our own responsibility for the efficient functioning of the economies of our countries. Our efforts cannot succeed without strengthening our mutual cooperation. Also without establishing ties and dialogue with the developed world there can be no solution to economic problems facing our countries. To this end, supportive international economic environment is vital. We are looking forward to the contribution of the South Commission on all these issues.

Rapid advances in science and technology are having an enormous impact on overall world developments. Hence it is paramount importance for the Movement to seak and ensure closer cooperation in this field in the South-South as well as North-South context. Transfer of technology has become imperative for securing rapid economic development.

The management of the world economy needs to be more broad-based so as to reflect the interests of all countries and groups of countries and evolve policies which can be supported by all. The current economic and social problems and needs of the future are such that no single nation or group of nations can solve them in isolation. They call for a collective effort based on a mutuality of interest. Regular North-South consultations at the summit level on international economic issues are essential for ensuring equitable and collective management of global interdependence.

The Non-Aligned Countries strongly support the efforts exerted in coordination with other developing countries within the -260>

Group of 77. They welcome in this regard the readiness of the developing countries, expressed in the Caracas Declaration of 23 June 1989, for integration in the world economy and their commitment to engage in a serious and constructive dialogue with

the aim of strengthening international solidarity and cooperation for development. We strongly urge the developed countries to respond positively to this initiative.

Third, we reaffirm our support for the right of all peoples living under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation of self-determination and independence. It is inconceivable that at the dawn of the 21st century, over twenty territories and millions of people still live under those conditions. Through our Movement's initiative, the United Nations has declared the last decade of the present century as the Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, a goal which we consider to be a moral obligation for all mankind. We further reaffirm the need to strengthen our solidarity with non-aligned and other countries facing aggression, intervention or interference in their internal affairs.

Fourth, as we approach the 21st century, protection of the environment has emerged as a major global concern, dramatically emphasizing the growing interdependence of the world. This calls for urgent co-operative measures and global compact ensuring a sustainable and environmentally sound development. Such cooperation should take place within the overall framework of the objective of reviving growth, creating a healthy, clean and sound environment and meeting the basic needs of all. Multilateral approaches need to emphasize supportive measures, while seeking to redress existing asymmetries. The international community must set aside net additional financial resources for environmental cooperation and facilitate developing countries' access to environmentally safe technologies.

A grave danger to our ecosystem comes from indiscriminate dumping of toxic and other hazardous waste on our territories carried out without any regard to their consequential devastating effect on the environment. We demand an immediate halt to such practices. No one should dispose of nuclear nor any other toxic waste on the territories of other countries or in the open seas.

In the conviction that the very future of mankind hinges on the protection of the environment, we are ready to do our own share to check and prevent the pollution of water, land and air. Land degradation, deforestation, water and air pollution, desertification, result from, among other causes, excessive pressure on natural resources, because of poverty, ignorance and rising population. There exist broad possibilities for joint action aimed at protecting and promoting the environmental at the level of the entire international community within the context of a comprehensive developmental effort. We shall make our contribution to that end.

Fifth, it is only in this century, through the process of decolonization, the effort within the United Nations to apply democratic norms in state relations, and the creation of adequate

economic conditions, that the prerequisites for realizing fundamental human rights and freedoms have been provided. In implementing the principles and objectives of our Movement, we have contributed significantly to the creation of conditions conducive to the promotion of human rights in the contemporary international society. We consider the right of every individual to fully enjoy civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights to be the source of the greatest inspiration to our Movement. We reaffirm the valuable contribution of all women, and strongly support their aspirations towards the recognition of their rights. We particularly underscore the need for greater efforts for the full integration of women in our development processes. This makes the promotion of human rights and freedom one of the basic objectives of our Movement.

Sixth, our countries and our Movement will continue to contribute towards having the United Nations serve as a truly democratic representative of the entire international community, towards expanding its activities aimed at eliminating the causes of war, promoting growth and prosperity and restoring faith in the diginity of the human person and of nations. Together with other member countries, we pledge to strive for the strengthening of the role and effectiveness of the United Nations so that it can fully discharge its legitimate responsibility of resolving all major problems, among them the rising dangers of drug abuse and all forms of terrorism, facing the world today. For this purpose, we shall endeavour to ensure that the machinery of the United Nations is reinforced, and its activities effectively coordinated. Multilateralism, of which the United Nations is the centerpiece, has a growing role to play both at the global and at the regional levels.

Inspired by their great vision, the leaders of the Non-Aligned Countries defined in the Belgrade Declaration of 1961 the fundamental goals of the Movement which they founded at that time, as a transition from the old order based on domination, to a new order based on freedom, equality and social justice, and the promotion of the well-being of all. To these goals of nonalignment we, Heads of State or Government, assembled once again in Belgrade after almost three decades, have nothing to add or subtract. We have been striving and will continue to strive for a world of peace, freedom, justice and prosperity for all. We have never assumed to hold the monopoly of these aims. We have never believed that we should be satisfied with what we have accomplished. We have never held the view that these noble goals and ideals can be achieved without dialogue and cooperation with countries outside our Movement. We shall seek every opportunity to engage in such dialogue and cooperation for the realization of the cherished goals of our Movement - and indeed - of entire humankind.

The world must become a common home in which all will have their

rights, their obligations and responsibilities.

We are aware of ours.

### A CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA YUGOSLAVIA

**Date**: Sep 4-, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **ITALY**

Italy to Provide Rs. 8.83 Crore to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 11, 1989 on Italy's grant of Rs. 8.83 crore to India:

Italy will provide a grant of Rs. 8.83 crore to India. A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed here today by Mr. Rinieri Paulucci di Calboli, Ambassador of Italy and Mr. Dalip Mehta, Joint Secretary on behalf of their respective Governments.

The grant will be utilised for the proposed multi-purpose vocational centre in Okhla to provide facilities for commercial production alongwith the training of qualified manpower and technicians in the field of mechanics, pneumatics and industrial electronics. The Italian contribution will cover the basic engineering, the supply of equipment from Italy, supervision of assembly, testing and start up of the equipment and also for training of Indian personnel.

-262>

The Italian assistance would provide field of computer aided design, computer transfer of sophisticated technology in the aided manufacturing for effective and efficient production for the automobile, electronic and engineering industrial needs.

ALY INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Sep 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Pakistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Sep 08, 1989 on Pakistan:

Two eminent Pakistani signers, Ms Iqbal Bano, the renowned ghazal singer and Ustad Salamat Ali Khan and son, a renowned classical vocalist, are visiting India at the invitation of ICCR. ICCR is presenting a concert by Ms Iqbal Bano and Ustad Salamat Ali Khan and son on Thursday, September 14, 1989 at 7 p.m. at Siri Fort Auditorium.

This is the first exchange of cultural groups to take place under the recently signed Indo-Pakistan Cultural Exchange Programme.

They will be here for two weeks. Ms Iqbal Bano, after her performance here, will go to Chandigarh, Shimla, Jaipur and Bombay and back to Delhi. Ustad Salamat Ali Khan and son will go to Meerut, Aligarh, Calcutta and Hyderabad. They will also be here for two weeks.

From our side, later in the year, Amjad Ali Khan and Ravi Shankar, and most likely Hamid Tanvir of Agra Bazar, will go to Pakistan. We are also having an exchange of craft exhibition later during the year. Hasan Jahangir, the popular Hawa Hawa, is coming to India later in the year.

We have offered two cultural scholarships to Pakistan for learning Sitar and dance.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on September 20, 1989 on Pakistan:

When asked about the Indian reaction to the recent resolution passed by the Pakistani Senate, Spokesman said, "the resolution passed by the Pakistan Senate on 18-9-89, has come to our notice. It is clear that the resolution which speaks of Kashmir and Siachen, is not in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement. It does not conform to the efforts that has been exerted by us and also by the Pakistan government, for normalising our mutual relations in the interests of the peoples of the two countries, and of peace and stability in South Asia. This resolution also makes a reference to the rights of minorities in India. Pakistan has no locus standi in this matter nor has any other country. Such references have to be construed

as interference in our internal affairs. -263>

KISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date** : Sep 08, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Expulsion of Indian Official by Islamabad

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Sep 09, 1989 On the Expulsion of an Indian official by Islamabad:

In reply to a question on the subject, Spokesman said that, Harish Chandra Pandey, an Official in the Indian Embassy, has been asked to leave Pakistan by the Pakistani government. No specific charge has been levelled except to say that the indulged in activities inconsistent with his status. Spokesman drew attention to the difference between Pandey's case and Abdul Shakur Khan's case. The latter had been apprehended while receiving secret documents. Since, no charge has been levelled agains Pandey, one may only conclude that this is a retalliatory action.

To a question about Pandey's status in the Embassy, Spokesman said that he had been working in the visa section.

DIA PAKISTAN USA

**Date** : Sep 09, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### China

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Sep 15, 1989 on China:

To a question about the forth coming visit of the Chiense Minister of Foreign Economic Relation and Trade, Spokesman said that he would be visiting Delhi from 18 to 21st September, 1989. The Minister Zheng Tuo Bin, would head a 14-member delegation including officials from departments of silk and metallurgy. Indian delegation will be led by the Commerce Minister and include Indian Ambassador and senior officials from Ministries of Commerce and Planning, and DEA.

This comes as a result of Prime Minister's visit to China in December, 1988, when it was decided that a joint group at Ministerial level will be set up to oversee bilateral cooperation in various fields. It was decided then, that the Indian delegation would be led by the Commerce Minister.

The current trade protocol will be renewed. Spokesman gave some details about Indian exports to China and imports from China, and some statistics.

The visit of the Chinese Minister is part of the ongoing high level exchanges in the wake of the historic visit of Prime Minister to China and his aim at carrying further the forward movement in bilateral relations. A number of important visits bilaterally have taken place in 1989. Among others to visit India from China were Mr. Zhu Liang, Head of Communist Party's International Liaison department and the Chinese Minister of Agriculture. From the Indian side, the Minister of Steel & Mines, the Finance Minister, the AICC General Secretary and the Foreign Secretary visited China, in the last one year.

INA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Sep 15, 1989

Vol	ume	N	
	allic		v

1995

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Fiji

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Sep 21, 1989 on Fiji:

For a century and more India and Indians have been closely involved with the growth, evolution and development of Fiji. Fiji was well known for the racial harmony and tranquility it was able to maintain. India's relations with Fiji suffered a serious setback when the democratically elected government of that country was -264>

over-thrown in 1987 in a military coup d'Etat.

- 2. On 20th September, 1988, India expressed its concern and regret about the racially-discriminatory, feudal and authoritarian character of the Draft Constitution proposed by those who had captured power. It was our hope that the Constitutional Inquiry and Advisory Committee would weed out those provisions contained in this draft which were patently retrograde, unfair, discriminatory and unjustifiable. We had hoped that this Advisory Committee would take cognizance of the legitimate concerns and aspirations of all sections of the people of Fiji, as expressed in submissions made before it by the Coalition of parties which had won the last free and fair elections in Fiji, by important social and cultural organisations and by eminent sons of Fiji.
- 3. Reports from Suva indicate that the Constitutional Inquiry and Advisory Committee has not addressed itself to the central issue of insisting on establishing Constitutional provisions which are just, fair, equitable and racially non-discriminatory.
- 4. Racial discrimination has no place in any civilised multiethnic society. It violates the universally accepted human rights, the principles of democratic functioning, and is against the ideals of which the Commonwealth is based.
- 5. It is the hope and expectation of the Government of India that all responsible members of the Fijian society will continue to work for a genuine and constructive dialogue amongst themselves, for this alone can ultimately ensure peace, stability and racial harmony in the troubled islands of Fiji.

JI INDIA USA

**Date** : Sep 21, 1989

## **Volume No**

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### South Africa

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Sep 21, 1989 on South Africa:

In the context of continuing breach of understandings and commitments, by the South African Government, to ensure free and fair election in Namibia, a Commonwealth Observer Group is proceeding to Namibia on September 23, 1989, to make an on the spot assessment of the situation. The decision to set up the group was taken by the Commonwealth Committee on Southern Africa meeting in London on September 7, 1989, on receiving overwhelming support from almost all the Commonwealth countries. Earlier, the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Committee on South Africa, which met at Canberra, had also urged the formation of such a group.

The Chairman of the group is Mr. Alf Parsons, a former Australian High Commissioner to London. The other members are:

- 1. Mr. Tan Sri Zakaria, Former Secretary General of Malaysian Foreign Office,
- 2. Mr. Pope Chongwe, Zambian Legal Expert and President of the African Bar Association,
- 3. Mr. Dudley Thomson, Ex-Foreign Minister of Jamaica,
- 4. Mr. Bernard Wood, Senior Official of Canada,
- 5. Mr. Semerga-Janneh from Gambia,
- 6. Mr. Anand Sharma, Member of Parliament, India.

Mr. Anand Sharma has deep interest in the affairs of Southern Africa. Besides being a Member of Parliament, he is Chairman, World Youth Action Against Apartheid. He has played a leading role in -265>

motivating action against racism and apartheid, by organising international conventions, public meetings and through his writings. His presence in the Group is in keeping with the importance of the Group's mission.

Adding significance to the visit of the Group is the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at Kuala Lumpur, three weeks before elections in Namibia, where observations of the Group are bound to be taken note of.

UTH AFRICA INDIA NAMIBIA UNITED KINGDOM AUSTRALIA USA MALAYSIA ZAMBIA JAMAICA CANADA

**Date**: Sep 21, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Nepal

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Sep 29, 1989 on Nepal:

In reply to a question about press reports on "Nepal raises issue at IMF meet", the Spokesman said that we have seen press reports regarding the Nepalese Finance Minister's remarks made at the annual meeting of the World Bank and IMF. We have noted that the Nepalese Finance Minister has spoken of the "sudden abrogation" of the trade and transit treaties between the two countries. We have also noted that the Nepalese Finance Minister has made certain other observations about the situation in Nepal consequent upon the lapse of the treaties.

We have never believed in raising bilateral issues at international fora. We do not intend to make a departure from this practice now. Nevertheless, it is worth recalling that the treaties referred to by the Nepalese Finance Minister actually expired in March, 1988. The draft agreement for renewing these treaties was only initialled in October 1988. It was, however, perfectly clear that the treaties could not be finalised unless the Nepalese fulfilled certain conditions. The Nepalese were fully aware of this. Since the treaties had actually lapsed in March, 1988 and had been extended on an adhoc basis for a six month period, the Nepalese, therefore, had a full 12 months in which to fulfil the required provisions and complete the process of negotiations. It is, therefore, inaccurate and incorrect to describe the final lapse of the treaties in March, 1989, as the Nepalese Finance Minister has chosen to do, as a "sudden abrogation".

We have always believed in a constructive and cooperative dialogue. We feel that this is the only way to solve problems of this nature. To bring them up at international fora is merely an effort to seek publicity of doubtful value which serves no useful purpose.

PAL INDIA USA

**Date**: Sep 29, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### SRI LANKA

### Joint Communique

The following is the text of Joint Communique issued simultaneously by the Governments of India and Sri Lanka on Sep 18, 1989:

In pursuance of the Communique signed in Colombo on the 28th July, 1989, by Shri L. L. Mehrotra, the High Commissioner of India, and Mr. Bernard Tilakratne, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, three rounds of consultation were held by the two Governments. A Sri Lankan delegation, led by the Foreign Minister Hon. Ranjan Wije -266>

ratne, visited India from the 29th July to 4th August, 1989. Mr. Bradman Weerakoon, Special Envoy of His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka, held further discussions in New Delhi from the 15th to the 17th August, 1989. A final round of talks was held between His Excellency Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, and Hon. Ranjan Wijeratne, Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, during their visit to Belgrade from 4th to 7th September, 1989.

- 2. The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. They covered bilateral issues, including the de-induction of the remaining IPKF contingents in Sri Lanka, the implementation of the IndoSri Lanka Agreement and measures to ensure the safety and security of all communities of the North-Eastern Province of Sri Lanka
- 3. The implementation of the IndoSri Lankan Agreement was reviewed in depth by the two sides. The Sri Lankan side briefed the Indian side on the progress made and the further steps taken by them for the expeditious implementation of the devolution process, such as establishing of the Provincial Police force and facilitating the effective functioning of the North-Eastern Provincial Council and the establishment of an adequate

administrative structure for that purpose. The Sri Lankan side also informed the Indian side that it would institute all measures to strengthen the civil administration as early as possible which would ensure peace and normalcy in the North-Eastern Province.

- 4. The Sri Lankan side informed the Indian side of their decision to set up a Peace Committee on the 20th of September, 1989, to afford an opportunity to all political and ethnic groups in the NorthEastern Province to come together to settle their differences through a process of consultation, compromise and consensus and to bring all groups into the democratic process, thereby ending violence and improving conditions for the physical safety and security of all communities. This would help restore normalcy, and contribute to the effective functioning of the North-Eastern Provincial Council. The first meeting of the Peace Committee will be held within three weeks of the setting up of this Committee. This decision was welcomed by the Indian side.
- 5. It was decided to set up a Security Coordination Group comprising the Sri Lankan Minister of State for Defence, the Chief Minister of the North-Eastern Province, the Sri Lankan Defence Secretary and the GOC of the IPKF, with a view to avoiding any adverse impact on the law and order situation in the North-Eastern province and to suggest measures to ensure the safety and security in the NorthEastern Province as the phased de-induction of the IPKF and the strengthening of the civilian administration of the NorthEastern Province of Sri Lanka proceeds. This Group will keep in view the recommendations of the Peace Committee relating to the safety and security of the inhabitants of the North Eastern Province.
- 6. In view of the above, the process of de-induction of the IPKF, which recommenced on 29th July, 1989, will be continued on an expeditious schedule. All efforts will be made to accelerate the deinduction of the IPKF to complete deinduction by 31st December, 1989.
- 7. The Indian side stated that the suspension of offensive military operations by the IPKF will come into effect at 0600 hours on the 20th of September, 1989. An Observer Group consisting of the Sri Lanka Army Commander and the GOC of the IPKF will report any violations of the cessation of hostilities and immediate consequential action taken and recommend further remedial action to His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka. -267>

I LANKA INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA

**Date** : Sep 18, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

#### President's Luncheon Speech at Bonn

The following is the text of the toast by the President, Shri R. Venkataraman at lunch hosted by the Deputy Chancellor, Federal Republic of Germany at Bonn on Sep 19, 1989:

May I at the outset, thank you, Mr. Deputy Chancellor, for your warm welcome and your gracious hospitality. It has been a pleasure to renew my association with you and to receive the benefit of your views on a variety of subjects of mutual interest. My delegation and I are honoured and delighted to visit the Federal Republic of Germany. We have been immensely fascinated by your country and your people.

India and the Federal Republic of Germany for all their geographical and historical differences, subscribe to many similar values. Both share a profound commitment to peace, detente, disarmament, international cooperation and development. Our common adherence to parliamentary democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human dignity and liberty constitute a precious link. We in India have watched with great admiration Germany rising from the embers of war to become one of the highly industrialised and dynamic nations of the world.

India's own emergence from colonial stagnation has coincided with your recovery from the ravage of war. Quite naturally, Indo-German interests have overlapped and have, over the years, become broader in scope and richer in content. Our political dialogue has entered a new stage. The visit of Chancellor Kohl to India and the return visit by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi last year were eminently successful in upgrading Indo-FRG relations in all fields. It is important to follow all these visits with an intensified programme of contracts at different levels and in different sectors in Government, academia economists, trade and industry.

India has taken on the gigantic task of fighting the poverty and underdevelopment bequeathed to us by colonialism. Your country is aware of the tremendous obstacles that we in India have had to overcome. You are aware too, of the steadfast determination with which our people are meeting the challenges.

In the fieds of agriculture and industry, science and technology we have made major strides. The growth of our industrial

production has continued to accelerate despite years of adverse weather conditions reflecting the basic strength of the Indian economy. Today, a major part of the world's skilled technical manpower, of engineers and scientists is to be found in India. And in this great effort to achieve progress, we have remained true to certain cherished values.

The prospects are bright. India's economy is expanding rapidly. Our 800 million people must be efficient producers in order to be effective consumers. We are meeting this challenge by building a selfreliant economy. But a country in such a stage of development needs the assistance of partners with complementary interests.

We are deeply appreciative of the economic assistance given to us by your Government. This aid has made a significant contribution to the strong foundation on which our economy rests today. It is gratifying that the utilisation of such aid has resulted in a number of industrial and farm projects, training centres and welfare schemes.

The quality and level of our bilateral trade have improved significantly in recent -268>

years. The Federal Republic is our leading trade partner in the technology, and there has been a remarkable increase in the past two years in the levels of involvement, joint ventures and new industrial collaborations. German investments in India have trebled between 1987 and 1988 and the new investments even in the first half of this year confirm the increasing trend. In this context, both sides can take satisfaction at the very effective contribution being made by the "fast track" mechanism which has been set up to facilitate speedy implementation of projects and resolution of problems.

We look forward to a better access to your markets and to forge better links in productive enterprises. We realise that the traffic must be expanded and diversified, and in both direction. With the encouraging experience of the past, we can set our sights on new dynamic concepts of cooperation, in areas of high technology such as space, telecommunications, biotechnology, ocean development and environment.

Excellency, your country has steadily gained in international stature and is being called upon to play a more important role in Europe and the world. We congratulate you on the forward-looking and pragmatic policies which are breathing new hope into the talented people of your continent. We hope that India, which enjoys good relations with these countries, will secure a growing confidence among them as a reliable and promising partner in the establishment of a new world order.

