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BANGLADESH

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Indo-Bangladesh Joint Press Statement

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The following joint press statement on the third bilateral consultations between the officials of the Foreign Offices of India and Bangladesh was issued in Dacca on January 12, 1974:

In pursuance of the decision taken by the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and India in March 1972 that regular consultations should be held between Foreign Office officials of Bangladesh and India to ensure cooperation at all levels, the third bilateral consultations between senior officials of Foreign Offices of the two countries were held in Dacca from 9th January, 1974 to the 12th January, 1974. It would be recalled that the Second round of consultations were held in New Delhi in November, 1972.

The delegations comprised:

BANGLADESH

Mr. Enayet Karim, Foreign Secretary, Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmad, Additional Foreign secretary, Mr. Atul Karim, Deputy High Commissioner in New Delhi, Mr. A.S.K. Chowdhury, Deputy High Commissioner in Calcutta, Mr. A.K.H. Morshed, Director General, Abdul Ahsan, Director General, Mr. Fazlul Karim, Director, Mr. A.K.M. Fazlur Rahman, Director, and Mr. Muhammed Zamir, Director.

INDIA

Mr. Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Mr. K.P.S. Menon, Joint Secretary (Bangladesh), Mr. A. S. Chib, Joint Secretary (Pakistan), Mr. J. N. Dixit, Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca, Mr. C. Dasgupta, First Secretary, Indian High Commission, Dacca, Mr. P. L. Santoshi, First Secretary, Indian High Commission, Dacca, Mr. Ranjit

Gupta, Deputy Secretary (Bangladesh), and Mr. Indrajit Singh, Under Secretary (Bangladesh).

During the visit Indian Foreign Secretary, Mr. Kewal Singh, accompanied by the High Commissioner for India in Bangladesh, His Excellency Mr. Subimal Dutt called on the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Bangbandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, His Excellency Dr. Kamal Hossain. The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh renewed his invitation to the Foreign Minister of India to visit Dacca. The Foreign Secretary of India informed His Excellency Dr. Kamal Hossain that Sardar Swaran Singh was looking forward to visit to Dacca in the very near future.

The two delegations exchanged views on the progress made in the repatriation programme envisaged in the Delhi Agreement and consulted on further measures to be taken to complete the repatriation process expeditiously. It was agreed that the result of these consultations should be brought to the notice of the Government of Pakistan.

They also held discussions on developments in the sub-continent with the objective of bringing about speedy normalisation of the situation and the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent.

The two sides reviewed bilateral relations since their last meeting and expressed satisfaction at the goodwill, friendship and close mutual cooperation that characterised the relations between India and Bangladesh during this period. They reaffirmed the desire of their respective governments to further strengthen their cooperation on matters of common interest.

The two delegations had a wide ranging exchange of views on the international situation with particular reference to the development in West Asia. They reaffirmed the support of their governments to the Arab

Cause and expressed the hope that lasting peace would be achieved in the region on the basis of the vacation of all occupied Arab Territories by Israel and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality and revealed a complete identity of views on all matters. The two sides agreed that such periodical consultations make a valuable contribution to the growing friendship between India and Bangladesh.

The Indian delegation conveyed their thanks for the warm hospitality extended to them by the Government of Bangladesh. It was agreed that the next round of consultations would be held in New Delhi at a mutually agreed date.

BANGLADESH INDIA PAKISTAN USA MALI ISRAEL

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Economic Cooperation

The following press release on the Indo-Bulgarian talks on economic cooperation was released in New Delhi on January 19, 1974:

The 12-member Bulgarian Delegation headed by His Excellency Mr. Yordan Tenov, First Deputy Minister of Machine Building and Metallurgy, left for home this morning after a week's stay in India. The delegation had discussions with the Indian delegation which was led by Shri M. B. Rana, Minister of State for Industrial Development.

The following is the record of discussions:

A delegation of twelve economic experts from the Peoples' Republic of Bulgaria visited India from January 12 to 18, 1974 led by H. E. Mr. Yordan Tenov, first Deputy Minister of Machine Building and Metallurgy of the Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bulgaria at the invitation of the Government of India. Shri M. B. Rana, Minister of State for Industrial Development, was the leader of the Indian delegation.

Earlier, the Government of India had sent a team of experts to Bulgaria, in September, 1973 which had made an initial identification of areas of cooperation between the two, countries, indicating certain fields which needed to be further investigated in consultation with Bulgarian experts.

The visit of the delegation of experts led by H.E. Mr. Tenov has served the purpose of concretising specific areas and sectors where economic cooperation and collaboration between the two countries could be carried out in mutual interest.

During the course of his visit, H.E. Mr. Tenov had an opportunity to hold discussions with a number of Ministers and officials of the Government of India.

The discussions covered the fields of chemical industry, pharmaceutical industry, machine building industry and electronics, food processing industry and metallurgical industry.

Both delegations were of the view that mutual discussions had resulted in the identification of many fields where economic cooperation between the two countries could be implemented to mutual advantage in fulfilment of the mutual desire to strengthen and amplify Indo-Bulgarian relations.

Both sides were agreed that as a result of the discussions, exchange of opinion and identification of possibilities of economic cooperation in various fields, mutual economic relations between the two countries would be

significantly extended in scope in mutual interest and will result in expansion of trade between the two countries. Both sides agreed to review progress in the areas of cooperation from time to time.

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BULGARIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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FIJI

Indo-Fiji Agreement on Air Services

Following press release on Indo-Fiji agreement relating to air services was issued in New Delhi on January 28, 1974:

An Agreement between the Governments of India and Fiji, relating to air services, was signed here today. The Deputy Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir P. K. Ganilau, signed the agreement on behalf of his Government, and Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of Tourism & Civil Aviation, on behalf of the Government of India.

The Agreement provides that the designated airlines of India and Fiji may each operate upto two services a week on the specified routes to or through each other's territory. Air India is now operating once weekly to Nandi. The Fijian airline has not yet commenced operations to India.

Air India started operating to Fiji in August 1964 in terms of the India-U.K. Air Services Agreement. With the emergence of Fiji as an independent country in October 1970, it became necessary to conclude a fresh agreement with the Government of Fiji.

Delegations from India and Fiji met in Suva in Fiji between September 10 and 12 1973 to negotiate a bilateral Air Services Agreement. The Indian delegation was led by Shri N. Sahgal, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation, while the Fijian delegation was led by Mr. T. R. Vakatora Permanent Secretary for Transport & Tourism, Government of Fiji. The two delegations agreed upon the text of an Air Service Agreement which was finalised and initialled by the leaders of the two delegations. It was further decided that the Agreement should be signed after the constitutional requirements of the respective countries were fulfilled.

With the signing of the agreement, it comes into force as from today.

FIJI INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President Giri's Republic Day Message

Following is the text of the President, Shri V. V. Giri's message to the Nation, broadcast by All India Radio on the eve of the 25th Republic Day:

Tomorrow the nation will celebrate the day which marks the commencement of the twenty-fifth year of our Republic. On this joyous occasion, I offer my greetings and felicitations to my fellow citizens, both within the country and abroad. At the outset, I would like to remind ourselves that like many other nations of the world, currently, we are passing through a period of unprecedented pressure and strain on our economy.

The factors contributing to this situation are not entirely of our making; some are due to causes which have had global repercussions and could not be anticipated. The challenge that is posed before us has brought to the fore the imperative necessity for forging our best national endeavour.

As a people, we, in India, have suffered in the past many privations and hardships. It is often found, when the country is on the threshold of recovery from one crisis, another of a greater magnitude confronts it. This only underlines the urgency and the importance of evolving a coherent and viable

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economic policy which would guarantee to the vast millions of our population an assured life of security with basic and minimum comforts. When we see that almost 40 per cent of our population continues to live below the poverty line, we realise the inadequacy of our performances and achievements.

The growing unrest that we witness in different parts of the country has caused me the deepest concern and pain. Throughout our struggle for independence, Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, taught us the lesson of Truth and Non-violence. It was by a strict adherence to this principle that we succeeded in making a mighty Empire bow down before the will of an unarmed people determined to undergo any sacrifice or suffering. Today, we are politically independent-free to govern ourselves. The need for disciplined conduct is far greater at the present juncture. Let us remember that we cannot achieve our goals by agitations, by burning or looting of shops and godowns, by disruption of means of transport, or by strikes, lock-outs and bundhs. Such acts of violence and indiscipline are a direct invitation to chaos. They not only destroy and deplete stocks of available essential goods but prevent their movement to needy areas, and thereby aggravate an already difficult situation. They cause the deepest hurt to the innocent and poorer sections of the community. No responsible government can countenance destructive

methods. Prompt and firm action has to be taken to instil confidence that personal liberty and freedom of the citizen is fully safeguarded, and law and order maintained. We are a democracy. Let it not be forgotten that it is through our unshakeable faith in democratic methods that we have been able to preserve the unity and integrity of our country.

The situation that we face today can be tackled effectively only by a total involvement of the people in every walk of life in our efforts to achieve positive results. I attach the greatest importance to public co-operation and to the creation of dependable agencies of vigilant public opinion in every part of the country. These agencies, formed through association of citizens and functioning within the bounds of law, could become the most potent instrument to deal with hoarders, black-marketeers and profiteers. It is the Government's duty to punish and punish most stringently - those anti-social elements who by resort to dishonest and unsocial practices seek to make personal gains at the expense of the society. This duty is best discharged when Government is assisted by a vigilant public who will expose these evildoers fearlessly.

The phenomenon of growing and crushing price rise has resulted in unsettling in a variety of ways the normal life of the community and has imposed hardships as seldom known before. The persistent shortage of essential commodities and lack of adequate stocks of foodgrains to enable their equitable distribution among the States are some of the causes attributed to the price rise. We must evolve a basic plan of procurement applicable in all States and organize an efficient public distribution system. There has to be a determined effort to increase production, particularly of commodities essential for day-to-day consumption. We have also to build up adequate stocks. If all this is done, prices are bound to stabilize and come down to reasonable levels.

I have appealed time and again to my working class comrades, whether in the farms or in the factories, to extend their

fullest co-operation to maintain production without interruption and improve productivity to the maximum possible extent. A climate of self-reliance will be created only when we utilise all our available resources to the maximum advantage. It was in this background that I gave a call two years ago for a self-imposed moratorium on the part of the workers and employers on strikes and lock-outs. I would like to repeat this call again. Mere demand for rise in wages without a corresponding will to increase production and productivity will not bring real economic gains. National interest, and not individual gain, should be our watchword.

The affluent sections of the society should realise that they can no longer hold on to their ways of life and will have to share what they have with those less fortunately placed so that their riches subserve the common good. The fruits of economic freedom have eluded vast millions of our people too long. This is the reality and the challenge that we have to face. As Gandhiji repeatedly used to say, real India

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lives in her villages, and the most solid foundation for economic self-sufficiency can be built only by raising the standard of living of the rural pool- and other vulnerable sections of the society. The most rewarding resource at our disposal is the vast potential of land and the capacity of our people to work on it profitably. Any appraisal of our Five Year Plan to be meaningful will have to keep this concept in the forefront, and our plan programmes must be oriented accordingly.

India is respected today by the nations of the world for her political maturity and development on peaceful lines. Such progress as we have made since independence has evoked the admiration of other countries. We have entered into close collaboration with a number of these countries in economic and other fields to our mutual advantage. We value highly the good-will, thus created.

Our people have shown in the past that we are capable of rising above personal or parochial considerations and stand as one man in times of national emergency. The crisis that we are facing demands of us the same unity of purpose and determination. Our strength lies in our abiding sense of unity and national integrity. Let us direct our whole-hearted attention towards building an India in which our most urgent pre-occupation will be to work for the well-being of the people.

INDIA USA PERU

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IRAN

Joint India-Iran Press Statement

Following is the text of the Joint Statement issued at the end of the Fourth Session of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission for Economic Trade and Technical Cooperation in New Delhi on January 16, 1974:

The Fourth Session of the Indo-Iran, Joint Commission for Economic Trade and technical Cooperation was held in New Delhi from January 14 to 16, 1974, and ended its first round of discussions today.

Reflecting the desire for closer cooperation between the two countries expressed by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah of Iran and the Prime Minister of India from time to time, and in particular the gracious references of warm understanding and goodwill made by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah on the 23rd December, 1973, the discussions took place in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere. Both sides engaged in

constructive talks aimed at establishing a new, foundation for the development of trade and extensive and wide-ranging economic co-operation between the two countries.

Among important subjects discussed were oil and other commodities, development of India's mineral resources for export to Iran, maximisation of industrial capacity in India for the benefit of both countries, extension of credit facilities to India, as well as cooperation in the field of petrochemicals.

Both sides expressed satisfaction over the marked progress made in the course of these talks and decided to hold next round of talks in February, 1974, when the various proposals of the Joint Commission would be finalised.

The Iranian delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Hushang Ansary, Minister of Economy and the Indian delegation by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs. During the course of his visit, H.E. Mr. Hushang Ansary was received by the President of India, and called on Sint. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister, and the Ministers of Indus-

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trial Development, Petroleum and Chemicals and Commerce.

H.E. Mr. Hushang Ansary extended a cordial invitation to Sardar Swat-an Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India and leader of the Indian delegation, to visit, Tehran in February 1971 for the nest round of talks. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

IRAN INDIA USA

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Japanese Credit to India

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The following press release on the new Japanese yen 22,000 million (approximately US \$ 73.3 million) credit to India was released in New Delhi on January 30, 1974:

Japan will provide India financial aid worth Rs.61.8 crores (22,000 million yen). The aid comprises a commodity loan of Rs. 19.7 crores (7,022 million yen) and a debt relief amounting to Rs. 42.1 crores (14.978 million yen).

Notes pertaining to this assistance were signed by Mr. Mikanagi, Director General of the Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan and by Shri S. T. Than, Indian Ambassador to Japan, in Tokyo today.

The commodity loan will cover payments to be made to Japanese exporters by Indian importers for the purchase of different products, namely. steel, components, attachments and spares for the manufacture of trucks and tractors, chemicals, spares, components and raw materials for Indo-Japanese joint ventures, power tillers and components, machinery, raw materials, fertilizers, and such other items as may be mutually agreed upon.

The commodity loan is to be extended by the Export Import Bank of Japan to the Government of India. It carries an interest of 4% per annum and will be repaid over a period of 25 years including a seven-year grace period

#### BACKGROUNDER

The new yen credit is the 13th extended by Japan to India since 1958. In addition to this, a project loan that will constitute a part of the 13th yen credit is currently under negotiation between the two governments. The 13th yen credit is being extended in

response to the request submitted by the Government of India at the Aid-India Consortium meeting held in Paris in June 1973.

The debt relief arrangements are accorded by means of rescheduling of past debts falling due in accordance with the agreement reached between the Aid-India Consortium member countries and the Government of India on December 19, 1973. The arrangements provide for a rescheduling of the principals of the past debts falling due between April 1, 1973 and March, 1974 totaling 14,977,910,195 yen (Rs. 42.1 crores). These debts concern the loans and debt relief measures extended by Japan between 1961 and 1970. As a result of this rescheduling these debts will now be repaid in 31 half-yearly instalments of equal amount over a period of 15 years commencing from December 10, 1983, at the interest rate of 4.0% per annum.

With the present agreement coming into force, the loans extended by Japan to India since 1958, including rescheduling loans, now amount to a total of Rs. 836.8 crores (297,900 million yen).

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JAPAN INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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NEW ZEALAND

India-New Zealand Joint Statement

Following is the text of the Joint statement issued in New Delhi on January 1, 1974, at the end of the visit of H.E. Mr. Norman E. Kirk, Prime Minister of New Zealand:

At the invitation of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, The Right Honourable Mr. Norman E. Kirk, Prime minister of New Zealand, visited India from December 27, 1973 to January 1, 1974.

During his stay the Prime Minister of New Zealand was received by the President of India.

The Prime Minister of New Zealand had several talks with the Prime Minister of India. The Minister of External Affairs, the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Hanning called on the Prime Minister of New Zealand and discussed matters of mutual interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding and covered a wide range of subjects dealing with international questions and bilateral relations. These discussions revealed a close similarity of views and approach between the Governments of New Zealand and India.

The Prime Minister of New Zealand welcomed the role of India in international affairs. The Prime Minister of New Zealand explained the recent changes in the foreign policy of New Zealand, especially New Zealand's approach to the strengthening of bilateral relations and regional associations in the Asia Pacific area. The Prime Minister of India expressed her Government's appreciation of the new outlook and attitude of New Zealand and reiterated her Government's desire for close cooperation among all countries of Asia in the interest of peace and economic development.

The Indian Prime Minister acquainted the Prime Minister of New Zealand with the present situation in the sub-continent in the context of her Government's policy of developing close and friendly relations with all neighbouring countries. The Indian Prime Minister explained the various initiatives, taken by India for settling, by peaceful means and through bilateral negotiations the humanitarian and other issues arising out of the conflict with Pakistan in 1971. The New Zealand Prime Minister expressed his understanding and appreciation of these

efforts for normalisation and the establishment of durable peace in the Sub-continent.

The two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress made at the United Nations with the adoption by the General Assembly in December, 1973, of Resolution 3080 in terms of which the U.N. Secretary General has been requested to prepare a factual statement of the military presence of the Great Powers in the Indian Ocean. In this connection they reaffirmed their support for the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from Great Power rivalry, tensions and military escalation.

The Prime minister of New Zealand and India noted the progress of the Middle East Peace Conference in Geneva and expressed the hope that it would be able to achieve the objective of a just and durable peace in accordance with the provisions of the Security Council Resolution 242. They reaffirmed their belief that durable settlement of this long outstanding problem should be based on the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and on the respect for the right of all the States and peoples in the region to live in peace and security.

The two Prime Ministers, conscious of the harmful consequence of nuclear weapon tests for the acceleration of the arms race and for the health of present and future generations of mankind, reiterated their opposition to the testing of nuclear weapons, in all environments and expressed their firm support for the objective of an immediate and permanent cessation of all test explosions of nuclear weapons.

The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their belief in the equality of human beings

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irrespective of color. They expressed their abhorrence of policies of racial discrimination, such as apartheid, which violate the United Nations Charter. The Prime Minister of India noted with appreciation the forthright policy of the Prime Minister of New Zealand against racial dis-

elimination in any field.

The Prime Ministers saw scope for a substantial increase in trade to the benefit of both countries. The New Zealand Prime Minister, welcomed the introduction of a regular service to New Zealand by the Shipping Corporation of India. The Indian Prime Minister expressed appreciation of New Zealand's intension to preserve Commonwealth tariff preferences in respect of India. The two Prime Ministers agreed on the desirability of an exchange of trade and economic missions. They noted that co-operation between the Export Import Corporation of New Zealand and similar organisations in India could be of value in helping to stimulate trade between the two countries. It was agreed that the possibility of a joint venture between India and New Zealand in paper manufacture should be further investigated

The Prime Ministers of India and New Zealand reviewed the many exchanges between the two countries in such fields as education, medicine and agricultural development. They expressed the desire to explore avenues for further cooperation.

The two Prime Ministers noted that there was considerable scope for cooperation in agriculture and animal husbandry. The Prime Minister of India gratefully acknowledged the assistance given by New Zealand in this field. The Prime Ministers of India and New Zealand agreed that experts from both countries should discuss the setting-up of demonstration units for experimental research of a practical nature.

The New Zealand Prime Minister spoke of the value New Zealand attaches to its association with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and pledged continuing support fo its programmes.

The Prime Minister of India considered the visit of the Prime Minister of New, Zealand a landmark in the relations already existing between the two countries and was confident that it would greatly contribute to strengthening and developing

further their cooperation in all fields. The Prime Minister of New Zealand thanked the Indian Prime Minister for the friendly hospitality given to him and his party. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit New Zealand and stated that the Government and people of New Zealand would always welcome such a visit. The Prime Minister of India accepted the invitation with pleasure.

NEW ZEALAND INDIA USA PAKISTAN MALI SWITZERLAND RUSSIA

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ROMANIA

Joint Indo-Romanian Commission

The following press release on the setting up of a Joint Indo-Romanian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was issued in New Delhi on January 14, 1974:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh and Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Government of Romania and Chairman of the State Planning Committee, H.E. Mr. Nanea Manescu, today exchanged Letters setting up a Joint Indo-Romanian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

The Joint Commission would be a high level review body for the entire range of economic relations between the two coun-

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tries and would be responsible for strengthening and amplifying these relations to mutual advantage.

The setting up of the Joint Commission

had been proposed during the visit of the Minister of Planning, Shri D. P. Dhar to Romania in July last year.

The Joint Commission Session would consist of experts from both sides and deliberations will be carried on in Committees set up to examine Prospects of economic cooperation and collaboration in specified fields, such as oil exploration, industrial collaboration, trade exchange, shipping and science and technology.

OMAN ROMANIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

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SRI LANKA

Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Sri Lanka Prime Minister

The following speech was delivered by the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the banquet hosted by her in New Delhi on January 23, 1974 in honour of Mrs. Sirimavo R. D. Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of the Republic of Sri Lanka:

On behalf of my Government and people and on my own behalf, Prime Minister, I extend a most cordial welcome to you as an eminent leader and a greatly respected and admired friend. Geography has made Sri Lanka and India near neighbours. We are common inheritors of great cultural and spiritual traditions. Early in history the golden strands of Lord Buddha's teachings established a close link between us. Sri Lanka has long been a participant with India in a search for a humane and elevated system of values by which to conduct human affairs. Today

your country remains a repository of much that is noble in our shared heritage. By keeping alive the light of Lord Buddha's message, Sri Lanka has made a contribution to human culture.

In the first half of this century, both our countries fought for their independence and this quest for freedom kindled to new sense of comradeship between our two peoples. I cannot but recall the regard and friendship which existed between my father and Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, two great fighters for freedom, who symbolised the energy and aspirations of their respective nations. Your visit, Prime Minister, thus helps to strengthen a fine tradition.

We are glad that a relationship of confidence and understanding continues between Sri Lanka and India. We are both engaged in creating a new society based on equality and justice, Last year I was privileged to see something of the economic progress achieved by Sri Lanka under your dynamic leadership. Developing nations have three sets of problems: the old ones created by past inequalities, the new ones generated by development and those sprung upon us by the international community. In facing these problems, we are both committed to peaceful methods.

Our international policies are also illumined by the same ideal of creating a world system which will aschew exploitation and domination and will seek to live together in cooperation, resolving all differences peacefully.

We can take pride and solace in the fact that in our bilateral relations both countries have consistently endeavoured to act in accordance with our beliefs. We have found solutions through friendly discussions for the problems which we inherited from our colonial past, During your last visit to

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India, you and our Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri together signed the important 1964 Agreement regarding persons of Indian origin. The Agreement embodies

equality and mutual respect, and takes a sympathetic view of the problems of the individuals involved. During my visit to Sri Lanka, we agreed on some measures to expedite the full implementation of the Agreement.