May I now invite you all to join me in a toast to the health and

happiness of His Excellency, the President of the Federal Republic of Germany; to its Chancellor and its Deputy Chancellor; to the prosperity of the people of the Federal Republic of Germany; to the enduring friendship and cooperation between our two countries; for the welfare of our peoples; and the advancement of the cause of peace, progress, freedom and justice in our world.

RMANY USA INDIA

**Date**: Sep 19, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

President's Address at Institut for Ausland Politik

The following is the text of the address of the President, Shri R. Venkataraman at Institut for Ausland Politik, Bonn on Sep 19, 1989:

I feel greatly honoured by the invitation to address this august gathering of members of the Institute and other distinguished ladies adn gentlemen. I thank the Institut for Ausland Politik for affording me this opportunity to speak to you on the Economic Development of India. I would be attempting to present to you a picture of the basic economic and social problems that confronted our country at the time of Independence, the goals set by the nation and the strategies and policies adopted for achieving these goals. I shall try also to trace briefly the progress made and some of the major issues and challenges we are facing today. Many eminent persons from India, including Jawaharlal Nehru have addressed this Society in the past on various themes. I believe that exchanges help in furthering the understanding between the peoples of our two countries.

The period from the beginning of the century to Independence in 1947 had been for India one of marginal growth, with only 1.2% per annum increase on a very low national income. Our agriculture which was organised on a feudal system followed archaic practices. The food production was 50 million tonnes for a population of 360 million in 1951. A common feature of the rural economy was the recurrence of famines. Agro-based indus -269>

tries like cotton, jute and sugar dominated and industrial scene.

We faced acute shortages of resources, raw material, skills and enterprise. Technologically, we had largely missed out on the industrial revolution. Our traditional village and cottage industries were on the decline. We imported everything, from safety pins to locomotives. India was among the most poor and backward nations of the world with a arge population. The life expectancy at birth was only 32 years. India has thus before it the challenge of encompassing the deveopment of over a century, possibly in a generation, by leap-frogging in industry, science and technology.

The socio-economic goals that the country sought to achieve were, in fact, inherited from the country's freedom struggle. A decade before India attained Independence, Jawaharlal Nehru, then the President of the Indian National Congress which spearheaded the freedom movement defined the objectives of the Congress in the following words:

"The ideal of the Congress is the establishment of free and democratic state in India. Such a democratic state involves an egalitarian society in which equal opportunities are provided for every member for self-expression and self-fulfilment and adequate, minimum civilised standard of living is assured to each member so as to make the attainment of this equal opportunity a reality."

Nehru considered planning as the chief instrument for accelerating the achievement of these cherished national goals. He had visited the Soviet Union in 1927 and was impressed by the philosophy of planning. However, Indian planning for the welfare of the masses of India, for building a self-reliant economy and for removing regional disparities was to be under the framework of democracy. When India attained independence, she adopted a constitution which enshrined the fundamental rights of the citizen as well as the Directive Principles of State Policy embodying the socio economic goals of the nation.

The strategy of development was outlined by Jawaharlal Nehru on the occasion of presenting the First Five Year Plan in 1952. He observed:

"We are not merely out to get more money and more production. We ultimately want better human beings. We have seen in other countries that economic growth by itself does not necessarily mean human growth. So our integrated plan for economic growth of the country, has to be drawn up within the framework of the political democracy."

In keeping with these social and economic goals, India's Five Year Plans for national development have generally aimed at the following set of more specific objectives:

(1) Rapid growth of national income so as to raise the standard

of living of the people,

- (2) Rapid industrialisation and in particular development of basic and heavy industries,
- (3) Self-reliance in resources, technology, food and certain basic materials.
- (4) Creation of employment opportunities for taking care of the backlog of unemployment and the growing labour force,
- (5) Reduction of inequalities of incomes and wealth and balanced regional development,
- (6) Alleviation of poverty and taking care of basic minimum needs including health and education through direct Government action.

These goals could not be achieved by means of the evolutionary process of lais -270>

sez faire through which the industrialised countries had passed. The compulsion or a vast population, the dearth of resources for investment and low rate of savings inadequacy of entrepreneurship, the need to develop the infrastructure and the strategic sectors quickly and to ensure equitable distribution of the fruits of development so as to prevent the forces of disequilibrium gaining an upper-hand, made it necessary for the State to play a crucial role. We did not perceive any contradiction in economic planning under a democratic system with a dynamic role for the state sector. In fact, selective and strategic state intervention could alone effectively tackle the problems of an inequitable and anachronistic social and economic order. However, it was not our intention to create a leviathan through centralised planning. Basically, the state was to enter those areas where the private enterprise was either unable or unwilling to undertake risks, or social control of means of production was considered necessary to subserve the common good.

Even today the public sector in India accounts for only about a quarter of the GDP. Almost the entire agriculture sector, most of the manufacturing and services are in the private sector. The State sector is dominant in public utilities like the railways, ports and electricity. The State initiative was also found necessary in dustrial sectors involving large investments, advanced teohnologies and high risk, such as steel, heavy engineering, fertilisers and petro-chemicals. Over the years the private sector has matured and diversified in entrepreneurship and resources and is now in a position to lead in the next phase of industrialisation and has started entering some of these fields already.

Thus was born the concept of a Mixed Economy in which the Public

Sector and the Private Sector would function together each developing in its respective fields and complementing each other. Twenty five centuries ago, the Buddha had enunciated the Middle Path in Indian philosophy. The same applies to the economic sphere also. Looking back over four decades at the progress achieved in industrialisation of India, we feel that the Mixed Economy has served the country effectively and has accelerated the pace of development.

Agriculture no doubt was to receive the highest priority, not only because of the need to provide food and nutrition to a large and growing population but also because over 70% of people were dependent upon it. An increase in their incomes was neecssary for improvement in their standard of living, generation of the necessary surpluses, as well as for sustaining the demand for output of other sectors. The strategy for agricultural development included expansion of irrigation, both large-scale and minor, increasing the use of high yielding varieties, manufacture and increased application of plant-nutrients and use of plant-protection agencies. The entire country was to be covered with a network of community development services and provision was made for farm credits and a positive price support policy. Simultaneously, a radical reform was made in transferring ownership of land to the farmers and abolition of the system of rent collectors or Zamindars as we call it.

Development of infrastructure, increase in power generation, establishment of capital goods, heavy engineering and machine building industries and steel plants, cement, fertilisers and chemical industries were accorded a priority. At the same time due emphasis was laid on the small scale industries in the industrial policy to enable utilisation of local raw materials, encourage small enterpreneurs and increase employment opportunities over a wider region.

The resources for investment were to come largely by tightening the belt and -271>

by directing the surpluses generated in the process of development for investment purposes. The rate of domestic savings was doubled to 22% of GDP in 1985 as compared to the level of 1950. The foreign aid and other borrowings have provided some critical inputs and we are grateful to the friendly nations for this help, but India's development effort has largely been self-reliant. During the 7th Plan period the foreign aid and borrowings would account for hardly 8% of our total investments.

The trust for development of infrastructure was matched by the development of human resources. This human resource pool has provided a firm base for rapid advance in the industrial and infrastructural sectors.

The decade 1955-65 truly laid the foundation of the Indian economic development. The overall growth of the economy and the sectoral growth rates achieved in agriculture, industry and infrastructure, were significantly higher than the historically recorded growth rates, signifying that the stagnant Indian economy was on the move. In agriculture, the results of R&D became soon evident in the form what is popularly termed as the "green revolution". But, even more important was the structural transformation brought about. The foundation of basic and heavy industries was laid paving the path for rapid future growth. A whole range of new and modern industries came into being.

At the time of our independence, India faced acute shortages in every field: capital, resources, food, consumption, goods. A regime of severe controls had to be introduced in order to ensure equitable distribution of goods and services among the people. Controls also had to be introduced to prevent lopsided investment in traditional industries to the detriment of diver sification into newer and necessary areas of production. This was achieved by licensing industries like machine tools, power generation and distribution, equipment, telecommunications appliances, earth moving machinery and chemical industries like fertilizers, cement and the like. As a result there was a diversified growth in all sectors of the economy and the shortages that plagued the economy eased rapidly.

The Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) may be considered to something of a watershed in the process of India's development. For, it was in the beginning of the Sixth Plan that the policy of liberalisation received momentum, though certain beginnings were made in the late 70s. The policy of regulating industrial development, while enabling industrial ventures to go into several new areas and fields also provided a sheltered market leading to obsolescence, stagnation and inefficiency. In the absence of competition these industries were priced out of external markets causing severe strains of Balance of Payments. The thrust of the Plan was, therefore, towards modernisation, competition and cost effectiveness. Our present economic policy has, therefore, opened up large vistas of growth for the private sector.

The positive outcome of the new policy initiatives could be clearly seen in the improved performance of the economy. For the first time the growth rate which had been averaging 3.5% in the earlier decades exceeded 5% and the economy was set on a distinctly higher growth path. By the end of the Sixth Plan the per capita national income (at 1970-71 prices) had increased from Rs. 466 in 1950 to Rs. 798 and these figures will be more impressive if one realises that the population had doubled during this period.

The average life expectancy had gone up to 54 years. It is expected to reach 60 years by the end of this plan. Agricultural

of 150 million tonnes; it is expected to further increase to 172 million tonnes in the current year. Our dependence on import of food grains has been eliminated and we have been able to maintain a buffer-stock of 26 million tonnes. As a result, during the droughts of 1985-86 and 1986-87, India did not have to seek any foreign assistance to meet the grave situation. Industrial production sustained a growth rate of around 8% per annum in the last few years with a new thrust towards modernisation, higher productivity and introduction of new products and processes. The share of capital goods industry has increased from less than 5% in 1950 to about 50%.

A major dent has been made on the poverty and unemployment problems. While in 1960-61 55% of the country's population lived below what has been defined as the 'poverty line', by 1983-84 the percentage of such population had been reduced to 37.4 and it is expected to go down to 28-30% by 1990.

The current Five Year Plan is expected to achieve an average growth rate of about 5.4% per annum in the Gross Domestic Product. The 80s reveal a distinct step up in the earlier growth performance of the economy. There have been certain structural changes too. Agricultural growth in the recent years has been due mostly to increase in productivity rather than increase in cultivated area. Indian industry is now on the path of a minimum 8% growth and there are indications that further improvement is possible. It is undergoing a major transformation in response to competitive pressure induced by recent policy changes. Large public projects in important sectors like fertilizers and super thermal power plants show a marked improvement in implementation and performance. New centres of industrial activity and a new generation of enterpreneurs are emerging The availability of industrial raw materials, intermediates, capital goods and consumer durables have expanded substantially. Financial markets have become wider. The spread of equity culture has resulted in a seven-fold increase in the resources raised by the corporate sector from the capital market over the first seven years of the eighties. In some areas Indian industries are becoming internationally competitive.

Infrastructural constraints to rapid industrial expansion are easing. The traffic handling capacity of the transport sector has expanded significantly. Crude oil production is likely to increase by about 50% during the next Plan and sizeable reserves of natural gas have been established. The electricity generation would have been increased by 60% during the VIIth Plan to 251 billions units as was targeted.

A notable feature since Independence has been the significant growth of, and major support for, science and technology and

establishment of a string of laboratories and institutes of technical education. This has resulted in the development of indigenous and self-reliant capabilities in key sectors of national development such as atomic energy, space research, industrial, medical, agricultural and defence research, creation of a large infrastructure and three million trained S&T personnel. New areas such as biotechnology, ocean science, environment, micro electronics, informatics, new energy sources, etc. have also received high priority. Programmes, schemes, organisational structures have been instituted to minimise environmental disruption.

Among the major problems confronting the planners is the population growth. Though marginally slower for the decade at 2.1% it implies an additional of 16-17 million every year. At the time of our Independence, India's population stood at 342 million and today it has passed 800 million. The increase in population of 16-17 million every year very much dilutes the vast improvements in the economy and social services we are making. The problem gets further accentuated as the increase of population among the people below the poverty line is higher -273>

than those above the poverty line. Government are addressing themselves vigorously to educate the people on Family Welfare Schemes within the limitations of a free democratic society. Success in meeting this challenge must necessarily be slow and tied up with such other factors like education, economic development and social awareness. While the birth rate which was about 40 per thousand in 1951 had come down to 32 in 1986, the death rate which was 27.4 per thousand has come down to 10.8 per thousand, thereby accentuating the population growth.

Although a substantial achievement in the expansion of educational facifities has been made, increasing the literacy rate from 16.7% in 1951 to 36.2% in 1981, we yet have to cover a long way in tackling the problem of illiteracy and its associated effects on the pace of national development.

While in percentage terms the number of those living below the poverty line would have come down to less than 30%, in absolute numbers they would well be about 240 million. In the last few years the labour force has grown at the rate of 2.5 per cent per annum whereas the productive employment has increased at the rate of 2 per cent. These figures do not include the endemic underemployment in the agriculture sector and the rural areas which contributes to poverty. The solution to the problem of poverty lies in a large part in the creation of employment opportunities. There is also a qualitative dimension to the problem, inasmuch as on the one hand the urban population is increasing at a rate faster than the average - the urban population may well be around 320 milion by the turn of the century, on the other hand there is a shift in the rural areas towards non-agricultural activities.

The growth rate set for the next Plan, therefore, would have to be combined with investment and output in favour of areas, sectors and productive processes with ample employment potential a geographically diversified rapid growth of agriculture, expansion of rural development programmes in the non-farm sector, small scale industries and social service.

The savings rate which rose steadily earlier has tended to plateau in the eighties, though household savings have increased moderately. The balance of payments position will need to be constantly watched. The exports lately have shown a healthy growth as a result of industry becoming more competitive and this would need to be sustained. As in the case of developing countries, our balance of payments situation is influenced largely by the adverse terms of trade facing the third world. We have made a determined effort at the building up of our exports but the imports continue to outstrip our export earnings. Continued import of technology is necessary both for modernisation of existing industry and expansion in newer areas and of essential raw materials and capital and consumption goods. The debt-service ratio is now between 23-24% and continued prudence in management of foreign exchange resources would be necessary.

We have found our exports facing restraints of one kind or the other in the very sectors where growth was possible. The forces of protectionism have manifested themselves in various ways. Access to markets has sometimes been linked to policies not related to trade. We also feel concerned about compartmentalism of trading areas. It is our hope that in the coalescing of Europe which is our biggest trading partner, into a single market, the interests of developing countries like India would be taken care of. We support and would continue to work for the strengthening of a multiliateral trade institutions like GATT and UNCTAD. We also seek the understanding and cooperation of friendly countries for continued assistance in providing critical inputs to our economy, for cooperation and collaboration in various fields and opportunity for fully develop -274>

ing and realising the potential for exports to generate the needed resources.

Growth with social justice, modernisation and self-reliance and ecological sustainability have been the basic concerns of India's Five Year Plan. Economic growth is itself a means to achieving the primary objectives of ensuring a higher standard of life for all, and reducing dsparities among regions and classes of people, and advancement of the socially handicapped. Hence, the modalities and pattern of growth are as important as the pace of growth. However, only accelerated growth can provide the frame work in which these national objectives can be vigorously pursued.

A growth rate of 6% or more per annum in the GDP is what is being thought of for the next Plan. Further more the annual employment growth has to be higher than the accretion of labour force. Basically, we need higher rates of savings and investment, increased efficiency in resources use, a higher export growth to meet our imports of capital goods, intermediates and the essential consumption goods.

Lack of stability in the international situation particularly in our region, compels us to commit a larger proportion of our developmental resources to defence requirements than we would wish to. This draws away resources from projects which have a much higher economic priority for our people. The availability of resources for development will continue to be considerably influenced by our committing more resources to defence needs due to pressures of the external political environment. We therefore need peace in our region, and peace in the world to be able to fulfill the task of bringing a better and richer life to our people as soon as possible. It is our endeavour to solve the problems in the region through dialogue and enhance regional cooperation. SAARC is the manifestation of this desire. It has been the effort of India through the Non-aligned Movement during all these decades to work for the reduction of tensions, for strengthening the forces of peace, and for the eradication of nuclear arms and elimination of arms race.

Momentous changes are taking place in the world and there are visible signs of a thaw in the East-West relationship. It is to be hoped that the opportunity that these present would be seized for ushering in an era of universal peace. The pursuit of harmony has been India's creed, always. Cooperation between cultures and societies was the cardinal tenet formulated by the Emperor Ashoka. Gandhi and Nehru have continued the same central principle.

The Federal Republic of Germany, has played a very important role in the economic development of India in the past and will doubtless continue to do so in the future. Within the EEC it is our leading trade partner and a major source of new technologies and equipment. It is encouraging to see that the German investment in India has increased ten-fold in the four year period from 1984-88. Yet, in terms of the absorptive capacity of Indian industry and its priorities, the investment is modest and could be easily increased significantly from its present figure of about Rs. 1.1 billion. German assistance, which is deeply appreciated for its quality and quantum, has helped in development of several key infrastructural sectors such as power, steel and mining and in modernisation and upgradation of technologies. Rourkela, Durgapur, Singrouli, Ramagundam and Korba are well known symbols in India of Indo-German cooperation. The potential for an enlargement of our cooperation in the future is indeed great. A certain degree of complementarity in the

economies of the two countries and the pool of scientific and technical manpower in India about which I spoke earlier should facilitate its realisation. Bold and innovative ways of working together need to be evolved in agriculture and industry, electronics and telecommunications and in frontier areas of science. The growth potential of the Indian economy, its progres -275>

sive liberalisation and a democratic and stable political environment provide a good base for the development of a new vision of Indo-German cooperation, even as Europe moves towards 1992.

We look forward to an era of fruitful cooperation between our two countries in the vast and expanding areas of industry, science, technology and culture.

A GERMANY INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA LATVIA

**Date**: Sep 19, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

Lunch Hosted by First Mayor of Hamburg -President's Reply

The following is the reply of the President, Shri R. Venkataraman at the Luncheon hosted by the President, of the Senate and First Mayor of Hamburg at Hamburg on Sep 20, 1989:

On behalf of my wife, myself and my delegation, may I say how pleased we are to be able to spend sometime in this beautiful and historic city of Hamburg. We are grateful for the gracious welcome and hospitality extended to us.

I would like on this occasion, to extend to you our special felicitations on Hamburg's 800th anniversary. May I express the confidence that the birth place of Mendelssohn and Brahms will flourish, like the music of those Masters, everlastingly.

The city-state of Hamburg is famed for its tradition of cultural and commercial contacts with the world. As a member of the Hanseatic League, Hamburg developed a cosmopolitanism and an aptitude for cooperation that has become so necessary in the contemporary world. We have seen how, in our times, the port of Hamburg has been modernised so as to facilitate the flow of

commerce and shipping. As India's commercial activities expand, it is strengthening its ports and building new ones. In this we have much to learn from your example and experience.

The contacts of your city with India enjoy both antiquity and vitality. Your University has a renowned Department of Indology, and there is a small but active Indian community living in this great city, contributing to its cultural variety. We have also noted with interest and appreciation the efforts being made by your economic and commercial organisations to promote trade and investments in India by your city and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Excellency, we have watched with admiration the rise of your country from the ruins of the World War. I was here shortly after the war and saw the devastation that it had caused. But within a few years the ruins and the rubble were gone and, in their place, gleaming towns and cities had sprung up. I asked my German friends what the secret of this recovery was. And I was told: "The war destroyed our buildings and our factories. But it could not destroy our skills." It is the skils and dedication of your people that has enabled your country to reach the forefront again. Hamburg is a shining example of this selfrenewing principle. You have rightly relied on the strengths of your people -discipline, hard work and a striving after perfection. Combined with this is the stress you have laid on education and practical training.

We in India, have also had to make a difficult recovery. A recovery not from the ravages of war but from the inheritance of colonial stagnation. Again, thanks to the farsightedness of our first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and the determination of our people, we have made rapid progress in the last 42 years since independence. Today, we are self-sufficient in food - a no ordinary achievement considering the fact that, simultaneously, our population has been growing. Social welfare schemes adopted by us have been -276>

successful in fighting disease, malnutrition and illiteracy.

In the industrial sector, we have been able to build a diversified base. In some sophisticated areas like nuclear energy space technology, oceanography, and agricultural research, we have been able to achieve level close to those of more advanced countries. The economy continues to show steady growth and the recent policies of liberalisation have encouraged foreign capital and investment in which sector your country has now become a leader.

It is to us a matter of particular satisfaction that our progress has been achieved under a democratic system. We hope and expect that, as a democracy, out ties with other democracies of the world will continue to grow, over-riding differences of geography, ethnicity and cultural experience. In our efforts at progress and modernisation we have been privileged to receive valuable assistance from the Federal Republic of Germany. Our bilateral cooperation has been fruitful and the scope for its future expansion is immense.

The future belongs to those who can harness modern science and technology to development. Some think that 'high-tech' is a luxury which the developing countries cannot afford. On -the contrary, they need it vitally to tackle their problems of growth, employment, productivity and industrialisation without pollution. India has the capacity and the trained manpower to adopt technology to suit our needs.

During my stay in the Federal Capital of Bonn, I had the opportunity to hold detailed talks with the Bundespresident, the Deputy Chancellor and several other leaders and citizens. I was glad to see that Indo-FRG contacts and exchanges and consultations are increasing. The Federal Republic of Germany is, infact, among India's top three economic partners. We have agreements, in a number of fields which provide the framework for the rapid growth of our friendship and mutual cooperation. We sincerely appreciate the assistance that the Federal Republic of Germany has given us in financing some of our projects and in helping to train our experts. We should use the upswing in our relations to our mutual advantage.