The pace of economic co-operation between our countries is increasing. Developing nations should make more effective efforts to meet their requirements from amongst their collective skills and resources. Why should it be necessary for us always to look to the advanced countries? By wide-ranging bilateral co-operation based on trust and mutual benefit, we can greatly help the economic progress and social welfare of our two peoples. I hope that our commercial and economic ties will grow and enable us to achieve greater political strength and economic self-reliance.

Between my visit to Sri Lanka and your visit to us now took place the Conference of Non-Aligned countries in Algiers. There, in common with our many colleagues in the ranks of the non-aligned, we addressed ourselves to issues which are of urgent concern to the world community-peace, the imperatives of orderly progress, the need for co-operation and the end of domination. Despite the scepticism expressed in some quarters, we were able to show that the non-aligned countries, which include the greater part of Asia and Africa, have special responsibilities to shoulder and a new pail to play in an age of detente. Sri Lanka has taken a notable initiative in the cause of peace by its proposal to establish a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. We warmly endorse this idea. Our countries have suffered long enough from the pressures and vagaries of international power politics. It would be a service to peace if the Indian Ocean area were left free of the presence of outside powers.

Since the meeting in Algiers, a series of great crises have threatened world stability. Once again, we have seen war in West Asia. Only in the last few days has some progress been made in disengaging the armies and reducing the risk of further con-

flict. We earnestly hope that the recent West Asian Agreement will rapidly lead to a just and final settlement in the region.

But the reverberations of this fierce conflict are still being felt and will continue to affect us. The energy crisis had been propelled by war and tension and has reached a threatening dimension. Cuts in production and increases in pi-ices have imposed great strain upon the economies of developed as well as developing countries throughout the world. We, who are poor, are most affected. Affluent countries may have to shed some superfluties, but we are forced to cut back on essentials. It is indeed a grave situation.

Prime Minister, I am especially glad that you have visited India at a time when you can be the honoured chief guest at our annual Republic Day Celebrations. Your presence in our midst on this occasion will add lustre to our National Day. It will also symbolise the continuing and growing friendship between Sri Lanka and India. It is an added pleasure for us all that your son and daughter have accompanied you. We wish them and your entire delegation a pleasant stay here.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in wishing long life and every success to the Honourable Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, to the welfare of the people of Sri Lanka and to the further strengthening of the very friendly relations between Sri Lanka and India.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA ALGERIA

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SRI LANKA

The following speech was delivered by Mrs. Bandaranaike at the banquet:

I feel deeply honoured to be with you today, and I must thank you most sincerely Madam Prime Minister, for your gracious words of welcome. It has been a great pleasure for me to re-visit India and renew my ties with you and with the people of this great country. I am particu-

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larly honoured that I have been invited to participate on this historic and important Occasion of India's Republic Day celebrations.

I have very pleasant memories of previous visits to your country and particularly to New Delhi. I recall my visit in 1960 when at the gracious invitation of your distinguished father, I and my family undertook it religious pilgrimage to India and took the opportunity to spend a few days in New Delhi. I can never forget the kindness and hospitality extended to me by your late revered father and how much he made us feel at home in his beautiful residence which I now understand is a museum in his honour. I came again in 1964, that time on a momentous mission for my country in an effort to settle a longstanding problem between our two countries which had unnecessarily prejudiced our relations. As you are aware, that mission was a success and for this we are indebted to the statesmanship shown by the then Prime Minister, Mr. Shastri, which led to the signing of an Agreement. This decision not only paved the way for an end to the problem, but also opened a new age of friendship and cooperation. I must thank you Madam Prime Minister, for your own personal efforts to ensure the smooth implementation of this Agreement.

It is not sufficiently known that my late husband apart from being a close friend of Pandit Jawahar lal Nehru visited New Delhi

on several occasions. One such occasion was in 1947 when he participated in the historic Asian Relations Conference which was held in New Delhi and which he called "one of the most momentous events in the history of modern times". At this meeting He expressed the hope that the conference may be the beginning of something much greater, of equal Asian countries, working not merely for advantage but for the purpose of peace for all mankind. My late husband saw a great future for resurgent Asia if it could unite itself in common effort,,. He was here again in New Delhi in 1956 to attend the meeting of the Colombo Powers which considered the situation in Egypt in the context of the crisis of the Suez Canal. His vision of Asia working as one has still to be realised. My visit to India on this occasion which is the first undertaken after 1964 is indeed symbolic of the new spirit which is prevailing in out, relations. Thus, New Delhi and the historic places of India are well-known to leaders and the people of our country particularly the Buddhist pilgrims who come annually in large numbers to render homage at the places hallowed by the Founder of Buddhism. In the new age of close economic cooperation between our two countries, technical delegations and students are visiting India engaged in their various activities aimed at economic advancement of our country in cooperation with you.

In the same way that India has traditionally played host to our people, Sri Lanka too has a long and imposing record of hospitality to the distinguished figures of your great nation. Beginning from that historic visit of Mahinda and Sangamitta which ushered in a new age in the history of our country, there has been a constant and unbroken stream of great visitors. Even before the grant of independence to your country the leaders of your freedom struggle were admired in my country and were an inspiration and model to the rising political generations in Sri Lanka. Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and your distinguished father were honoured names in our country. Since Independence, many others have visited Sri Lanka. We had the pleasure of having Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru visiting us

on several occasions. Dr. Radhakrislinan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Mrs. Sarojini Naidu to name only a few. Your distinguished President was one of the first Indian High Commissioners in Sri Lanka. I know what friendly and cordial feelings he has towards our country and he is remembered with great respect and regard by our people.

Yourself, Madam Prime Minister, are no stranger to Sri Lanka which you have visited not only as Prime Minister, but since your childhood in the company of your great father. I recall vividly your accompanying him on his last visit to our country in 1962. Thus historical ties between our two countries have been cemented and strengthened by the constant exchange between our peoples and visits of leaders as well as personal ties of friendship between both of us and a close relationship has thereby developed between our countries. It is my hope that we can continue and develop these relations in the future.

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There are many problems which we have in common. In addition to the chronic problems facing us as developing countries we have been plagued in recent times by a succession of natural calamities like droughts which have further aggravated our difficulties. Today, as you know, we are faced with a serious food crisis in our country which we are attempting to meet by a massive programme of food production aimed not only as short-term relief, but with a view to gaining permanent self-sufficiency in food in Sri Lanka. We are now faced with another crisis caused by the increased oil prices which have imposed additional burdens on the country.

The international situation despite the hopes raised by the detente is far from satisfactory as witnessed by the trouble and unrest and unresolved situations existing in various quarters which are casting a shadow over the future. We continue to approach these problems in terms of the policy of non-alignment which we feel affords the only lasting solution. We are pleased to note that in the proposal for a peace zone in the

Indian Ocean on which we have concentrated our efforts we have the full support of your Government. The future of the Indian Ocean is a matter of great concern to all of us and hence it behoves our two nations to work together to make this an area for the pursuit of peaceful activity and cooperation. In matters of immediate interest to the region, we welcome recent steps taken towards the achievement of a lasting peace in the sub-continent and in this connection we appreciate your personal efforts in this direction.

In conclusion, Madam Prime Minister, may I say that the close ties which we have forged between our two countries are indeed a matter of great satisfaction. In recent years we have witnessed the further strengthening of our relations and their broadening out into various spheres in widening circle of cooperation. New areas are being explored for joint activities which could be mutually beneficial. Our relations in the way they are developing could serve as a pattern for wider multilateral cooperation within the region. We have thus created a framework of understanding and cooperation between our two countries and it is my hope that in the future we could work together for the mutual betterment of our peoples and the cause of peace and progress in general in a genuine spirit of friendship, goodwill and understanding which is in keeping with the high traditions which we have inherited from the past.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in proposing a toast to the health, prosperity and success of Her Excellency, Shrimati Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, and to the welfare and well-being of the people of India and to the further strengthening of our very close and friendly ties between our two countries.

SRI LANKA USA INDIA EGYPT

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Mrs. Bandaranaike's Address at Civic Reception

Following is the text of the speech given by Her Excellency Mrs. Sirimavo R. D. Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of the Republic of Sri Lanka at a civic reception given in her honour in New Delhi on January 24, 1974:

I feel happy to be here once again in the historic city of Delhi. I have been here on many occasions before and my present visit to the capital city of India has evoked in me many pleasant memories of the warm, cordial and friendly welcome I have always received from the citizens of this city.

Therefore, may I express my sincere thanks to you, Your Worship the Mayor of Delhi, members of the Municipal Corporation of this city and to all those present here today for once again welcoming me in a manner and style which I deem to be characteristic of the people of this city. I come to India today, unlike on the previous occasions I visited here, as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Sri Lanka. We are now governed by a Constitution which we ourselves have devised and which has been drafted through our own efforts. I thank you for the many kind references that were made to me personally and to Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is indeed one of India's closest neighbours and the close and friendly ties between our two countries go back many thousands of years into history. Today, Sri Lanka has

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the proud honour to be regarded as the most important centre of the pristine Theravada Buddhism in the whole world. If we enjoy that honour, and indeed that privilege today,

it is due, in a very large measure, to India and one of her most illustrious sons, the great Emperor Ashoka, who dispatched the first Buddhist Mission to my country. That he sent his only son, the Arahata Mahinda, to Sri Lanka is surely an indication of the close and cordial relations that prevailed between the rulers of our two countries. We also cannot forget that it was the princess Sanghamitta, Emperor Ashoka's daughter, who brought the sapling of the Sacred Bo-Tree to Anuradhapura, the then capital of Sri Lanka and its most sacred city today. This bo-sapling is today regarded as the oldest existing historical tree in the world.

It would be lengthy and even tiresome if I were to speak of the many details that can be mentioned in order to reflect the close ties between our two countries and the interaction and the mutual enrichment of our two cultures as a result of these close ties. A unique example of cultural co-operation between our two countries is that when the historic tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment at Gaya had died, a sapling from the Anuradhapura Bo-Tree was taken back in fairly recent times to India by the Anagarika Dharmapala and planted at the same site.

We have also had our trials and tribulations. There were periods of invasion of our country from Empires in some parts of India. Indeed some of these invasions were the result of various monarchical intrigues in the two countries and some of them due to help and assistance sought by dissidents and rivals to the Throne from Sri Lanka itself. When the relationship is as old as the relationship between Sri Lanka and India, it cannot be unusual to have had our problematical moments as well. This will be naturally so in the course of things.

With the gaining of independence by both our countries from British rule, we have, as two independent countries, been able to chart not only a cordial and friendly, but a responsible and mature course in our mutual relations. Our post-independence history has been one of maturity, understanding and tolerance of each other's prob-

lems and points of view. A signal achievement in this regard was the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964 which contributed to a mutually acceptable solution of a long-standing problem between our two countries. This Agreement, in fact, can be regarded as a model and an example of resolving bilateral questions through goodwill, understanding and negotiation. This has also been a period of increasingly fruitful cooperation in economic and cultural relations and particularly in the sphere of economic relations we are now on the threshold of important initiatives leading to economic collaboration. I look forward to the time when it will be possible for the countries of Asia to increasingly work in close understanding with each other. Politically, as two countries playing an important role in the Non-Aligned Movement, we share many things in common.

Therefore, I have come to India, to surroundings with which I am familiar, to discuss and share my views on bilateral as well as international relations in a spirit of cordiality, goodwill and neighbourliness with the distinguished Prime Minister of India and her colleagues in the Government, as well as making use of this opportunity to renew old ties and friendships with many others. It is my earnest belief that such periodical visits between leaders of countries and, more particularly, between leaders of neighbouring countries, are mutually important because opportunities are thereby created for greater understanding and for a clear appreciation of each other's views and policies. This may perhaps be the reason for the increasing contacts between Heads of State and Government that is so marked a feature of modern diplomacy. Many problems arise due to misunderstanding, suspicion, and the lack of clear appreciation by leaders of countries in regard to issues of consequence. A national response to issues has to be made necessarily on the basis of a realistic and clear understanding of the totality of the issues involved; and there is no better antidote to the category of deficiencies that I mentioned than periodical meetings of leaders of countries not only in international forums but also bilateral meetings as and when possible.

Today, there is an ever-growing interdependence amongst the countries of the world. Rapid means of transport and communications have ensured that a crisis anywhere in the world affects everyone irrespec-

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tive of their distance from the centre of the crisis. The recent Arab-Israeli war and the Energy Crisis have proved this point rather painfully to most of us. As two developing countries, India and Sri Lanka have very many problems to solve and these problems are compounded by reasons beyond the control of national Governments or for that matter, even the organised international community, as reflected in bodies like the United Nations. Our rapidly expanding population is one of our major problems. With the increase in literacy and the provision of greater facilities for education, together with improving standards of health, also come what is commonly termed the revolution of rising expectations'. More and more, the citizens of our countries have begun to feel that it is the responsibility of governments to provide employment and create the conditions for a richer and meaningful life for all. These are challenges that governments cannot ignore. But politics and government, after all, is an exercise in the art of the possible and the governments of developing countries in particular have very few options and even less room for manoeuvre. Some problem somewhere can affect the availability as well as the price of commodities vital to the basic development of our countries. In recent times, we have had global shortages and prohibitive prices for essential commodities such as rice, wheat and sugar, petroleum, fertilizers, newsprint and a host of other commodities of daily use and which are indeed basic necessities. Shipping is scarce, and freight rates prohibitive, throwing additional burdens on developing countries. The fluctuations in the world's major currencies, the devaluations and revaluations, and the general monetary and financial instabilities have led to inflation in many developed countries with the concomitant increase in prices of the goods they export, which has again hit the

developing countries. On the other hand, the developing countries do not obtain ready access, for their products, to the markets of the affluent countries. Nor do many of their primary products enjoy a decent and Competitive price in international markets. Under the weight of these circumstances, planning and, indeed, budgetting are becoming increasingly unrealistic. To mobilise the ever-increasing resources necessary to keep pace with these trends is also becoming extremely difficult. However, there is no alternative to planning and to budgetting. Perhaps planning becomes all the more relevant in situations of acute scarcity than in situations of plenty. Planning however becomes ultimately relevant, in my opinion, only in the context of raising the living standards of our people and making our lives qualitatively better.

India and Sri Lanka have chosen the socialist path to development. The word "socialism" of course may mean different things to different people. But as far as Sri Lanka is concerned, by socialism we mean many things. We mean, for instance, that the economic product should not be preempted by a fortunate few but shared by everyone; and more so, by the poor and under-privileged in society. We mean by it that we should prevent the accumulation of wealth in a few hands at the expense of the community at large. We mean that, whilst taking energetic measures to level up opportunities and the living standards of the mass of the people there should be, even temporarily, a levelling down of vast wealth and ostentation from the top. We mean that ultimately we should find a via media of, as far as possible, the equal development of all sections of the people and the improvement of the general quality of life of all. And, finally, we mean that we should try and do these things within a basic framework of free choice subject only to the overwhelming needs of the community at large. It is for this reason that my Government has placed on the Statute Book various measures such as the ceiling on income, land reform, ceiling on ownership of houses, compulsory savings, and a host of other measures designed towards obtaining a reduction in the concentration of wealth and privilege,

and the broader diffusion of the means of income and opportunity. A recent study by some leading economists has produced some interesting statistics on income distribution and growth in regard to some 17 countries. This is a study of income growth as affecting different sectors of the population and it considers the effect of Government policy on economic growth in these countries and its impact on the income groups categorised as the upper 20 per cent, the middle 40 per cent and the lowest 40 per cent. This study reveals that Sri Lanka has done extremely well if the measurement of economic growth were calculated in accordance with the shares that went to the lowest and to the

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middle sectors as compared with the upper sector. Considering the period 1963-70 our growth rate was 8.3 per cent for the lowest category, 6.3 per cent for the middle category and 3.1 per cent for the upper category. In the study made we stand third with regard to growth of the lowest category; Costa Rica and Korea being the only two countries ahead of us, out of the 17 countries studied. we are proud of this and it will be the endeavour of my Government's policies to go faster in the direction indicated. I am certain that most of what I have said is true of India, too, and I have no doubt that there are many valuable things that we could learn from each other about the various social, economic and political experiments we are engaged in our respective countries in order to hammer out a path which, whilst meeting all the numerous difficulties that beset us, could still lead us to the achievement of a better life for our people.

In this address, it is not my intention to deal at any great length or in a wide-ranging manner with the numerous international development that have been taking place in recent times. Most of them are well-known, but I would like merely to refer to one or two matters, particularly the Indian Ocean Peace Zone proposal to which I and my country are deeply committed. I am aware that this proposal was not something for which one could have expected unqualified adherence from, for instance, all

the major powers of the world. It could be that some of them could see in the proposal elements contrary to their own self-interests. It is my view, however, that as an area which had been relatively free of ("old War entanglements, it is in the mutual interest of all of us, the littoral and hinterland states in particular, to prevent the occurrence or even the possible danger of any big power rivalries or confrontations taking place in this part of the world. The developing countries in this region have enough problems on their hands without these problems being complicated and compounded by the advent of other extraneous issues to this area. I am heartened by the response that India has always extended to this proposal, and it is my hope that the endeavours of all of us would result in some scheme acceptable to everyone being formulated in the not too distant future. I feel this is something worth working at in spite of the many difficulties there obviously are. In this respect the progress of the voting in the United Nations each time this matter came tip for discussion has heartened me considerably.

Sri Lanka is happy to see the positive steps being taken by the countries of the sub-continent to ensure peace and tranquility in this area. We are aware and appreciative of your your Prime Minister's own efforts in this direction. As far as my own views are concerned, I fervently hope that whatever remaining problems there may be, that they too may be settled in a spirit of goodwill, amity and good neighbourliness. I am also very glad that the next Non-Aligned Conference is to be held in Asia, and particularly glad that it is to be held in Sri Lanka. It has been the view of us in the non-aligned world that we have in the past rendered a service to the cause of peace by refusing to succumb to any enticements or blandishments on the part of any power to join in the perpetuation and the extension of the Cold War. In these difficult and even perilous days we, the non-aligned world constituted areas that were free of Cold War involvements. Our role has now not ended. We have even a greater responsibility in the future to aid and assist in every way

possible the processes of detente now gradually coming into existence. We have to be eternally watchful and throw our weight behind every move which would lead to the establishment of a secure peace in the world whilst at the same time being vigilant against any possibility of regression into old Cold War habits and attitudes.

I am therefore looking forward to the next Non-Aligned Conference for I feel that much creative work remains to be done.

I have now come to the end of my address. Before I conclude, I must once again thank you for the kindness and cordiality of your Reception this morning. I myself have been very happy, as I mentioned earlier, too, to have been welcomed in this spirit by this important civic body of the capital city of India. I am grateful to Your Worship, and the other Members of the Corporation and the citizens of Delhi for this honour bestowed on me. In conclusion, may I say that I shall take back to my country happy and pleasant memories of your kindness, cordiality and goodwill.

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SRI LANKA INDIA USA ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC COSTA!!KOREA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

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SRI LANKA

Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Communique

The following Joint Communique was issued in New Delhi on January 29, 1974 at the end of the visit of Mm. Sirimavo Bandaranaike to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister

of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mrs. Sirimavo R. D. Bandaranaike, visited India from January 22 to 29, 1974. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka expressed her pleasure in re-visiting India and participating in India's Republic Day Celebrations. The Prime Minister was deeply touched by the warm and spontaneous welcome extended to her by the Government and people of India and conveyed to them cordial greetings and good wishes on behalf of the Government and the people of Sri Lanka.

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka stopped in Madras on her way to Delhi. The Prime Minister was accorded a civic reception on January 24, 1974. The Prime Minister visited the G. B. Pant Agricultural University at Pantnagar and the Buddhist Stupa in Sanchi where she performed the opening ceremony of a Buddhist library. On her return journey, the Prime Minister visited Bombay.

During the stay in Delhi, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka called on the President of India. The Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka had several meetings in which they exchanged views on international developments and discussed bilateral matters. The Minister of External Affairs, the Minister of Planning and the Minister of Commerce called on the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka was assisted at the talks by Mr. W. T. Jayasinghe, Secretary, Defence & Foreign Affairs, Mr. Justin Siriwardene, High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in India, Dr. H. A. de S. Gunasekere, Secretary, Planning & Economic Affairs, and other officials.

The Prime Minister of India was assisted by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri V. H. Coelho, High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, and other officials.

The Prime Ministers reviewed recent developments in the international situation and were happy to find a close identity of views. They welcomed the trend towards peace in various parts of the world, but noted that tensions persisted in other areas of the world. They expressed the hope that the trend would develop further and cover all areas of the world.

The Prime Ministers discussed the situation in West Asia and emphasised the importance and urgency of a settlement on the basis of United Nations Resolutions. The Prime Ministers welcomed the Disengagement Agreement between Egypt and Israel signed on January 13, 1974 as a step towards peace. They hoped that a just and lasting solution would be achieved on the basis of the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force and respect for the legitimate rights of all States and peoples in the region.

The Prime Ministers felt that the war of October 1973 in West Asia had focussed attention on need for ensuring that the Indian Ocean becomes a Zone of Peace, free from Great Power rivalry. The Prime Ministers reviewed the progress that had been made so far in the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of December, 1971 on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. They agreed that there is greater realisation among States that the implementation of this Declaration will contribute to strengthening of international peace and security. They noted with satisfaction the progress made by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and also the Resolution adopted at the 28th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. In this context the Prime Ministers reaffirmed their support for the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from Great Power rivalry, tension and military escalation. They expressed concern at the continuing Great Power rivalry in the Indian Ocean and agreed that the creation of a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean will be a positive step

towards the reduction of tensions and rivalries in this region. They expressed the hope that the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean would coordinate their efforts for the successful implementation of this Declaration.

The Prime Ministers expressed their concern that peace had not yet been restored in Indo-China. They emphasized that effective implementation of the Agreement on Ending the War and restoring peace in Vietnam and the Agreement on the Restoration of Peace and National Reconciliation in Laos was essential for the restoration of peace. They also expressed the hope for an early and peaceful settlement in Cambodia in conformity with the interests of the people of that country.

The Prime Minister of India explained the latest developments in the sub-continent subsequent to the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration of April 17, 1973, to resolve the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflict of 1971. The Prime Minister of India also mentioned the several initiatives India had taken to advance the cause of normalisation of relations, permanent peace and cooperation in the sub-continent. In this context the Prime Minister of India referred to the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of August 23, 1973 signed at Delhi. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka expressed her satisfaction that the sub-continent was now progressing towards normalcy. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka appreciated the efforts of the Government of India for peace in the sub-continent.