Hamburg being a renowned cultural centre, its citizens will, I am sure, be glad to witness those Festival of India events which are to be staged here with the objective of enhancing your awareness of both our past and of our present concerns, enterprises and aspirations. Such a mutual awareness is more than ever needed to bring a sense of common enterprise to human beings sharing this "spaceship earth".

May I now invite you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of the President of the Senate and First Mayor of Hamburg; and Frau Voscherau; to the well-being and prosperity of the people of Hamburg; and to the ever-growing friendship and cooperation between our two countries."

RMANY USA INDIA **Date**: Sep 20, 1989

### **Volume No**

### PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

Dinner by the Minister-President of Schleswig-Holstein - President's Reply

The following is the reply speech by the President, Shri R. Venkataraman, at dinner hosted by the Minister-President of Schleswig-Holstein, Mr. Bjorn Engholm at Lubeck on Sep 20, 1989:

We are delighted to have the chance to visit this historic city of Lubeck in the State of Schleswig-Holstein. We greatly appreciate the generous welcome and hospitality that have been extended to us.

This distinguished city has had a long history of contacts with other countries. It was a member of the Hanseatic League of cities that conducted trade with so many countries, not only within Europe but in other continents as well. These commer -277>

cial contacts led naturally to a cutural interaction, which has resulted in a cosmopolitan and liberal tradition which enjoys a new vitality today. This can be seen not only in Lubeck's commercial achievements, but also in its cultural contributions of which we had a cherished glimpse earlier this evening. Among the precious monuments that we visited in the old quarter, we were particularly pleased to see the birth place of the great German thinker and writer, Thomas Mann.

Germany has been in the forefront of nations studying Indian culture and civilisation, systematically. The fruits of German Indology have spread from the seeds of enquiry planted by those dedicated scholars and savants of the 18th and 19th centuries. There are now some twenty Indology departments or sections in the Universities of the Federal Republic of Germany, continuing the cultural dialogue between India and Europe. I am sure contemporary Germany would wish to study, similarly, the rhythms of life in modern India. Our country has taken rapid strides since Independence in 1947. It has become self-sufficient in food, has established a wide range of industries, and has the third largest pool of skilled manpower in the world. With the application of modern technologies, India has been largely successful in mastering the techniques needed to improve its overall output of goods and services. We are trying to foster the spread of science and technoogy through a modern educational system. We aim, therefore, through our planned development, to move forward with the help, largely, of our own capacities and with the resources mobilised through the savings of our people.

At the same time we have welcomed assistance from friendly countries such as the FRG. Your assistance to us has been valuable and we are convinced that our bilateral cooperation will

continue to expand in ever-increasing measure in the future.

India, as you are aware, is largely agricultural. We have laid stress on the development of our agricultural sector, and on village industries that are based on agricultural products and byproducts. The majority of India's population lives in villages, and our endeavour has been to provide them with basic amenities such as primary schools, clinics, clean drinking water, electricity, and telecommunications facility. We also realise the need to arouse awareness of the environment amongst our people. There are plans to prevent further deforestation, to replant forests in a phased manner, and to try and clean up our rivers and waterways. We realise the great importance of environmental protection in today's world, so that we may bequeath to the future generations what we had ourselves inherited. In these endeavours, I would like to say that we most sincerely appreciate the help we are getting from your country.

India has watched with happiness the improvement in East-West relations and the key role played by the Federal Republic of Germany in this process. We welcome this development most sincerely. It is our hope that our objective of a nuclear free non-violent world order will be achieved in our life time. In this task we seek the cooperation and understanding of all nations.

I now invite all present to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of Minister-President and Frau Engholm; to the well-being and prosperity of the people of Schleswig-Holstein, and the city or Lubeck; and to the ever-growing friendship and cooperation between the Indian and German peoples.

A GERMANY INDIA

**Date**: Sep 20, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

Lunch Hosted by Minister-President of Hessen - President's Reply

The following is the text of reply of the President, Shri R. Venkataraman at lunch hosted by the Minister-President of Hessen Mr. Walter Wallmann at Wiesbaden on Sep 21, 1989:

On behalf of my wife and delegation, I wish to express our gratitude for the very kind welcome and hospitality extended to us in the State of Hessen.

Your State is in the forefront in the Federal Republic of Germany with regard to both agricultural and industrial development. Your optics industry based at Wetzlar is world-famous, as also your chemicals and a host of other modern products. The city of Frankfurt, situated in the State of Hessen, is one of the main banking and financial centres of the world and is also a major hub of air traffic. Air India passes through Frankfurt almost every day. Your State capital of Wiesbaden is a haven of calm and tranquility, with its beautiful gardens and 19th century architecture. Not surprisingly, there are people from many countries living in your midst, and among them Indians, too. I am glad that they are leading an active and useful life in your State.

During our visit to Bonn and Hamburg, we met your leaders and a wide cross section of your people, and saw many things which confirmed our high esteem for your country and your people. Excellency, you have yourself held high office in the Federal Government. The Federal Republic of Germany has earned world appreciation for the manner in which it has reconstructed the economy devastated by the War and raised the level of the people in the last 40 years. With my own background as a Cabinet Minister dealing with economic matters for many years, I deeply appreciate the success you have achieved in sophisticated industry, precision engineering and quality production, and in the management of the economy avoiding inflation and deficit. No wonder that the FRG is today providing the motive power for West Europe.

India, too, is developing rapidly, from the stagnation of a long colonial era. India has been fortunate to receive valuable assistance from the FRG in its efforts at progress and modernization. We believe that this is the time for a significant increase in the economic and commercial interaction between our two countries. Our two countries have signed agreements for malising a framework of cooperation and constructive activity in a variety of fields. We should both take advantage of this favourable wind. The State of Hessen as we know, has many meduim enterprises which can profit from partnership with our firms.

Excellency, I am sure you would like to give a stimulus to this move. We for our part will do everything to facilitate it.

Apart from the formal links between our two countries which are growing satisfactorily, we also note the growth of mutual awereness on a people-to-people basis. There is an increasing number of German tourists who are visiting our country, and we hope that they return with happy memories. We also hope that your research workers, scientists and educationalist will continue to

take an ever growing interest in the rapid and varied progress that is taking place in India.

The Festival of India will spread out a cultural pageant in this country next year and we have thereby to gladden old Indophiles and win new friends.

There is another bond that links us despite differences of history and the geographical distance between us. Both our countries are wedded to democracy and a free society. Our structures and institutions function on liberal and human principles, despite the stresses that may be faced by both. At a time when these prin -279>

ciples have received setbacks in so many parts of the world, we view their preservation in our midst with legitimate pride.

We celebrate the Centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister or independent India, this year. Looking back on his contribution to our modern State and society, one cannot but be grateful for his wisdom in charting a course for our development based on democratic principles.

I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of the Minister-President of Hessen; and Frau Wallmann; to the well-being and prosperity of the people of Hessen; and to the evergrowing friendship and cooperation between the peoples of our countries

A GERMANY INDIA MALI

**Date** : Sep 21, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### PRESIDENT'S TOUR ABROAD

Dinner Hosted by Minister-President of Bavaria - President's Reply

The following is the text of the reply of the President, Shri R. Venkataraman at dinner hosted by the Minister-President of Bavaria Mr. Max Streibl at Munich on Sep 21, 1989:

I would like to express, on behalf of my wife and myself, and my delegation, our happiness at being able to visit the beautiful Free State of Bavaria. This State, we know, is not only the

largest but also among the most dynamic States in the Federal Republic of Germany. It has become a leader in this country's hightechnology advances, and many worldfamous German firms are established within its bounds. Even in earlier days, your State had been a pioneer in many fields of science and technology. I believe that the first German railways was built in Bavaria, from Nuremberg to Furth Rudolf Diesel, who invented the engine which bears his name, had worked in Augsburg. And in the present time, a quarter of all West Germans engaged in the field of electronics and electro-technology are employed here.

Your State, Excellency, also has a rich historical and cultural tradition going well into the past. The beauty of the Bavarian country-side, the treasures of art and architecture, as well as its industrial and economic progress, have given a distinctive charm and character to this State and its people. Only last year, our Prime Minister was given a memorable reception in Munich by the late Minister-President, Dr. F. J. Strauss, whose memory is revered.

We would reiterate the hope and wish expressed last year by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi that Bavaria be more closely involved in the development of the Indian economy. You have a great advantage in that some of your firms are already familiar with India. The pace of growth in India is accelerating and your association will be most opportune.

The vitality of the Indian economy can find full expression only in an improved international environment. We need investment and technology from abroad. India has been glad to receive valuable assistance from the FRG. The scope for bilateral cooperation is vast and growing. We need expanding markets and a stable international monetary and trading system. In return, we offer a vast and growing market, an attractive return on investments, and a stable and secure partnership.

We are watching with great interest the formation of a Single European Market in 1992 which will be a major phenomenon not only for Europe but for the economy of the world. We are sure that under the wise and benevolent guidance of countries such as the Federal Republic of Germany, the European Community will become a force for the promotion of world trade and prosperity in all the continents. We hope that such -280>

an example will influence others, whose vision seems presently clouded by a contemplation of their temporary difficulties.

Excellency, your State, is situated in 'Mitteleurope', and can respond sensitively to the profound changes of mood in the great confrontation of East and West which has characterised the post-War era. New hope has been infused into a world numb from the Cold War and longing for peace in a positive sense. Old beliefs

are being discarded or re-examined, as countries in this continent adjust to the imminent prospect of the 21st Century. For some, the adjustment is arduous and painful. This is a period of transition which calls for high statesmanship, fine human sympathy, generousity of spirit and understanding.

I now request all present to join me in a toast:

- -to the good health and happiness of the Minister-President of the Free State of Bavaria; and Frau Streibl;
- -to the well-being and prosperity of the people of this land; and -to the ever-growing friendship and cooperation between our two countries and people.

### RMANY USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date** : Sep 21, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### TURKEY

Meeting of Indo-Turkish Joint Committee

The following is the text of a press reledse issued in New Delhi on Sep 19, 1989 on the Indo-Turkish Joint Committee on Trade:

The Fourth Session of the IndoTurkish Joint Committee on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation began here today. While IndoTurkish relations have traditionally been warm, relations between the two countries received a new impetus with the visit of the Turkish Prime Minister Mr. Ozal to India in 1986 and the return visit of Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Turkey in 1988. This was followed by the Turkish President Mr. Evren's visit to India early this year. The Commerce Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh, who is heading the Indian delegation and Mr. Cengiz Tuncer, Minister for Transport and Communications and leader of the Turkish delegation, referred in their opening remarks to these visits being indicative of the political will on both sides to streng then and expand economic and commercial relations.

Both sides agreed that the bilateral trade estimated at US \$ 204.6 million in 1988 was not commensurate with the potential that exists. Of this, imports from Turkey were valued at US \$ 175.1 million and exports to Turkey at US \$ 29.5 million. Mr.

Tuncer emphasised the need to diversify trade by increasing the number of items being traded and said the 2-way exchanges should not only be confined to lentils, chick peas and spices which had so far been the main items of import and export between India and Turkey.

Shri Dinesh Singh said that apart from increasing the number of goods in the export basket, there was an urgent need also to rectify the imbalance in trade. He referred also to the possibility of joining hands in third country projects -281>

including joint tendering and sub-contracting in civil construction and other projects and the possibility of cooperation in tourism.

Both the leaders spoke of the need to effectively utilise the infrastructure that was now being built up to expand trade, i.e. the air and shipping links and other communication facilities. Turkish Airlines now flies to India. Shri Dinesh Singh said a Maritime Agreement had been signed and cooperation had also been established in the banking sector.

The meeting, which was attended on the Indian side by Shri Surendra Singh, Special Secretary, dealing with West Europe in the Ministry of Commerce, and representatives of the concerned Ministries as well as IRCON and RITES, also focussed on the scope for cooperation between Free Trade Zones of the two countries and the need for closer interaction at the business level.

Mr. Tuncer also wanted closer involvement of EXIM Banks of the two countries in fostering economic ties.

Shri Singh observed that it was rather surprising that inspite of the complementarities of the two economies, there was not a single joint venture project so far between India and Turkey, and suggested that businesses of both sides should identify projects in the areas of mutual interest to both countries. He said the suggestion of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for setting up a Joint Business Council was a step in the right direction as it would provide an institutional forum for exchanges between private bussinesses of both the countries.

-282>

RKEY INDIA USA **Date**: Sep 19, 1989

**October** 

# **Volume No**

1995

### **CONTENTS**

Foreign

Affairs

Record VOL XXXV No 10 1989

October

**CONTENTS** 

**AUSTRALIA** 

Australian Minister Discusses Bilateral Co

operation with Shri K.R. Narayanan

283

BELGI[tJM

Greater Cooperation with Belgium in Various

Fields 283

HOME AND ABROAD

Prime Minister's Statement on the Conferment

of the Nobel Prize on His Holiness the

Dalai Lama 284

Shri Bhagat Underlines Need for Abolition of

Apartheid 284

Memorandum of Understanding 285

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

EAM's Speech at the UN General Assembly 286

Mr. N. Krishnan Elected to the UNESCO

Executive Board 292

**JAPAN** 

Exports to Japan Doubled 293

OFFICL11, SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Awarding of Nobel Peace Prize to the

Dalai Lama 293

British Cricket Team 294

Pakistan 294

Sri Lanka 294

China 295

South Africa 298

Fiji 298

**SOMALIA** 

Somalian Delegation Calls on Planning Minister 299

Establishment of the Soviet Roerich Fund 299

**SOVIET UNION** 

Indo-USSR Talks on Civil Aviation 300

**TUNISIA** 

Tunisian Minister Calls on Shri J. Vengala Rao 301

UNITED STATES OF A31ERICA

Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme Work

shop on New Developments in Vaccinology 301

YUGOSLAVIA

India and Yugoslavia Sign Air Services

Agreement 303

STRALIA USA BELGIUM JAPAN PAKISTAN SRI LANKA CHINA SOUTH AFRICA FIJI MALI SOMALIA TUNISIA YUGOSLAVIA INDIA

**Date**: Oct 01, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### AUSTRALIA

### Australian Minister Discusses Bilateral Cooperation with ShriK. R. Narayanan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 20, 1989 on bilateral cooperation:

Senator John Button, Australian Minister of Industry, Technology and Commerce, who is currently visiting India, met Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for Science and Technology here today. The two leaders discussed bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the field of science and technology. Several areas such as Biotechnology, Remote Sensing, Solar Photo-voltaic Cells, control of environmental pollution, post-harvest technology, Marine Science and New Materials were identified for interaction between the experts of the two countries. The two sides also had useful exchange of views on the need to protect the environment in Antarctica.

Both sides agreed to hold discussions between experts of the two countries in order to narrow down the areas for meaningful cooperation under the existing Agreement to further strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries in the field of science and technology.

During the discussions, Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for Science and Technology, was assisted by the Secretaries in the Departments of Science and Technology, Electronics, Ocean Development and the Additional Secretary in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Head of the International Science Cooperation of CSIR. The Australian Minister was accompanied by the High Commissioner in India and senior officials of the Australian Ministry of Industry, Technology and Commerce.

STRALIA USA INDIA

Date: Oct 20, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### **BELGIUM**

Greater Cooperation with Belgium in Various Fields

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Dehi on Oct 13, 1989 on greater cooperation with Belgium:

India and Belgium have agreed for greater interaction in the fields of science and technology, education, art & culture, tourism, sports and mass media. This is

envisaged in the new Cultural Exchange Programme which was signed, here today, by Shri Man Mohan Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture and the Belgium's Ambassador in India, Mr. kamiel Criel together with Mr. Ernest Van Buynder and Mrs. Elizabeth Van Moer, leaders respectively of the Flemish & -283>

French communities' delegations from that country.

The Cultural Agreement between India and Belgium was concluded on September 21, 1973. Since then, the two countries have successfully implemented four Cultural Exchange Programmes. The Fifth Cultural Exchange Programme, which is currently under implementation, is valid upto December 31, 1989. A number of very meaningful exchanges have taken place in the fields of exchange of students, scholars and academicians, performing arts, films, Radio & TV, etc. during this period.

The new Cultural Exhcange Programme, signed today, will be for three years from 1990 to 1992. Besides exchanges in the field of scientific cooperation, it provides for interaction, at a much higher scale, in the field of education. The inclusion of areas like adult education, linkage between education and culture, anthropology etc., is the new feature of the programme. It also envisages greater exchange of exhibitions and performing artists besides exchanges in the fields of children's activities.

Co-operation in the field of tourism has been proposed for the first time between the two countries under the new Cultural Exchange Programme.

LGIUM USA INDIA **Date**: Oct 13, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND ABROAD

Prime Minister's Statement on the Conferment of the Nobel Prizeon his Holiness the Dalai Lama

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 13, 1989 on the conferment of the Noble Prize on His

### Holiness the Dalai Lama:

The conferment of the Nobel Peace Prize on His Holiness the Dalai Lama is a tribute to the spiritual and moral values that he symbolises. This is heartening at a time when these values are being steadily eroded in the quest for material wealth and economic dominance. I send my felicitations and good wishes to His Holiness the Dalai Lama on the occasion.

DIA

**Date**: Oct 13, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND ABROAD

Shri Bhagat Underlines Need for Abolition of Apartheid

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 24, 1989 for abolition of apartheid:

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Information & Broadcasting, Shri H. K. L. Bhagat has said that the world cannot be made safe unless apartheid was abolished. In this context, Shri Bhagat quoted Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, "Apartheid is opposed to the whole spirit of modern thought, opposed to the UN Charter and to the United Nations."

Shri Bhagat was inaugurating a function organised by the Indian Federation of United Nations' Association to celebrate the United Nations Day here today.

-284>

Describing the United Nations as anorganisation truly universal in scope and membership, Shri Bhagat said that though its main purpose was to maintain international peace and security, it has many equally important challenges before it including the abolition of apartheid and restructuring the whole of international economic order based on equality and justice.

The Minister said that the UN had made important contributions in removing hunger, disease and malnutrition. Its bodies like the UNICEF, UNESCO and WHO were playing very crucial role in the developing countries.

Shri Bhagat said that India had actively participated in the work

of all important bodies that comprised the UN system and had made constructive contribution to the strengthening of the multilateral process.

The Minister hoped that the UN would continue to do the good work it was doing through its various agencies for the welbeing of the generations to come.

DIA USA

**Date**: Oct 24, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### HOME AND ABROAD

### Memorandum of Understanding

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 27, 1989 on the signing of a Memorandum of understanding between the Government of India and the Commission of the European Communities:

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 27th October, 1989 between the Government of India and the Commission of the European Communities for establishing a programme of co-operation and exchange between the management training institutions in India and the EC countries.

The MOU was signed on behalf of Government of India by Mr. Dalip Mehta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs and on behalf of the European Communities by His Excellency, Mr. Robert Nouliston, Ambassador and Head of the EEC Delegation in India.

The programme has the following objectives: (i) developing a faculty group in India with a thorough knowledge of management methods in European Communities and European Markets and (ii) developing broad institutional links to result in generating a broad collaboration between Indian and EC countries across the whole field of management education. Ministry of Human Resources will be the nodal co-ordinating agency for the project.

The programme presently planned for a duration of 2 years is expected to cost Rs. 1.5 crores. This amount will be provided by the Commission of European Communities as a grant. -285>

**Date**: Oct 27, 1989

### **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

EAM's Speech at the UN General Assembly

The following is the text of a speech made by the External Affairs Minister on Oct 05, 1989 at the U.N. General Assembly:

My delegation warmly welcomes your assumption of the stewardship of the fortyfourth session of the General Assembly. You are an eminent personality and distinguished representative of a country with which we have the friendliest of relations. We are confident that with your wellknown diplomatic skill and experience, the deliberations of this session of the Assembly would be both fruitful and purposive.

- 2. I would like to pay tribute to my friend, His Excellency Mr. Dante M. Caputo, for the outstanding leadership that he provided to the 43rd session of the Assembly.
- 3. 1989 has been a year of consolidation of the much enhanced role of the United Nations in international affairs. The organization had its peace-keeping or observation teams out in almost all troubled regions of the world. And everywhere they have been creditably discharging their functions. The critical contribution of the United Nations to peace-keeping in the world was recognised by the wellmerited award last year of the Nobel Peace Prize to the UN Peace-Keeping Forces.
- 4. We admire the sure touch, assurance and promptness with which the Secretary General, Mr. Perez de Cuelar, has been discharging the onerous and growing responsibilities now being entrusted to the United Nations. In this, he has displayed quiet competence and a remarkable insight into the great potentialities as well as the limitations of the Organization.
- 5. The Secretary General in his Report has referred to "the renewal of confidence in multi-lateralism". Today multilateralism is no longer an ideal; it has become a necessity. Its ultimate validity has been driven home by the threat posed to human survival by the nuclear arms race, the degradation of the

environment, and other nonmilitary threats to security, such as poverty, underdevelopment over-population and inequality, both within and among nations.

- 6. Multilateralism today has to deal with a new generation of problems. We have to cope with the rapid changes in the pattern of production, consumption and trade, brought about by the technological revolution. We have to give direction to the new integrationist trends in the world economy with a view to optimising its benefits. We have to evolve new rules, regulations and regimes to cope with new problems and opportunities in the field of trade, in manufactures, services, environment and science and technology.
- 7. The United Nations, as a lynch-pin of this multilateralism, must be strengthened. This is the only organisation which is global in its scope, universal in membership and mandated by a Treaty in the form of the Charter. India welcomes the renewed confidence in the U.N. on the part of major powers.
- 8. Renewal of confidence in multilateralism cannot be partial or selective. It has to be total and all-embracing. It is unfortunate that whereas the U.N. is now able to assert its rightful role in the political field, it is still not being regarded by the major economic powers, as an appropriate forum for serious negotiations on economic issues. My delegation sincerely hopes that this imbalance will be soon redressed. The ongoing process of the formulation of an International Development Strategy for the 1990s and the forthcoming Special Session of the General Assem -286>

bly Devoted to International Economic Cooperation provide an excellent opportunity for it.

9. Mr. President, on the United Nations ies the onerous responsibility to bring to the Namibian people their long-awaited independence for which they have undergone so Much suffering and made such heroic sacrifices. The process is well under way. The United Nations Transition Assistance Group, under the guidance of the Secretary General, has so far done a creditable job under trying conditions. However, the path to Namibian independence is still strewn with many obstacles. For ensuring the conduct of free and fair elections, great vigilance and caution need to be exercised, particularly on the part of the Security Council. The lacunae and distortions in the election process should be identified and speedily removed. After the elections, the Constituent Assembly should have the sovereign and unfettered right to frame the Constitution of the country. The United Nations must ensure that there is no set-back to the process now under way and that the outcome of the elections truly reflects the wishes, hopes and aspirations of the Namibian people.

- 10. While Namibia's independence will signify the end of the South African regime's illegal occupation of that country, the citadel of apartheid in South Africa itself will still remain intact.
- 11. Claims are being made that the racial atmosphere in South Africa is undergoing change. The world is, however, watching carefully to see the quality, extent and pace of the change that the South African regime is willing to bring about. Apartheid cannot be reformed; it has to be totally dismantled. There is no half-way house to restoring human dignity and protecting human rights. The South African regime must demonstrate its willingness to negotiate unconditionally with the genuine representatives of the people of South Africa. In order to create a suitable climate for negotiation, it should release Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, lift restrictions on political organisations and withdraw the Emergency. It must also show a desire to deal with the Frontline States without intimidation and on the basis of equality and the principles enshrined in the UN Charter.
- 12. The 43rd session of the General Assembly had closed on a note of optimism on the Palestinian question. The bold and courageous initiative of President Arafat and the initiation of the US-PLO dialogue had created a positive climate. However, the situation still remains deadlocked. Intifadah, the unarmed Palestinian struggle, continues amidst increasing repression.
- 13. There can be no durable peace in West Asia without a just and comprehensive settlement based on the realisation by the Palestinian people of their inalienable right to self-determination and the recognition of the rights of all States in the region, including Palestine and Israel, to live in peace and security within internationally recognised borders. We are convinced that for this purpose a UN-sponsored international peace conference needs to be urgently convened.
- 14. The long civil strife in Lebanon has factured the constitutional, political and economic framework of the country. The success of the latest effort of the High-level Committee of the Arab League in bringing about a ceasefire is a glimmer of hope on the horizon. We hope that the current political dialogue will lead to national reconciliation and peace and stability would soon return to Lebanon.
- 15. Two months ago, the Conference convened in Paris had raised hopes for the future of Cambodia. Significant progress was made at the Conference on many elements of the overall package. However, differences persisted among the Cambodian factions on some of the basic issues, resulting in the Conference ending without making any breakthrough. The comple -287>

tion of the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia is a

major positive development. For further progress now, it is necessary to adopt a balanced approach that takes into account the reality prevailing in Cambodia and the security and other interests of the countries of the region, and that provides for the cessation of all foreign interference and intervention in the internal affairs of Cambodia so that the people of Cambodia can exercise their right to determine their own destiny. Equally important is to ensure at all costs that Cambodia is prevented from becoming once again the victim of the universally condemned genocidal policies and practices of the Pol Pot regime. The danger of the recurrence of fighting in Cambodia, of which the first signs are already visible, must be arrested. For this purpose, there is an imperative need for the cessation of arms supplies to all Cambodian factions.

16. India feels concerned by the continued blood-bath in Afghanistan, even after the Soviet Union has completed the withdrawal of its troops as per schedule. We once again call upon all parties to observe strictly and implement the Geneva Accords in letter and spirit, give up the futile search for a military solution and come to the negotiating table for a political solution. Those who are trying to resolve the question by military means are only prolonging the agony of the people of Afghanistan. President Najibullah has recently made a series of far-reaching proposals for national reconciliation which, in our opinion, deserve serious consideration.

- 17. India has maintained traditionally close relations with both Iran and Iraq. We are therefore dismayed by the lack of progress in translating the cease-fire agreed upon last year between the two countries, into durable peace. My delegation supports the Secretary General in his efforts to secure the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 and to help resolve the vexatious issues between the two countries.
- 18. We are encouraged by the optimistic note struck by the Secretary General regarding the prospect for resolving the longstanding problem in Cyprus on the basis of the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of that country. We urge him to redouble his efforts so as to take full advantage of the present propitious climate.
- 19. We are happy at the prospect of peace in Central America and the role the United Nations has been cailed upon to play in this process. The leaders of the five Central American countries and the parties directly involved in the problems besetting Central America, deserve our compliments for their statemanship and foresight. We wish them success in implementing the Esquipulas process and the Tela Agreement, in their collective bid to restore peace.
- 20. In the Korean Peninsula, which unhappily remains divided, there is an overwhelming sentiment in favour of peace,

reconciliation and dialogue. India supports all efforts aimed at the peaceful reunification of Korea. In conformity with the principle of universality, India supports the aspirations of the Korean people to actively contribute towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through representation in this world body.

- 21. The international community should oppose racial discrimination wherever it is practised. In Fiji, the efforts to institutionalise racial discrimination are continuing, with hardly any resistance from the international community. The report of the Constitution Inquiry Advisory Committee does very little to eliminate the racially discriminatory character of the Draft Constitution. As the New Zealand Foreign Minister has pointed out, "the Committee has failed to question the serious departure from fundamental democratic principles". We hope better sense would prevail before it is too late.
- 22. In Myanmar, the situation remains unstable as a result of the continuing repression of the democratic aspirations of the people. We sincerely hope that the Burmese authorities would respond to the urges of their people for freedom and democracy and work with them to bring the present tensions to an end.
- 23. Mr. President, the recent breakthrough on some crucial aspects of the negotiations on the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) has come as a welcome relief and brightened hopes of an early conclusion of the negotiations. It is essential that the agreement is clinched without further loss of momentum.
- 24. In the meantime, the arms race moves apace without any signs of a let-up. Nuclear weapons testing goes on unchecked and so does the search for new systems and technologies and the modernisation or the existing weapons systems. The continued testing of nuclear particle beams, stealth bombers, smart weapons and new missiles is hardly going to inspire confidence in the world at large, much less among the interlocutors themselves. These developments tend to confirm our basic apprehensions regarding the qualitative arms race as clearly referred to in his report by the Secretary General. Hence India's proposal for monitoring scientific and technological developments which have a bearing on international security.
- 25. There could be no meaningful progress either in nuclear disarmament or in achieving nuclear non-proliferation in the true sense of the term, unless the doctrines of nuclear deterrence which underpin the present nuclear arms race are discarded. In our view, this is at the root of the present dithering.
- 26. It was in view of these considerations that at the Third Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi presented India's Action Plan for the

total elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2010. I once again call upon all countries, particularly the nuclear weapon States, to initiate the necessary multilateral negotiations with the overall aim of moving towards a nuclear weapon-free and nonviolent world.

- 27. For the past several years, the international community has been pressing for a comprehensive Chemical Weapons Convention. The agreement recently reached between USA and USSR, as well as the statements by President Bush and Foreign Minister Shevardnadze in this Assembly last week will no doubt facilitate an early conclusion of such a Convention. We hope that all outstanding issues would be resolved and a Chemical Weapons Convention signed during 1990. With the positive prospect of Disarmament, there Is now a real opportunity to release resources from the military sector for development purposes. Even if such resources are utilised for development in the countries involved in the process of disarmament, it will bring some benefit to the world economy. However, a conscious effort must be made to ensure that part of these resources go to where they are most needed, i.e. in the developing countries. Appropriate institutional arrangements should be made within the United Nations for giving concrete shape to the link between disarmament and development so that the present opportunities are harnessed in the direction of global peace and security.
- 28. In recent years, the world has witnessed a cancerous growth of terrorism at all levels. India supports all measures which would discourage terrorist acts, particularly taking innocent men and women as hostages. The recent international awareness against this menace must be translated into concrete actions to curb terrorism.
- 29. Mr. President, since the General Assembly last met, there has been an encouraging expansion in world trade and output. However, the external environment for the development of developing -289>

countries continues to remain unfavourable. Official development assistance has been stagnating in real terms, well below the internationally agreed target of 0.7% of GNP. Other financial flows, particularly commercial flows, virtually dried up in the latter half of the 1980s. Commodity prices, in real terms, remain at the lowest levels reached in the last 50 years. Protectionism continues to constrain developing countries in their efforts to increase their exports. Decisions on global economic issues which affect developing countries, continue to be taken in forums which exclude them.

30. Many developing countries are carrying out structural adjustments in their economies, as a part of their effort to interact more closely with the mainstream of world economy. This task can be performed in the context of a much more open,

cooperative and growing world economy. The major challenge is to work out a package of policies which should ensure the return of the world economy to higher growth conditions, shared by all groups of countries.

- 31. It is essential for this purpose to revitalise the North-South dialogue on the the basis of mutuality of interest. It was in view of this that the Presidents of Egypt, Venezuela and Senegal and the Prime Minister of India took the initiative in Paris in July this year, to call for the commencement of a process of Summitlevel consultations among developed and developing countries on global economic and environment issues. Some major industrialised countries, such as France and Canada have already responded positively to this inititive. We hope for a positive response from others.
- 32. The debt problem is shackling the growth of the heavily indebted countries. A welcome development in this regard is that various plans have been mooted and in a few cases, notably Mexico, elaborate packages involving cancellation or reduction of debts, have been negotiated. However, the level of resources required for these plans to make a real dent on the problems of indebtedness, while putting their economies back on the path of growth, are not forthcoming. And the conditionalities attached are too one lous.
- 33. The debt problem threatens to engulf even those developing countries which despite severe difficulties, have so far managed their debts and balance of payments accounts well. In most of these countries, the debt-GNP ratio has increased rapidly. This has coincided with a decline in real terms in concessional flows of resources which has pushed these countries towards higher commercial borrowings. This, in turn, has aggravated their already serious debt servicing burden. Any comprehensive solution to the debt problem should include a set of anticipatory measures to prevent this category of developing countries from falling into the debt trap, by increasing the fow of development finance, particularly concessional resources, to them.
- 34. The Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations provides an excellent opportunity to the international community to address itself to the asymmetries and distortions in the international trading system and take measures for preserving and strengthening it. We are, however, concerned over the emerging imbalances in the negotiations because of the inadequate priority being given to the areas of special interest to developing countries and the growing pressures on these countries to undertake new obligations. In the new areas, developmental, technological and public-interest needs of the developing countries should be fully taken into consideration. High priority should be given to the removal of barriers to the transfer of technology to these countries and the elimination of restrictive business practices followed by transnational corporations. Specific measures should

be provided for the promotion of service industries of importance to developing countries.

-290>

- 35. There is, unfortunately, a tendency in some major, industrialised countries to force their will on trading partners and to adopt unilateral coercive means to penetrate into their markets in the name of liberalisation. Such measures are unjust and irrational. They are hardly conducive to the success of a major multilateral undertaking like the Uruguay Round.
- 36. Mr. President, the new centres of economic power are becoming the focal points for regional integration efforts. We are concerned that this new economic regionalism may lead to the vivisection or the world economic system. Answers to our present day complex economic problems do not lie in the narrow havens of regionally integrated markets but in a larger harbour of truly multilateral exchanges and interactions.
- 37. Collective self-reliance through South-South cooperation constitutes a principal plank of the platform of the Nonaligned and other developing countries. Unfortunately, progress in this field has so far lagged behind expectations. A more determined effort backed by political will at the highest level, is required. We look forward to the recommendations of the South Commission on this important subject.
- 38. Drug abuse and illicit trafficking in drugs have become the scourge of the present day world. Hardly any country is immune front it. It is imperative, consequently, that the entire international community cooperate in the urgent task of combatting this menace. In this connection, I welcome the proposal made by the distinguished President of Colombia calling for a special session of the General Assembly to deal with the drug problem.
- 39. Mr. President, environmental issues have recently surged to the forefront of international concern. This is one of the major items on the Assembly's agenda as we prepare for the World Conference on Environment and Development proposed to be held in 1992. India strongly supports a comprehensive multilateral approach to solving the environmental problems.
- 40. Environmental issues are closely related to development and cannot be viewed in isolation. In the first World Conference on Environment and Development in 1972, the then Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had driven home the crucial link between economic development and the protection of environment by characterising poverty as the greatest pollutant.
- 41. Here in the General Assembly, environment has been an area of consensus, a unifying concern. We hope it would remain so. This can happen only if the legitimate concerns of the developing

countries are adequately addressed in any global endeavour to tackle environmental problems. International measures to deal with these problems should not attempt to freeze development and progress at the present unequal level.

- 42. Since the process of development in developed countries has led to the present environmental predicament, they have the major responsibility for taking corrective action, apart from the fact that they have also the wherewithal, both financial and technological, for this. Unfortunately, the tendency recently has been to rely on regulatory measures which do not fully take into account the existing asymmetries in the level of industrialisation and modernisation of the developed and developing countries. From the point of view of developing countries, supportive measures that enable the developing countries to protect the environment without compromising their development needs and priorlties, are of greater importance.
- 43. Turning to the practical aspect of the question, the proposal of the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, made at the Ninth Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries held in Belgrade in -291>

September, for the creation of a planet Protection Fund, has received wide attenion and support. We are particularly encouraged by the support extended to the PPF by President Vassiliou of Cyprus and by Prime Minister Mrs. Brundtland of Norway. The proposal envisages a Fund to which all countries, developed and developing, will contribute except the least developed ones. The Fund will be used to protect the environment by developing and purchasing conservation-compatible technologies in critical areas which can then be brought into the public domain for the benefit of both developed and developing countries. In our view, the creation of such a Fund is a sine qua non for arriving at a global compact for combating environmental degradation. I hope the General Assembly would be able to lend its support to this proposal.

44. Mr. President as I speak here as the Representative of India, my mind inevitably goes to a date next month, the 14th November. It was on this day, one hundred years ago, in 1989, that a great Indian was born. His name was Jawaharlal Nehru. He was born in riches, but sacrificed his all to join the struggle for India's freedom. After independence was achieved in 1947, the mantle of leading free India fell upon him. Having seen atrocities and indignities heaped upon man by man, having imbibed the lesson of truth and non-violence from his mentor Mahatma Gandhi, he emerged with a vision for India and for the world which was different from conventional wisdom. He spoke of the superiority of the moral force over military force. He spoke of non-alignment against bloc politics. He spoke of one world even as the world was being pulled asunder. In the beginning, his was a lone voice.

But soon his association with Tito, Nasser and many other leaders led to the birth of the Non-Aligned Movement. Today, a vast majority of the nations of the world are members of the Movement, and those who are outside it recognise it as a major force in world politics and seek to associate themselves with it. Nehru brought to the Non-Aligned Movement the age-old message of peace - a precious heritage of all the great civilisations of the world. It was this message of peace which resounded at the IXth Summit of the NonAligned Movement, which happened to coincide with Nehru's birth centenary. Let me conclude by the message of peace that Nehru gave to this Assembly 33 years ago:

"I have no doubt that all the peoples of the world are passionately desirous of peace. I doubt if there are any people anywhere who desire war. Certainly the common man all over the word desires peace passionately. If that is so, why should we not follow the path of peace? Why should we be led away by fears, apprehensions, hatred and violence?"

Thank you, Mr. President.

A RUSSIA INDIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU ISRAEL LEBANON FRANCE CAMBODIA VIETNAM AFGHANISTAN SWITZERLAND IRAN IRAQ CYPRUS KOREA FIJI NEW ZEALAND EGYPT VENEZUELA SENEGAL CANADA MEXICO URUGUAY COLOMBIA YUGOSLAVIA NORWAY

**Date**: Oct 05, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Mr. N. Krishnan Elected to the UNESCO Executive Board

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 31, 1989 on the election of an Indian candidate to the UNESCO Executive Board:

The Indian candidate Mr. N. Krishnan, was elected to the UNESCO Executive Board on Saturday, 28-10-89, securing 141 out of the 157 votes cast. This was the largest number of votes secured by any country of the Asia-Pacific region. The other countries elected were China, Thailand and Papua Newguinea, from this region. Prominent Indians who had earlier held this post were Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, and Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Mr. Krishnan takes over from Sardar Swaran Singh.

-292>

**Date**: Oct 31, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **JAPAN**

### Exports to Japan Doubled

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 25, 1989 on exports to Japan:

India's export to Japan have doubled from a level of Rs. 1164.37 crores in 1985-86 to Rs. 2161.90 crores in 1988-89. In accordance with an action plan drawn up by the Commerce Ministry exports to Japan were to be doubled by 1989-90 from a level of a little over Rs. 1100 crores four years ago. The latest figures available from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) thus indicate that the target of doubling exports to Japan has already been achieved a year ahead of schedule by 1988-89 itself.

Bilateral trade between Japan and India increased in 88-89 to Rs. 4783.93 crores from Rs. 3727.17 crores in 1987-88. The turnover includes Indian exports worth Rs. 2161.90 crores and imports worth Rs. 2622.03 crores, as against exports and imports worth Rs. 1614.89 crores and Rs. 2114.28 crores respectively in 1987-88.

Although Japan is India's third largest trading partner after the US and the Soviet Union, Indo-Japanese trade is just 1% of Japan's global trade and around 12% of India's global trade Thus, there is considerable scope for further improving and diversifying trade between the two countries.

India's exports to Japan consist mainly of raw materials and traditional items of exports like iron ore, marine products, coffee, cotton, spices etc. However, since 1984-85 exports of manufactured items such as ready-made garments, gems and jewellery, leather products have also been showing some buoyancy.

India's imports from Japan comprise mainly electronic items, transport vehicles and project equipment mostly against Japanese aid programmes. At the last round of bilateral trade talks held in Tokyo in May, 1989, when the Indian delegation was led by the

Commerce Secuetary, Shri A. N. Varma, the need for correcting India's adverse balance of trade with Japan was stressed and both sides agreed to enlarge and extend levels of trade.

PAN INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Oct 25, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Awarding of Nobel Peace Prize to the Dalai Lama

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 05, 1989 on awarding of Nobel Peace Prize to the Dalai Lama:

When asked for Government of India's reaction to the announcement of the warding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Dalai Lama, Spokesman said "we have always held the Dalai Lama, in the highest esteem. As spiritual leader, a steadfast proponent of peace and an apostle of nonviolence, the Dalai Lama has been admired -293>

in this country and all over the world. Our leaders have had close empathy with the Dalai Lama. He has been looked upon as a spiritual leader of the Buddhists in India, and in other countries of the world.

DIA

**Date**: Oct 05, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

British Cricket Team

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Oct 05, 1989 on British cricket team:

In reply to a question whether Graham Gooch will be allowed entry into India because of his sporting links with South Africa, the Spokesman said that it has been decided to grant visas to Graham Gooch and the other English players who earlier had sporting links with South Africa. This decision flows from the ICC resolution of January 1989 in which it was decided that sporting links with South Africa before April 1989 would be condoned. The TCCB and all other national boards subscribed to the ICC resolution on the basis of complete unanimity. Since all boards are now parties to the resolution, they will maintain their own registers and will be responsible for identifying all their players who may violate the resolution. The TCCB have given us assurances that all members of the team subscribed to this resolution in letter and spirit. The resolution is opposed not only to apartheid, but also to sporting contacts with South Africa.

DIA SOUTH AFRICA USA

Date : Oct 05, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Pakistan

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Oct 06, 1989 on Pakistan:

The statement by the Official Spokesman of the Pakistan Foreign Office of October 4, 1989 expressing gratuitous remarks about the minorities in India has come to our notice. As I made amply clear while responding to the report about a resolution passed by the Pakistan Senate on the 18th September, neither Pakistan nor any other country has any locus standiin this matter. Such references can only be considered as interference in our internal affairs. Such statements are also not in keeping with the Simla Agreement nor with the efforts made by us and by the Pakistan Government in normalising our relations in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and of peace and stability in South Asia.

Our High Commissioner in Islamabad has taken this up with the Pakistan Foreign Office yesterday. This morning, High Commissioner Niaz Naik was summoned by JS (AP) and our views on this matter were conveyed to him.

KISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date**: Oct 06, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Sri Lanka

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Oct 11, 1989 on Sri Lanka:

In reply to a question about the Peace Committee, the Spokesman said that this is a body set-up by the Sri Lankan Government. As the Joint Communique says, the Sri Lankan Government informed us of their intention to set-up the Peace Committee and we had welcomed it. They had also expressed full confidence about their -294>

ability to bring the LTTE into the Committee. Apparently, the LTTE has not so far agreed to join the Committee. The LTTE has never in the past agreed to sit together with other Tamils to discuss amity and evolve a common approach to the problems of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. Their refusal, therefore, has not come as much of a surprise. Their statements about their willingness to join the democratic process and their promises not to attack other Tamils were welcomed. However, their continuing violations of the cessation of hostilities speak for itself. The Observer Group has recorded 34 such violations by the LTTE. It shows that such protestations need to be taken with a pinch of salt.