The Prime Ministers reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of non-alignment and agreed that the policy of non-alignment had been vindicated by recent developments. They agreed that cooperation between non-aligned countries for giving greater viability to their economies would enable them to resist external pressure and greatly strengthen effectiveness of the forces of non-alignment. The two Prime Ministers agreed that the Algiers Summit Conference clearly brought out the validity of the concept of non alignment in the present international

situation and that the non-aligned countries should continue their efforts towards bringing about lasting peace. The Prime Minister of India stated that India attached great importance to the next Non-Aligned Summit Conference which will be held in Colombo. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka stated that as this would be the first Summit to be held in Asia, she was deeply conscious of the great responsibility entrusted to Sri Lanka and she looked forward to receiving the closest cooperation from the Government of India. The Prime Minister of India assured the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka that her Government would be happy to cooperate in every way possible to make the Summit a success.

The Prime Ministers reviewed the economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and expressed satisfaction at the progress made in strengthening mutual ties in these fields. They noted that in accordance with the directive given in the Joint Communiqué issued on the occasion of the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Sri Lanka in April 1973, the Joint Committee had met on two occasions, apart from the visits of expert delegations dealing with specific projects. The Prime Ministers noted that satisfactory progress had been made in several useful projects such as the Micro-wave link and Cattle and Sheep Breeding Centres and some new promising projects had been identified for further study. They also noted that technical experts had been exchanged between the two countries in the development of mica mines, sugar technology and other fields of scientific interest.

The Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka reviewed the progress in implementing the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964, and agreed that the implementation was proceeding satisfactorily.

The Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka also discussed the question of the 150,000 persons left over in the 1964 Agreement for a later decision. It was agreed that the Government of Sri Lanka would confer citizenship on 75,000 of this number and that India would accept for repatriation

75,000. They noted with satisfaction that with the full implementation of the 1964 Agreement and the present agreement relating to the 150,000 persons, the two countries would have finally settled the problem of all persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka.

The Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka discussed Kachchativu and related

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matters; satisfactory progress was made during these discussions and as a result it was agreed that a decision will be taken in the very near future regarding the boundary in the historic waters between India and Sri Lanka between the Palk Straits and Adam's Bridge.

The Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the results of their discussions which were conducted in a spirit of mutual understanding. They were convinced that the visit of the Sri Lanka Prime Minister was a landmark in the relations between the two countries and had contributed to a further strengthening of their warm and friendly relations. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka expressed her appreciation of the hospitality extended to her and her party during her stay in India. The two Prime Ministers agreed that they would maintain close contact with a view to fostering further the understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA EGYPT ISRAEL CHINA VIETNAM LAOS CAMBODIA BANGLADESH MALI  
PAKISTAN ALGERIA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement on Persons of Indian Origin

Letters were exchanged in New Delhi on January 27, 1974, between the Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka which constitute the agreement on stateless persons of Indian origin not covered by the agreement of 1964. The following is the text of the letter of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi which also reproduces in full the letter from Mrs. Bandaranaike:

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter which reads as follows:

"I have the honour to refer to the exchange of letters between our two Governments dated 30 October 1964 regarding the status and future of persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the "original agreement"), and specifically to clause 4) of the original agreement whereby the status and future of the remaining 150,000 persons not covered by clause (3) of the original agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "remaining persons") was to be the subject of a separate agreement.

2. In our discussions held pursuant to the aforementioned clause (4), it was agreed that:

(i) Of the remaining persons Sri Lanka Government will grant citizenship to 50%, that is 75,000 with the natural increase in that number; and the Government of India will accept repatriation to India of 50% that is 75,000 together with the natural increase in that number. The Government of India will confer citizenship on these persons.

(ii) The repatriation of the 75,000 persons to India will commence after the repatriation of the 525,000 persons referred to in clause (3) of the original agreement has been completed and will

be phased over a period of 2 years.

(iii) The grant of Sri Lanka citizenship to the 75,000 persons will commence after the 300,000 persons referred to in clause (3) of the original agreement have been granted citizenship and will be in the ratio 1 : 1 to the number repatriated to India.

(iv) The Government of Sri Lanka will grant to the persons to be repatriated to India, during the period of their residence in Sri Lanka, the same facilities as are enjoyed by citizens of other states (except facilities for remittances) and normal facilities for their continued residence, including free visas. The Government of Sri Lanka agrees that such of these persons as are gainfully employed on the date of this Agreement shall continue in their employment until the date of their repatriation in accordance with the requirements of the phased programme or until they attain the age of 55 years, whichever is earlier.

(v) Subject to the Exchange Control Regulations for the time being in force

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which will not be discriminatory against the, persons to be repatriated to India, the Government of Sri Lanka agrees to permit these persons to repatriate, at the time of their final departure for India, all their assets including their provident Fund and gratuity amounts. The Government of Sri Lanka agrees that the maximum amount of assets which any family shall be permitted to repatriate shall not be reduced to less than Rs. 4,000.

(vi) All benefits which have been extended to the persons who are covered by the original agreement will be extended to the persons covered by this agreement,

3. I am sure it is a matter of satisfaction to our Governments that with the full implementation of the 1964 Agree-

ment and the present agreement the problem of all persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka who have not been recognised as citizens of Sri Lanka or as citizens of India, will have been finally settled.

4. I have the honour to propose that the above sets out correctly the agreement reached between us. My letter and your reply thereto shall constitute an agreement between the Government of Sri Lanka and the Government of India. Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration."

I have the honour to confirm that the above correctly sets out the Agreement reached between us. Your letter and my reply thereto shall constitute an Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Indira Gandhi)

SRI LANKA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

TANZANIA

Speech of Vice-President Pathak at Reception in Dar-es-Salaam

The Vice-President, Shri G. S. Pathak visited Tanzania, January 12 to 19, 1974, to participate in the tenth anniversary revolutionary celebrations. The following address was delivered by him at a reception organised in his honour by the Indo-Tanzania Cultural Association in Dar-es-Salaam on

January 16, 1974:

My wife and I feel highly honoured to be here today at this splendid reception organised to welcome us. I thank you for the sentiments of genuine friendship. I bring to you greetings and warm handshakes of the people of India from across the 3000 miles of Indian Ocean.

Much has been said and written about the ancient ties of peaceful commercial and cultural contacts which have subsisted between peoples of India and this part of Africa. If I need to refer to them today once again, it is because these ties inspire us in this technological age to build now bridges of friendship and cooperation. These silken ties have survived the stresses and strains of the dark colonial age through which our people had unfortunately to pass. These ties though invisible have- remained unbroken.

The trade between Africa and India was conducted across friendly seas not dominated by ships of war; there were open trade establishments not surrounded by forts and armed sentries; and goods which were exchanged on a basis of equality were the best products of the civilisations they represented, textiles,

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precious stones and honey from India, spices, ivory and horses from the African lands. This free and equal relationship is of significance today when we, the developing countries are fighting for international social justice in commerce and development.

Your Association has a crucial role to play in preserving and strengthening the noble basis of our relationship in the context of the new challenges we have to face today. Since the end of the Second World War the colonial era has receded - though not completely ended. for people of South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola still continue to struggle for their freedom. Political freedom has been wrested by our peoples from the former colonial rulers. Our countries are now anxious to give an economic and social content

to this freedom and so overcome the legacy of degradation of the colonial era and also to gather the fruits of science and technology. Members of your Association with their varied experience and background and inspired by the noble examples of Tanzanian and Indian leaders will, I am sure, encourage and assist in this development.

A significant number of people have come to Tanzania from India to earn their living and in this process to share the destiny of this land. Many have lived here for generations and know no home other than their adopted country. It is the fervent hope of the Government of India that these people will give their devotion and loyalty to Tanzania and in return receive the love and friendship of the people among whom they work and live.

Committed to build a society based on equality and freedom from exploitation in an international order founded on peaceful co-existence, Tanzania and India have similarity in their national and foreign policies. The Presidents of our two countries have exchanged visits which have laid the foundations of a long term friendship and cooperation between us. Only recently in the Non-aligned Summit meeting in September 1973 your President and Prime Minister of India had held further discussions. First Vice-President His Excellency Mr. Aboud Jumbe visited us in February last year and this visit helped to enlarge the framework of our economic collaboration. I look upon my present visit as a part of the continuing process of strengthening our friendship and co-operation. The cause of Afro-Asian solidarity is close to our hearts as it is to yours. We have to continue the struggle to end colonialism and apartheid, to win for ourselves economic self-reliance and to attain the goals of a just international order.

While these fruitful Government-to-Government contacts will continue to our mutual benefit, we also need to strengthen contacts on people-to-people basis. Our scholars, writers, teachers and intellectuals should meet and exchange ideas. We must deepen and enrich knowledge of cultures,

history, languages, and arts of each other and in this task the Tanzania-India Cultural Association can be of invaluable assistance.

In conclusion, I thank you once again for giving me an opportunity to be present amongst you and to convey you my best wishes for the success of your Society. I would also like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude for the hospitality shown to me by the Government and the people of the Republic of Tanzania and my confidence in the glorious future of Tanzania under the inspiring leadership of His Excellency President Nyerere.

Let me conclude with a slogan which we share and which has been projected for us and the world in President Nyerere's latest book "Uhuru na Maendeleo" - Freedom and Development.

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TANZANIA USA INDIA MOZAMBIQUE NAMIBIA ANGOLA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Oil Exploration

The following press release on the protocol for the intensification of operations in the exploration of oil was issued in New Delhi on January 14, 1974:

The Minister for Petroleum & Chemicals, Shri D. K. Barooah and the Soviet Minister of Oil Industry, Mr. V. D. Shashin, today signed here a protocol for further development of Indo-Soviet collaboration in Oil Industry in the public sector in India.

The protocol follows agreement on fur-

ther development of Economic and Trade cooperation between India and the USSR, signed on November 29, by the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi and the General-Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev during the latter's visit to this country.

The Protocol signed today after Mr. Shashin's 12-day visit noted with satisfaction that as a result of Indo-Soviet cooperation beginning in 1956, the oil exploration, development and production work in the Public Sector had been very fruitful and that the oil exploration and development work presently being carried out on the basis of the joint Techno-Economic Feasibility Study Report was directed towards increasing the oil and gas reserves and further stepping up of oil production.

As a result of the current discussions with the team of Soviet experts headed by the Oil Industry Minister, Mr. V. D. Shashin himself, decisions were taken with a view to find out new oil gas bearing structures for intensifying exploratory drilling operations.

It was agreed to jointly carry out the work of estimating the perspective and prognostic oil and gas reserves in the various sedimentary basins in India and for preparing a concrete exploration plan comprising seismic surveys "and exploratory drilling in respect of those sedimentary basins.

For this purpose a team of five Soviet specialists would be deputed to India during this month for a period of two years and five more leading oil scientists may be deputed for short periods.

Both India and the Soviet Union believed that the main tasks for increasing oil production at this stage were (i) quick development of the known oil fields, (ii) maximum utilisation of the existing productive wells, and (iii) wider application of economic and highly effective secondary recovery methods.

With a view to increasing the number

of producing wells by the application of an effective method to arrest deposition of paraffin in the tubings and flow-lines, the Soviet Union expressed its willingness to supply 15,000 metres of enamel-coated tubings which were effective in conditions prevailing in ONGC's fields.

The Soviet Union would further prepare within three months a draft contract for setting up an enamel-coating plant in India as well as for supplying required equipment and materials and for training of Indian specialists.

Both India and the USSR considered it necessary to expand cooperation in the field of deputation of highly skilled oil specialists in the Soviet Union. An agreement would be signed in March this year for the deputation of 15 Soviet specialists to this country and for on-the-job training of 28 Indian specialists in the USSR.

The Soviet Union also expressed their willingness to depute as and when requested additional Soviet specialists for rendering technical assistance directly in field operations and in any other work pertaining to oil exploration, development and production.

The Soviet Union agreed to expedite supply of equipment, materials and spare parts including three drilling rigs - the first to be despatched in June - and a complete set of Automatic Station, and promised to take all possible steps to despatch them according to the requirements of ONGC.

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USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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1995

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Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol

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The following press release on the Indo-Soviet trade protocol for 1974 was released in New Delhi on January 21, 1974:

The Trade Protocol for 1974 between India and the Soviet Union was signed here today, envisaging a trade turn-over of about Rs. 670 crores. The volume of trade between the two countries was of the order of Rs. 430 crores in 1973.

The trade protocol was signed by Mr. I. T. Grishin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Soviet Union and Shri Y.T. Shah, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of their respective governments.

According to the trade plan for 1974 Soviet Union will supply sufficient quantity of kerosene, fertilizers, industrial raw materials and components and spare parts for Soviet assisted projects in India. In addition the USSR will provide newsprint, asbestos, palladium, rolled steel products, zinc, nickel, copper, sulphur, etc. and sonic quantity of sunflower seed oil. India's export will include traditional commodities like de-oiled cakes, cashew kernels, tea, coffee, spices, tobacco, jute manufactures, handicrafts, etc. and large number of non-traditional commodities like engineering goods, cotton textiles, woollen knitwear, ready made garments, garage equipment, storage batteries, detergents, hand tools, footwear, cigarettes, power cables, surgical instruments, alumina, etc.

The discussions also encompassed expansion and diversification of trade relations between the two countries.

The preparatory round of talks was held in Moscow in November 1973 and the long-term framework of trade and economic relations between the two countries were discussed in Delhi at the time of the visit of Soviet leader Mr. L. Brezhnev. The final

round of talk was held in Delhi from January 11 to January 21, 1974.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

### WORLD MONETARY SITUATION

Finance Minister Chavan's Address to Committee of Twenty

Addressing the Committee of Twenty on international monetary reform in Rome on January 18, 1974 the Finance Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan, made the following observations:

There is no doubt that the oil crisis constitutes one of the most important problems facing the world economy. Considering the vast historical and political dimensions of the problem, I am not clear as to how best a body like the Committee of Twenty can grapple effectively with this problem. At the same time, we have to recognise the profound economic implications of the crisis and it will be futile to pretend that these issues are not uppermost in the minds of most of the distinguished Finance Ministers gathered here.

It is our firm belief that any effective solution of this problem must respect the wholly legitimate desire of oil producing countries to gain mastery over their natural resources and has to be consistent with the recognition of their rights over these re-  
Their desire to price their oil in such a way as to prevent a deterioration in

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their terms of trade is also fully appreciated by us.

As developing countries, we are all aware of the tremendous loss of real income involved in a longterm continuous deterioration of our terms of trade vis-a-vis industrial countries. At the same time, I am bound to point out the severe adverse impact that a sudden steep rise in the prices of oil can have on the economy of developing countries like India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. We have just now completed the draft of our Fifth Five Year Plan which is due to be launched in April this year. But in the meanwhile the massive increase in prices, of oil announced towards the end of 1973 has greatly altered the balance of payments outlook for the coming years. Even if we stabilise our consumption of oil products at the present modest level of 22-24 million tonnes, the import bill for oil will absorb over 50 per cent of our export earnings. Strains on our import capacity can seriously affect on orderly implementation of our development programmes. The steep increases in the prices of oil products will have profound disturbing implications for our industrial and agricultural growth. Our farmers' ability and incentive to use chemical fertilisers, on which we have placed a heavy reliance for modernising our agriculture, may be seriously affected and our ability to reduce consumption of oil products without damage to our industry and agriculture is limited because non-industrial uses account for only a very small part of our total consumption. More than 80 per cent of the consumption of oil products in India is in the nature of essential inputs for agriculture, industry power and public transportation. We respect the oil producers wholly legitimate desire to protect their terms of trade against manufactured goods. As importers of manufactured goods, we Ourselves fully appreciate the losses suffered by them and other developing countries in the wake of inflation and monopolistic pricing of manufactured goods by industrialised countries.

Countries like my own, however, have the disadvantage that in addition to the deterioration in their terms of trade implied in the progressive escalation of import costs of manufactures, they are now being called

upon to suffer a further sharp deterioration on account of a steep hike in oil prices. Our export structure does not provide us with any opportunity to offset these adverse effects by raising our export prices. It might come as a surprise to most of my colleagues here that the international prices of jute goods and tea, which constitute the most important earners of foreign exchange for my country, have hardly risen in the last 13 years or so. I sincerely hope that the oil producing countries, being developing countries will appreciate the consequences of a steep increase in oil prices in terms of its effects on the oil-importing developing countries struggle against their poverty and stagnation.

I, however, wish to emphasize that this problem cannot be resolved by threats of one kind or the other but through cooperation and understanding with full regard to the sovereign rights of oil producers and their legitimate aspirations to gain control over their natural resources. In this connection, I welcome the initiative taken by the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund in bringing to our notice the staggering financial implications of oil crisis. However, I should like to point out that the problems created for developing countries by the steep increase in oil prices are basically in the nature of a resource problem rather than a short-term financing problem. As such, their problems cannot be effectively dealt with by the creation of a Special Fund facility making resources available to members at rates of interest close to short-term interest rates in major financial markets. The resource problem faced by developing countries requires provision of longer-term concessional assistance—more or less on IDA term. I would also like to emphasize that the present situation lends urgency to a fresh allocation of SDRs and I hope that the Executive Directors will reach a decision on this matter as soon as possible.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to emphasize that the recent developments should not be allowed to interfere with the fulfillment of our earlier resolve to complete

the reform exercise by July 1974. I also appreciate the need for effective arrangements in the transitional period that lies ahead. It goes without saying that these arrangements must help us in moving towards goals of longer-run reform agreed to by this Committee in March last year.

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It is absolutely essential that in working out these transitional arrangements the special interests of developing countries must be fully taken into account. To that end, this Committee must endorse the creation of a special facility to deal with longer-term balance of payments of developing countries. Furthermore, in the forthcoming review of quotas, there must be a systematic attempt to give developing countries collectively a greater weightage. Moreover, there must also be an agreement in principle to establish a link between SDRs and development finance in the reformed monetary system.

ITALY USA BANGLADESH INDIA SRI LANKA RUSSIA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

President Shri V. V. Giri's Welcome Speech

The following speech was delivered by the President Shri V. V. Giri while welcoming His Excellency Mr. Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Madame Jovanka Broz at Palam Airport, New Delhi on January 24, 1974:

It gives me great pleasure to extend to you and to Madame Broz, on behalf of the

Government and the people of India and on my own behalf, a warm and cordial welcome to our country.

You, Mr. President, are no stranger to our people, who have known and respected you not only as a tireless champion in the cause of world peace, friendship and understanding, but also as a leading elder statesman of the non-aligned world.

For over two decades India and Yugoslavia have been close friends. We have greatly valued this link. Our common endeavours arising from shared ideals and aspirations have strengthened the bonds between our two countries over the years and enabled us to cooperate fruitfully in the international arena.

The fast developing international detente which we see today in Europe and which holds the promise of ushering in an era of peace and cooperation in Europe and the western hemisphere is indeed a vindication of the policy of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence advocated by India and Yugoslavia since long.

Mr. President, you come to India at an important juncture in world affairs. While Europe has begun to experience the benefits of detente, conflicts and tensions continue to persist in other parts of the world. This underlines the imperative need for all nations and especially for countries of the non-aligned world to redouble their efforts in the struggle for peace. We look forward, Mr. President, during your presence in our midst to exchange views on this important question as well as other matters of mutual interest to our two countries.

Even though your visit is brief, we are glad that you and Madame Broz have been able to accept our invitation. We hope your stay in our country will be pleasant and that you will have the opportunity to see for yourself once again how much the people of India hold you in their esteem as the outstanding leader of the great and friendly people of Yugoslavia.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

President Tito's Reply

Replying, President Tito delivered the following speech:

I am very happy to be once again in India. In a country whose hospitality I have together with my wife so often enjoyed and in which I have felt like being in my own home.

For this reason, I have this time also accepted with the greatest pleasure your kind invitation to visit India, and to person-

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ally accept the Nehru Award for International Understanding. I am deeply moved with the honour bestowed upon me. This is a great recognition which makes it incumbent upon me to continue working perseveringly towards the reaching of goals for which I have fought, together with my dear and great friend and co-fighter, Nehru, for so many years.

In this recognition, I also see my duty to continue contributing, as much as possible on my own part, towards promoting cooperation and strengthening friendship between our two countries. This time I have come to you under the strong impressions of my first visit to India. Twenty years have passed since then. Today we see how firm had been the foundations of understanding and friendship which were established at that time.

By coincidence our visit is taking place at the time of the celebration of the anniversary of the proclamation of your Republic. I am indeed delighted at the opportunity to be present at this great festivity.

It goes without saying that I attach special attention to my talks with you, Mr. President, with the Prime Minister, Madam Indira Gandhi and with your associates both on mutual relations and on the present international situation. Even though our exchange of views was very frequent and substantive in the course of the last year, the developments are evolving at such a speed that we shall have much to talk about this time as well. Many pressing issues are burdening international relations and are rendering uncertain the future of mankind. The non-aligned countries must therefore utilise every bilateral meeting for reaching an understanding on their contribution to the further strengthening of the non-alignment, and to the realization of that which has been adopted through mutual decisions.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you, on behalf of my wife, my associates and in my own name, for this magnificent welcome and for the warm words addressed to us. I also avail myself of this opportunity to extend cordial greetings to the people of India from the peoples of Yugoslavia. Thank you Mr. President.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

President Giri's Speech at Dinner in Honour of President Tito

The President, Shri V. V. Giri, delivered the following address at a dinner hosted by him, in honour of His Excellency Mr. Josip Broz Tito, President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and Madame Jovanka Broz in New Delhi on January 25, 1974:

It, gives me great pleasure to welcome in our midst our greatly esteemed friends His Excellency President Tito and Madame Broz. The world has changed almost beyond recognition since President Tito first visited our country twenty years ago. But the principles and ideals which guide our two countries have remained steadfast as also our mutual resolve to do our utmost to promote world peace and progress.

Your Excellency, we welcome you today as a great world statesman who, along with Prime Minister Nehru and President Nasser, initiated the Non-aligned Movement and struggled tirelessly for international peace and cooperation. We also welcome you as a great humanist and patriot who throughout your life have fought against the oppression of the weak by the strong, against injustice in every form, and in the defence of your country's sovereignty and independence. Your great achievements, whether as a dedicated trade unionist and revolutionary in your younger days, or as a courageous and brilliant military leader during the Yugoslav liberation struggle against Nazi oppression, or as an outstanding national leader during Yugoslavia's postwar reconstruction will always be a source of inspiration to future generations. The conferment of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding on Your Excellency is a token of our appreciation of your wisdom, courage, statesmanship and, above all, humanity.

India and Yugoslavia, bound together by the common ideals of nonalignment and peaceful co-existence between States with

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different social system, have tirelessly strived against the division of the world into antagonistic blocs. Together, we have raised our voices against armed aggression, imperialism, racialism and colonialism. Both

our countries have steadfastly tried to promote international understanding and co-operation based on the principle of sovereign equality of all States. Our common policy in the international field, based on principles of peaceful coexistence had often been belittled in the past. Today this policy has been vindicated by the increasing relaxation of international tensions and the development of detente in large areas of the world. This atmosphere of international detente has, in no small measure, resulted from the common actions and policies followed by the non-aligned countries.