In reply to another question about LTTE demanding the disbanding of CVF, the Spokesman said that the question of disbanding of the CVF which is the new demand that the LTTE has made is again no surprise. At each stage they have added new conditions. First they said devolution. When it did not work out, they said withdrawal of troops. Now they say disbanding of CVF. This attitude of preconditions, or excuses to provide a justification for not joining the democratic process, has to be seen in the light of what I have said earlier, that the LTTE has never in the

past agreed to sit together with other Tamils to discuss amity and evolve a common approach to the problems of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. We are not surprised with this new demand of the LTTE.

In reply to another question about the violations by the LTTE, the Spokesman said that we have informed the Sri Lankan Government that in accordance with the mechanism provided in the Joint Communique if these violations continue unabated, then the IPKF will be forced to take action that they are empowered to take under the Joint Communique. If the IPKF is attacked, they will certainly retaliate.

In reply to another question about the postponement of the Peace Committee meeting, the Spokesman said that the postponement of the meeting of the Peace Committee is in a sense a technical breach of the provisions of the Joint Communique. It is essentially the responsibility of the Sri Lankan Government to get the Peace Committee going and the question of safety and security is the responsibility of the Security Coordination Group.

I LANKA INDIA USA **Date**: Oct 11, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

China

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Oct 12, 1989 on China:

The formal first round of talks between the Chinese Vice-Premier and the External Affairs Minister took place this morning and lasted for a little under two hours. On the Chinese side, apart from the Vice-Premier, there were the Ambassador and the Deputy Director of the Asian Affairs Department and some other officials from the Asian Affairs Department. On our side, there were the External Affairs Minister, the Foreign Secretary, the Finance Secretary and the Joint Secretary (EA), Shri Nambiar.

The Chinese Vice-Premier outlined their assessment of the international situation. The Chinese side expressed their belief that the general international trend was moving from

confrontation to dialogue and from tension to relaxation and if the present trend continued, it would be possible to have a long period of peace. On disarmament and regional issues, there had been ups and downs and twists and turns, but it was important that we work together for the establishment of a new international political order and a new -295>

international economic order on the basis of Panchsheel and on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The vitality of Panchsheel enunciated by our two Prime Ministers has now been established. On relations with USSR, the Vice-Premier referred to Gorbachev's visit which led to the normalisation of relations between the two countries and he noted that all round development was taking place with border talks on the political front and economic and trade relations were also developing. Likewise, with the USA, inspite of some misunderstandings which have crept in as a result of the events of June, there was an improvement in ties and there was an expectation that these relations would improve further. With Japan, it is the largest trading partner of China after Hong Kong. In terms of cultural contact, tourism, trade and contacts between popular organisations, Japan ranks first. With regard to Cambodia, the Vice-Premier welcomed the progress which has taken place after 10 years. On Afghanistan, the Chinese Vice-Premier said a solution can be found only through consultation among all political forces. China hoped that independent, neutral and non-aligned status of Afghanistan is restored. With South Asia, Chinese relations were based on the five principles of Panchsheel. China hoped sincerely for progress in India's cooperation with the other countries of South Asia. With India, the Vice-Premier expressed happiness at the improvement and development of relations over the last few months. This momentum needs to be maintained and developed on the basis of the five principles. A new phase has been opened after the Prime Minister's visit and China hoped that good neighbourly and friendly relations will develop fast. He referred to concrete forward movement in trade ties with the visit of the Chinese Minister of Foreign Trade, wherein it had been decided to increase the import of iron ore from India. Then, he referred to Mr. Fotedar's visit to China where discussions had been held for developing industries. There was a good deal of unchartered territory waiting to be exploited as far as our economic relations are concerned, so also in the field of science and technology where the Chinese were optimistic about there being considerable scope for development. On Tibet, he expressed appreciation for India's attitude on this question. On the boundary question, the Vice-Premier expressed satisfaction that the first meeting of the Joint Working Group had been held and hoped that we could build further on this basis.

The EAM, while greeting the Vice-Premier, referred to him as an old friend of India who has come here three times, in 1951, 1957 and now in 1989. The EAM highlighted the fact that India's

relations with China have been given considerable impetus after Prime Minister's visit in December 1988. After this historic visit, our bilateral relations have entered a new phase. In this new atmosphere, there were fresh opportunities to work together in various fields. The international climate today has itself proved the validity of the five principles jointly initiated by our two Prime Ministers. On our bilateral relations, EAM said that we have a rich historic background. In this year, i.e. 1989, our contacts have grown in various fields. Referring to the visit of the Chinese Foreign Trade and Agriculture Minister, the EAM said that this visit has led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Agriculture. Also, considerable impetus has been given to trade, joint ventures, transfer of technology and multilateral cooperation. EAM stressed the need to diversify our trade pattern. He also said that we need to increase contacts both at the party level and at other levels. On the boundary question, EAM said that the Joint Working Group set-up as a result of Prime Minister's visit had its first meeting in June. He expressed the hope that India and China would be able to initiate concrete and substantive discussions in 1990. He stressed the need to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. He also emphasised that we have to adopt an approach which would enable us to move towards creating common ground and coming to a settlement which is fair, -296>

reasonable and mutually acceptable. On Tibet, EAM referred to India's traditionally principled position which had been reiterat-by Prime Minister when he visited China in December 1988. EAM underlined the fact that India has always respected the Dalai Lama as a spiritual and religious leader.

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on October 13, 1989 on China:

Mr. Wu Xueqian, Chinese Vice Premier and Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, had talks lasting for about an hour and a quarter, this evening. They were assisted by their aides.

The Chinese Vice Premier informed Prime Minister about his very useful meetings with the Minister for Steel and the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Mr. K. R. Narayanan. He said that he has solicited several suggestions from both Ministers which he would be carrying with him. He thanked Prime Minister for giving him an opportunity to return to India, after 32 years. He said that in China, the leadership and the people carried vivid memories of Prime Minister's visit of December 88, and that even though less than a year had passed since then, notable progress had been made. In fact, it could be said that a new era in bilateral relations had begun. He conveyed to Prime Minister the greetings of Chairman Deng, and the Chinese President and Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, reciprocating his sentiments said that "we also hoped that we could build our relations in the coming years." He said that India and China had to see their relationship from a special point of view. Both were big countries with large populations. Both had to meet the challenges posed by these factors and both had to generate new ideas and new responses to cope with these challenges. For example, in the sphere of devt. both India and China had their own experiences and because of the sheer immensity of the problems, that both faced, a sharing of experiences would be of mutual benefit. Likewise, in technology, China had become a world leader in certain fields and India had also done reasonably well in certain other areas. But, as our specialisations, were in many cases, different there was great scope for cooperation. Prime Minister also spoke of the changing international economic environment and said that India and China had to be prepared to face the new economic groupings and the new exclusivesms which were tending to replace political and security blocs, (which were in some cases receding in importance). It was important for us to encourage the growth of a democratic and global environment and to end monipolistic attitudes. But, while we have independent interests, both countries could help safeguard them through cooperation.

Prime Minister also spoke of the need to give a new direction to global thinking. He said that USSR, China and India, through their respective revolutions had in their own ways made signal contributions, to the changing colonial attitudes, and giving new hope to subjugated nations in all parts of the globe. He said that, even today it was necessary constantly to renew and review our perceptions and strategies, based on our experiences. In this respect India and China, as indeed the USSR, were continental countries, where populations belonging to different religious ethnic groups and linguistic groups were co-existing. It was important to find systems and mechanism to enable all these groups to live in harmony. It is the concept of different peoples living together which needed to be promoted, not the respective systems in the three countries.

The Chinese Vice Premier expressed deep appreciation of Prime Minister's reflections and added that they had made a deep impression on him which he would carry back to his government. The Vice Premier had also said that on the Science and Technology front there was much that we could do.

Prime Minister then spoke about the needs that Socialist countries were facing in the matter of restructing their economies, and added that often world institutions do not understand the complexity of their respective policies and that often the prescriptions of outsiders involved a price that was too high to pay.

The Vice Premier agreed with Prime Minister and said that problems of reform and corrections in the system did take time and often lead to turmoil.

On the bilateral front, the Vice Premier said that the post December 15, 1988, period had been a very good one and they have seen much enhanced mutual understanding. He said that it was important that the leadership of both countries should remain in contact.

On the border question both leaders expressed optimism that on the basis of the understanding generated by Prime Minister's visit in December, 1988, and after the first meeting of the Joint Working Group in June 1989, the prospects for working out an overall settlement of the border question were good.

Both leaders agreed that efforts would have to be intensified in the coming years.

INA INDIA USA MALI JAPAN HONG KONG CAMBODIA AFGHANISTAN PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Oct 12, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### South Africa

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Oct 12, 1989 on South Africa:

While welcoming the release of Walter Sisulu and some other freedom fighters, we maintain that unless Nelson Mandela and hundreds of other political prisoners, behind bars now in South Africa, are also released and unless the South African government commences a dialogue with the true representatives of the disenfranchised black majority, the present gesture will remain a cosmetic one. In fact, to create an environment for a meaningful dialogue, the government should end the state of emergency, lift the ban on banned organisations, and allow free political activity.

### UTH AFRICA INDIA

**Date**: Oct 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Fiji

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Oct 31, 1989 on Fiji:

When questioned about reports of expulsion of the Indian Ambassador from Fiji, by press-persons, Spokesman clarified that the Indian government last Saturday itself i.e. 28-10-89, had announced that on completion of his tenure the Indian Ambassador will be returning to India to take over as Joint Secretary, in the MEA; that a senior official will be arriving in -298>

Fiji, to take over as number two in the Mission, and that after the Ambassador left, this official would head the Mission as Cd'A. Our Ambassador is to leave Fiji shortly. The so-called decision of the Government of Fiji, is irrelevant and ex post facto because the decisions about his return and the subsequent arrangements for looking after the Mission have already been taken and announced by the GOI.

JI INDIA USA

Date : Oct 31, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **SOMALIA**

Somalian Delegation Calls on Planning Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi

on Oct 09, 1989 on the Somalian delegation:

A seven -Member delegation of Samali Democratic Republic, led by Dr. Warsame Abdullahi Ali, Chairman of the Party Bureau of Cooperative Movement and Chairman, Union of Somali Cooperative Movement, called on the Union Minister of Planning and Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Shri Madhavsinh Solanki, here today. The two sides discussed matters of mutual interest, especially in the fields of planning and cooperation.

Dr. Ali mentioned that his country was interested in acquiring Indian know- how and technology for the development of Somalian economy, especially in the field of agriculture, fisheries, mining and organisation of cooperatives. He said that he was impressed with India's progress and considered Indian technology and methodology most suited for his country.

Shri Solanki assured the Somalian delegation that all possible assistance in the matter and said that their country could benefit from India's planning and development experience. The Minister said that India has lately achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrains production and has made commendable all round progress.

The two leaders also discussed the possibility of sponsoring an Indian team of experts for conducting a preliminary study of the potentials of Somalian economy and to identify areas of cooperation for development through joint ventures.

LI SOMALIA INDIA USA

Date: Oct 09, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### **SOMALIA**

Establishment of the Soviet Roerich Fund

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 09, 1989 on the establishment of the Soviet Roerich Fund:

A Soviet Roerich Fund was established on 2nd October at a glittering function attended by leading Soviet personalities from the fields of art and letters including Mrs. Raisa Gorbacheva. It was noted that it was a happy coincidence that the fund was being

established on the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The need to disseminate the artistic, philosophical, scientific and literary contributions of the Roerich family was stressed -299>

particularly in the context of the process of Perestroika being implemented in the Soviet Union.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador A. S. Gonsalves welcomed the establishment of the fund as a means of perpetuating the contribution of the Roerich family to international understanding and peace and binding links between the Soviet Union and India. He offered the full cooperation of concerned Indian organisations in attaining the lofty objectives of the fund.

#### LI SOMALIA INDIA

**Date**: Oct 09, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **SOVIET UNION**

#### Indo-USSR Talks on Civil Aviation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 27, 1989 on Indo-USSR talks on Civil Aviation:

India and USSR explored joint working out of Air Traffic Control System, long term perspective for Civil Aviation development, ornithological aspects of flight safety, on-ground base for maintenance of new aircraft and aircraft certification procedures, and cooperation in the field of Science and Technology when Shri S. K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism led a highpower delegation to Moscow for talks recently.

The USSR delegation to the talks was led by Mr. Alexander F. Aksenov, Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation and included Mr. Vladimir T. Ivanov, Deputy Minister of Aircraft Industry, Mr. Alexander P. Reutov, Deputy Minister of Radio Industry and Heads of various organisations dealing with Training, Research and Development, Aircraft Industry.

The second main area of bilateral discussions related to study of Soviet aviation techniques and radio electronic equipment. This related to development of cooperation in the area of co-

production of new generation aircraft and its use by Indian national carriers as also cooperation in the delivery of onground radio-electronic air traffic control, navigation and communication equipment.

The two delegations decided to form Standing Working Groups so that specific areas of cooperation and mutual assistance could be identified. Both sides agreed to nominate their representatives within two weeks.

In the field of commercial cooperation, leasing of aircraft by Indian national carriers was discussed along with operation of services between and through the two countries. An agreement was reached for Aeroflot to start a flight from Moscow via Bombay to Harare under a commercial agreement with Air India.

The two airlines will aso explore joint ventures in hotels, duty-free shops, etc. in the two countries as well as other countries. -300>

A INDIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZIMBABWE

**Date**: Oct 27, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### **TUNISLA**

Tunisian Minister Calls on Shri J. Vengala Rao

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 13, 1989 on possibilities industrial and economic cooperation between the two countries:

His Excellency Mr. Habib Bin Yahya, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Tunsia called on Shri J. Vengala Rao, Union Industry Minister here today. They exchanged views on possibilities of strengthening industrial and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Shri Vengala Rao told the visiting dignitory that there was good scope for widening the mutual cooperation in industrial sector and India was prepared to offer all assistance in this regard. He said exchange of visit of the delegations of both the countries should be stepped up to facilitate information flow about each others capabilities and needs. Trade between the countries had been confined to traditional items. There was need for

diversifying trade to non-traditional items, the Minister stressed.

The Tunisian Minister said that he was greatly impressed by the progress achieved by India in various fields, especially in industry and agriculture. He sought India's assistance in setting up of small scale industries in his country. He also expressed a desire to import certain items from India such as cotton yarn, textiles, steel, machinery and pharmaceutical products. He also stated that there was good scope for utilising Indian expertise in setting up projects in civil and engineering fields in Tunisia.

Both the leaders felt that there was more scope of economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries. They felt that the trade and industrial cooperation between the countries should be stepped up. Both sides stressed the need for a long term cooperation in this direction. They felt that these issues could be discussed in detail in the forthcoming meeting of Indo-Tunisian Joint Commission.

NISIA INDIA USA

**Date**: Oct 13, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme Workshop on New Developmentsin Vaccinology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 24, 1989 on Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme:

A three day Indo-U.S. Workshop on "New Developments in Vaccinology" was inaugurated by the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Shri K. R. Narayanan, here today. The workshop has been organised in pursuance of the decision of the second meeting of the Joint Working Group, set up under the Indo-U.S. Vaccine Action Programme (VAP).

The workshop has evoked overwhelming response from the Indian scientists

-301>

engaged in research in vaccinology and related areas. In consultation with Heads of such Instites and other eminent

Vaccinologists and Immunologists 107 working scientists (including about 25 comparatively young scientists) have been invited for the workshop. From the US side, 24 top scientists and researchers are participating in the workshop. The workshop has generated tremendous interest among scientists engaged in research on vaccines and diagnostics in India. Over 40 young scientists from some of the premier institutions are also participating in the workshop at their own expenses as observers. The workshop will also have the benefit of presence of the Joint Working Group members from both sides.

In the ten Scientific Sessions of the workshop, scientists will hold intensive deliberations on a wide range of topics including new research techniques in Vaccinology, production of modern vaccines, quality control of new vaccines, field problems of vaccine trials, new diagnostics in diseases control, problems in delivery, efficiency and safety of vaccines and the various priority diseases identified for the Programme. The results of deliberations of various Scientific Sessions will be finalised in the last Scientific Session.

The Special Invitees to the workshop comprise scientists and experts of eminence and with a wide range of experience in the field of vaccinology and immunology. Their guidance and directions in modern biotechnology techniques as well as methodology of R&D in vaccines and diagnostics would be available to the participating scientists. Such specially invited scientists would be chairing the Session in the areas of their expertise.

Thirty nine scientific papers (including thirteen by US Scientists) will be presented by scientists and experts during the Scientific Sessions. These will form the basis for discussions during the deliberations of the workshop.

The deliberations of the workshop will lay emphasis on identifying the gap areas where special R&D efforts are needed to develop new vaccines and diagnostics for such vaccine-preventable diseases as take a large toll in India and other developing countries in terms of morbidity and mortality. The workshop will facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience in a scenario of fast expanding frontiers of medical sciences where it is difficult to keep abreast of the latest developments by isolated efforts.

It is expected that by the end of the programme period, the joint efforts of scientists in India and U.S.A. will result in the development of a vaccine and a diagnostic it for each of the major communicable diseases identified under the Programme.

On June 16, 1985, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and President Ronald Reagan, during the former's State visit to the United States, announced the initiation of a new programme to bring

together U.S. and Indian scientists to jointly develop and test new and improved vaccines for immunisation against diseases prevalent in India. This programme was designated as the Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP).

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Government of India and Government of the United States of America on July 9, 1987 to give an effect to this new programme. The Department of Biotechnology in the Ministry of Science and Technology on the Indian side and the Department of Health and Human Services on the US side are the nodel agencies for implementation of this programme.

The JWG has been entrusted the responsibility to provide overall direction to the Programme, set priorities, establish guidelines and criteria, conduct comprehensive review of the VAP plan, recommend new areas of cooperation, avoid -302>

duplication with other Indo-US activities, establish guidelines for selection of VAP project, ensure that the VAP operates smoothly and report periodically to the Indo-US Science and Technology Commission. The 3rd meeting of the JWG is being held in New Delhi during October 23-24, 1989 to review the progress of implementation of the programme.

The Vaccine Action Programme is aimed primarily at developing and evolving a joint R&D programme towards development of safe and efficacious vaccines and diagnostics against specific major communicable diseases of importance and relevance to India. The priority diseases identified under the programme are: Hepatitis, Rotavirus, Cholera, Shigella, E. Coli, Typhoid, Pertussis, Pneumococcal, H. Influenza, RSV, Canine Rabies, Polio.

The programme does not include any manufacturing or commercial activities.

So far 5 joint research projects have been sanctioned. Before approval, these projects were carried out through the most rigorous peer review mechanists independently by both sides. Additionally about half a dozen projects are under appraisal with both sides.

In its second meeting, the JWG decided to hold a joint workshop in India with the following objectives:

- (1) Identification of gap areas where it is desirable to identify the research and related needs more clearly so as to enable planning of possible future joint activities between Indian and US scientists.
- (ii) Bringing younger scientists into the fold of the programme to ensure the much needed continuity in the programme in the

future.

#### A INDIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Oct 24, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### YUGOSLAVIA

India and Yugoslavia Sign Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 31, 1989 on the signing of Air Services agreement between India and Yugoslavia:

India and Yugoslavia signed here today an Air Services Agreement which entitles the airlines of the two countries to operate two services per week between and beyond their respective territories.

The Agreement was signed by Shri S. K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism on behalf of India and by H.E. Dr. Zivojin Jazic, Yugoslav Ambassador to India on behalf of his country.

At present, the Yugoslavian Airline (JAT) operates a once weekly service via Calcutta. Air India has not yet started its operations to Yugoslavia. The operations of JAT are under a commercial arrangement with Air India.

-303>

GOSLAVIA INDIA **Date**: Oct 31, 1989

## **November**

# **Volume No**

1995

### CONTENTS

Foreign Affairs

Record VOL XXXV Noll 1989

November

**CONTENTS** 

**CANADA** 

Industry Urged to Correct Trade Imbalance with Canada 305

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Cultural Exchange Programme with Czechoslovakia 306

FIJI

Dr. Najma Haptulla Represents India at the Funeral of Dr. Timoci U. Bavadra, Deposed Prime Minister of Fiji 306

HOME AND ABROAD

Over Rs. 76 Crores WFP Assistance for ICDS Programme 307

International Training Programme on Electronic Data Processing 308

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

India to Get \$128100 UNDP Assistance 309

Third General Conference of UNIDO -

Smt. Bordia's Address 309

**KOREA** 

India and the Republic of Korea Cultural

Exchange Programme 311

NAMIBIA

The Namibian Elections 312

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Fiji 312

Pakistan 313

Thailand 313

**SAARC** 

Fifth SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Meet 314

SAUDI ARABIA

Indo-Saudi Talks on Civil Aviation 315

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Trade Turnover Fixed at Rs. 8800

Crores Trade Protocol for 1990 Finalised 315

NADA USA NORWAY SLOVAKIA FIJI INDIA KOREA NAMIBIA PAKISTAN THAILAND SAUDI ARABIA

**Date**: Nov 01, 1989

# Volume No

1995

#### **CANADA**

Industry Urged to Correct Trade Imbalance with Canada

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 06, 1989 on the trade imbalance with Canada:

The Government has urged the trade and industry to strive for reducing the present imbalance in bilateral trade between India and Canada which increased from 100 million Canadian dollars in 1987 to 188 million Canadian dollars in 1988. Speaking at the 5th Meeting of the India Canada Joint Business Council which opened here today, Shri V. S. Venkataraman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, indicated that the Government had already identified the items having high potential for increased trade. Similarly, areas open for foreign collaboration in India had also been identified. Urging the JBC to look into the problems hindering growth of trade and suggest a way out, Shri Venkataraman assured that the Government would render all help and support to ensure that Indo-Canadian trade and economic ties were put on a sound footing.

Seeking to dispel misgiving on the Government's foreign investment policy, Shri Venkataraman explained that recent policy measures underlined the encouraging foreign investment trends in areas of high technology where the present 40% equity limit would not apply, i.e., in 100 per cent export units. Referring to criticism that phased manufacturing programme (PMP) or indigenisation of industry acted as a disincentive to investment, Shri Venkataraman explained that such conditions were not mechanically applied and exemptions were granted wherever considered necessary. He stressed that foreign investment was welcome as long as it fitted in with the country's overall development strategy.

Indo-Canadian economic and commercial relations have undergone a major structural change in that the bilateral trade now is more in the nature of exchange of manufactured goods rather than only commodities as in the past.

Referring to changes on the global scene arising of the integration of EEO US-Canada Free Trade Agreement and the reforma in East European economies, Shri Venkataraman said that the formation of trading blocks should not be allowed to come in the way of multilateralism in which both the developing and developed countries have high stakes.

The JBC was also informed that share of India's exports in the gross national product has risen from 4.7% in 1985-86 to 6.1% in 1988-89.

Others who spoke were Shri Raunaq Singh, President, FICCI, Shri Rajiv Kaul, Chairman, Indian Section of the JBC and Mr. George Meagher, Chairman, Canadian Section of the JBC, Mr. J. G. Harris, High Commissioner of Canada in India and Mr. M. M. Sabharwal, CoChairman, Indian Section of the JBC, which is due to conclude tomorrow.

-305>

NADA USA INDIA RUSSIA

**Date**: Nov 06, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Cultural Exchange Programme with Czechoslovakia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 12, 1989 on cultural exchange programme with Czechoslovakia:

A Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1990-92 between India and Czechoslovakia was signed by Shri J. Veeraraghavan, Secretary, Culture & Human Resource Development, Government of India and Mr. Vladimir Cerovka, Deputy Minister of Culture of Slovak Socialist Republic here today. This Cultural Exchange Programme will be for the years 1990-92. It will enable a very healthy interaction in the fields of education, science art and culture, mass media, youth and sports etc. by way of very specific and meaningful bilateral exchanges.

It is the Twelfth Cultural Exchange Programme since the signing of the Cultural Agreement between Czechoslovakia and India on July 7, 1959.

The present programme covering the period 1987-1989 will expire on 31st December, 1989. It is under this programme that an 11-day Czech festival 'Days of Czechoslovak Culture' is currently being held in India, in reciprocation to the 'Days of Indian Culture' which were held in Czechoslovakia in April-May, 1989.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA

**Date**: Nov 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

FIJI

Dr. Najma Haptulla Represents India at the Funeral of Dr. Timoci U. Bavadra, Deposed Prime Minister of Fiji

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 12, 1989 on India's representation at the funeral of Dr. Timoci U. Bavadra, the deposed Prime Minister of Fiji:

Dr. (Mrs.) Najma Haptulla, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, who was specially sent by our Prime Minister to represent India at the funeral of Dr. Timoci U. Bavadra, the deposed Prime Minister of Fiji, placed a wreath on the coffin of Dr. Bavadra prior to attending the funeral. She noted thus in the Condolence Book:

"With the untimely death of Dr. Timoci Bavadra, Fiji has lost a respected leader on whom the people of Fiji had placed great

trust and confidence. He in turn inspired them not only with democratic leadership, but with noble ideals of equality, justice and brotherhood, transcending the narrow barriers of race, colour and religion. For us in India, these values, fundamental as they are to the basic principles of life and governance, bequeathed to us by the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, are of paramount importance. Dr. Bavadra's life and work and his ceaseless efforts to build a Fiji based

on moral and ethical values, so central to the various faiths dear to the people of Fiji, were admired universally.

At this moment of national grief for Fiji, the one thought that I would like to express is that there can be no better tribute to the memory of the departed leader than to dedicate ourselves to the ideals for which he lived and died.

I have been asked by the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to convey the heartfelt condolences of the Government and people of India to Adi Kuini Bavadra and other members of the family. We pray to the Almighty for eternal peace of the departed soul and for strength to the family to bear this terrible loss."

Mrs. Kuini Bavadra, the widow of Dr. Bavadra, met Dr. Heptulla and thanked her for the consistent support given by India to the cause of democracy in Fiji. Dr. Bavadra's funeral has been an unprecedented event in Fiji's recent history. According to Fiji Radio, more than 30,000 people came for the funeral. Besides more than 30,000 people filed past Dr. Bavadra's body as it lay in state yesterday. Given Fiji's small popuation of only 7 lakhs spread over many islands, this turn out was unprecedented.

JI INDIA USA

**Date**: Nov 12, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

-306>

### HOME AND ABROAD

Over Rs. 76 Crores WFP Assistance for ICDS Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 09, 1989 on World Food Programme's assistance to India to support the ICDS:

World Food Programme is to provide 45.6 million dollars (Rs. 76.2 crores) worth of food commodities to India to support the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme for 1990 and 1991. The aid will include supply of soya fortified bulgar wheat, corn soya blend and edible oil. A Plan of Operations to this effect was signed here today by Shri R. C. A. Jain, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture on behalf of Government of India and Mr. G. Hamdy, WFP Representative in New Delhi on behalf of the United Nations World Food Programme.

The WFP assistance is estimated to benefit 2.12 million preschool children, pregnant women and nursing mothers in the rural, urban and tribal areas of Assam, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The Government of India's own outlay for the current financial year for the ICDS Programme is about Rs. 219 crores.

The two-year project will begin early next year. It is the fifth phase of WFP's Supplementary Nutrition Programme in India and has been in operation since 1976. Today's agreement brings WFP's total commitments to this project to more than 260 million dollars. Under this fifth phase, WFP will continue its on-going assistance to the ICDS programme extends nutritional support, immunization, medical attention and referral services to needy women and children in rural and urban areas throughout India. The ICDS also provides health and nutrition education to the women and non-formal preschool education to the children. The WFP -307>

project will help to improve the nutritional status of this vulnerable section of the population in conjunction with other services offered by the national ICDS Programme.

In the fifth phase of the project, WFP will also support two new schemes, one to enable the construction of buildings for ICDS Anganwadi centres and the other to bring a limited number of adolescent girls within the ambit of the ICDS in a select pilot project. WFP food commodities will be provided to villagers to help them construct 600 ICDS centres in selfhelp schemes in the five States where WFP supports the programme. The pilot scheme for adolescent girls will be tried out in one block in Madhya Pradesh and will be carefully monitored to assess its suitabilty for wider implementation. Adolescent girls will be selected for on-the-job training at the Anganwadi centres.

This is the second agreement between WFP and India to be signed this year. In September, WFP agreed to provide food assistance worth 77.9 million dollars to support a forestry project in Madhya Pradesh. WFP's on-going commitments to India in the forestry, irrigation, rural development, fisheries and supplementary nutrition sectors total about 450 million dollars. Its total commitments to India since the first agreement signed in 1963 exceed 900 million dollars.

**Date**: Nov 09, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### HOME AND ABROAD

International Training Programme on Electronic Data Processing

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 16, 1989 on International Training Programme on Electronic Data Processing:

The three-month International Training Programme on Electronic Data Processing, organised by Central Statistical Organisation will conclude here tomorrow with the award of certificate to twelve participants from nine countries of Asia and Africa. The countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone.

Shri P. G. Muralidharan, Secretary, Department of Statistics, will be presiding over the valedictory function.

The programme which is co-sponsored by the UNDP and World Bank is designed to assist the developing countries in obtaining the essential data needed for the national development plans, policies and programmes. National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) is designed to help the developing countries in fostering their own capabilities in all aspects of survey taking. One of the major handicaps to the balanced growth of survey capability is the paucity of professional staff trained in different aspects of survey taking from primary stages through the analysis of data.

In view of the considerable expertise built up by India over the years in the area of Household based Simple surveys and Electronic Data Processing (EDP), it was recognised that India could make a significant contribution by imparting training in these areas. The Regional Household Survey training project was approved in 1980 to support the offer of the Government of India to provide necessary training facilities under Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) arrangements. Government of India, ESCAP and UNDP are the signatories to the project. Two types of training courses are organised \_ one on sampling and house-

hold survey methodology and other on Electronic Data Processing.

The course concluding tomorrow is the 10th under this programme. 163 participants of the ESCAP region have been trained so far \_ 81 in Sampling and Household Survey Methodology and 82 in Data Processing of Household Surveys from 23 countries.

DIA AFGHANISTAN BANGLADESH BHUTAN FIJI NEPAL ETHIOPIA GUINEA SIERRA LEONE TONGA USA

**Date**: Nov 16, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

#### India to Get \$ 128100 UNDP Assistance

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 17, 1989 on UNDP's assistance to India:

United Nations Development programme (UNDP) will give assistance worth \$ 128100 to India.

Three agreements to this effect were signed here today by Shri S. Varadachary, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Shri Gamil M Hamdy, Resident Representative of UNDP.

The first agreement pertains to project "Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) Phase III." The UNDP assistance would be utilised for facilitating transfer of knowledge knowhow in emerging science and frontier areas of technology through country's expatriates who have distinguished themselves in their respective field of specialisation abroad. The project would be implemented by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and executed by United Nations Development Programme (OPS).

The second agreement pertains to "Strengthening the National Management Programme". The UNDP assistance would be utilised to provide direct support for improving the design, content and methodologies for conducting the National Management Programme. The implementing agency would be Department of Personnel and Training and the project would be executed by United Nations DTCD.

The third agreement pertains to Preparatory Assistance for the project on "Research and Development in Material Forming." The project would be implemented by Department of Public Enterprises through Central Metal Forming Institute (CMFI), Hindustan Machine Tools Limited, Hyderabad and executed by United Industrial Development Organisation.

DIA USA

**Date:** Nov 17, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Third General Conference of UNIDO \_ Smt. Bordia's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 23, 1989 on the Third General Conference of UNIDO held in Vienna:

The Third General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation is meeting in Vienna from November 20 to 24. Large number of member countries are participating in the Conference at the level of their Industries Ministers. The high level Indian delegation to the Conference is led by Smt. Otima -309>

Bordia, Secretary, Department of Industrial Development.

In her address to the Plenary Session of the Conference at Vienna yesterday, Smt. Bordia referred to the many changes taking place in the political, economic and industrial scene all over the word leading to the emergence of regional economic networking and globalisation of manufacturing and markets. However, large number of countries and huge populations still remained deprived of the industrial advancement taking place in this process, she said.

Shrimati Bordia said that against this changing world economic and industrial scenario, UNIDO must increasingly share the responsibility of ensuring dissemination of technology and building of institutions that will facilitate the entry of developing countries in to the mainstream of global economy. She also referred to the fact that agriculture still sustains the development process in many countries and that the services sector is proving to be a major source of employment. Noting that

these sectors needed the technological support of industry, she emphasised the compulsive need to take an integrated and holistic view of the process of economic development by the multilateral system to enable LDCs to integrate and play their part in global economy. She pointed out that this integration will be dependent on not only structural changes but on manpower development, innovative manufacturing processes and systems and dissemination of technology. It also depends on lowering of barriers in trade and transfer of technology and in the flow of information and communication.

Smt. Bordia referred to the efforts by India to intensify its participation in the global economy and the significant changes brought about in the Indian industrial environment during the last five years. The process of liberalisation has led to not only to accelerated industrial growth but also to consciousness about cost, quality and productivity on the part of the Indian industry. She mentioned that an arreversible process of competitive production and integration with the global economy had been set in motion in India.

She deprecated the stand of some countries to limit UNIDO's activities by imposing on it the concept of zero real growth budget. She stressed that the Organisation must take the initiative to strengthen the bargaining capabilities of developing countries to obtain technology on fair and reasonable terms and at the same time, efforts to develop technologies on their own

Smt. Bordia reminded the Conference that India has always been in the forefront of promoting economic cooperation among developing countries and informed that as a result of sustained industrial growth of around 9 per cent per annum over the past few years, it was in a stronger and better position to promote ECDCTCDC through UNIDO. As a token of India's commitment to ECDC, she announced the plege of India to make voluntary contribution to the Industrial Development Fund of UNIDO totalling US Dollar one million for the year 1990.

Mention was also made of India's concern for the protection of environment. While noting that the industrialised world was as much responsible for environmental damage, many environmentally degrading processes were the compulsions of poverty. She emphasised that multilateral efforts must concentrate on the development of environmentally friendly technologies and ensuring access to such technologies by all countries. She mentioned that India's suggestion for the setting up of a Planet Protection Fund was based on this concept of cooperative action of the world community.

Smt. Bordia reiterated India's strong commitment and support for the multi-

-310>

lateral system and UNIDO. UNIDO, she pointed out had a crucial role to play in the accelerated industrial growth of the developing world, particularly, a catalystic role in promoting cooperation in the industrial sphere.

DIA AUSTRIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Nov 23, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### **KOREA**

India and the Republic of Korea Sign Cultural ExchangeProgramme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 29, 1989 on cultural exchange programme between India and the Republic of Korea:

A Cultural Exchange Programme for 2 years upto the end of 1992 between India and the Republic of Korea was signed here today. The signatories were Mr. Sam Hoon Kim, Director General, Bureau of Information and Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Korea and Shri Man Mohan Singh, Joint Secretary in the Department of Culture under Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India.

The two countries have mutually agreed to maintain and further develop their cultural relations in the fields of art, education, culture, sports, information and mass-media. The Cultural exchange programme is the fifth in the series of similar programme formulated and implemented in the past, between the two countries. Among other things, it envisages an award of scholarship by each side to the students from the respective countries to pursue studies at the Institutions of Higher Education, exchange of teachers, experts and academicians and for participation by them in national and interntional seminars. The Republic of Korea will send to India a professor of Korean studies to develop the Korean Study Programme in this country. India will send one Hindi Professor to teach Hindi at an university in Korea.

The Cultural Exchange Programme makes provisions for organisation of art and book exhibitions holding of film weeks and participation in similar events. It also provides for an exhibition in Korea of artobjects from third century B.C. to 18th

century A.D. of the art of Gandhara, Mathura and Gupta styles. The Republic of Korea has also agreed to hold in India, an exhibition of masterpieces of their classical arts.

The two countries will exchange performing troups publications on art, classical and traditional folk music, slides, sport teams, coaches, journalists, radio and TV programmes, documentary films and youth and sports delegations.

-311>

REA INDIA USA

**Date**: Nov 29, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **NAMIBIA**

### The Namibian Elections

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 15, 1989 on the Namibian Election:

According to the reports received, the elections held in Namibia have been certified by the United Nations as having been free and fair. The parties in the fray are reported to have won seats in the Constituent Assembly as follows.

South West African Peoples' Organisation (SWAPO) : 41
Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) : 21

United Democratic Front (UDF) : 04 Action Christian National (ACN) : 03

Federal Convention of Namibia (FCN) : 01

Namibian National Front (NNF) : 01 National Patriotic Front (NPF) : 01

Total: 72

2. In spite of the odds faced by SWAPO has won a majority of the seats, confirming its position as the representative of the largest number of Namibians. SWAPO falls short of a 2/3rd majority, that is required to adopt a Constitution of its choice. We are confident that it would be able to build a consensus on the future constitutional frame-work of free Namibia, carrying

with it others elected to the Constituent Assembly, under the wise leadership of Sam Nujoma.

3. The long struggle waged by SWAPO, ever since its formation in 1960, for independence, is bearing fruit, for national independence is now on the horizon. The last colony in black Africa is today shaking off its shakles. We share the joy of the Namibian people, and pledge ourselves to their full independence.

### MIBIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Nov 15, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

Fiji

The following is the text of a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Nov 01, 1989 on Fiji:

The Fiji authorities have written to our Ambassador in Fiji, Shri T.P. Sreenivasan, indicating their "displeasure" with his recent statements and actions and alleging "apparent interference" of the Indian government in Fiji's affairs. These pertain mainly to the Ambassador's efforts to calm the feelings of the people of Indian origin of that country, after some misguided Fijians had recently burnt a Sikh Gurdwara, a Muslim Mosque, and two Hindu Temples there.

2. The Government of India are surprised by what the Fijian regime has done. The Government reject these charges as totally baseless. Ambassador Sreenivasan was trying merely to emphasise the need for measures for restoring inter-racial harmony in Fiji and showing respect for all religions. Principled opposition to racial discrimination, wherever it occurs has been a constant feature of India's foreign policy. This cannot be deemed to constitute interference in the internal affairs of any coun-312>

try. India desires peace and progress for all citizens of Fiji, irrespective of race or creed. But India cannot close its eyes to the absolute need of maintaining its full support for the human and political rights of all the people of Fiji including of course those who have long maintained close and warm ties with

India. And amongst these we count many of Fijian origin whom we have learnt to admire.

3. The communication received from the Fijian authorities also conveys their "decision" that the Ambassador should leave Fiji by November 3, and their view that India's future representation in Fiji should be at a lower level. This statement is not easy to understand, as the Government of India had already announced its decision to transfer Ambassador Sreenivasan back to Headquarters, after completion of his normal term of duty in Fiji. The Government of India had also announced that Shri V.B. Soni, who had recently arrived there, will be in charge of the Mission as Charge d'Affaires, once Shri Sreenivasan departs.

JI INDIA USA

**Date:** Nov 01, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

### Pakistan

Reacting to the purported statement of the Pakistan Prime Minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, on Ayodhya, spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi said on Nov 11, 1989:

We have seen, with regret, the Pakistan Government's statement about Ayodhya.

We reject unwarranted interference in our internal affairs by outsiders. Those who have "solved" their own "minority problem" by virtually eliminating the minorities in their own country, would be well advised not to indulge in hypocritical platitudes about the treatment of minorities who enjoy full religious and other freedoms as proud citizens of India. Rather than misleading their own people with false propaganda, the Pakistani establishment should concentrate on preventing ethnic and sectarian violence and killings of Muslims in their own country.

Their statement is a biased distortion of facts and betrays a total ignorance of the complexities of this issue.

The Government and people of India are fully capable of handling their own internal affairs without motivated and malicious meddling from outside.

#### KISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date**: Nov 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS

#### Thailand

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 30, 1989 on the signing of an agreement between ONGC and Petroleum Authority of Thailand:

ONGC is signing an agreement with the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (Exploration and Production) Company Limited for a consultancy study of value US \$ 105 thousand in the prestigious 'B' structure offshore natural gas reserves in the Gulf of Thailand. This is the first time that ONGC has been awarded a contract in the oil and natural gas field in Thailand. An agreement was signed on 24-11-89 between Mr. P. K. Chandra, Vice Chairman, ONGC and Dr. Thongchat, Governor, TPPEP in Bangkok. -313>

AILAND INDIA USA

**Date**: Nov 30, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **SAARC**

### Fifth SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Meet

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 23, 1989 on the Fifth SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Meet:

The three-day fifth meeting of the SAARC Audio Visual Exchange

(SAVE) committee ended here yesterday. The meeting was chaired by Shri R. C. Sinha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Shri K. K. Bhargava, Secretary General, SAARC Secretariat was also present.

The Committee agreed that in addition to the regular monthly telecast/broadcast, a special magazine type programme on developmental themes, both on television and radio will be telecast/broadcast every six months. For each programme there would be a coordinating country and member countries would provide "contributions" to the coordinating country. The two themes selected for the year 1990 are "Highway Safety" and "Gender Bias in Education".

For television, Pakistan will coordinate the programme on 'Highway Safety' to be telecast in June, 1990 while India will coordinate the programme on 'Gender Bias in Education' to be telecast in December, 1990. For Radio, India will coordinate the programme on 'Highway Safety' to be broadcast in June, 1990 and Sri Lanka on 'Gender Bias in Education' to be broadcast in December, 1990.

The Committee deliberated on the modalities for co-production of TV and Radio Programmes. The Copywright to these programmes would vest in SAARC. It was agreed that India will be the coordinating country for the first co-production of TV programme and Pakistan will coordinate for the first co-production of Radio programme. The theme of the programmes would be 'Women in Development'.

The Committee also considered the modalities for conducting a SAARC Quiz Programme for Radio to be hosted by Pakistan in February 1990. The Quiz would consist of three rounds \_ preliminary, semi-final and final. The national teams of member countries will meet for the Quiz in Pakistan. The three rounds of the Quiz will be broadcast on consecutive weeks as special SAVE Programme on dates to be specified at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Committee previewed Radio and Television programmes offered by the member countries and prepared the programme pool. The Committee also previewed/auditioned special programmes for Television and Radio to be telecast/broadcast just before the Fifth SAARC Summit on consecutive days. The teleplays would be put out on Television, while Radio would broadcast music programmes.

Pursuant to the directive of the twelfth session of the Standing Committee regarding the observance of 8th December, 1989 as the day against Drug Abuse, the Committee noted that each member country would carry out a message by its Head of State/Government through electronic and print media against Drug Abuse.

-314>

**Date**: Nov 23, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### SAUDI ARABIA

### Indo-Saudi Talks on Civil Aviation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 08, 1989 on Indo-Saudi talks on Civil Aviation:

India and Saudi Arabia have agreed to increase the frequency entitlement of their respective designated airlines from 10 to 12 services per week.

This followed discussions between the official delegations of the two countries which concluded here today. The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Shri S. K. Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. The Saudi Arabian delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Nassir Al-Assaf, President of Civil Aviation.

It was also agreed that designated airlines will have a third point of operation in each other's country, namely, Madras for Saudia in India and Riyadh for Air India in Saudi Arabia. The services by the two airlines will continue to be operated under pooling arrangements which have been suitably modified. A Security clause, to cover international operations of both airlines, has also been added to the Agreement.