Your Excellency, while welcoming this development, we cannot but record our concern at the continued existence of tensions and conflicts in certain parts of the world. We must also express our anxiety at the growing division of the world between the poor and the rich nations, a division which if allowed to persist or to increase will be fraught with serious consequences for the world as a whole. In these circumstances, we are convinced that the role of non-aligned countries has become all the more relevant whether in the task of safeguarding of the independence and sovereignty of smaller countries, or of narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor nations or of ensuring that every country, irrespective of whether it is powerful or weak, will have a voice in matters affecting its own national interests.

We, in India, have welcomed the growing development of detente and cooperation in Europe and the role played by Yugoslavia in this process. We particularly appreciate the role played by Yugoslavia in advising the developed countries of Europe not to form an exclusive rich-man's club and turn their back on the vast majority of humani-

On our own part, we have constantly worked to normalise relations among the countries of the Indian sub-continent and bring about a durable peace. We shall resolutely continue to bend our efforts towards achieving this objective and our hand of friendship is stretched out to all countries, whatever past differences we may have had with some of them. In this regard, we are

extremely thankful for the understanding and support extended by Yugoslavia.

Your Excellency, the situation in West Asia continues to be a source of concern to the entire international community. We firmly believe that the only solution to the problem is the faithful and complete implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution on the subject. While noting some recent positive development in this regard, we are convinced that so long as the occupied Arab lands are not vacated by Israel and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people remain unfulfilled, there can be no lasting peace in that region. In this context the non-aligned countries have an important role to play in the joint endeavour which is necessary to bring about a just and durable peace in West Asia. Your Excellency personally and the Yugoslav Government have already made a significant contribution towards this objective by helping to mobilise international opinion in this direction.

The non-aligned movement today has gathered great momentum and has been universally acknowledged as a powerful moral force, since the first foundations were laid in the early 1950's. The growing strength and relevance of Non-alignment has once again been demonstrated at the Summit Conference of Non-aligned Countries, held in Algiers, last year. It gives us great satisfaction that India and Yugoslavia, which have a close identity of views on international matters, worked together not only at Algiers but also in the United Nations and other international forums. However, there is now an urgent need for non-aligned countries to implement the various decisions reached at Algiers, particularly in the economic field. In the world situation of today joint non-aligned action has become all the more important, if the smaller and less militarily strong nations are to safeguard their economic and political interests.

India and Yugoslavia have worked well together not only in the international arena but also in the all-round development of bilateral cooperation between our two coun-

tries. The increase in our exchanges in the economic, commercial, scientific and cultural fields is a matter of satisfaction to us. But

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there is a lot more which can be done in developing our relations in every field, to our mutual benefit. We face many similar problems which makes it all the more necessary for us to expand our bilateral cooperation in every area.

Your Excellency, allow me, in conclusion, to wish you and Madame Broz a most pleasant and interesting stay in India. Your company in our midst is a source of happiness to all of us.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast to the health of the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Madame Broz, to the prosperity of the people of Yugoslavia, to the ever strengthening friendship between our two countries and to international peace and cooperation.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA MALI ISRAEL ALGERIA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

President Tito's Speech

Replying, President Tito said:

Allow me to thank you most cordially on the warm words you have addressed to us and to express sincere thanks on behalf of my wife, my associates and in my own personal name for the attention and kind hospitality which has been accorded to us.

Every visit to the friendly India has been a great experience for me personally. I always cherish vivid and pleasant memories of the talks with the leaders of your country and contacts with your people. This time my feelings are the greater in view of the exceptional honour bestowed upon me with the presentation of the Nehru Award for International Understanding. I doubly appreciate this recognition because of the name it bears, the name of the great architect of India, the outstanding humanist and my dear friend, Jawaharlal Nehru, and because it has been awarded for international understanding. This precisely is the cause to which our two countries have pledged themselves with such dedication for so many years now.

Relations between India and Yugoslavia have been developing with such continuity already for two decades, a consistency which is rare in relations among States, especially if they happen to be geographically so distant as our two countries. This cooperation has been constantly strengthened - both on the bilateral and international plane. Mutual understanding has become more profound and friendship more firm.

We in Yugoslavia are following with special attention and keen interest all your preoccupations and sincerely rejoice in your every success. And in the case of your country numerous have been such occasions indeed. Our only wish is that the enormous efforts which the Government and the people of India are investing in the solution of such complex problems yield even greater results.

Mr. President,

Regardless of both your and our commitments to the execution of tasks within our countries, not even for a moment should we lose sight of what is happening in international relations and which, in one way or another, affects the development and the position of our countries. Developments are occurring so rapidly and are attended by such repercussions that we all must assume a

posture of the greatest responsibility towards them.

For example, today in the world there can no longer be any conflict which could be characterized only as local. Every conflict threatens world peace, whether it be in Southeast Asia, Latin America, in southern Africa or in any other area in the world. This has also been best illustrated by the recent war in the Middle East.

By the same token, no pressing international issue can be of a limited nature. Let us, for example, take the prevailing situation in international economic relations. There have emerged problems so complex

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and with such repercussions that they demand urgent and detailed analysis and the most urgent solution, with participation of all countries - both developed and developing ones so as to find a way out while, at the same time, respecting the interests of all. Otherwise, the world will not be able to avoid greater disorder and upheavals.

Acting in line with the positions adopted on the Middle East problem at their conferences and in terms of understandings reached within the United Nations, the non-aligned countries have played an important role in the search of a settlement for this dangerous crisis. By making efforts towards a just solution, they have given a strong support to the struggle of the Arab countries. In doing so the non-aligned countries have demonstrated in practice their readiness and determination to implement the principles of the policy of non-alignment, more specifically, their agreements and understandings.

The non-aligned must pursue a more intensive activity in the future. Problems are so many that there can be no hesitation. We cannot be satisfied with partial solutions since partial solutions can only be temporary and, as a rule, inherent with new complications. Likewise, the violation of the already reached agreements should not be allowed, as in the case of Vietnam where

the reactionary Saigon regime is obstructing the achievement of peace and stabilization of the situation in that part of the world. That what is happening in Cambodia is no secret, etc.

Agreement has been reached in the Middle East on disengagement of Egyptian and Israeli military forces. It could inspire hope if it results in a just solution of the whole complex Middle East problem, and if that solution is reached as soon as possible.

In Algiers positions were formulated and concrete conclusions adopted on many issues. The non-aligned countries must constitute a constantly active factor on the international scene with a view to safeguarding peace and security and promoting equitable international cooperation, on the basis of respect of the sovereign rights and interests of all countries and peoples.

Mr. President,

Contacts between our two countries and the exchange of views on the highest level were especially intensive during the last year. It was evident in these contacts and talks that our views are identical almost on all international issues. This activity has, at the same time, contributed to the further growth of our bilateral relations.

I feel, however, that all possibilities have not as yet been utilized for the expansion of cooperation in all domains, especially in the economic field. Mutual efforts should be exerted towards further promotion of trade and economic cooperation in general. This even more so since economic cooperation lags behind political cooperation and because it must reflect the high level of our friendship. All that does not constitute an objective obstacle in this area, all that depends, if I may venture to say, on a subjective factor, must be removed.

Already yesterday, and today, we have had talks with Mr. President, and with the Prime Minister Madame Indira Gandhi. These talks have confirmed once again and in such long-standing friendship it cannot be otherwise - our closeness, our understand-

ing, our joint preoccupations with questions relating to our own countries and the present-day world. There is no need for me to reiterate my confidence that, in the future India and Yugoslavia will, along With other non-aligned countries, work hard towards reaching of common objectives.

I raise this toast to your health and your personal happiness, esteemed Mr. President, to the health and happiness of the esteemed Prime Minister, Madame Indira Gandhi, for continuing success of the industrious people of India in the construction of their beautiful country and a happier future, for further consolidation of friendship and cooperation between India and Yugoslavia.

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YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA VIETNAM CAMBODIA EGYPT ISRAEL ALGERIA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

President Girl's Farewell Speech

Bidding farewell to President Tito and Madame Broz in New Delhi on January 29, 1974, President Giri said:

It has always been a source of joy and inspiration to us to have you in our midst. We are glad that you could accept our invitation and visit us in spite of your many preoccupations. We are especially happy that you could come at this time when there was every need to consult each other on the many complex changes which have taken place in the international field.

The Jawaharlal Nehru Award for Inter-

national Understanding, which you so graciously accepted in person the other day, is a sincere token of the high esteem in which you are held by our people not only as one of the founders of the great non-alignment movement but also as a tireless champion of world peace and international cooperation.

The talks which you have held with us and with Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, have underlined the close identity of views of our two countries on all matters of common interest. Once again we have benefited from your vast experience, wisdom and sagacity. Our talks have revealed the necessity for all non-aligned nations to strengthen their solidarity and unity, and to help one another in the great task of economic emancipation so as to safeguard their independence and sovereignty.

In bidding you and Madame Broz farewell may I express our earnest wish, Mr. President that you as a great partisan in the struggle for universal peace and human brotherhood will, for many years to come, continue to guide the destiny of the people of Yugoslavia and to give a lead to the forces of peace throughout the world.

May I also convey through you, Mr. President, the warmest greetings and good wishes of the people of India to the friendly people of Yugoslavia for their happiness and prosperity in the future.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

President Tito's Speech Thanking President Giri

In reply to President Giri, President Tito said:

Thank you once again on behalf of all of us who were your guest for your cordial hospitality and for everything we experienced during the several days of our stay amongst you.

Throughout our stay, we were surrounded by your kind attention which was, of course, no surprise to us but something we always met with in friendly India.

According to our mutual wish, much of the time of our visit was devoted to talks. In an exhaustive exchange of views, we noted the identity or similarity of our stand-points on acute international problems, including those resulting from the latest developments of the world situation. I wish to stress that our talks, as it has always been the case, were marked by great mutual understanding, frankness and the common conviction of the necessity to strengthen the activities of non-aligned countries particularly in the implementation of the decisions adopted at a recent conference in Algiers.

Our talks also made a significant contribution to the further strengthening of our bilateral relations, especially in the economic field which will be of great benefit to both countries.

I am glad we had the opportunity to witness the impressive celebrations of your National Day. We saw the great efforts you are investing in the development of your country and in strengthening its defence and we admired important results you achieved in spite of all the difficulties.

The Nehru Award for International Understanding which was presented to me on this occasion will always remain, let me stress it once again, one of my most precious

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acknowledgments. In short, I can say that the unforgettable memories that link me to

this friendly country were, by this visit, still further enriched.

At the end, Mr. President, may I express on my own behalf, on behalf of my wife and my associates our deepest gratitude to you, Mr. President, to Madam Prime Minister, to the Government of India, to the people of New Delhi and of India as a whole our gratitude for the very warm welcome that we received here and which we shall always cherish as a very dear memory.

YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA ALGERIA

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

India-Yugoslavia Joint Communique

The following Joint Communique was issued in New Delhi on January 29, 1974, at the conclusion of President Tito's official visit to India:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri, and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Marshal Josip Broz Tito, accompanied by Madame Broz, paid a friendly official visit to India from January 24 to 29, 1974. The President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and members of his delegation received a spontaneous welcome everywhere in consonance with the sincere and deep friendship existing between the two Governments and peoples.

During his stay in New Delhi, the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding was conferred on President

Josip Broz Tito at a special ceremony on January 25, 1974 in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the cause of world peace and international cooperation. President Tito and Madame Broz also attended the Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 1974.

The President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia held talks with the President of India and the Prime Minister of India, covering bilateral matters, as well as a wide range of international questions of mutual interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of extreme cordiality, friendship and mutual understanding which reflected the community of interests and similarity of approach of the two countries on the questions discussed.

Participating in the talks were:

On the Indian side: Sardar Swaran Singh Minister of External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs; Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary; Shri P. N. Menon, Ambassador of India to Yugoslavia; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary; Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary; Shri S. K. Singh, Joint Secretary; and Shri O. N. Sheopuri, Counsellor-designate, Embassy of India in Yugoslavia.

On the Yugoslav side:

Mr. Dragoslav Markovic, President of the Assembly of the SR Serbia; Mr. Milos Minic, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Josip Vrhovec, Secretary of the Executive Committee of the League of Communists of SR Croatia; Dr. Emil Ludviger, Member of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Trade; Mr. Ilija Topaloski, Ambassador of Yugoslavia to India; Admiral Branko Mamula, Federal Assistant Secretary for National Defence; Mr. Aleksandar

Sokorac, Chief of Cabinet of the President of the Republic; Mr. Dzevad Mujezinovic, Director of Department in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Dragoslav Pejic and Mr. Dargi Trajamovski, Minister-Counsellors in the Embassy of Yugoslavia in India; and Mr. Nikola Cicanovic, Counsellor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia.

Both sides noted with great satisfaction the continued growth of Indo-Yugoslav friendship and cooperation in all fields. They reaffirmed their common dedication to safeguard peace and promote international cooperation.

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While welcoming the successful outcome of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee Meeting held in Belgrade in January this year, both sides noted that there exist considerable further possibilities for expansion and intensification of mutually beneficial cooperation between them in all spheres on a long-term basis, particularly in the shipbuilding, steel production and leather industries.

Both sides expressed their earnest desire to continue efforts to extend and diversify trade between the two countries and agreed that the strengthening of cooperation between the two countries in the economic, scientific and technical fields will be to mutual benefit and will help to develop their respective national economies. They stressed the need in this context to explore further possibilities for setting up joint ventures in either country or in third countries and for the sharing of scientific and technological expertise on a mutually advantageous basis.

Both sides reviewed the current international situation which revealed a close identity of views on the questions discussed.

Both sides reiterated their confidence that the policy of non-alignment, which is the cornerstone of the foreign policy of India and Yugoslavia, continues to demonstrate

its vitality and importance in the contemporary world, especially in regard to the safeguarding of world peace and the independence and sovereignty of all nations.

In this context, both sides highly appreciated the positive results of the Fourth Non-Aligned Summit Conference held in Algiers in September 1973 and underlined the necessity for closer cooperation, solidarity and unity of the non-aligned countries to implement, in a concrete manner, the decisions of the Conference. They reaffirmed the value and validity of the policy of non-alignment and the important role it has played and continues to play in the strengthening of international peace and security.

Both sides agreed that the current international situation requires fresh initiatives by non-aligned countries with the aim to contribute towards solution of problems emphasised by the Algiers Conference and especially in regard to questions concerning economic relations and mutual economic co-operation between non-aligned countries.

In the spirit of the Algiers Conference, both sides extended their support to the efforts of countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America to acquire full sovereignty over their natural resources and to attain their objective of securing complete political and economic independence and security.

Both sides considered it desirable that the non-aligned countries should meet as soon as possible, at an appropriate level, to review latest international developments and their bearing on non-aligned as well as other developing countries, with the aim of initiating action for the implementation of the decisions taken at the Algiers Summit.

Both sides noted with deep satisfaction the trend towards detente and the settlement of international problems by means of negotiations as also the ever wider acceptance of the policy of peaceful co-existence and cooperation. They noted that this was yet another manifestation of the wider recognition of the ideals enunciated by the non-aligned countries contributing to the streng-

thening of peace and international security. At the same time, both sides noted that the policy of pressure and interference in internal affairs continues to manifest itself in international relations. The policy of racism and apartheid is also being stubbornly supported in certain quarters. Both sides considered that such policies contribute to tension, constitute a danger to the independence and sovereignty of countries and obstruct the process of relaxation of tensions in different parts of the world.

While welcoming relaxation of international tensions, both sides reiterated their conviction that independence, peace and security are inseparable and that it is essential for all countries, irrespective of their size, to participate on an equal footing, in the resolution of all issues affecting their national interests.

Both sides reiterated their fullest support for the just cause of the Arab peoples in their efforts to find a fair and durable settlement of the West Asia crisis. While noting the recent positive developments in this regard, they believe that peace in West Asia can be established only through the

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complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories, the restoration of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and by ensuring the security and sovereignty of all countries and peoples in that region.

While supporting the independence and sovereignty of the Vietnamese people, both sides emphasised the need for strict and speedy implementation of all provisions of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring the Peace in Vietnam and the Agreement on the Restoration of Peace and National Reconciliation in Laos. They also called for the cessation of outside interference in Cambodia and expressed the hope that a just settlement will soon be achieved there. Both sides considered these steps as essential pre-conditions for the establishment of lasting peace in Indo-China as a whole.

The Prime Minister of India outlined

the recent developments on the Indian Sub-Continent and the initiatives taken by the Government of India to achieve durable peace and to develop cooperative and friendly relations among all States of the Indian Sub-Continent. The President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expressed his appreciation of and support for the efforts made by India in this regard and stated his conviction that all efforts directed towards development of good neighbourly relations and cooperation amongst countries of the Indian Sub-Continent correspond with the interests of the peoples concerned and have great importance both for peace in the region as well as in the world as a whole. Both sides strongly supported the admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations, without further delay.

The President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia outlined the second stage of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the successful conclusion of which would represent a valuable contribution to the safeguarding of security and cooperation not only in Europe but also throughout the world. The Prime Minister of India noted with great satisfaction the growth of the spirit of detente in Europe and expressed her appreciation of the significant contribution made by Yugoslavia in her capacity as a non-aligned country, to this process. She shared the hope that these positive developments in Europe will lead to reduction of tensions in other parts of the world as well.

The two sides reaffirmed their conviction in the equality of mankind irrespective of race or colour. They declared their abhorrence of policies of racial discrimination and apartheid, which are a flagrant violation of fundamental human rights. They Supported national liberation movements in colonial territories and called for the speedy and complete elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism in accordance with the UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Both sides supported the proposal to convene a World Conference on Disarma-

ment at an early date, with the participation of all States so as to bring about a cessation of the arms race and the achievement of General and Complete Disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under strict international control. Both sides reiterated their adherence to the Resolution of the XXVIIIth UN General Assembly on the non-use of force or threat of force in international relations and the prohibition, for all time, of the use of nuclear weapons.

Both sides emphasised the importance of the United Nations and its universal character for the maintenance of world peace, security and international cooperation and reaffirmed their interest in strengthening and expanding bilateral and multilateral cooperation within that Organisation and its specialised agencies.

Both sides expressed concern at the widening gulf between the developing and the developed countries of the world. They, were of the view that the gap must be progressively reduced in the interest of peace and harmony among nations. They also discussed the world economic situation and its effects on developing countries and agreed on the need for developing countries to seek, together with developed countries, solutions to current economic problems. The two sides were of the opinion that the forthcoming Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to economic problems as well as the World Conference on Food and

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the World Conference on Natural Resources will provide suitable opportunities to exert concerted efforts of all the States to evolve a new system of international economic relations founded on equality and mutual benefit.

Both sides expressed complete satisfaction over the results of their discussions. They were convinced that the visit of the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and his delegation has made a significant contribution to the strengthening and deepening of the ties of friendly Cooperation between the two countries,

The President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Marshal Josip Broz Tito, expressed his gratitude for the very warm and cordial hospitality extended to him and his party during their stay in India, reflecting the traditional relations of sincere and profound friendship between the peoples of India and Yugoslavia.

The President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia invited the President of the Republic of India, Shri V. V. Giri and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to visit Yugoslavia. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA CROATIA ALGERIA ISRAEL VIETNAM LAOS CAMBODIA CHINA  
BANGLADESH

**Date :** Jan 01, 1974

## Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Yugoslav Joint Statement

The following is the text of the joint statement issued at the conclusion of the eighth session of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee held in Belgrade from January 3 to 8, 1974:

The eighth session of the Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee was held in Belgrade from January 3 to 8, 1974. The Yugoslav side was led by H.E. Dr. Emil Ludviger, Federal Secretary for Foreign Trade of Yugoslavia, and the Indian side by Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Government of India.

The two sides reviewed trade exchanges between the two countries in 1973, which

were 30 per cent higher than in 1972. Fruitful discussions were held to further improve and diversify bilateral trade and industrial co-operation and concrete measures were agreed upon toward this end. The possibilities for joint ventures in third countries were also examined. It was agreed to form sub-committees on specific fields of co-operation to study the proposals in depth and make recommendations for implementation.

Talks were held in a most cordial and friendly atmosphere. Professor Chattopadhyaya visited Dubrovnik and Split also during this visit.

A protocol was signed at a special ceremony at Federal Executive Council building in Belgrade on January 7, 1974. The Indian Commerce Minister had also useful talks with the Deputy Premier Dr. Vratusa and Yugoslav Premier Bijedic.

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ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

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

Following is the text of the speech of the President, Shri V. V. Giri at dinner given by him in honour of H.E. Mr. Anwar El-Sadat, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt in New Delhi on February 24, 1974:

It is my privilege and pleasure today to welcome Your Excellency the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and those accompanying your Excellency. We are most honoured that, in spite of your many pre-occupations, you have found time to pay us a visit. Your Excellency is no stranger to India, but this is the first occasion on which we greet you as the President of a country with whom India has had the closest relations from the dawn of history. The entire country welcome Your Excellency's visit to India and rejoice at this reaffirmation of the close and friendly ties between our two countries.

Mr. President you guide the destinies of a country which is the cradle of civilisation, the meeting place of the three continents of the old world, a centre of culture and scholarship, and a bastion of Afro-Asian solidarity. For the last quarter of a century and more, however, Egypt, along with other Arab countries has had to face the problem of an expansionist and aggressive neighbour. We saw how a great part of the national energies of Egypt was diverted to rectifying this unacceptable and intolerable situation, with the result that the tasks of economic reconstruction and social and cultural regeneration could not proceed as fast as they would otherwise have. Mr. President you have broken this stalemate.

The great achievements which your country has recently recorded under your wise and dynamic leadership have earned universal respect and admiration. These achievements constitute one of the most significant events of modern times, they also illuminate a brilliant page in the long and glorious annals of your great history. We salute your victories, and we pay homage, to the great sacrifices of your countrymen. The courage and determination of your people, guided by your wisdom, your vision and your humanity, guarantee the success of your just cause.

In the long Arab struggle for this cause, you have had our full support. The ideals for which you have fought are the same ideals of justice, honour and civilised conduct in human affairs which we have shared down the centuries, which we cherish and which we will always defend. The usurpation of territory by force, the expulsion of innocent people from their homes, the use of threat and violence in international relations, all of which the Arab people have suffered for so long, have aroused the indignation and sympathy of the people of India. While we share your joy and satisfaction at your great successes, we have no illusions of the difficult days ahead. Along with your many friends, we shall stand by you and give whatever support we can in this great struggle of the Arab people.

We see today a world passing through grave crises and economic strains. Perhaps it is only the beginning. They may well affect us in the developing world more seriously than the richer countries. It will ultimately be our own efforts and our solidarity and cooperation with our friends that will enable us to overcome these difficulties. In Egypt, we believe, we have a powerful and traditional friend and ally. Between our two countries there are many fields of modern endeavour which remain to be explored by the joint efforts of our new generations of scientists, economists, industrialists and technicians. We have fully appreciated the grave preoccupations and serious burdens which have exercised your attention and energies over the past years. We also, in our part of the world, have had our diffi-

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culties and setbacks. Both of us, I believe, can look to the future with some confidence and with the hope of a greater ability to dedicate our energies to the pursuits of peace and cooperation, bilaterally, regionally and in the true interests of world concord,

You are only with us for a very short time and you return to a heavy schedule and to serious matters of state, affecting not only your own country but many missions who are involved in your region in the great Arab struggle. We are confident that your successes will continue and will afford you in the future more time to pay us a longer and more relaxed visit. You will always find in India a warm, genuine and sincere friendship.

With these words, may I request you, Excellencies and friends, to raise your glass and drink a toast to the health, long life and success of President Sadat in achieving a just and lasting peace in West Asia, to the friendship between India and the Arab people and to friendship between India and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

EGYPT INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

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ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Reply by President Sadat

Replying to the speech delivered by the President, Shri V. V. Giri at the dinner in his honour, His Excellency Mr. Anwar El-Sadat said:

I am deeply touched by the kind words Your Excellency has mentioned about my country and myself.

It is always a pleasure to visit your lovely country which has a glorious ancient civilization and culture that still has its impact not only in India but radiates to the surrounding countries.

It is not only a duty but also an honour which compels us to correct a situation which Your Excellency has quite rightly described as intolerable.

I appreciate India's stand and brotherly support for us in our just struggle against aggression which has not been aimed at Egypt only but against our Arab neighbours, the peoples of Palestine and our Holy Places in Jerusalem.

We are not war-mongers. There are many United Nations Resolutions which Israel has persistently flouted, a matter which forced us to exercise our right of self-defence to implement them and liberate our occupied territories.

In this respect we found tremendous moral and political support from the family of non-aligned nations, especially our friend, India.

We are aware of the economic difficulties the world is facing and especially those affecting the developing countries. I fully agree with Your Excellency that we should all co-operate and work together using our own resources and efforts to overcome these difficulties in the true spirit that for so long prevailed in our contacts and mutual co-operation and which, I am sure, will continue.

May I thank Your Excellency and Her Excellency the Prime Minister for your warm reception and hospitality shown to me during my short visit to your great country.

May I ask you to raise your glasses to drink a toast for the health and long life of President Giri as well as for the prosperity, success and happiness of the people and the Government of India and for everlasting friendship between India and Egypt.

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**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

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BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Communiqué

The following joint communiqué was issued at the end of the visit of Sardar Swaran Singh to Bangladesh:

On the invitation of Dr. Kamal Hossain, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, paid an official visit to Bangladesh from February 13 to 15, 1974. The Foreign Minister of India was accompanied by senior officials of the Ministry of

External Affairs of the Government of India.

The Foreign Minister of India called on the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, His Excellency Mr. Mohammadullah, and on the Prime Minister, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He also met and had discussions with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Kamal Hossain, the Minister of Industries, Mr. Syed Nazrul Islam, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Tajuddin Ahmed, the Minister of Flood Control and Water Resources, Mr. Khondaker Moshtaque Ahmed, the Minister of Communications, Mr. Mansoor Ali, and the Minister of Commerce and President of the Bangladesh Awami League, Mr. A.H.M. Kamaruzzaman.

The two Foreign Ministers had detailed discussions covering various aspects of mutual relations between India and Bangladesh. They reviewed the consistent and tangible progress made in all spheres of bilateral relations since their previous meeting in Delhi in April, 1973. They expressed satisfaction at the wide-ranging and growing cooperation between the two countries in all aspects of their bilateral relations and their confidence that these relations will grow from strength to strength, guided by the principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. During the discussions, both sides reaffirmed their determination to give practical shape to the deeply felt and just aspirations of the common peoples of the two countries for economic well-being and social progress. Both sides were convinced that these objectives can be achieved on the basis of shared ideals. Inspired by the common vision of mutual amity and good neighbourliness, they affirmed their resolve to increase cooperation in every way between the Governments and the peoples of Bangladesh and India.

While reviewing the satisfactory growth of economic, trade and industrial relations between the two countries, it was appreciated that the periodical consultations between the Planning Commissions of India and Bangladesh and the Ministries of Commerce and Foreign Trade of the two countries have been

useful and that they have made a practical contribution to the growth of bilateral economic relations on the right lines. They also recognized the useful part played by the joint institutions of the two countries set up for furthering cooperation in different fields between the two countries.

Both sides availed of the opportunity to discuss the use of the water resources of the two countries for the common benefit of the peoples of Bangladesh and India. They agreed that to meet this objective, the Joint Rivers Commission should continue, as a matter of priority, its investigation of the development of the water resources of the region. The two Foreign Ministers also discussed the question of the distribution of the waters of the Ganges between India and Bangladesh and the need for an early decision on the matter. They were confident that their discussions on this subject had advanced their common approach for an early solution to this issue. Both the Foreign Ministers agreed that a mutually acceptable solution will be arrived at before operating the Farakka Barrage project.

The Bangladesh and Indian delegations expressed their satisfaction that over 200,000 persons have already been repatriated to their respective countries under the Delhi Agreement and hoped that the process of repatriation would be completed satisfactorily in the next few months. Both sides

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however expressed concern that in spite of its commitment to accept Pakistani nationals stranded in Bangladesh, Pakistan has been slow in giving clearances to these persons for repatriation to Pakistan. Both sides earnestly hope that Pakistan will honour its commitments to receive back its nationals expeditiously under the Delhi Agreement.

Both the Foreign Ministers noted the practical and reasonable approach adopted and different initiatives taken by the Governments of Bangladesh and India towards resolving the difficult problems affecting sub-continental relations. They expressed their firm conviction that the Delhi Agreement

provides a fair and practical basis for further efforts to be made by the countries of the sub-continent towards normalising their relations. They hoped that Pakistan would cooperate in taking further necessary steps to implement the provisions of the Delhi Agreement faithfully. The two Foreign Ministers agreed that the Simla and Delhi Agreements provide a firm basis for normalising the situation in the sub-continent and for establishing durable peace in the region.

The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed that the policy of non-alignment, to which both India and Bangladesh are deeply committed, constitutes a relevant and important factor for the most adequate reflection of the just aspirations of the peoples throughout the world. Both sides were gratified that an increasing number of countries are adhering to the policy of non-alignment, which is a confirmation of the vitality and consistency of the non-aligned movement and its relevance in meeting the important and varied problems arising out of the contemporary international situation. The two sides also reiterated their resolve to cooperate with each other in making the maximum contribution to the implementation of the decisions of the Fourth Summit Conference of the non-aligned countries held in Algiers.

The Foreign Ministers stressed the need for closer co-operation between non-aligned countries in the economic field and hoped that the forthcoming meeting of the Bureau of the Non-aligned Conference would give immediate attention to the manner in which this objective can be achieved.

While welcoming the progress achieved in recent weeks in defusing the tension in West Asia, the two Foreign Ministers expressed their firm conviction that the settlement of the West Asian crisis can only be achieved on the basis of complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine.

The Foreign Ministers also expressed their concern at the tension in the Indo-China region and the continuing violation

of the Paris Peace Agreements. They reaffirmed their support to the right of the Vietnamese people to decide their own future without outside interference.

India and Bangladesh were particularly concerned at the recent decision to expand the military and naval facilities in the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. The Foreign Ministers considered that this decision aggravates power rivalry in the Indian Ocean, ignores the Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and of the non-aligned countries and runs counter to the concept of the Indian Ocean as an area of peace.

The Foreign Minister of India was deeply impressed by the steps taken by the Government of Bangladesh for national reconstruction and economic development over the last two years. He paid tribute to the determination of the people of Bangladesh in tackling this task under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Both sides agreed that the visit of the Foreign Minister of India had made a significant contribution to strengthening the existing close and friendly relations between the two countries.

The Foreign Minister of India extended a cordial invitation to the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh to visit India at his convenience. The invitation was accepted with great pleasure.

The Foreign Minister of India expressed his gratitude for the warm and friendly hospitality extended to him and to the members of his delegation by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh during his visit.

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FRANCE

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Protocols on French Development Assistance to India

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The following press release on the two financial protocol relating to French assistance to India, which were signed in Paris, was issued in New Delhi on February 11, 1974:

Two financial protocols relating to French development assistance to India for 1974-75 were signed in Paris on February 8 by Mr. J. Y. Haberer of the French Ministry of Finance and Mr. M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, The combined amount of the two protocols is Frs. 274 million (Rs. 46.35 crores at the current exchange rate).

The first protocol relates to a credit of Frs. 214 million (Rs. 36.20 crores) to enable India to finance the imports of French goods and services for various development projects. Out of this amount Frs. 129 million (Rs. 21.82 crores) is earmarked for heavy industrial projects and heavy equipment and Frs. 85 million (Rs. 14.38 crores) is earmarked for the purchase of light equipment, components, spare parts for Indo-French projects set up in India, chemicals, fertilisers, other semi-finished products and raw materials.

This credit comprises fifty per cent of treasury loans of soft terms, i.e., three per cent rate of interest, re-payment period of 25 years, including a grace period of six and a half years. The balance 50 per cent will be financed by guaranteed bank credits repayable over a period of ten years and carrying a rate of interest of 7.8 per cent.

The second protocol relates to a credit of Frs. 60 million (Rs. 10.15 crores) to enable India to finance the projects and programmes of the Departments of Atomic Energy and

Space. The credit comprises a mix of treasury loans and guaranteed bank credits on the same terms in the proportion of 38.33 to 61.67 per cent,

#### BACKGROUNDER:

France has been, as in the past two years, the first member of the Aid India Consortium to sign agreements for development assistance for 1974-75.

The assistance for 1974-75 at Frs. 274 million represents a significant increase of a little over 16 per cent over the assistance of Frs. 236 million for 1973-74. The latter also represented a large increase from the assistance of Frs. 185 million extended in 1972-73. The increase in the level of assistance for the current year is specially significant because of the difficult economic situation being faced by France on account of the oil crisis and its adverse effects on the French economy. The French are facing the prospect of a big deficit in their balance of payments.

The special assistance being provided by France for financing of imports of the Departments of Atomic Energy and Space is representative of the close cooperation and collaboration between the two countries in these sophisticated technological fields.

The protocols do not cover debt relief arrangements for 1974-75, which will be additional and which are expected to be negotiated separately later in the year after a general consensus is reached by the Aid India Consortium.

FRANCE INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

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**Communique of Indo-French Study Group on Economic Cooperation**

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The following press communique was issued on February 11, 1974, after the meeting in Paris of the Indo-French Study Group on Economic Co-operation:

In accordance with the agreement reached in India between Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of Finance of India, and Mr. Valery Giscard d'Estaing, the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of France, in November 1973, to greatly increase economic and technical cooperation between the two countries, officials of the Government of India,

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led by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, had detailed discussions with French officials led by Mr. G. Carron de la Carriere of the French Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, from February 5 to February 9, 1974.

The delegation reviewed the development programme of the two countries and identified the major areas in which increased economic and technical cooperation, would be of mutual benefit. Some of these are: Organic chemicals, intermediates including petrochemicals, fertilisers, petroleum refining, non-ferrous metals, alloy steels, powers generation, transmission and distribution, rapid transit systems, telecommunications, electronics items, particularly computers and peripherals, and specialized technology in oil exploration and production, specially offshore areas, coal mining and coal mining machinery, improved methods of transporting coal and its combustion, gasification and transmission into chemicals, and scientific instruments.

Organisations and enterprises of the two countries will be nominated as soon as possible to work out satisfactory and comprehensive arrangements of co-operation in each area. To facilitate this work and en-

sure satisfactory implementation, a joint Indo-French commission will be set up at the level of officials to deal with economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. The joint commission will meet every year and more often if necessary. The two delegations also agreed to have regular consultations between the Planning Commissions of the two countries to study planning methodology and other subjects of mutual interest in the field of planning.

Matters concerning increase in trade were also discussed. Certain desirable new initiatives were identified and these will be considered by the existing joint commission dealing with such matters, which was established in 1959.

FRANCE INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Address by President Shri V. V. Giri to Parliament

The following is the text of the address by the President, Shri V. V. Giri to the joint session of both the Houses of Parliament on February 18, 1974:

You reassemble at a time of difficulty and trial. The people face many hardships as a result of high prices, scarcity of essential commodities and interruptions in production and supply caused by strikes, bundhs and unrest, which in some parts of the country have taken a violent turn. The international oil crisis has cast an uneasy shadow on the economy. These unforeseen events have undoubtedly slowed down the pace of our social and economic development. In

this situation, the people's mood is one of understandable anxiety. I have deep sympathy with the people, particularly the poor sections, who have had to suffer.

Seldom has a country faced such gigantic problems in quick succession, year after year, as we have these last three years. It has been a continuous testing of the nation's mettle. The nation has survived these difficulties and has not allowed them to come in the way of its basic endeavours towards development. This is no mean achievement and should not be ignored, even though positive aspects are apt to be overlooked in difficult times.

There have been a number of welcome developments. One of these is the manner in which the people of Andhra Pradesh have

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solved the Problem of intra-regional tensions which only a year ago appeared insurmountable. I congratulate all sections of the people of that State on the wisdom and spirit of accommodation which they displayed. The six-point formula which has been evolved should lead to fuller integration and to the accelerated development of the backward areas of the State,

Two other hopeful trends are in the economic sphere: the rise in export earnings and the improvement in the performance of public undertakings. Until about two years ago, the low rate of growth of our exports was a cause for considerable anxiety. However, since 1972-73, there has been a marked improvement. In that year, our exports increased by 22%. In the first eight months of 1973-74, despite a variety of constraints, exports have increased by 20.8%. We are confident that with a greater national effort, exports can be pushed up substantially.

Only about two years ago, the continuing losses of our public enterprises were a Cause for concern. It is, therefore, a matter of satisfaction that consequent to a number of measures taken by Government, our Central public undertakings, taken together, have increased their production and earned a net

profit for the first time in 1972-73. This year the position is expected to be much better. The utilisation of capacity will generally increase, the profits of some units are expected to be higher and in others the losses will be considerably reduced.

The rise in prices and the scarcity of food articles, particularly in deficit States, is of prime concern to the people and the Government. The expectation that the good kharif harvest of 1973 would help to stabilise prices has not materialised. Partly, this is due to the internal inflationary situation. The provision of work and relief on a hitherto unprecedented scale to the people of drought affected areas, without jettisoning investment on Plan programmes and the requirements of defence, has necessitated increased deficit financing. The situation also reflects the effect of the international economic crisis on our country. The steps towards detente between nations in different parts of the globe had raised hopes of a favourable climate for the speedy progress of developing nations. However, the international economic situation has created new and complex problems. The international monetary crisis, followed by the steep rise in the prices of many commodities, has affected poorer countries like India more than others. The prices of almost all commodities that we have to import have gone up by two to four times in the past few months, while the prices of our own exports have risen, if at all, only marginally.

The serious situation created by these developments has been aggravated by hoarding and speculation by unscrupulous traders and by interruptions in production and movement caused by lapses on the part of management and by some misguided sections of organised classes. Stocks are also being hoarded by producers and affluent consumers. All these sections of our people must realise that they cannot survive unless the nation as a whole survives. Resort to violence and bundhs only worsens the situation. The poor suffer the most. Government will deal firmly with hoarding and with attempts to interrupt production, movement and distribution.

Supplies to deficit areas and vulnerable sections of society can be maintained through the public distribution system only if there is adequate procurement of grains. Appreciating the need to compensate the farmer for the rise in the cost of production, Government increased procurement prices substantially for the current kharif cereals. While the procurement of rice is satisfactory in many States, it is unfortunate that the procurement of coarse grains did not gather momentum. The kharif procurement season has still several months to go. The situation has been studied in detail, State by State, and Government has indicated the steps to be taken by State Governments. This year's experience in procurement and distribution will be fully considered in taking corrective action for the coming rabi season. I wish to impress upon the State Governments, with all the earnestness at my command, the importance of achieving procurement targets. It has to be realised that the Central Government can distribute only as much quantity as the State Governments procure and make available to it. Therefore, all State Governments, whether they be of surplus or deficit States (which also have surplus areas), should give over-riding importance to this matter and to the checking of hoarding and smuggling

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Judged by world standards, we consume very little oil. Yet the increased prices of crude oil alone will cast on us an additional burden of rupees eight hundred crores a year in foreign exchange. This poses an unprecedented challenge to our economy.

We can understand the anxiety of oil producing countries to conserve their depleting reserves of crude. We also appreciate their desire to strengthen and diversify their economies through investments financed by larger revenues from their exports of oil. We extend our support fully to them in their efforts to secure a dominant role in the international trade in oil which has hitherto been controlled by a handful of private oil companies. We have cordial relations with oil-exporting Countries. The adverse impact of the rise in oil prices on the economies of

developing countries like India is recognised by the friendly countries in Western Asia. We have to devise ways and means of ensuring that this genuine concern is adequately reflected in concrete measures. We are in close touch with oil producing countries and hope that we can find just solutions through appropriate mutual arrangements.

We have satisfactory reserves of coal and a sizable potential of hydroelectric power. We possess the technology for nuclear power generation. We are hopeful that our efforts at oil exploration will yield results. Given a little time and the necessary resources, we should be able to develop these to meet our needs. But the intervening years will be difficult and will call for the most disciplined effort on our part and understanding from our friends.

Government is organising a massive effort to develop our indigenous sources of energy and to maximise our earnings from exports. Efficient and increased production of our own sources of energy and of export-oriented industries, utmost economy in the use of oil products and selective restraints on domestic consumption of exportable goods are essential for the success of this effort. I appeal to all sections of the people to cooperate fully with the measures that will be taken by Government.

The search for oil, on-shore and off-shore, will be pursued with vigour. The exploration which has begun in one off-shore area will be intensified. We have already a joint venture for production of crude oil in Iran. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has started exploration in a prospective area in Iraq and similar venture elsewhere are under consideration.

Schemes for the generation of power will be given high priority. Special attention is being paid to improving the working of existing units and the earlier commissioning of projects which are in an advanced state of construction. This will add a sizable quantum of power. In addition, a large number of projects are to be taken up and completed during the Fifth Five Year Plan period. The

necessary approvals for these projects have been given and in the case of thermal plants, the coal fields from which coal will be supplied have been identified and linked up for particular projects. A coordinated development of coal fields, transportation and power plants will be ensured. This massive programme calls for the reorganisation of the electricity industry.

The key to the success of our efforts in insulating our projected targets of economic growth from the rise in prices of oil lies in larger production and transport of coal. Department of Mines and the Railways have to gear themselves to the task of raising and moving the coal to various centres of consumption. The State Governments on their part should ensure that necessary basic facilities like power and feeder roads are made available. A great responsibility rests on the managements and the one and a half million workers of the mines and the Railways. With their co-operation, the production of coal will be increased in 1974-75 to 90 million tonnes, if not more, and a steady flow will be maintained to keep the wheels of industry running smoothly.

In the present situation, the maintenance of production, particularly in essential sectors, is an obligation we owe to our people. In recent months, the workers have been experiencing considerable economic difficulties. In spite of this, our workers, who have a proud heritage of patriotism, know very well that the situation can be improved only if the social tasks of production are viewed in the larger national perspective. Therefore, workers have to make a supreme effort to increase production and to ensure quick and uninterrupted movement. This is the only

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way in which they can contribute to relieve the shortages faced by the common people.

The Draft Fifth Five Year Plan provides the framework and the programme to tackle the twin problems of food and fuel. The strategy for agriculture is based on a combination of the application of new technology and widening the base of production. The

emphasis is on programmes for command areas and marginal areas on the one hand and for the small farmers on the other, so that the very process of increased production ensures wider distribution regionwise as well as between different sections of the people. The Plan gives special importance to the development of power, coal, oil and transport and of industries like fertilizers which are vital for agriculture. In a number of sectors, a large part of the out-put levels envisaged in the Plan is based on the assumption of full and more efficient utilisation of existing capacities. This is as much a part of the Plan as new investment.

For the first time integrated sub-plans are being prepared within the overall framework of State Plans for the development of backward areas, including hill and tribal areas, so that all sections of the people achieve certain minimum levels of social consumption in elementary education, rural health, drinking water, provision of home sites, slum clearance, rural roads and rural electrification. The endeavour will be to integrate the services under health, family planning, nutrition, education and social welfare at the field level.

It is a measure of the maturity of our democracy that notwithstanding the present economic difficulties, a fifth of our population is exercising franchise this month in elections to State assemblies. I appeal to all political parties to ensure peaceful conduct of the elections. We are proud of our record in this regard, as free and peaceful elections constitute an important feature of a stable democracy. Successful democracy consists not only of the freedom to choose but of a realisation that in spite of differences, the parties in power and in opposition abide by certain basic rules of conduct, the more important of which is the avoidance of all forms of violence and extra-constitutional methods.

Early this month, Gujarat has come under President's rule. It is the responsibility of all citizens to help in the establishment of a climate of self-restraint and co-operative effort so that the people's hard-

ships can be alleviated.

In the year under review, our foreign policy was pursued with vigour and registered some notable successes. Relations with our neighbours, particularly Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka, as also Burma and Afghanistan, saw noticeable improvement in building up a policy of peace, friendship and mutually beneficial co-operation.

The human problem of the persons stranded in Pakistan, Bangladesh and India after the conflict of 1971 is on the way to satisfactory resolution following the historic initiative taken by India and Bangladesh. The three-way simultaneous repatriation began in September last and is expected to be completed before the middle of this year. My Government is prepared to enter into negotiations with Pakistan to implement the rest of the Simla Agreement. We sincerely hope that the Government of Pakistan also desires this.

We have maintained a constant dialogue with Bangladesh on all issues of mutual interest. The Governments of both the countries have made concerted efforts to further strengthen friendly relations and co-operation in commercial and economic fields.

I am happy to say that the exchange of visits by our Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka has resulted in the activation of economic relations and co-operation between the two countries. The question of the status, of all persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka has been finally resolved and considerable progress has been made in finding a solution to other questions.

The visit of our Prime Minister to Nepal and of the King and Queen of Nepal to India symbolised the close relations between us, which are based on mutual trust and commonality of interests. We admire greatly the resolve of the Government of Nepal to advance the economic and social interest of its people, a task in which we have been privileged to participate according to the wishes of the Government of Nepal.

Our friendly relations with Afghanistan are being developed and strengthened further by mutual co-operation in many fields. Several projects in which we will be able to participate under our technical and economic co-operation programme have been identified in Afghanistan.