UDI ARABIA INDIA USA

**Date**: Nov 08, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **SOVIET UNION**

Indo-Soviet Trade Turnover Fixed at Rs. 8800 Crores TradeProtocol for 1990 Finalised

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 24, 1989 on Indo-Soviet Trade turnover:

India's trade with the USSR is planned to be increased to Rs. 8800 crores in 1990. This will comprise Rs. 5300 crores of exports from India to USSR and Rs. 3500 crores of imports from the USSR into India. A Trade Protocol fixing the trade volumes for the next year was finalised here today. Shri A. N. Varma, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, was the leader of Indian delegation and the Soviet delegation was led by Mr. V. F. Mordvinov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR.

Trade between the two countries is expected to reach a level of about Rs. 7000 crores during the current year 1989. This is expected to comprise about Rs. 4100 crores of exports from India to the USSR and Rs. 2900 crores of imports into India from USSR. The projected level for 1990 would thus represent a growth of over 25% over the current years plan. The flow of bilateral trade during the current year has been as expected.

It may be recalled that after the meeting between Indian Prime Minister and General Secretary, Mr. Michael Gorbachev in 1986, it was decided to raise the volume of bilateral trade turnover by 2.5 times over a period of five years. The bilateral trade volume obtaining then in 1986 was about Rs. 3700 crores. The proposals finalised during these negotiations for the coming year 1990 would represent a sub-

-315>

stantial step forward towards the attainment of this goal.

The major items of imports into India from the USSR in 1990 will include a wide range of machinery items such as power equipment, steel equipment, equipment for oil sector, mining machinery including equipment for coal industry, different types of machine tools, air transportation means, equipment for Indian Railways etc. and will include commodities such as crude oil, oil products, Muriate of potash, synthetic ammonia, polyethylene, PVC, metal scrap, pig iron non-ferrous metals such as zinc and copper, coking coal, newsprint etc. Apart from increasing the provisions for imports in regard to commodities such as PVC, polyethylene, muriate of potash, copper etc., increased provisions have also been made in regard to delivery of machinery items in areas such as transportation as well as for Soviet-assisted projects. A new entry relating to import of Rubber machinery has also been added.

As regards exports from India to the USSR in 1990, the major categories will consist of agricultural products (tea, packaged tea, coffee, instant coffee, pepper, tobacco, etc.) minerals and ores (including mica and mica products and alumina), a wide range of chemicals and chemical products, a number of textile items,

leather items, including finished leather, shoe uppers and shoes, a wide range of engineering goods and other miscellaneous items. Much higher exports are envisaged regarding cigarettes, mica and mica products, medicines and pharmaceutical preparations and raw materials for production of medicines, paints, enamels, and varnishes, pesticides and herbicides, shoes uppers, bed linen and towels, readymade garments cotton hosiery and woollen knitwear, razor blades, etc. In respect of a number of house-hold consumer items, increased exports have been planned which includes household chemicals, detergents including soaps, cosmetic goods, linoleum, vaccum flasks, etc. In the category of engineering goods, increased provisions have been made for such items as automobile storage batteries, traction and other batteries, polygraphic equipment, medical equipment, v-belts, electrical equipment, ferrous castings and forgings, food processing equipment including dairy equipment, freight containers, equipment for textile and leather Industries, automobile ancillaries, and knitting machines etc.

Both the Indian and Soviet delegations, recognising the need for diversifying the structure of bilateral trade by addition of more items to the import and export lists, have agreed that discussions should take place on this subject in a continuing fashion. Efforts would also continue to promote cooperation in the area of construction of projects in the USSR. It may be recalled that Workings Groups on New Forms of Cooperation and Production Cooperation have been constituted by the two Governments to promote new forms of cooperation between the two countries such as joint ventures and production cooperation. Such promotional activities would continue to be pursued vigorously.

Preliminary exchange of views on the Long-Term Trade Plan for 1991-95 also took place between the two delegations during the current talks.

-316>

DIA USA

**Date**: Nov 24, 1989

### **December**

# **Volume No**

1995

### CONTENTS

Foreign Affairs

Record VOL XXXV No 12 1989
December

**CONTENTS** 

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Asian Development Bank Loan for Modernisation of Ports 317

**AFRICA** 

India Bags Three Railway Projects in Africa 317

**AUSTRIA** 

Austria to provide Rs. 15 crore Soft Loan to India 318

ASIA CUP

Delhi to Host Asia Cup Hockey Tournament 319

BHUTAN

Inauguration of the Gyesta Min Hydel Project in Bhutan on the 14th December 1989 319

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Trade Turnover Fixed at Rs. 670 crores Protocol for 1990 Signed 320

HOME AND ABROAD

Priorities of the New Government Prime Minister's Address to the Nation 321

HONGKONG

India and Hongkong to have a separate Air Services Agreement 324

**INDONESIA** 

Indonesian Railway Engineers and Managers to be Trained in India 324

**JAPAN** 

325 India and Japan Sign Agreement

NEPAL

India Bags Major Highway Construction Contract in Nepal 326

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT

Sri Lanka 326

POLAND

Indo-Polish Trade Projected at Rs. 795 crores in 1990 - Protocol Signed in Warsaw 327

**ROMANIA** 

Suo Moto Statement by Shri I. K. Gujral, Minister of External Affairs, Regarding "Developments in Romania" in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 28th December, 1989

328

**SAARC** 

SAARC Meeting of Legal Experts for Comparative Study of Existing Laws with a view to Harmonising Drug Laws in the Region -New Delhi, December 20-22, 1989

India Wants Common Anti-Drugs Laws in

SAARC Region 330

SAARC Meet on Girl Child Opens Tomorrow 331

SRI LANKA

Press Release 331

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ambassador of USA Presents Credentials 332

**VIETNAM** 

NRDC Bags UNIDO Contract for Pilot Plants in Vietnam 333

Radio Vietnam Delegation Calls on Sri Upendra 333

DIA AUSTRIA USA BHUTAN INDONESIA JAPAN NEPAL SRI LANKA POLAND OMAN ROMANIA **VIETNAM** 

329

**Date**: Dec 01, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Asian Development Bank Loan for Modernisation of Ports

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 08, 1989 on Asian Development Bank Loan for modernisation of ports:

The Ministry of Surface Transport will receive a loan of 129 million US dollars from the Asian Development Bank, Manila to modernise some of its pending projects.

The Asian Development Bank will also give four lakh US dollars for undertaking a study on Development of Ship Repair facility at Bombay Port Trust and six lakh US dollars to meet the 'Management Information System Study'.

The works include: Modernisation of Port and Ship Repair facilities at Bombay Port such as improvement of container handling facilities; replacement of Pir-pau Oil Pier; replacement of Outer lock-gate for Indira Dock; replacement of firefighting vessel; provision of a computer based Management Information System; and replacement of caisson gates and provision of the support facilities in the dry docks in the Indira Dock and the Princess Dock.

It also include development of Kakinada Port in Andhra Pradesh and establishment of Project Implementation Cell in the Ministry of Surface Transport to monitor the implementation of the project.

Ministry of Surface Transport will have the over all responsibility for monitoring and implementation of the project. The project is expected to be completed by March 31, 1995. The loan is to be repaid by the year 2014.

DIA PHILIPPINES USA

**Date**: Dec 08, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### **AFRICA**

India Bags Three Railway Projects in Africa

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 14, 1989 on Railway Projects in Africa:

The Rail India Technical & Economic Services Limited (RITES), a Government of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Railways has achieved a break-through in Botswana and Swaziland by signing a contract for providing technical and professional services to their railway systems against stiff competition.

-317>

It is for the first time that RITES have been able to make an entry into these countries, thus opening a promising prospect of co-operation in the field of transportation technology.

In Botswana, RITES will provide technical and financial expertise to the Botswana Railways to overcome their problems connected with organisation, management and infrastructural deficiencies. RITES has already placed four Consultants against this contract.

In Swaziland, RITES has been able to secure work in association with De Leuw Cather, an American consultancy firm against USAID to provide management and technical services to assist Regional Rail Systems Support to Swaziland Management over the next four years. Swaziland Railway forms the backbone of their national freight transportation. Additionally, it serves as a primary conduit for import export traffic between Swaziland, other African nations and overseas countries. In addition, RITES has been able to secure a fourth contract in Zimbabwe, under which 113 personnel will be positioned to render technical and professional services for a further period of 2 years. RITES has a long association with the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ) since 1981. In fact RITES is the first Indian Public Sector Company which secured a major foothold in Zimbabwe after its independence. The Rail Transportation System in Zimbabwe was badly affected furing Independence struggle. There was a shortage of trained manpower and spares which resulted in heavy backlog in maintenance of rolling stock on account of which NRZ were unable to meet their commitments of moving the goods within the country. It is at this stage that RITES was assigned the task of giving assistance in maintenance of locomotives, signals, telecommunications systems etc. required to meet the transportation needs of the country under difficult conditions.

RITES not only completed this task efficiently but also assisted in the on-the-job training and developing the skills of the local personnel. Today, the National Railways of Zimbabwe are very close to self sufficiency in technical skills and management and are looking for cooperation with RITES in other areas of transportation sector.

The Indian Railways technology and our association with African countries has provided RITES on opportunity to obtain several projects of considerable challenge and complexity. With its broad base of human resources and its ability to meet rigorous programme schedules in managing transportation projects, and management services, relating to them, RITES has been able to secure substantial recognition worldwide, with operational experience in over 31 countries of Africa, Middle East, S.E. Asia and Latin America as total Transportation Consultants.

DIA BOTSWANA SWAZILAND USA ZIMBABWE

**Date**: Dec 14, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **AUSTRIA**

Austria to Provide Rs. 15 crore Soft Loan to India

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 13, 1989 on Austrian loan to India:

Austria will provide soft loan of Austrian Schilling 120 million (Rs. 15 crore) to India. This loan will be used by Indian importers both in the public and the private sectors to import capital goods of Austrian origin.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Shri Bhure Lal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and -318>

Mr. C. Cornaro, Austrian Ambassador in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The loan will carry interest rate of two per cent with repayment period of 20 years.

STRIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date**: Dec 13, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### ASIA CUP

Dehli to Host Asia Cup Hockey Tournament

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 06, 1989 on hosting of Asian Cup Hockey Tournament:

The Department of Youth Affairs and Sports has cleared a proposal of the Indian Hockey Federation to hold the 3rd Asia Cup Hockey Tournament in New Delhi from December 18 to 28, 1989 and to invite teams from countries. These countries are: China, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, South Korea, Thailand, Japan and Sri Lanka.

The Department will also sanction grant upto Rs. 3 lakh for conducting the tournament.

DIA CHINA BANGLADESH JAPAN KOREA MALAYSIA PAKISTAN THAILAND SRI LANKA

**Date**: Dec 06, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### **BHUTAN**

Inauguration of the Gyesta Mini Hydel Project in Bhutan on the Dec 14, 1989

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on December 15, 1989 by Official Spokesman (in the MEA) on inauguration of Gyesta Mini Hydel Project:

Indo-Bhutan economic co-operation extends to a large number of fields - hydro power, road constructions, telecommunications, industrial plants, hospitals, power transmission projects, agricultural and rural development projects and livestock breeding etc.

On one end of the scale, the close economic relations are symbolised by the 336 MW giant Chukha Hydro-electric Project built and financed entirely by India to the tune of Rs. 247 crores. Chukha is one of the biggest and most prestigious projects undertaken abroad by India. Harnessing the hydroelectric potential of the river Wangchu for the mutual benefit of the two countries, this project is a triumph of Indian engineering. Today, the Chukha Project yields one third of Bhutan's national revenue and provides -319>

power to the whole of Central and Western Bhutan, besides the bulk of the power that is sold to India.

3. On the other end of the scale are the two mini hydel projects - Khaling and Gyesta - constructed in East Bhutan. The Gyesta Hydel Project was inaugurated on the 14th December 1989 by the Indian Ambassador in Bhutan, Shri V.C. Khanna. The 1500 KWs Gyesta Mini Hydel Power Plant is located at an altitude of about 10,000 ft. and is the highest hydel project in this Himalayan kingdom. Constructed over river Khangen near the small village of Chummi in Brumthang district of Central Bhutan, this project is yet another significant contribution by India to Bhutan's socioeconomic development. This mini plant promises to go a long way in promoting the development of the Tongsa and Bamthang districts, especially with regard to modernisation and extension of forest and agro-based industries in this region. The Gyesta Hydel Project symbolises India's close cooperation with Bhutan for Bhutan's economic development even at the micro level. It has been executed by the Central Water Commission of India on a turn key basis at a cost of Rs. 4.4 crores.

The Bhutanese Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Dasho Om Pradhan, was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function. He read out a message from the King of Bhutan His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck. In his message for the inaugural ceremony, His Majesty has described Gyesta Project as yet another achievement in the annals of Indo-Bhutan friendship and cooperation. He noted that power from the project would help conserve forest welfare and the natural environment of Bhutan in addition to meeting the entire commercial and domestic energy needs of the people of Bumthang and Tongsa districts of Central Bhutan. The King also recalled the contribution of the Chukha Hydroelectric Project to Indo-Bhutan friendship and cooperation.

The Indian Ambassador, Shri V. C. Khanna, said in his speech that India greatly valued the traditional bonds of friendship with Bhutan and would continue to be an active participant in its endeavour to build a prosperous and self-reliant nation. He added, stressing that in its size the Gyesta Plant was a "Mini" Hydel Plant whose power generation would be less than one per cent of the magnificient monument of Indo-Bhutanese cooperation, the Hydel Project at Chukha, the Gyesta Project for the people of

Bumthang and Tongsa would hopefully have a "Mega" impact.

The inaugural function was an extremely colourful one. It was preceded by a religious ceremony performed by the Lamas amidst chanting of prayers and sounds of musical instruments. The people of the region also performed their famous Tsechu dance in their traditional finery.

#### UTAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date**: Dec 14, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLAC

Indo-GDR Trade Turnover Fixed at Rs. 670 crores Protocol for 1990 Signed

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 11, 1989 on Indo-GDR Trade:

The total trade turnover between India and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) has been fixed at Rs. 670 crores for the year 1990. This would comprise Rs. 340 crores of imports from GDR into India and Rs. 330 crores worth of exports from India to the GDR. The Trade Protocol fixing the turnover bet--320>

ween the two countries was signed here today by Mr. Horst Marx, Director General in the Ministry of Foreign Trade of GDR on behalf of the Government of GDR and by Shri V. N. Kaul, Joint Secretary (East Europe), Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India. The turnover envisaged for 1990 represents an increase of 15.5% over the trade target for 1989. It envisages an increase of 17.8% in Indian exports to the GDR and increase of 13.3% in Indian imports from the GDR.

The actual bilateral trade turnover for the current year 1989 is expected to be of the order of Rs. 420 crores comprising of Indian imports of about Rs. 220 crores and Indian exports of Rs. 200 crores. This would mean an implementation of about 70 to 75% of the target of Rs. 580 crores.

While the Trade Plan provisions for 1990 have been drawn up with a modest increase of 15.5% over the provisions for 1989, the actual trade turnover in 1990 is expected to be higher than this percentages because of better implementation of the Trade Plan.

The main items of exports from India to the GDR during 1990 would be deoiled cakes, pepper, cashew kernel, tobacco, castor oil, iron ore, shoe uppers cotton textiles, jute manufacture etc. and engineering items like machine tools electronic equipments, textile machinery, automobile components, xerographic machines, etc. Increase provisions have been made in regard to export of tyres and tubes, sanitary fittings, shoe uppers, etc. New items added in the export list are automobile batteries, refractories, plastic even sacks, and cocoa beens.

The major items of imports from the GDR into India during 1990 would be muriate of potash (MOP), steel products, inorganic and organic chemicals, newsprint rolled steel products, machinery items such as printing machinery, diesel generating sets, mining equipment, equipment for rolling mills etc. Increased provisions have been made in regard to imports of machine tools, equipment for chemical and petrochemicals communications cables, etc. New items added in the import list are, edible oil, DAP, etc.

During the 5-day deliberations, the two delegations also discussed general matters relating to the diversification of the structure of bilateral trade and also promotion of new forms of cooperation like joint ventures, cooperation in services sector, etc. between India and GDR.

DIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Dec 11, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### HOME AND ABROAD

Priorities of the New Government - Prime Minister's Address to the Nation

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 03, 1989 on Priorities of the New Governments Prime Minister's Address to the Nation:

The following is the text of the telecast broadcast made by the Prime Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh over the AIR/Doordarshan today:

"Dear Countrymen,

It was only a few days back that we were amidst you seeking your

mandate. We sought you out on the highways and -321>

the lanes and bylanes of our villages and cities. It will be my endeavour that the Government structures do not come in the way of the dialogue we have established. We have brought to this capital city the dust of the fields and granaries of India. Its message will guide us in everything that we do.

Delhi may glitter, but millions of Indian homes are without the light of hope. The voice of the Government will be the voice of such homes and the voice of peasants, workers and the youth. If power is a sword, it will be wielded on behalf of the poor and toiling masses.

The people of India have made a major contribution in the struggle for change in the last few years. For this, I am grateful to you. On behalf of the National Front and the Janata Dal, I thank the Left Parties and the BJP for extending support to the new Government for the new challenges that are before us.

After a long and dark night, the day has dawned but it is still a misty dawn. The coffers of the Government are empty. Our hearts are inflamed. There has been much voilence and bloodshed. Inflation has improverished our people. But, we have had two main strengths - your faith and our furtitude. It is these strengths which have enabled us to succeed in our difficult struggle, and they alone will again enable us to forge ahead on our chosen path.

We will try to solve the burning problems of the nation through consensus and reconcilliation. The Opposition will also be taken into confidence. India belongs to all of us and all must work for her progress.

The agony of Punjab continues. While separatism is no answer to our problems, there is an urgent need for a national endeavour to resolve the problem. A national effort will be made to resolve the complex problems like Punjab, J&K & Ram Ranmabhoomi/Babri Masjid issues.

Riots and violence have shaken us, but we should not forget that our greatest strength is our emotional oneness. We will not allow this to be weakened. A nation is not a map on a piece of paper. It lives in the hearts of the people. And if hearts are divided, the nation is divided. We will not allow this to happen. Much blood has been spilt. Now it is time we can shed some tears, only than this can be washed away.

This vast country cannot feel the glow of freedom if power is concentrated in Government Secretariats. Millions and millions of our people in villages, towns and cities of India should have the responsibility of governing themselves. Ram Manohar Lohia and

Jaya Prakash Narayan dreamt of decentralisation of power. We will fulfil their dreams. We shall bring forward legislation for genuine Panchayati Raj which will respect the imperatives of our federal structure.

Norms and values are the bedrock of democracy. Therefore, the sanctity of democratic institutions will be restored the autonomy of the judiciary, SAG and Parliament will be strengthened.

We will establish a Lokpal to ensure that moral values of public life are not violated. Even the Prime Minister will not be above such scrutiny.

We will have to increase access to information. If the government functions in full public view, wrong doings will be minimised. To this end the Official Secrets Act will be amended and we will make the functioning of the government more transparent. Secrecy will be maintained only where the interests of national security and foreign relations so warrant.

Free flow of information is a prerequisite for democracy. The right to information will be enshrined in our Constitution and the Doordarshan and AIR will be given autonomy.

-322>

Inflation has hurt the poor. It is in these difficult circumstances that we have taken office. These difficulties will bring forth all our strength and resolution.

India lives in its villages. Today there is a flight of wealth, labour and talent from the villages. As long as these continue the villages will remain economically weak. We have resolved that at least half of the investment outlays should be channelled to the rural areas. The terms of trade for the farmers and workers have deteriorated and for their hard work they get debt and poverty. The small farmer, landless labourers, agricultural labourers, artisans and weavers will be provided with debt relief.

A very large number of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe brethern are without even basic shelter. It will be our primary aim to ensure that they lead lives of dignity and honour. The fire of hunger can be extinguished by food, but the fire that ignites the mind of the disinherited can only culminate in a revolution. History has placed on the agenda of the nation the imperative of economic and social justice. Life-long suffering is the fate of the weaker sections. Nothing is worse than a life of indignity. Social justice demands that hope must light up the lives of the weaker sections.

It will be our endeavour that minorities live without fear and as equal partners of our country's progress.

The future of the country depends on women; today they are neglected and exploited. The first step towards systemic change is to bring women into the national mainstream.

The youth has played a major role in the change of government. I am grateful to them. The youth of a nation are not called upon only to change the government; they are called upon to change history. Structures and systems are not changed in the corridors of power. Social forces have to be mobilised to transform society. I summon our youth to organise our people not only to change governments but also to bring about basic changes in the lives of the poor. Our democracy has to be liberated from the evil influence of money power. To this end, the youth can mobilise all working people in the struggle of a new order.

A country's foreign policy is built on a national consensus. Our policy of non-alignment derives from a national commitment. In the changed circumstances, we shall try to strengthen non-alignment. We shall continue to struggle for peace, disarmament and development. We are committed to fighting apartheid in South Africa and for securing the brave Palestinian people their inalienable rights. Effective steps will be taken to improve relations with our neighbours. It shall be our endeavour to make SAARC a dynamic institution.

I thank you for the support you have given for the change of the government. We need greater support for the work of the new government. We will give a government that every Indian will be proud of.

-323>

DIA USA

**Date**: Dec 03, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

#### HONGKONG

India and Hongkong to have a separate Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 18, 1989 on Air Service Agreement with Hongkong:

India and Hongkong is negotiating a separate Air-Services Agreement between the two countries. At present, services between Hongkong and India are authorised under the Agreement between UK and India - Hongkong being a UK territory presently. However, since Hongkong is scheduled to be ceded to China in 1997, a fresh agreement between the two countries is being negotiated now in order to avoid a break in air-services.