During my visit to Malaysia in, March 1973, I had expressed our support to the Declaration of November 1971 by Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Singapore that South-east Asia should be a zone of peace and neutrality. Along with other countries of the region, we have always urged that the Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace and should be free from military bases of big powers. This has been emphasised by the General Assembly of the United Nations and the non-aligned countries who met at Algiers last year. It is, therefore, a matter of deep concern and disappointment to us that the United Kingdom and the United States of America have entered into an agreement for the establishment of a military base in the island of Diego Garcia in the India Ocean. We consider that the establishment of the military base is against the interests of peace and we sincerely hope that the wishes of the people of this region and of the United Nations will prevail in this matter.

We attach the greatest importance to our friendly relations with countries of West Asia. We are pursuing these in the emerging context of greater economic exchanges between developing countries. We have concluded agreements with the Republic of Iraq covering many fields of such co-operation. The growing friendship between India and Iraq is reflected in the positive response of Iraq in finding a solution to the problems arising from the rise in oil prices.

Our view that no stable peace can be established in West Asia without the vacation of Israeli aggression from all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the rights of the Arab people of Palestine is well-known. There have recently been some

positive developments and we hope that the West Asia Peace Conference will lead to lasting peace and stability in this region.

As a result of the high-level visits recently exchanged between Iran and us, there has been a better understanding of each other's policies and many new avenues of mutually beneficial co-operation have been identified. Government will pursue these vigorously.

Yet another milestone was reached in our relations with the Soviet Union with the exchange of views and the Agreements that were signed when we had the pleasure of playing host to General Secretary Brezhnev in November 1973. The Agreements put the economic relationship between the two countries on a long-term footing. We are gratified that Indo-Soviet friendship has progressively attained newer levels of maturity and co-operation.

In June 1973 our Prime Minister visited Yugoslavia. I paid a visit to Rumania and Czechoslovakia in October 1973. Later in the year, we welcomed General Secretary Dr. Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia and an agreement on economic co-operation was signed with Czechoslovakia. President Tito's visit last month gave yet another opportunity for a detailed exchange of views on recent developments affecting non-aligned countries.

There has been a conscious effort on the part of my Government and that of the United States of America to strengthen relations on the basis of equality and mutuality of interests. An important result of this is the agreement on the question of U.S. rupee funds in India.

The conclusion of the Commercial Co-operation Agreement with the European Economic Community is a significant step and with this, our relations with the enlarged Community have started well. We are confident that trade and economic co-operation between the Community and India will grow fast in the coming years.

The views exchanged during the visits

of the Prime Ministers of two sister countries of the Commonwealth - Australia and New Zealand - indicated the enlightened stand of these leaders on world issues, their commitment to peace and their increasing interest in the development of India and other countries of Asia. The visit of our Prime Minister to Canada in June 1973 helped to further strengthen the close ties between the two countries.

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our relations with African countries are close and co-operative. The Vice-President visited Tanzania recently and participated in the tenth anniversary of the Revolution in Zanzibar. In line with our well-known support for the struggle of the African peoples against colonialism and racism, we hail the emergence of the new State of Guinea-Bissau.

Close co-operation with other non-aligned countries has been one of the important aspects of our foreign policy. The Prime Minister attended the Fourth Summit of non-aligned countries in Algiers in September, 1973. The Conference demonstrated a large measure of agreement in the political field and also the resolve of member countries to co-operate with one another more concretely.

Hon'ble Members, the basis and nature of relationships between the countries of the world are changing rapidly; so also many concepts which held sway during the last two decades. Amidst all this, it is a matter for satisfaction that the basic tenets of our foreign policy since Independence have been consistently vindicated.

During this session you will consider the demands for grants for the next financial year and the pending and new legislative business. Government will bring before Parliament a Bill to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act to enable more vigorous enforcement. Among other measures are the Bills for establishing Central universities at Pondicherry and Hyderabad, a Bill to further amend the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution and a Bill to amend the Agricultural Refinance Corporation Act to enable

it to extend assistance directly to Area Development Corporations.

Hon'ble Members, I summon you to the exacting tasks of 1974. The formidable challenges that the nation faces can be turned into an opportunity by a determined people. I have no doubt that as the representatives of the people, you will give the right lead in a spirit of dedication and constructive co-operation and that the country will overcome the present difficulties and emerge stronger and More United to advance along the chosen path.

USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU INDIA IRAN IRAQ BANGLADESH BHUTAN BURMA  
NEPAL SRI LANKA AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN MALAYSIA INDONESIA PHILIPPINES THAILAND  
ALGERIA ISRAEL YUGOSLAVIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA AUSTRALIA CANADA TANZANIA GUINEA  
GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Reply to Debate in Rajya Sabha on President's Address

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following Speech in Rajya Sabha on February 28, 1974, while replying to the debate on President's address

Sir, all the Members have made a reference to the prevailing discontent and dissatisfaction in almost 611 sections of the country. I have myself been referring to this in all my public utterances. I am, as all Members of both sides of the House, fully aware of the difficulties and the hardships which our people have had to face. I have expressed my deep sympathy on account of these difficulties. I have also not tried to shirk the responsibility or, as some hon. Members have tried to hint, pushed or tried

to blame the Opposition parties for the situation. But I think that we need to look at this matter in a more objective manner.

What exactly is the situation? The last two years of these acute difficulties followed months of a different type of crisis, the Bangladesh crisis, and what it involved for the entire nation in terms of money spent, in terms of political and social tension, followed by the war, again. It was a matter of pride that our brave jawans and officers fought so well and won us such a laudable victory. But unfortunately. It was a time of spending, followed by another period when more had to be spent in order to replace what we had lost. In that period. After that, of course, came this severe drought which affected not only two-thirds of our country but very large portions of Asia and Africa. This period of acute difficulty coincided with a period when foreign aid was considerably reduced and all concessional food imports were totally stopped. In spite of all this, we have been able to manage our requirements with our own production, and what we imported, we did so on commercial terms. The percentage of imports to total public distribution during 1972-74 was very low compared to the earlier years. Our development outlays were stepped up and the maximum

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relief was provided. At the same time, as I mentioned earlier, Defence needs were fully met, And this is what the President obviously had in mind when he referred to the fact that we have been able to maintain our basic endeavour in spite of the major crises year after year during the last three years. Of course, the key problem to the economy is the food problem. Except in the drought years, the total issues of foodgrains through the public distribution system used to be between 3 and 8 million tons. In 1972 it was 10.6 million tons and in 1973 it was nearly 12 million tons. This was managed with our own stocks and a small quantity of imports. In my humble opinion, if I may borrow Shri V. P. Dutt's phrase, this was a major achievement.

During the 1966 drought 14 million tons

were distributed and our imports amounted to 10 million tons. I am sure honourable Members will appreciate that a single good crop following years of drought is not enough to stabilise the situation. This is what has happened this year, and market arrivals, of course, have been very low. I am not saying that our procurement drive has been effective. It has been effective in many places, it has not been so effective in other places.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: On the whole, a failure.

PRIME MINISTER: On the whole, effective, Mr. Niren Ghosh, if you will excuse me. Some of the figures which appeared from time to time are not correct when we have cross-checked with the authorities. In some places we expected a larger crop but due to either lack of rain at the right time or more rain and so on, our expectations were not fulfilled. But I am not saying that we have not been to blame at all. We have been to blame; sometimes the party, sometimes the administration. But it would not be correct to say that all over India the procurement drive failed. It did not. And even in those areas where it was less than expected, it has picked up lately. Well, all this indicates that although there was the acute shortage last year, this year grains do exist in the rural areas and with the people who live in the traditionally drought-affected areas. But there is no doubt that the foodgrain problem is affecting the people of the urban areas, particularly urban areas in the deficit States. Now, as I said, we do not absolve ourselves of all the blame. But it would be equally unrealistic to put all the blame on the Congress or the Government. Honourable Members are aware that at any time of shortage, whether in this country or in any other country, especially when it concerns foodgrains and other essential commodities, this situation is exploited by unscrupulous traders and speculators. When a climate of scarcity created and when each person talks about scarcity and non-availability, then this urges the ordinary citizen, also, if he can afford even though he may not be very rich or very big, to buy just a little more than he needs. And this also increases the scarcity.

Now, we are sometimes accused of shielding traders, speculators, blackmarketeers and so on. If the lion. Members will take just a second or a minute and consider, which parties, which groups are supported by these people? These people have never supported us at any time. They may sometimes come to us and utter sweet words and, perhaps, to anybody who forms the Government. I know they did the same to the C.P.I. (M) when they formed the Government in West Bengal ....

What I am trying to say is that these are the sections who are angry with the Government. They are normally angry and they have become more angry since they have discovered that we are trying with all our strength to bring a new orientation in the society. Here I am not saying that we have succeeded. But certainly we are making a major effort; we have taken steps which can take the country in the direction of socialism. And with every such measure, the anger and resistance of these groups have increased. The most recent one, of course, was the reaction to the takeover of the wholesale trade in wheat. We know what reaction this had on the traders community and on some political parties. I think it is known what political parties these sections support. Wherever we have information, wherever something is found, we do try to take action. I think, in almost all cases, we have taken action. But in a democratic system, a person is presumed to be innocent unless he is found guilty, and the procedures and the laws in this regard, as the hon. Members know, are time-consuming. And these groups have taken advantage of this system. But I am

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in full agreement with the House that these elements have to be firmly dealt with and we are determined to do so; there can be no two opinions on this. Now Shri Goray is hear He and others also took up this theme he also accused me of blaming the Opposition for all this. I should like to assure him that at no time have I made such a statement. What I have said and this has been very strongly and categorically confirmed by

every single leader of the Opposition, is that we do expect the Opposition to oppose. We do expect them to take advantage of our weakness, of our faults and our mistakes. But when there, is a major national problem which is affecting all the people and more specially the poorest and the poorer sections, at that time, I think, for the Opposition to take a stand which will increase the difficulties not of the Government - that has a very little importance in this matter - but of the people at large, is not proper., That is what I have said. And I did say that certain opposition parties - I do not know what Mr. Goray's party was doing at that time and I was not referring to it - have exploited this not only to blame the Government but also to make the situation worse, which means, that by doing so the difficulties and hardships of the people were increased. I am not given to over simplification.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Madam, may I point out why we have blamed the Government? We have blamed the Government simply because the Government has not been determined enough in pursuing the policies which they have declared. That has been our criticism.

PRIME MINISTER: I accept that. That is why the trouble comes. I do not know, whether there is a little bit of guilt-conscience in everybody. No matter what one says even though it refers to somebody quite different everybody thinks that may be it is referred to him or his group or party. This is the difficulty. So, they all come in this talk. As I said, I did not mention Shri Goray's party in this connection at all. In some places I specifically mentioned the party which was doing this in my State.

As I said, I am not given to over-simplification but I think that Opposition quite often says that Government alone is responsible for all the economic ills.

I have admitted that we are - there have been lapses on the part of the administration and even the President in his Address has stated this plainly. I agree with Shri Goray and other hon. Members that we could do

better by way of procurement, that we could be more strict in preventing profiteering and black-marketing and that we could do more to punish corruption. We are trying and it is not that we are not trying. There are certain difficulties and, as I said, there may be certain weaknesses amongst us also. But, none of these problems are really new problems except the procurement problem which, of course, is a problem of today. All the other problems are problems which we have been facing from the time we became independent. Now, when in addition to all this I point out that there are vast international forces at work which limit our freedom of action, some hon. Members have treated this as something of a joke. Now, I think it is too serious a matter to be pushed aside like this. That is why I have said that those who do this perhaps do not want us to think about these things.

When we talk about the international financial or economic crisis, there is a feeling among the people here and they try to show that the two are entirely unconnected, i.e., the situation here and elsewhere. Some people also try to show that the rest of the world is sailing smoothly, specially those who criticise socialist policies. They may not say so in so many words. Surely, when they say that our policies have failed, the implication is that other policies tried in other parts of the world have succeeded. Now, when we point out the crisis which is overtaking the countries of the West, the affluent countries, it is not to excuse our faults or mistakes or shortcomings. It is only to put the problem in perspective and to point out that whatever happens there is reflected here. If prices go up there, prices go up here also. Prices have gone up far more than some hon. Members have quoted but I am not going into those details just now. It is true that when the prices go up there, the people are not so affected. I have said this at every single public meeting because in England the unemployed get a dole. The wages and salaries of people there have gone up. So, we are not saying that those people bear the same hardship. We have said that whenever there is a difficult situation it is the poorer nations

who suffer more and within the poorer nations it is the poorer sections who suffer more.

The reason why I put this international problem here is to show that a rise in prices in other countries does bring about some crisis here. It has affected the financial, economic situation in India whether we wanted it or not. This is why I put the problem in perspective.

According to our reports and according to the reports of the foreign press which one sees, we find that most countries of the world are in the grip of major economic crisis and not all those troubles are due to oil. The knowledge and instruments at the disposal of the Government are not sufficient to deal with these new situations which are arising and which in fact are major turning points in the world's economic history.

India cannot escape this situation and, as I said, that makes it all the more difficult for us because this situation coincides with a phase which was otherwise also extremely critical for us. There are many unusual elements in the situation which, perhaps, hon. Members may not be entirely aware of. For example, until last year most Indian prices were higher than world prices. Whether it was foodgrains or edible oils, fertilizers or steel, in just one year the price of every one of the articles has gone up abroad, the highest increase being in the case of crude oil. Industrial nations are now having to rethink the entire basis of their economic system which had especially rested on the assumption of inexhaustible availability of cheap fuel and other raw materials. We also have to make adjustments and, apart from oil, we have to realise that we can no longer look outside for food purchases or for credits.

Some hon. Members made the statement of production going down. This is not a correct statement. Production has not gone down in all sectors. In fact, in 1972 and 1973, up to September-October, there was a fall in production because of the drought and the power cuts, but since then production has in-

creased in a number of sectors. For instance, in the public enterprises, taken as a whole, we were incurring losses until 1972-73. The net loss in 1971-72 was Rs. 19 crores. As against this, the 101 public undertakings in operation in 1972-73 earned a net profit of Rs. 18 crores. The net improvement in the period of one year is thus of the order of Rs. 37 crores.

A number of public enterprises will substantially achieve the targets set for this year and we expect the overall performance to show considerable improvement over the last year. The net profit of public enterprises may reach a figure of over Rs. 40 crores this year. Now it may not be a very spectacular figure but there is no doubt that considering the situation, considering the difficulties and the sort of backlog which we have to make up, this progress and improvement cannot be entirely ignored.

The outlook for industrial production in the first half of 1974 is quite good. The main handicaps which remain still are power shortage and, secondly, the problems of transportation and industrial unrest. The priority given to increasing production through existing power stations and for the creation of new capacity is specifically referred to in the President's Address, and questions have also been replied to here in the House. This year there will be roughly 1.5 million kilowatts of additional capacity which will relieve our power shortage to some extent. Coal production has also picked up and, with coal production, power availability will further improve.

What is important is to ensure that there should be no interruption in movement or interruption in production due to unnecessary lockouts or strikes as happened recently in some parts of the country: I refer specifically to two big strikes over long periods such as those in the jute industry and the textile industry. Of course, there have been many others.

Now, I was somewhat astonished to hear what my friend, the hon. Shri Abu Abraham has said about our being still dependent on

foreign collaboration. In the world today, no nation can be entirely self-sufficient. We have seen that even for the biggest, the richest or the most affluent there has to be give and take. Sometimes we give and take merely because of keeping friendship, even though this thing may not be strictly necessary - the import or the export. But there are imports and exports which are also necessary and I think these will remain

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for all times, and specially as we go towards the concept of having a more united world. But I would like to point out that the nature of foreign collaboration is changing.

We are not now taking help in the way we Used to take because of our own growing capabilities and know-how. We have made it clear that foreign collaboration will be allowed only on priority sectors where there are production shortages as also in sectors where there is need for the import of new highly sophisticated know-how. The hon. Member knows that the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act was passed last year and the guidelines issued under it for allowing foreign collaboration have been placed before Parliament. The guidelines clearly indicate the limits and conditions within which foreign collaboration and investment will be allowed. With regard to the Plan in 1966-67 out of a Plan outlay of Rs. 2200 crores foreign assistance was Rs. 1100 crores; that is, 50 per cent was from foreign sources. In 1972-73 out of an outlay of Rs. 4000 crores Rs. 666 crores was foreign assistance. Now you see what a big come-down this is. That is about 16-23 per cent. From 50 per cent it came down to 16 per cent. In 1973-74 it will be about the same, that is, about 15 or 16 per cent. We hope that in the Fifth Five Year Plan it will come down even lower. So this shows that far from increasing foreign dependence is coming down and self-reliance is being strengthened.

Now, one of the major topics of conversation, and in the speeches of hon. Members, was the talk of corruption. There may be corruption in Government; I have never denied it. In fact I have again and again

said that wherever any prima facie case is made out we have not hesitated to enquire fully into it and we have not hesitated to take action. Action has been taken not only against those who are in Administration or in Government but also against those black-marketeers and so on wherever we have been able to get hold of them. Firstly, corruption has always been there not only in our country but it exists in the affluent countries just as much. The papers have been very full of some of these things recently and many other things do not always come to the papers. We know that in India it existed in the Feudal times; we know that it existed in the British times and it is unfortunate that it has continued after independence. There can be no two opinion that not only should any form of corruption be condemned in the strictest possible terms but that every effort should be made to root it out. However, I feel that what is being done today is to focus attention merely on the Government and I do not think this is the way in which corruption can be rooted out. If we are sincere about it then we must see all the sections where there is corruption and I feel that directing the people's anger only against the Government does mean that we are enabling other people to get away with their nefarious activities. Focus is drawn away from the profiteers who are allowed not only to escape but perhaps to thrive. We know that corruption is a two-way business. If we can be strict enough with the Government it will certainly be less in other sections, but without strong action and focus on the other things it becomes more difficult to deal with it in the Government. Those who are the most corrupting influence, who have the money with which to corrupt are quite often forgotten or perhaps deliberately shielded from public gaze and public anger. This is a question which I think does require deep thought and where everybody instead of blaming one another can sit and find out what to do.

Something was said about election money. I myself have said that this needs to be looking into.

I may be mistaken, but I think we have

discussed this with opposition leaders at a meeting earlier on. The suggestion was made that Government should bear all the expenses. The only thing is that the country is so vast that this would be an enormous sum. Whether it can be done or not, certainly it should be discussed and I think a way should be found how election expenses especially but other types of corruption also can be dealt with.

I do not think that corruption or any thing else justifies violence. Violence is as much a danger to democracy and to the unity of the country as, well, corruption can be said to be. History shows us, not only remote history but nearer history, history of our times, that regimes of terror which had started off with very big promises of cleaning up the administration, cleaning up the

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country,- fell headlong into greater corruption than had existed before they took up the massive cleaning operation. May be they just forgot to do it once they were in that position. The greatest safeguard of good government and clean politics is democracy itself and I personally think that there should be open, direct election based upon adult franchise in the full gaze of the public.. We know that sometimes there are incidents in elections and reference was made by some hon. Members just before perhaps as an excuse to their walking out. This is a matter which concerns the Election Commission. Whenever this has happened I think the Election Commission had gone into it and they had held enquiry. . . .

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: No, no.

PRIME MINISTER: Well, it is for them to say whether a case is made out or not. I think that violence will subvert people's faith in themselves and it is astounding to me that people who vow life-long allegiance to peace and harmony should at the first opportunity become apologists of violence.

Mention was made here also of the Shiv Sena. I think my own opinion has been very clearly and firmly expressed whenever I have

had the occasion to do so. We cannot support any party which is parochial in its outlook or communal or sectarian in its outlook. The Congress has firmly stood for the principle that all of India belongs to every single citizen regardless of his religion, his place of birth, his caste and the language he speaks. He should have the opportunity of living and working anywhere he chooses to do so. Of course, I have said and I do stand by this that where there is any big industry or project it should be seen that those local people who cannot travel around seeking employment elsewhere should be given full opportunity. Otherwise, that is one way in which tension is created. Basically the problem is one of economic difficulty. Once we overcome this phase, I think that this type of jealousy and rivalry will also go. In the meantime, to fan such tension or to put these ideas in anybody's mind that only a particular community should be employed in a particular place is very harmful to our concept of Indian unity. We should not encourage it in any way. All those who are opposed to this should stand together in this matter and see that such thoughts and tendencies do not increase.

The hon. Member, Shri Niren Ghosh, said something about my Nagpur meeting. Mr. Niren Ghosh was not there, but I was there. A number of other people, including MPs, were there. I can tell him that normally three lakh people do not come if they do not want to see or hear a person. They do not take the trouble to walk miles from villages to go to a meeting place. Now, what happened was there was a very peaceful meeting, but there was not enough room for all the people. Therefore, the police asked some of our local organisers whether they should allow new people who were coming into those areas and passages which were left open for people to come in and go out. And before I came to the meeting there was a black-flag demonstration by about twenty or twenty-five people, no more. But when these people were allowed in, many people came and quietly sat; but along with that, came these people with the black flags, and they ran and they did not stick to the passages. They fanned out in all the front sec-

tions and more especially in the Press enclosure. And from there they not only shouted but, as you saw, they threw the sticks of their black flags and some broken chappals which presumably they had collected for the occasion. Most of these came on the Press enclosure. Naturally, the Press got very excited and they jumped out of the enclosure and started running. Another habit of the people who disturb meetings is trying to throw dust. When suddenly dust descends, everybody looks back and gets up to see what is happening. As soon as they get up, the other people push in the front. So, there was a disturbance only in the front. I think they were in four sections or three sections. There was no disturbance in the women's section. But especially the Press area was disturbed. And the rest of the meeting sat absolutely quiet and in fact, one could hear sounds of 'Jai Hind' and 'We want to hear' and so on also. And I would have stayed on for a longer period except that the time given for the meeting was extremely short, and I had to arrive by a set time at the university where they were celebrating their Golden Jubilee—Otherwise, no matter what the noise, I would have spoken longer. If I am scheduled to speak for ten minutes, if there is a noise I speak for twenty minutes.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: One second. I would say that I did not mention anything regarding this matter in the course of my

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speech on the Presidential Address debate. Last session I did put a question about Madurai.

PRIME MINISTER: Somebody mentioned it here because I was in the House. If you have not mentioned it, then I withdraw that part of it. But somebody mentioned it. I was in the House and I heard it myself.

As I said, had there not been this limitation of time and not wanting to be late for the university function, I could have stayed on longer.

This was not a big point. But I just mentioned it to show how things get distort-

ed in the Press and then get taken up by some people and further exaggerated.

Now, many hon. Members were naturally concerned about what has been happening in Gujarat. I think hon. Members know my own deep sorrow and anxiety at the conditions which have been prevailing there for the last few months. The students and the teachers may have started a movement in all sincerity. But we see that other elements have taken advantage of it. Widespread violence has resulted in the loss of many lives. I have already expressed my deep sympathy - and I do so again - with the bereaved families and also with those who have been injured, and amongst these there are also the policemen. Now, the police may not always behave with a restraint that they should, but we must remember that they are also the sons of Gujarat and one should not try to show a section or a profession as being anti-people or anti-national and so on. Much property has also been destroyed. The burning of food shops and milk-booths cannot help the students or the other people in improving the food supply. It is our information that the poorer sections have suffered the most as usually happens in such cases. Shops of small shopkeepers have been burnt, not only destroying whatever foodgrains were available but making it impossible for supplies to be replenished. Actually, all sections have suffered. Banks and other institutions which go into the service of the people have been destroyed. And I have been told, apart from the reports that we get through administration or through our party, by members in other parties and by other people that some of this destruction of the big buildings and of the banks especially, has been done not at all haphazardly or in excitement but in a very expert and knowledgeable manner. And I do not think that any of our students or teachers could have this expertise in this direction. We are doing everything possible to improve the administration. The party leadership has asked the Government headed by Shri Chimanbhai Patel to resign, and in doing so our party was guided by the interest of the State rather than by any narrow party consideration. But despite the persistent efforts to provoke the administration even

under the President's Rule all those arrested under MISA have been released. The police have been asked to exercise the utmost restraint in the discharge of their duty.

Arrangements have been made to improve the availability of food stocks and steps have been taken to enable essential supplies to reach all places and to bring down the prices. In fact, I learn that the prices of all the foodgrains in the open market have come down. But certain political elements determined to subvert democratic political processes have exploited the legitimate grievances of the people. I hope I will be excused if I say that in the true fascist style they have combined, what I should call, the skilful use of propaganda and exaggeration by an organisation of storm troopers to wrest power.

The words "fascism" and "fascist" are used rather loosely. If policemen hit somebody too hard it is called "fascism". But actually the word has a very definite meaning. The question is how did the fascist movement grow in Delhi and how did the Nazi movement grow in Germany. When we use the word it is really in that context that they should be taken. It does not mean abuse of power. Fascist people may abuse power but it does not make that word mean the same thing. Fascism means a situation where a small groups of people want to enforce their views, their desire on a larger group through force, through intimidation, through coercion. And this is what we are witnessing there.

Honourable Members are aware that democracy rests on the reconciliation of liberty with order. No democratic government can allow subversion of order by force organised by a minority. Unruly elements that are exploiting a situation should be exposed and not allowed to have their way. Ordinary

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citizen should not be disturbed. He should not be disabled from continuing his means of livelihood.

Several allegations of corruption were

made in Gujarat also against the former government. At no time have we been unwilling to have specific charges of corruption examined. If specific charges are made and if there is a prima facie case, an appropriate enquiry in such charges will certainly, and immediately, be undertaken. But I do hope sincerely that all sections of people in Gujarat will cooperate in the task of restoring normalcy and peaceful conditions.

I personally feel, as you know, that dissolution is not a question of principle or policy. But I think it can be discussed only when normalcy has been restored. At the present moment there is no question whatsoever of forming a Government, any kind of government. But may I put to the House whether it is practicable to accept that there should be dissolution in the present atmosphere or coercion and violence or any action which can have far-reaching and long-term implication for the entire country. We have news - may be the police may have indulged in things which they should not have done, as I said, we do not support any such thing - and we do have instances today. You hear of resignations in the Press, for instance.

Now, we know what is happening. People are being threatened that their houses will be burnt. And houses have been burnt. We read of incidents where somebody's son was kidnapped. It came out in all the newspapers. We know if an MLA or somebody has come here, his family and children are threatened. So when resignations are taken in this way, I do not think anybody will say that this is a normal way of demanding anything or expressing the people's view. As I said, and I would like to reiterate, once normalcy is restored, we can meet or anybody can meet all sections, listen to their views and give serious consideration to their views and their demands. I would like to repeat that. Today what is being gained by this? Everyday more people are suffering. And while all sections are suffering, the burden in any situation like this always falls on the weaker sections.

I come now to make just a brief mention of our foreign policy because we are always

being asked by the Jan Sangh and we were asked in the debate here if we are not pro-Soviet as if we have some skeleton in the cupboard which we are hiding and which we do not disclose to the public. Some countries spread this canard and false propaganda for their own purpose, for furtherance of their own policies. But it is a great pity if any Indian would repeat this or echo this parrot-like without considering whether it is in the Indian interest or not. I do not think I need apologise for the friendship between India and the Soviet Union. The House and all the Members are aware that it has benefited India's interests and we think it has helped world peace. This friendship is not and it will not be at the cost of our friendship with any other country. We have said this repeatedly. The Soviet Union leadership has said this. The Soviet Union realises and we believe other countries also realise, and in fact, they have said so to us, that we cannot be pressurised by other countries or by parties or groups in India to give up policies which are obviously and admittedly in the interests of our country. The House knows that we are very anxious to improve our relations even with those people who have not been very friendly with us, and various steps are being taken which are leading towards more friendly contacts and cooperation and we intend to pursue these. But I do not think any useful purpose is served by continuously harping on this question. I think our ability to stand by our convictions was amply demonstrated during the Bangladesh crisis. We have continued to work for reconciliation and normalcy in the sub-continent as well as in other parts of the world. And, therefore, we have welcomed the recognition of Bangladesh. It was a long overdue and belated act, but still it has happened and we have welcomed it. There is going to be a meeting of the three countries very soon under the terms of the Delhi Agreement for further steps towards normalisation. Honourable Members are aware of our friendly relations. But again new and further steps are being taken for closer cooperation in the economic fields, in the cultural fields, with other countries, not only our next-door neighbours, as, Sri Lanka, for instance, but also those which are a little farther away

like Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and the other Arab countries. I think the Foreign Minister of the Arab Emirates is in our country just now. So that our foreign policy, I think, is

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admitted by all the world as having stood the test of time.

My colleague, Shri Barooah, has very ably dealt with the theory of the CPI(M) about nationalities in our country. He has also put in focus the nature of democracy as the word is understood the world over. We have diversity in our country. We can see it in this House. We can see it in any State or region. We have our different languages, our different religions, and we have our local cultural groups, and so on. But this distinct personality of regions is something which we have welcomed because we have thought it does not weaken the country, it does not affect our division, but it adds something which enriches our unity, because not only have the regions that distinct personality, I hope each one of us here has a distinct personality. But, I do not think that this makes each region a separate entity. It still remains part of the whole. And I do not think that it helps India in any way to talk of this problem of nationality in this particular way, because we believe and we have always said that our diversity enriches our unity, strengthens our unity. And I am sure if we were to try to put everybody in the same mould. then, new and different types of tensions would arise and it would be far more difficult to deal with. It is natural that each State should want to go ahead. Of course, there is no question of blocking its progress. But can one State. advance if the country as a whole does not? And therefore, does it not become incumbent on the slightly better off States or areas to help the weaker areas? It is for us to help create that atmosphere in which this happens.

So far as Opposition parties are concerned, there are differences and there always will be differences even on basic matters. But there are at the same time national issues on which, I think, in my view, democracy demands a national understand-

ing and a national endeavour. Democracy enjoins on us many things. An important part of democracy is that the ruling party should not suppress the Opposition parties. People should be allowed to speak or to write. If any Member would like to travel round the world and point out to me any one country where there is greater liberty of speech, I would like to know, because I have not been able to discover. Similarly, democracy enjoins upon the Opposition parties to give a maximum of cooperation to the Government on matters which concern the welfare of the people as a whole. If there is it normal economic difficulty, certainly you can exploit the situation. But as I said earlier, when the manner in which you exploit the situation aggravates the difficulty of the people, especially the poorer sections, then, a question is raised whether that is the right thing to do at that particular moment and whether we should not regard it as we regard war. Here was an emergency which concerned everybody, it was not an emergency which was of the Government; everybody would be affected if we realised the issue. Therefore, everybody came forward and said, "We are united in this." Similarly, this is an emergency, an economic emergency on an equally big proportion. It is especially an Indian problem and at the same time part of a global problem. So, at this moment it is my view - of course, honourable Members may differ - that this was a matter in which all of us should sit together and try and find a way out. We know and we have meetings with the opposition leaders. But they themselves are so divided that one group is saying that we are too radical, the other group is saying you are not at all radical, and unfortunately the whole discussion then comes around to this rather than finding what positive steps we can all take together to help the people or to help alleviate their sufferings. Democracy can be sustained only if we are vigilant. There have been nations where democracy was subverted by men of little vision or of overwhelming ambition and such men have been exploited sometimes unwillingly by powerful internal and external forces. This is why I have been putting this problem before our people because our people must be

alive to this peril which is ever present. We should not think that once we have gained our Independence, it is secure for all time. We have to be on our guard all the time and especially there is a special responsibility on the Government and on the Parliament. But ultimately it is on the entire people of India.

My entire endeavour and the effort of our Party has been to strengthen the people to withstand the external pressures as well as the insidious pulls by monopolists or those groups which we think will weaken the country from within. In this, of course, I include all communal groups or groups which

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in the name of caste or religion or something else weaken the fabric of Indian unity.

Finally, today there are two basic issues to which I think all M.Ps. and those who are interested in the future of the country should address themselves.

Firstly, it is the question of production, agricultural and industrial, greater and larger procurement of food articles and better distribution of essentials. This is one part.

The second question is: Can violence be allowed to spread and endanger the very basis of our society?

When I have spoken of the situation in the world or to the dangers surrounding us, it is not at all to divert the people's attention. I myself, in the same speeches, have drawn the attention, of the people of the difficulties here such as the hardships the rising prices are causing or the lack of essential commodities is causing. I know that our farmers are suffering; I know that the people with small industries are suffering for lack of power and lack of other essential articles. When I have stated it, it is not to say: Do not think of this, just concentrate on external dangers. I have very clearly put the internal difficulties to the people. I have also admitted that Government cannot be absolved of all the blame. But when we con-

sider this, we have at the same time to consider the considerable achievements which we have been able to have in this period in spite of all the difficulties and all the obstacles. We have also to see that there have been many sections of the people who have blocked our programmes. Maybe, as Shri Goray has said, procurement was not in every State and in every district enforced as it should have been. At the same time, there were powerful groups who were approaching our peasants and telling them that they should not sell their grains. It is no use looking only at one aspect and ignoring others. We are not ignoring our mistakes. We are trying to make up our shortcomings and to see that where we have failed we do not fall again in these regions. We are not hesitating to make changes even though some people may say that we are turning back. If we feel that changes are essential for the people's welfare and good, we will do it regardless of the criticism of any side whether they are radicals or others. So, we are looking at this not only from the practical point of view, but really from the point of view of the nation's future and welfare of the people. And in that we have to look at not only the long-term strength of the country and the society, but also we have to see the short-term needs which we simply cannot ignore. We cannot ignore the present difficulties of the people. We are trying to balance the two and to find a way out. But, at the same time, I would not be true to my responsibility if I did not point to the external dangers. It is not merely a question of the arms build-up around our country, whether it is in the Indian Ocean or whether it is in certain small and big countries around us. I must say that in places where I have mentioned this, I have also said that this is not to frighten the people that I am saying this and that there is no need for us to be panicky and there is no need to be frightened. But the people of India must at all times see their problems in the larger perspective and they must be aware of the dangers which threaten them from within and from without. It is only when they have a true picture that they can judge any issue and democracy can function at the grass-roots level as it should.

It is my belief that the present world situation is in a very fluid state and it is full of uncertainty and, therefore, any action or any step which encourages confusion and chaos in India adds to this threat and it does pose a danger to the unity and security of the country. I am not appealing to my friends here because I have noted Shri Bhupesh Gupta's annoyance at the constant appeals to the Members of Parliament. But I will say that I hope that even without my appealing to the honourable Members they will study the situation, especially now, now that the elections are over, because every time when anything happened, we were blamed that we were waiting for the elections. I do not know about other people. But I can say for myself that I have never got terribly excited by any victory. Even the Bangladesh victory, which was a proud moment for India, did not excite me much though I was happy and I welcomed it. I was not transported to the Seventh Heaven as many people were. But I was reminding the country of the new problems which the victory would

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pose for us and I did this in public and in the Houses also. Similarly, I know how to take defeats also. If we were defeated anywhere, well, it is a part of life, because we are not here for winning or losing. But we are here to endeavour to take India in a particular direction and we are here to work for socialism, because we believe in it, not because it is a word which was fashionable at a particular time or because the people like it. But, we believe in the present circumstances in India it is only that path and that direction that can alleviate the ills of the people. It will not bring them victory in a hurry. But it will take a very long time and the path is a long and a difficult one. It is only that path which can reduce the inequalities in our society and which can bring a better deal to the poorer sections of the people, those sections and castes which have been suppressed not merely because of poverty, but merely because of incidence of birth, such as the Harijans and the Adivasis. Also because of the circumstances of the partition, the minorities,

who would normally not be considered as backward classes, have really fallen into this category of backwardness and it is because of the circumstances in which the partition took place and the subsequent happenings. So, it is our endeavour to give a better life to all these people. Whether we win or lose in any election or, for that matter, in any other thing, in this endeavour of ours, we must not lose our faith, we must not lose our courage and we must not lose our determination and it is in this spirit that we must face the ups and downs that come.

India has existed for thousands of years. How many crises it has passed through and how many periods it has passed through when it was absolutely down and how many periods we have passed through when we were humiliated, when we did not dare to talk about our religion or our culture or our language. But we have survived all these things and there is something in the people here in this country that helps them survive. But, in the first dark period if we are going to forget all these things and if we are not going to increase our confidence, but are going to try to reduce it, then it is wrong and this is the greatest weakness. So, without appealing to the Members, I would say this: Let us work unitedly to build up the confidence of the people.

We have got the ability. We have got the means also. I think we have now to move towards our goal - not to attain the goal. I do not know whether the goal can be attained in the lifetime of even the youngest person in this House. But all that we can do is to use all our energies, all our efforts, all our talents, to move some steps forward towards that goal. If we can do that, that is a great deal.

USA BANGLADESH INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PERU GERMANY MALI SRI LANKA  
AFGHANISTAN IRAN IRAQ

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# Volume No

1995

## INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Shrimati Rajan Nehru on Violation of Human Rights in Israeli Occupied Arms

Speaking in the Commission on Human Rights on February 12, 1974 on the "question of the violation of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East", Shrimati Rajan Nehru said:

In introducing the draft resolution No. E/CN.4/L.1268 the distinguished representative of Pakistan has given a full and lucid account of the conditions of Arab people in the areas illegally occupied by Israel. It also indicated the basic cause. The refusal of Israel to withdraw from all the territories it seized by force of arms in June, 1967 - which has led to many kinds of humiliation, torture, eviction, harassment and deprivation of human rights of a large number of men, women and innocent children. Even if Israel were to remove all these grievances, the evidence for which grows daily, despite Israel's refusal to co-operate with the United Nations in full and on the spot investigation, obviously so long as Israel

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does not end its occupation, the human rights of the Arabs will continue to be violated in one form or another. The continued violation of human rights understandably poses a threat to peace and stability in this sensitive area.

To build a better and happier world should be the endeavour of each member, of our family of nations. Areas of tension must be removed, fear and suspicion must give way to understanding, goodwill and co-operation. Therefore, it is imperative that our commission pursues the high aims and

ideals of the Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights to resolve this grave continuing problem.

In joining Egypt and several other delegations and in co-sponsoring the draft resolution before us, we have been anxious to uphold a general principle of international law and behaviour. This principle is, simply, that no country has the right to acquire territories belonging to other states by force of arms - and far less, to treat large numbers of people under occupation in a manner which violated several provisions of the appropriate Geneva conventions, many of the articles of the Charter and the code of humanitarian conduct.

Mr. Chairman, we are aware of the fact that we cannot insist - but we can certainly expect and ardently hope that all delegations will uphold this and other great principles on which we are trying to build an orderly, just and civilized international life.

We hope that if we demonstrate our solidarity by voting unanimously for the draft resolution and thereby endorsing our deep conviction in the relevant articles of the Charter, Israel will realise that if she continues to disregard the opinion so often expressed through the resolutions of the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, further measures will be considered to make Israel adhere to the clearly expressed wishes of the vast majority of the people of the world. This is perhaps not an idle hope, for recent events in the Middle-East have amply demonstrated that Israel has very little chance of existing as a truly independent state without the goodwill and cooperation of its Arab neighbours. We all know this is an age of cooperation and not of confrontation or isolation.

One hears sometimes from Israeli sources that the economic conditions of some Arabs has improved under Israeli occupation. Whatever might be the complete facts - and we shall not know them without full investigation - such an assertion reminds us of similar claims made by South Africa and Portugal that the blacks are economically

better off in their outmoded systems of apartheid and colonialism than in the independent black African countries. Surely, Mr. Chairman, human rights, human worth and human dignity cannot be bartered away for real or imaginary gains or material fringe benefits. Such an attitude is all the more deplorable from a people many of whom have experienced, and all of whom can recall, the horrors and humiliations suffered in Europe in the 30s and the 40s. If the sayings of Christ, Buddha and, in our own times, Mahatma Gandhi are true, "one must suffer deeply to understand the suffering of others" - This being so, it is our hope that Israel will turn a new leaf and relieve the suffering of the Arab refugees, uprooted from their own soil.

The independent evidence about Israeli practices in the occupied territories established so convincingly the charges brought forward by the Arab countries, that our commission must pronounce unequivocally, and we hope unanimously, on the draft resolution we and others have moved.

INDIA ISRAEL PAKISTAN USA EGYPT SWITZERLAND SOUTH AFRICA PORTUGAL

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shrimati Rajan Nehru's Statement on Apartheid

Following is the text of a statement made on February 18, 1974 in the Commission on Human Rights by Shrimati Rajan Nehru on the subject of "Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist regimes in southern Africa":

I am sure most of the delegations in this body feel as unhappy and as deeply pained as we do concerning this perennial item. Naturally there have been a plethora of reso-

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lutions and recommendations on this subject by the United Nations and its associated bodies, but so far as we can see, it does not seem to have had any particular effect. In particular, I would like to mention the following:

Resolution 2646(XXV), in which the General Assembly condemned in particular the activities of those states which, by political, economic and military collaboration with the racist regimes of southern Africa, enable and encourage the regimes prevailing therein and the enforcement and perpetuation of their policy of apartheid and other forms of racial discrimination.

Resolution 2784(XXVI), in which the General Assembly recognised that the position of the racist regimes of southern Africa continues to be strengthened through the maintenance by many states of political, commercial, military, economic, social and other relations with the racist governments in southern Africa and through the increasing contribution from certain states in the form of political, economic and military assistance.

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities discussed at length at its 26th session the above item which was given priority on its agenda. It noted the weak impact of the UN resolutions on the racist regimes and sought to find new courses of action which might constitute more appropriate deterrents to the policy of apartheid and colonisation. It felt that the United Nations system had not been publicising sufficiently its own actions and consequently public opinion, although aware of the evil represented by apartheid, had not been made conscious of its abhorrent manifestations. It further noted the relation between the policy of apartheid and colonialism with economic interests and imperialism based on the exploitation of cheap labour.

The Sub-Commission approved in the same session a draft resolution which was carried by 21 votes in favour of, none against and 2 abstentions. It requested the appointment of a special rapporteur to evaluate urgently the adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of investments of foreign capital and military assistance given to the racist regimes in southern Africa.

It also recommended that the Commission on Human Rights include in its agenda of the 30th session, an item entitled "The adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist regimes in southern Africa, Mozambique and "Angola", and to consider it as a high priority with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

The resolution also requested the Secretary General to update comprehensively his report on assistance and support given to the colonial and racist regimes of southern Africa.

The Government of India's stand on the subject has been consistent and principled. Indian delegations which have participated in the deliberations in the United Nations since its inception have played a significant part in the formulation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the drafting and passing of the two international conventions on political and civil rights, and economic, social and cultural rights, the international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and the convention adopted at the last session of the General Assembly on the suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid.

Perhaps one of the reasons why all these resolutions and recommendations have not fructified is because of the adverse consequences in the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to colonial and racist regimes in southern Africa. We hope that before our next session, some positive steps would be taken and the adverse conse-

quences would have decreased appreciably, if not ended altogether.

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INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shrimati Nehru's Address on Question of Realization of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Addressing the 30th session of the Commission on Human Rights on February 21, 1974 on the "Question of the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the study of special problems relating to human rights in developing countries", Shrimati Rajan Nehru, leader of the Indian delegation said:

At a time when it has almost become a cliché to talk of one world and to speak as Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India put it, of my deep interest in this, our only earth not for itself but as a fit home for man', the evident and widening disparities in the realisation of these vital rights in different countries and among different sectors of population become too glaring and need to be removed as speedily as possible. Despite tremendous strides in science and technology, the gap between the developed and developing countries continues to widen. The first biennial review of the implementation of the international development strategy for the second Development Decade undertaken by the General Assembly at its 28th session has clearly indicated that unless corrective measures are taken urgently by

the international community in a spirit of cooperation and realisation of global interdependence, the second Development Decade may also be foredoomed to failure as did the first Development Decade. Well conceived international measures are essential to support the national measures which a number of member states of the United Nations have already taken to accelerate their programmes of economic, social and cultural development. We cannot afford to live in a world where the rich are being increasingly burdened by their own affluence, while the poor continue to be further impoverished and deprived of their basic freedom and dignity as human beings...

The report of Professor Ganji contains material, analysis and conclusions based on a very comprehensive study which takes into account the views of Governments as well as concerned specialised agencies, regional economic commissions and other organs of the UN system. It deserves, therefore, a close examination with a view to formulating measures both at international as well as national levels. While it is true that conditions in various countries throughout the world differ and different nature of problems, require different type of action to realise the economic, social and cultural rights, it could be generally agreed that qualitatively they reflected universal deficiencies as well as universal aspirations of the humanity for moving towards one and the same destiny - a movement characterised by growing inter-dependence of nations and equality of human beings without distinction or discrimination. We must, therefore, examine the findings and recommendations contained in the report before us both in the national and international context and determine how we in this commission can make them meaningful and action oriented.