The talks on the subject between the two countries were held recently in Hongkong. The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Shri K. K. Bhatnagar, Director in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the UK/Hongkong delegation was led by Mr. Michael Fielder of the UK Government.

The two sides succeeded in reaching complete agreement on all Articles of the text of the Agreement. The two sides also successfully negotiated the new route schedule between the two countries. With the coming into force of the new Agreement, hereas Cathay Pacific, the Hongkong carrier would be able to fly via Thailand and Vietnam to India and further to points in UAE, the Indian carrier would be entitled to operate through the same intermediate points to Hongkong and further to Japan and Seoul.

Both sides would be entitled to four services to/through the other country. However, on the basis of existing rights, Air-India would be entitled to an additional service by 747 aircraft.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM CHINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC THAILAND UNITED ARAB EMIRATES VIETNAM JAPAN KOREA

**Date**: Dec 18, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **INDONESIA**

Indonesian Railway Engineers and Managers to be Trained inIndia

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 26, 1989 on Training of Indonesian Railway Engineers and Managers in India:

The Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITES), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railways, has been awarded a Contract to train Senior Engineers and Managers of the Indonesian State Railways, under the World Bank Technical Assistance Programme. The training will provide a comparative overview of methods of construction, inspection and maintenance of bridges on railways, including techniques and equipments used under diverse operating and environmental conditions with

emphasis on metallic bridges. The trainees will also attend a two weeks' programme -324>

on training system on Indian Railways, wherein the training policy formulation, organisation, infrastructure, curricula and management will be covered. The training and maintenance system adopted on the Indian Railways is ideally suited to the needs of the Indonesian State Railways, which is embarking on massive development programme. This intensive training has been specially geared to the demands of Indonesian State Railways.

RITES has so far conducted a large number of tailor-made courses for foreign trainees. Over 1,400 personnel of 31 countries, including Bangladesh, Burma, Egypt, Iraq, Ghana, Jordon, Kenya, Nigeria, Malaysia, Korea, Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe, etc. have so far benefited from such training programmes in India. Besides, RITES has also trained thousands of such personnel in the host countries. RITES has organised a large number of comprehensive and well-structured training programmes funded by International bodies such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Commonwealth Secretariat, UNDP, Canadian International Development Agency etc. relevant to different modes of transport.

DONESIA INDIA USA BANGLADESH BURMA EGYPT GHANA IRAQ KENYA KOREA MALAYSIA NIGER NIGERIA SUDAN ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

**Date**: Dec 26, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

**JAPAN** 

India and Japan Sign Agreement

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 22, 1989 on signing of agreement by India and Japan:

India and Japan today signed an agreement for providing technical knowhow, basic engineering and supply of equipment for the new Polyester Filament Yarn plant to be set up in District Bharuch, Gujarat. The plant to be the first of its kind in the country will cost about Rupees 50 crore.

An agreement was signed by Shri V. N. Jaikar, Chairman Petrofils, a Joint venture of Government of India and Weavers Cooperatives and Mr. Imaizume, General Manager of Marubeni in the presence of

Shri M. S. Gill, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petro Chemicals.

The product to be called 'Spendex' is at present produced in about 11 countries of the world. The technology is very guarded and difficult to get from licensors. But Petrofils has succeeded to arrange this technology from the Japanese firm M/s Marubeni who would provide technical know-how from M/s Toyobo Co. Limited of Japan.

The Japanese collaborators would supply technical know-how, basic engineering and imported equipments and would also supervise detailed engineering, construction and commissioning of the plant. They have also agreed to provide training to Petrofils technical personnel in their Japanese plant.

Spandex is an elastomeric yarn with wide applications in elastic tapes, undergarments, sportswear, socks knitting, medical application etc. Spandex primarily replaces heat resistant rubber used in the above mentioned products. It is an elastic yarn which retain its shape and size even -325>

if it is stretched six times. Unlike heat resistance latex rubber it can resist high temperature, effect of sunlight and is chemically inert. It can be dyed whereas heat resistant latex cannot be dyed. The life of the garments would be 2 to 3 times more and the garment would retain its shape without deformation.

PAN INDIA USA

**Date**: Dec 22, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

**NEPAL** 

India Bags Major Highway Construction Contract in Nepal

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 13, 1989 on India bagging a major highway contract in Nepal:

A major highway construction project in Nepal has been awarded to the Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON), a public sector unit under the Ministry of Railways. The project involves the reconstruction of the 134 kilometer long East-West highway also known as the Mahendra Raj Marg extending from Belbari to Chuharwa in the Terai region of Eastern Nepal. The value of the contract is Rs. 28 crores and will be financed with assistance from the Asian Development Bank. The project is likely to be completed within a period of 22 months. IRCON has bagged this contract against stiff international competition with full support extended to it by the EXIM Bank of India. The contract was signed at Kathmandu on Monday by Shri Bharati Sharma, Project Director of Department of Roads of the Government of Nepal and Shri R. C. Barua, Director, IRCON.

Recently, IRCON successfully completed the Birgunj-Hatauda Bridge Project in Nepal.

PAL INDIA TOTO

**Date**: Dec 13, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT

Sri Lanka

The following is the text of Official Spokesman's Statement on Sri Lanka issued in New Delhi on Dec 12, 1989:

To questions regarding Government of India's response on the Sri Lankan issue, after the recent visit of the Sri Lankan delegation, Spokesman said that all ideas and requests conveyed by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister are being sympathatically considered and after all issues are fully examined, a response in the spirit of trust and co-operation as mentioned in the Joint Press Release will be conveyed.

Spokesman added that the Indian Government had responded warmly and appreciatively to the messages of grants for Nepalese Government.

-326>

He drew attention to the fact that the Prime Minister has said that foreign policy is the result of national consensus and that problems with neighbouring countries would be resolved in a spirit of good neighbourliness. He also drew attention to other factors, namely that the government had committed in its Party manifesto that it would strive for the safety and security of the Tamils in Sri Lanka and promote lasting peace and amity amongst

all sections of the population. A reference had also been made to this in the Indo-Sri Lankan Joint Press Release of 8th December. It must also be noted that the DMK is a constituent member of the National Front and Mr. Karunanidhi is having a second round of consultations today with the PM and the EAM. As seen from the manifesto and Joint Press Release, the safety and security of all communities in the North-East Province is a Central objective.

To a question regarding the purpose of the Foreign Secretary's forthcoming visit to Sri Lanka, Spokesman said that the visit is a part of the ongoing consultations.

He had no comment to offer on reports of influx of Tamil refugees into India.

I LANKA INDIA USA NEPAL

**Date**: Dec 12, 1989

# Volume No

1995

### **POLAND**

Indo-Polish Trade Projected at Rs. 795 crores in 1990 -Protocol Signed in Warsaw

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 24, 1989 on signing a Trade Protocol in Warsaw by India and Poland:

India and Poland have agreed on a trade turnover level of Rs. 795.6 crores for the year 1990. This will comprise exports from India to Poland of Rs. 361 crores and imports from Poland into India of Rs. 434.6 crores. This projected target for next year is about 15.9% higher than the trade target of Rs. 686.6 crores in 1989. The Protocol to this effect was signed in Warsaw on December 18, 1989. The Indian delegation was led by Shri V. N. Kaul, Joint Secretary (East Europe), Ministry of Commerce, who visited Poland to discuss and finalise the Indo-Polish Trade Plan for 1990 with the Polish delegation headed by Mr. Pawel Zawistowski, Deputy Director, Polish Ministry of International Economic Cooperation.

The main items of imports from Poland into India will be Sulphur, Ferrous, and non-ferrous metals, chemicals and chemical products, newsprint, machinery services for coal industry, railway items, power equipment, diesel generating sets, machine tools, textile machinery, ship engines, equipment and services for oil drilling

industry etc. The target for imports of the order of Rs. 434.6 crores is higher by about 17% as compared to the target for 1989.

The main items of export from India to Poland will be bulk tea, deoiled cakes, pepper, cotton textiles (including cotton yarn), raw jute and jute goods, finished leather, a number of engineering items such as textile machinery, machine tools, surgical and medical instruments, electrical equipment/components, electronic components, etc. The projected target for Indian exports of the order of Rs. 361 -327>

crores is higher by about 15% as compared to the target for 1989.

The Trade Plan has been drawn up in such a way that the imports from Poland will be higher than Indian exports to Poland to rectify the present imbalance in trade against Poland.

The actual turnover for the current year 1989 is expected to be of the order of Rs. 371 crores comprising Rs. 178 crores by way of Indian exports to Poland and Rs. 193 crores by way of imports into India from Poland. This would mean an implementation ratio of about 54.2% of the Trade Plan target for the current year.

In the Trade Plan for coming year 1990, increased provisions have been made in respect of major items of imports like power equipment, mining equipment, textile machinery, diesel generating sets, drilling equipment, railway equipment, steel products, sulphur, newsprint etc. and similarly increased provisions have been made in the export list in respect of pepper, cotton textiles, electrical equipment, textile machinery etc. New items added in the list of imports from Poland included Metal Scrap and Pig Iron. New items added in the export list included disposable diapers, gramophone records and cassettes.

While the Trade Plan provisions for 1990 show an increase of 15.9% over the Trade Plan provisions for 1989, the actual trade turnover in 1990 is expected to be a higher percentage since higher implementation is being attempted.

LAND INDIA USA

**Date**: Dec 24, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

ROMANIA

Suo Moto Statement by Shri I. K. Gujral Minister of External Affairs, Regarding "Developments in Romania" in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on Dec 28, 1989

The following is the text of "Suo Moto" statement by Shri I. K. Gujral Minister of External Affairs on December 28, 1989 on "Development in Romania":

In recent weeks, radical, yet admirably peaceful, changes have taken place all over Eastern Europe in the direction of democratisation, political pluralism and the evolution of more representative systems and institutions reflecting popular aspirations. Romania has been an unfortunate exception to the trend towards peaceful transformations in Eastern Europe.

Events were triggered off by the brutal killings of unarmed civilians in the town of Timisoara in the Transylvanian region of Romania. The borders of Romania were sealed, as the trouble spread to other Romanian cities, including Bucharest. Mass disturbances and protests at a rally in Bucharest on 22nd December compelled former President Ceausesou and his wife to flee from Bucharest. They were later caught and executed after trial by a military tribunal.

Even in its last hours, the Ceausesou regime unleashed a shockingly brutal wave of terror and violence against its own people. The Government of India strongly condemns the widespread violence and massacre of innocent Romanian citizens, including children. Our profound sympathies are with them. The Romanian people have paid a very heavy price for attaining -328>

their freedom and democratic rights. We salute their fearlessness, bravery and sacrifice.

The situation within Romania has begun to stabilise. A Council of the National Salvation Front has assumed power in Romania. They have announced a programme of action including holding free elections in April 1990. We have been maintaining contact with them both through our Ambassador in Romania as well as through the Romanian Ambassador in India, and are getting in touch with the new Romanian leadership. It is our hope that the National Salvation Front will be able to successfully guide the destinies of the Romanian people to a peaceful and democratic future.

The Government warmly welcomes the movement towards a more humane and liberal system in Romania. The Government and people of India wish the Romanian people success in the goals they have set before themselves and greater progress and prosperity. We extend our support and cooperation to them in rebuilding their economy and joining the mainstream of the world economy. We have already offered to Romania urgently needed medical and humanitarian relief assistance. We are confident that the ties of friendship,

cooperation and understanding between India and Romania will be strengthened and expanded in the future under an open system in Romania.

AN ROMANIA USA INDIA

**Date**: Dec 28, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### **SAARC**

SAARC Meeting of Legal Experts for Comparative Study of Existing Laws with a view to Harmonising Drug Laws in the Region- New Delhi, Dec 20, 1989

The following is the text of press release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi n December 19, 1989 on SAARC meeting of Legal experts:

At the 4th SAARC Summit held in Islamabad in December 1988, the Heads of State of Government expressed grave concern over the growing magnitude and serious effects of drug abuse, particularly among young people, and drug trafficking. They recognised the need for urgent and effective measures to eradicate this evil and decided to declare the year 1989 as the "SAARC Year for Combatting Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking".

- 2. In pursuance of this decision, the SAARC Technical Committee on the Prevention of Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse, at the 4th meeting at Islamabad in April 1989, drew up an Action Plan for the SAARC Year for Combatting Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking. One of the items included provided for a comparative study of existing laws with a view to bringing greater uniformity in penalties by harmonising relevant legislation in SAARC member countries. Accordingly, the Calender of Activities for 1989 included a meeting of legal experts for a comparative study of existing laws with a view to harmonising the drug laws in the region.
- 3. Earlier, the SAARC Technical Committee had, at its first meeting in Islamabad in April 1987, urged that the respective governments should ensure that drug trafficking is punishable by adequate measures and that every effort should be -329>

made to harmonise drug legislation to the greatest possible extent, particularly in relation to penalties. This was based on

the recognition of the necessity to deter traffickers from exploring the diversity of laws in SAARC member States. At its third meeting in Lahore in October 1988, the Committee had recommended greater uniformity in penalties by harmonizing relevant legislation in SAARC member countries.

- 4. While the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of human beings, their medical use is indispensable for the relief of pain and suffering; hence the need to ensure, on the one hand, the eradication of drug abuse and, on the other, the availability of drugs necessary for medical and scientific use through a regulated mechanism. Legal provisions vary from country to country, both in terms of defining the offences as well as the penalties prescribed. These differences are further compounded by differing sentencing, bail and probation practices.
- 5. The objectives of the meeting would therefore be to:
- a. examine legal provisions in the existing laws of member countries under various broad aspects;
- b. identify the scope for harmonisation in specific areas through updating or strengthening of relevant provisions in the member countries so as to uniformally match them to those that are the must stringent; and
- c. make appropriate recommendations for action by the member countries

DIA PAKISTAN USA

Date: Dec 20, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### SAARC

India Wants Common Anti-Drugs Laws in SAARC Region

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1989 on Anti-Drug Laws in SAARC region:

India has called for a common model law on narcotics control and narcotics traffic by SAARC countries. Inaugurating a conference of legal experts from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives and India here Revenue Secretary Dr. Nitish Sen Gupta

said that SAARC countries face the twin dangers of carrier traffic from the Golden Triangle and Golden Crescent sources and increasing addition by juveniles in this region.

Dr. Sen Gupta reiterated India's desire to have a comparative study of the existing national laws on drug control to facilitate common action programmes and to prevent the traffickers from taking advantage of the weaknesses of Narcotics Laws in one country to cross over and take refuge from another country where they may be under hot pursuit. He said that India attaches great significance to deterrent and severe punishment and sanctions, immediate forfeiture of the proceeds of drug related crimes, strict control on substance used in illicit manufacture of narcotic drug and psychotropic substances. He further made it clear that the growing menace of international drug traffic cannot be curbed unless a common political will and anti-narcotic action programme is evolved.

The international conference of legal experts from SAARC countries on narcotics and anti-drug laws will last till December 22, 1989.

-330>

DIA BANGLADESH NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA MALDIVES CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA USA

**Date**: Dec 20, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

SAARC

SAARC Meet on Girl Child Opens Tomorrow

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1989 on "SAARC Meet on Girl Child."

The SAARC Technical Committee Meeting on 'Women in Development' begins here on December 21, 1989. The Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development, Shri S. P. Shukla will inaugurate the two-day meet.

The meeting will formulate a Plan of Action for celebrating the SAARC Year of the Girl Child in 1990. It will discuss steps to create awareness in the society about their responsibilities towards the Girl Child and sensitise the Girl Child her role and status. The meeting will also deliberate on launching Special

programmes for Girl Child.

Delegates from SAARC countries namely, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will participate.

### DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA BANGLADESH BHUTAN MALDIVES NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA

**Date**: Dec 20, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### SRI LANKA

#### Press Release

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 07, 1989 by Ministry of External Affairs on Sri Lankan Foreign Minister's call on Minister of External Affairs Shri I. K. Gujral:

The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, Honourable Ranjan Wi-jeratne called on the External Affairs Minister, Shri I. K. Gujral. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister was accompanied by Mr. Bernard Tilakaratna, Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bradman Weerakoon, Adviser to the President on International Relations, General Sepala Attygalle, Defence Secretary and the High Commissioner, H.E. Dr. S. Kalpage.

- 2. During the hour long talks, which took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, the EAM, Shri I. K. Gujral was assisted by the Foreign Secretary Shri S. K. Singh, the Defence Secretary Shri Naresh Chandra, the Indian High Commissioner Shri L. L. Mehrotra and Joint Secretary Shri Kuldip Sahdev.
- 3. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister conveyed the greetings of the Sri Lankan President, His Excellency R. Premadasa, and the people of Sri Lanka, to the new Government of India and the people of India.
- 4. The EAM while reciprocating the sentiments expressed by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, reiterated the resolve of the Government of India to strengthen its relations with the neighbouring countries, in the light of the commitments made in his party's manifesto, as well as in the context of the several statements made by the Prime Minister after assuming office. The External Affairs Minister also expressed his happiness, at having the honour to welcome as the first official

delegation to India after the assumption of office by the new Government, a delegation from a friendly and close neighbour, Sri Lanka.

- 5. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister and the External Affairs Minister reviewed recent developments in the context of the process of the de-induction of the IPKF. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister explained to the Indian External Affairs Minister the current situation in the North-Eastern Province of Sri Lanka.
- 6. The two Ministers looked forward to closer co-operation between India and Sri Lanka. They also considered the possibility of finalising the Friendship Treaty, which has been under discussion by the two countries.
- 7. Both the Ministers reiterated the commitment of their respective Governments to the concept of SAARC and the objectives of close regional co-operation.

I LANKA INDIA USA

**Date**: Dec 07, 1989

## **Volume No**

1995

### UNITED STATE OF AMERICA

### Ambassador of USA Presents Credentials

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 22, 1989 on presenting of credentials by American Ambassador:

The new Ambassador of U.S.A. H.E. Mr. William Clark presented his credentials to the President Shri R. Venkataraman at a function held in Rashtrapati Bhavan today.

Welcoming the new Ambassador of USA the President Shri R. Venkataraman referred to the relations between India and USA based on the sharing of democratic ideals and values and said, "we look forward to the continuing participation of the US as an important partner in our national endeavour to provide a better quality of life for our people".

Describing the rapid growth in the trade between the two

countries in hitechnology products as the centre-piece of relations between India and the USA, the President Shri R. Venkataraman reiterated that, "India remains committed to the concepts of self-reliance and self-sufficiency in the pursuit of sophisticated technologies and expects that friendly countries like the United States will understand sympathetically these aspirations".

Referring to the new climate of hope generated by the improvement in the relations between the United States and Soviet Union the President Shri R. Venkataraman said, "India looks forward optimistically to a new era in international relations and hopes to participate constructively in addressing the many vital issues that may arise from this process of change".

Earlier while presenting his credentials the new Ambassador of USA H.E. Mr. William Clark referred to the recent elections in India and said "just recently the people of the world watched with respect and admiration as the democratic process, the largest in the history of the world was exercised by the Indian people".

Referring to the size and potential that exists in the economic sphere to be -332>

developed between the two countries, the Ambassador of United States said, "The flow of technology which our two governments support will only strengthen and spur such cooperation. Given the size and caliber of India's scientific community, the United States stands to benefit from a two-day flow".

A INDIA PERU

**Date**: Dec 22, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

### **VIETNAM**

NRDC Bags UNIDO Contract for Pilot Plants in Vietnam

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 20, 1989 on bagging of UNIDO contracts in Vietnam by NRDC:

National Research Development Corporation a public sector

organisation under Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has won a contract from United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) for setting up two pilot plants for manufacture of Natural Dyes and Pigments and Synthetic Dyes and Pigments in Vietnam at a cost of around Rs. one crore.

The pilot plants are being set up for M/s. Experimental Enterprises for Dyes and Pigments, of the Government of Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City. The scope of work includes generation of knowhow for production of natural dyes and pigments based on local raw material available in Vietnam, procurement and supply of machinery, installation and commissioning at site and training to Vietnamese personnel in India.

This is the first major contract using Indian R&D and pilot plant capabilities to develop new products in other developing countries.

ETNAM INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date**: Dec 20, 1989

# **Volume No**

1995

#### **VIETNAM**

Radio Vietnam Delegation Calls on Shri Upendra

The following is the text of press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 12, 1989 on Radio Vietnam Delegation's call on Shri Upendra:

A three-member Radio Vietnam Delegation, headed by Mr. Phan Quang, Director General, Voice of Vietnam, called on the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri P. Upendra, here today.

Extending a warm welcome to the visiting delegation, Shri Upendra hoped that the cultural relations between the two Asian countries would be further strengthened.

The Minister agreed to the request of the visiting delegation to provide training facilities to their announcers, newsreaders etc. in Hindi for Vietnam's external broadcasts. The Minister also agreed to another request for supply of parts and spares for their equipment.

Briefing the Vietnamese delegation about the progress made by India in the field of radio network, Shri Upendra said that All India Radio today had about 97
-333>

Radio Stations, including five local Stations, covering approximately 86 per cent of the country and 95 per cent of the population.

On completion of all VII Plan Schemes, AIR would have 205 broadcasting stations providing coverage to 97.5 per cent of the population and 91 per cent of the area. He informed the visiting delegation that by 1990-91 AIR would become the largest public broadcasting network in the world.

Many subjects of mutual interest between India and Vietnam were discussed, and Vietnamese delegation was fully satisfied about the outcome of discussion.

-334>

ETNAM INDIA USA **Date**: Dec 12, 1989