For the vast segment of humanity living in developing countries the significance of this cannot be over-emphasised. Often the world community has woken up too late to the sufferings of people in developing countries both in terms of denial of sustenance as well as denial of their right to live with honour, dignity and equal opportunities. Two centuries and more of history marked by

foreign intervention, colonial domination and exploitation left newly independent countries of Asia and Africa and Latin America backward, apartheid and stagnant. Naturally for us in India, for example, after we achieved independence through a peaceful and non-violent struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, political independence became not an end but just a beginning of a long journey towards the economic freedom and progress - freedom and progress which would serve the interests not of a few but of the nation as a whole. Under Jawaharlal Nehru's leadership, therefore, the Indian people directed themselves not only towards the exploitation of resources to improve their standard of living but also adopted a number of concrete measures for the realization of their economic, social and cultural rights enshrined in the Indian Constitution in a democratic manner with the widest possible

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participation of the people themselves and we are in our modest way proud of the progress we have made in the last quarter of this century despite heavy odds, challenges and burdens. For the last quarter of a century we in India have been engaged in an enterprise unparalleled in human history - provision of basic needs - economic, social and cultural development for one-sixth of mankind within the span of one or two generations. Under the enlightened and dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the India of today is carrying out the unfinished revolution with vigour and determination. in a peaceful and non-violent way and in a systematic and planned manner. In the past decade in particular, the nation-wide five year plans have been oriented to the needs of the common man and to his legitimate aspirations. Social reforms already implemented have made a decisive impact - which the distinguished delegates are already familiar with.

The report before us has convincingly brought out that the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms are meaningless in the conditions of dire poverty. We agree with Professor Ganji in his conclusion that the most pressing duty of the Commission on

Human Rights lies in placing the weight of its moral authority behind a world-wide campaign for the reduction of poverty and the creation of gainful employment for all. As such the most pressing objective of development in the context of human rights should be the attack on mass poverty, promotion of social justice and narrowing of disparities. Problems of mass poverty call for concerted international action for support of national measures and campaign. At the same time disparities can be lessened and social justice promoted by simultaneous spread of literacy, achievement of a minimum standard of living, nutrition, proper housing, social welfare and opportunities for individual human beings to participate in economic, social, cultural and political activities. All this should come up along with economic growth and not as a by-product of it. Clearly the primary responsibility for integrated social and economic development devolves on developing countries themselves. The biennial review of the second Development Decade has shown that the developing countries have already done much to achieve it. But the international community, particularly the developed countries, have a challenge and an opportunity before them to translate the concept of global interdependence by their accelerated contribution towards economic development of developing countries and to add to the well-being and happiness of millions of men, women and children....

We do not have lack of material analysis or recommendations, but what is lacking at the moment is the implementation of such recommendations and undertaking of concrete action. From this point of view on behalf of my delegation I have the privilege to introduce a draft resolution contained in Document No. E/CN.4/L.1273/Revision on this subject. It heartens me that the draft resolution has been co-sponsored by Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Egypt, Tunisia and Cyprus. In the light of what I have already stated, the draft resolution does not need any further elaboration. I would, however, particularly like to draw the attention to operative paragraph 2 which stresses that the early realisation of economic, social and cultural rights of people could be achiev-

ed only if all countries and peoples are able to attain a reasonable level of economic and social development and if all countries, and in particular the developing countries, institute all measures with a view to eliminating inequality in income, distribution and social services. The draft resolution also calls for more intensive effort at all levels for the formulation of standards, norms and indicators as instruments of development policy and planning for the realisation of economic, social and cultural rights. It is the hope of my delegation that the draft resolution is adopted by consensus. My delegation has welcomed the many constructive suggestions towards that end in the course of informal consultations.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NIGER NIGERIA EGYPT PERU SENEGAL SIERRA LEONE  
TUNISIA CYPRUS

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Shrimati Rajan Nehru's Address to Commission on Human Rights on Question of Apartheid

Addressing the Commission on Human Rights on February 28, 1974 on the agenda item "question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid in all countries with

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particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories, Shrimati Rajan Nehru, leader of the Indian delegation, made the following speech:

The repeated demands and exhortations of the world community have so far fallen on deaf ears of the colonial powers, who still

cling pathetically to the outmoded concept of alien domination and exploitation, and refuse to recognise the winds of change sweeping over not only the continent of Africa but indeed the whole world. Colonialism is itself the most flagrant violation of human rights but the picture in southern Africa radically and disturbingly changes when massacres are frequently reported. Father Hastings of the college of Ascension, England, reported massacres in Wiriyumu, a group of missionaries reported at Chawola and the Secretary-General of the International Commission of Jurists Mr. Niel Macdormot personally appealed before the Special, Committee on Decolonisation to give details of torture of prisoners by the Portuguese army and police in Mozambique.

Southern Africa with Angola on the west, Mozambique in the east and South Africa in the south, together with Namibia under illegal occupation of South Africa, presents to the world conscience a prison-house where more than thirty million Africans are in search of freedom and identity. The unholy alliance between Portugal, South Africa and the illegal regime of Southern Rhodesia calls for a more determined struggle on the part of the suffering Africans with the firm unswerving support of the world community.

Sad to say in this year 1974 we still have to talk about apartheid. A poignant definition of the apartheid policies of the Government of South Africa was perhaps inadvertently given by one of its own Ministers in Parliament, when he recorded the death of a detainee in the following words: 'An unknown man died on an unknown date of a cause unknown'.

In fact, it is an epitaph to the human rights in South Africa. That a black man's death was of no consequence, that a black man died in detention. Neither his name nor the time, nor the cause of his death was of any significance. It shows the disregard of the South African Government not only for the people of South Africa who are black, but also for the standards of morality, justice and the rule of law - as these are under-

stood in the civilised World - is only too blatant.

South Africa is perhaps the only country where racial discrimination is applied in the most brutal and systematic form. In no other country except Nazi Germany has the doctrine of racial supremacy fanned the ugly flames of fanaticism as in South Africa.

The gift of clairvoyance was not required to foresee what would happen, if South African whites were given the privilege to break all rules of decent human conduct. This is perhaps the only country where crimes are defined in terms which are deliberately vague and all-embracing. Even the ex post facto laws are frequently used to make legal acts committed in the past retrospectively illegal, and to penalise innocent persons. The report presented by India in its capacity as rapporteur of the Special Committee on Apartheid to the General Assembly in 1972 still remains an unanswered indictment of the South African Government.

Mr. Chairman, apartheid in South Africa is in part a desperate attempt to retain and strengthen the rule of the white minority but we would be committing an error of judgment if we considered apartheid in South Africa only in political and economic terms. Behind the incredibly complicated structure which affects every aspect of human life of each and every citizen: Apartheid has become a dogma, to which some people are desperately, though unsuccessfully, trying to give respectability.

Mr. Chairman, my own country is committed to fight against the horror of apartheid in South Africa. We started our struggle against this modern form of slavery even before we got our own independence. Mahatma Gandhi was the first Indian to organise a resistance movement against racial discrimination and injustice in South Africa. The reluctance of certain powers to indict South Africa - and to take action agreed upon by the United Nations - makes us wonder whether these powers have any commitment to the ethical concept of racial equality and justice?

Unbelievable as it may, I seem, elections will be held in South Africa in the near future, when a minority of less than four million whites would go to the polls to decide the fate of more than sixteen million Africans to whom that country legitimately belongs. Illegal detention, torture of political prisoners and a reign of terror has been the rule rather than the exception in South Africa.

However, we still believe in the basic goodness of human nature. If this council and the world community at large, take effective measures, we feel sure that the conscience of the white men of South Africa can still be awakened. We hope it will not be too late to devise means by which we could awaken the conscience of the whites in south Africa. We hope the dawn of political freedom, the enjoyment of economic and social rights for Africans is not far - and this without violence. We hope a day will come soon when all the people of South Africa, irrespective of colour and creed, would be able to take part in a common endeavour, the building of their country. That moment would be a significant milestone in the realisation of human values the dignity of man, the Protection and promotion of legitimate and undeniable human rights and prevention of all forms of their violation.

INDIA USA MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA PORTUGAL GERMANY

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Indian Stand on Sea Bed in UN Discussions

Replying an Unstarred Question in the Lok Sabha on February 28, 1974, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, stated the following on Indian stand on Sea Bed in U.N. Discussions:

The United Nations has convened a Plenipotentiary Conference on the Law of the Sea. The first session of the Conference was held in New York from December 3 to 14, 1973. The second session will be held in Caracas (Venezuela) from June 20 to August 29, 1974. The preparatory work for this Conference has been done by the UN Seabed Committee which worked from 1968 to 1973. India participated in that Committee and will also be participating in the Plenipotentiary Conference.

On seabeds, India has suggested that a clear definition of the limits of national jurisdiction and the international seabed area should be established. The limits of national jurisdiction should be uniform and may be determined with reference to numerical distance from the coast such as 200 nautical miles. Beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, there will be the international seabed area whose resources shall be the common heritage of mankind. These resources should be explored and exploited by the international seabed authority having full and effective powers for this purpose. The composition of the international seabed authority should be democratic. It should have powers either to exploit the resources itself or by entering into contracts with competent persons or organization or by issuing licences to States or international organizations.

These views have found general support from the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Besides seabeds, the Plenipotentiary Conference will also deal with other questions of the Law of the Sea including fisheries, freedom of navigation preservation of the marine environment etc.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIAN OCEAN

Foreign Minister's Statement on U.K.-U.S. Agreement on Naval and Air Base in Diego Garcia

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, made the following statement in Rajya Sabha on February 19, 1974, regarding the reported Agreement between the UK and USA for the establishment of a full fledged strategies -- and air base in the

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Island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean and the reaction of Government of India thereto:

Government of India have consistently supported efforts for maintaining the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from Great Power rivalry and military escalation. We have appreciated the initiatives taken in this regard by Sri Lanka and have supported the UN Resolutions on this important matter. We are a Member of the Ad Hoc Committee of 15 Nations, appointed by the United Nations General Assembly, for studying, measures in furtherance of the objectives of the UN Resolution. The UN Secretary-General is at the moment engaged, with the assistance of experts, in a study of the military presence and deployment of the great powers in the Indian Ocean in all its aspects.

With this background, the announcement that the military facilities in Diego Garcia, a British Indian Ocean Territory, are now to be further expanded by the United States, has deeply disturbed all the countries of the region. We have conveyed our grave concern to the representatives of the UK and the US when at the beginning of

this month they informed us of these plans. Other countries in the region such as Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, New Zealand and Sri Lanka have also voiced their opposition to this development. We shall coordinate our efforts with such countries in order to mobilise international support for the objectives of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution with which this expansion of military facilities in Diego Garcia is manifestly inconsistent.

INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA SRI LANKA AUSTRALIA BANGLADESH INDONESIA MALAYSIA  
NEW ZEALAND THAILAND

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

KUWAIT

Indo-Kuwait Trade Agreement

The following press release on the new Indo-Kuwait trade agreement was issued in New Delhi on February 14, 1974:

A long-term trade agreement between the governments of Kuwait and India was signed in Kuwait on February 13 by the Indian Commerce Minister, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, and Kuwaiti Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Khaled Al-Adasani. The agreement is valid for five years initially and renewable automatically thereafter.

Mr. Adasani expressed his great happiness "in signing this agreement with the friendly Government of India with whom relations have been very good". He hoped the relations would improve further as a result of the agreement just signed.

Prof. Chattopadhyaya said that the re-

lations between India and Kuwait were more than a thousand years old. In the new context we are adding a new dimension by signing this agreement which will provide a sound base for diversification and augmentation of trade and commerce between the two countries and more so in invisible terms of durable and ever growing friendship", he said.

The agreement provides for a joint committee to identify the fields, projects and commodities for expansion of economic co-operation and promoting trade exchanges between the two countries. Other clauses provide for:

(1) Facilitating imports and exports of agricultural and animal products, natural mineral resources and industrial products of each country.

(2) Trade to be through normal trade channels and settled in free convertible currency. Also to further promote trade bet-

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ween national companies\corporations of both countries.

(3) Facilitating holding of trade fair', and exhibitions in their respective territories.

(4) Merchant ships and sailing vessels of both countries to enjoy all facilities relating to navigation and free entry into ports open to foreign trade.

(5) Nationals of either country to be permitted to enter, sojourn and travel into the territory of each other for promoting trade and commerce.

(6) Cooperation to further the interchange and use of scientific and technical knowledge, affording opportunity for technical training and assistance.

(7) Exploring of possibilities for establishment of joint ventures for mutual benefit of both countries.

(8) Entry into specific trading arrangements from time to time.

KUWAIT INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Norwegian Assistance to India

The following press release on the newly signed five-year agreement for Norwegian assistance to India was issued in New Delhi on February 8, 1974:

A five-year agreement for Norwegian assistance to India was signed here today.

With this agreement, Norwegian assistance enters a new phase in the development of fisheries by providing technical expertise and equipment for building fishing vessels in the country.

The agreement was signed by His Excellency Mr. Torbjorn Christiansen, Ambassador of Norway in India and by Shri J. R. Hiremath, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

The agreement provides that the Norwegian Government would make available commodities in various fields like agriculture, fisheries, education, transport, boat building, hydroelectric power development and manufacturing industry. The costs such as purchase, transport and insurance would be paid for by the Government of Norway.

The Government of India would undertake to provide the requisite facilities connected with the import of commodities, internal transportation costs, fees, customs duties and harbour charges in respect of the com-

modities supplied by Norway. The sale proceeds, if any, as a result of the sale of commodities supplied by Norway will be Credited to the General Revenues of the Government of India for meeting expenditure of development projects included in India's Five Year Plan.

Norway has been providing since 1952 commodity assistance to India on grant basis on a significant scale, mostly in the shape of equipment, trawlers and vessels for development of fishing industry in India. More recently, the Norwegian Government have been providing fertilisers on grant basis for the agricultural development programme.

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NORWAY INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SPAIN

Vice-President Shri G. S. Pathak's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Prince of Spain

The Vice-President, Shri G. S. Pathak, held a dinner in New Delhi on February 21, 1974 in honour of His Royal Highness Prince Don Juan Carlos of Spain. Welcoming the distinguished guest, the Vice-president said:

May I extend to you, Your Royal Highness Prince Don Juan Carlos, and your Royal Highness Princess Dona Sofia, a most hearty welcome to India on behalf of the Government and the people of India, as well as on my own behalf. You are no strangers to India, having already known this country and its people from your previous visits. In a sense, therefore, we are welcoming you as old friends. For Your Highnesses, therefore,

there is nothing strange or curious to discover on this visit. But, I am sure, that just as in your previous visits, you will once again observe the changes which are slowly taking place all over the country, and how our people are facing the new challenges that life, growth and development pose before them.

Our two countries, in the history of man's civilisation, represent two cultures, and whether in the realm of art or science, in the effervescence of ideas or in the exploration of the unknown horizons beyond the Seven Seas, our two peoples have made tangible and substantial contribution. Spain, like India, is an amalgam of different races and cultures, whose imprint on our modern lives bears testimony to our variegated and eventful past. The Iberians, Celts, Visigoths, Greco-Romans, Moors and many others have all contributed to the cultural kaleidoscope of Spain. We have admired your men of genius and originality as much as your art, architecture, music, painting and sculpture.

Lope de Vega, Cervantes, Garcilaso, Lius de Leon, Santa Teresa, Juan de valdes, Velazques, El Greco, Goya and many others are names familiar to men of taste and refinement all over the world. It is this variety and this explosive genius of the Spanish personality in which we Indians find a particular affinity to our own culture and evolution of our ethos. The human and intellectual issues and the unfolding of the statecraft which have exhilarated and tormented your society are phenomena all too familiar in our own history as well. And today, situated as we are in our different settings, and yet grounded as we should be in our immutable values, both our countries face the challenge of the present with pragmatism and fortitude. We are, therefore, particularly happy that we have this occasion of welcoming you, and in your person, all that is the finest in Spanish culture.

May I invite Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink a toast to the health and happiness of Their Royal Highnesses, Prince Don Juan Carlos and Princess Dona

Sofia, and to the bonds of friendship and affection which link our two peoples with each other.

SPAIN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BULGARIA USA OMAN

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SPAIN

Reply by Prince of Spain

Replying to the speech delivered by the Vice President, Shri G. S. Pathak, at the dinner, His Royal Highness Prince Don Juan, Carlos of Spain, said:

In replying to your kind words, I would like to take the opportunity offered to me to thank you most sincerely for your invitation to carry out this official visit to your wonderful and fascinating country.

As you said Mr. Vice President, this is not the first time we have been here, for the

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Princess and I came on our honeymoon and yet on another occasion we returned in an attempt to get, to know more of innumerable attractions offered by this country, so different from ours yet at the same time so close on account of its deep sense of spirituality. I can assure you, Mr. Vice President, that our pleasure at finding ourselves once again in India is very great. We are very interested in seeing for ourselves the spectacular progress your country has been making in every field, progress of which we have heard so much but we have always wanted to keep upto date on the enormous efforts you have been undertaking. I beg you, Mr. Vice President, once again to accept our warmest

thanks for your kind invitation.

May I raise my cup for your own personal health and for the friendship of India and Spain

SPAIN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

New British Loans to India

The following press release on two new agreements for British loans totalling about Rs. 62.6 crores was released in New Delhi on February 1, 1974:

Agreements for two loans allocating a total of nearly Rs. 62.6 crores (æ 33 m) of British aid to India were signed here today.

The acting British High Commissioner, Mr. Peter Male, signed the agreements for the British Government, and Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Union Ministry of Finance, for the Government of India.

The first loan (the U.K. India Maintenance Loan 1974) is for Rs. 47.4 crores (æ 25 m), to cover the import from Britain of non-project goods. Among these are raw materials, spare parts, and components required to service India's agricultural and industrial production.

The second loan (the U.K. India Debt Refinancing Loan 1974) is for Rs. 15.2 crores (æ 8 m). It represents the British contribution to the debt relief scheme for

1973-74 agreed by members of the Aid India Consortium following negotiations at the end of last year. The loan is not tied to the purchase of goods and services from Britain.

Both loans, like all British loans to India since 1965, are on the usual soft terms of British lending to India. They are free of all interest and service charges and repayable over 25 years, with no repayment due during the first seven years.

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INDIA MALDIVES UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Agreement on Public 480 and Other Funds between India and the U.S.A.

Following is the text of the Indo-US agreement on PL-480 and other funds signed in New Delhi on February 18, 1974, by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance for India and Mr. Daniel P. Moynihan, Ambassador for the USA (there are seven annexes to this agreement, they have not been reproduced here):

The Government of India and the Government of the United States of America,

Considering that past United States agricultural and other economic assistance programs have constituted valuable contributions to the economic development of India;

That, in a continuing spirit of friendship and cooperation, the Government of India

and the Government of the United States of America have consulted on matters of mutual interest and concern;

That both Governments recognize that the situation they face today is not the same as when they reached agreement on past economic assistance programs;

That there, is mutual desire on the part of the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America to build a mature economic relationship between equals;

That as we enter this era of new economic relations there is also a mutual desire to strengthen trade relations between the two countries; and

That the two Governments also share an appreciation of the importance of an enlarged program for the exchange of persons for scientific, educational, and cultural purposes, as well as increased programs for joint scientific cooperation;

Have, therefore, as an important step towards strengthening relations and creating the climate necessary to accomplish these shared objectives, agreed upon a disposition of rupees received by the Government of the United States of America pursuant to United States Public Law 480 sales of agricultural products, and pursuant to other forms of economic assistance to India also repayable in rupees. The terms and conditions pertinent to such agreed disposition, and amounts of rupees involved, are as specified in Parts I, II and III of this Agreement.

## PART I

### PUBLIC LAW 480 RUPEES

Whereas the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America have from time to time, pursuant to and in furtherance of the objectives of Title I, Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act (United States Public Law 480 of 1954), entered into the agreements for the sale of agricultural commodities specified in Annex I hereto, whereunder the

Government of India agreed to make certain payments of Indian rupees to the Government of the United States of America (the "Sales Agreement");

Whereas, pursuant to and in furtherance of the objectives of Section 104 of said Public Law 480, the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America have also entered into certain other agreements, specified in Annex IT hereto, whereunder the Government of the United States of America has loaned to the Government of India certain of the rupee proceeds accruing to the Government of the United States of America as a result of the Sales Agreements (the "Loan Agreements");

Whereas the Government of the United States of America, also based on authority contained in Section 104 of said Public Law 480, has entered into the agreements specified in Annex III hereto, pursuant to which certain other of the rupee proceeds accruing from the Sales Agreements have been loaned

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to private borrowers in India (the "Cooley Agreements");

Whereas, by operation of the agreements referred to above, and subject to adjustment as provided in paragraph I(d) of this Part I, on the date of this Agreement the Government of the United States of America has and is scheduled in the future to receive rupees in the following categories and amounts (the "Public Law 480 rupees") :

(a) Unexpended balances (held in special securities with the Reserve Bank of India) of amounts already received by the Government of the United States of America from (1) the Government of India pursuant to the terms of the Sales Agreements; (2) the Government of India pursuant to the terms of the Loan Agreements; and (3) private borrowers pursuant to the terms of the Cooley Agreements:

Rs. 1,827 million

(b) Unpaid and outstanding principal, and unpaid interest thereon to the date of this Agreement, under the Loan Agreements:

Rs. 15,305 million

(c) Unpaid and outstanding principal, and interest scheduled to become due thereon after the date of this Agreement, pursuant to the terms of the Cooley Agreements:

Principal	Rs. 781 million
Interest	Rs. 253 million

Whereas the total of the foregoing Public Law 480 rupees is Rs. 18,166 million, which figure includes all scheduled future Public Law 480 proceeds with the sole exception of interest payable under the Loan Agreements after the date of this Agreement; and

Whereas the two Governments, parties to this Agreement, mutually desire that: (a) the Government of India's outstanding obligations under the Loan Agreements be forthwith paid in full; (b) with the sole exceptions hereinbelow treated, all Public Law 480 rupees be granted to the Government of India, in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 480, and spent with reasonable promptness in a manner designed to contribute to the economic development of the Republic of India; (c) an understanding be reached as to disposition and use of future payments to the Government of the United States of America pursuant to the terms of the Cooley Agreements; and (d) an accommodation be reached as to the satisfaction of certain dollar conversion obligations of the Government of India to the Government of the United States of America, arising from the agreements specified in Annex IV to this Agreement;

Now, therefore, the two Governments hereby agree as follows:

TRANSITION ACCOUNT

1 (a) The Government of India shall prepay, on the date of this Agreement, the entire unpaid and outstanding principal, and shall pay accrued interest up to the date of this Agreement, under the Loan Agreements.

(b) The Government of India shall make the foregoing prepayment of principal and payment of accrued interest by depositing, on the date of this Agreement, Rs. 15,305 million into a new account in favor of the Government of the United States of America within the Public Account of the Government of India, such account to bear no interest (the "Transition Account").

(c) on the date of this Agreement the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America shall cause the sum of Rs. 1,827 million, held in securities with the Reserve Bank of India and referred to in paragraph (a) of the fourth preambular clause of this Part 1, to be exchanged for rupees; and the Government of the United States of America shall deposit such rupees in the Transition Account.

(d) Within ninety days of the date of this Agreement, or by such other date as the two Governments shall otherwise agree, the Government of India shall deposit into the Transition Account, or the Government of the United States of America shall transfer to the Government of India from the Transition Account, as may be appropriate, such amount in rupees as may be required

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to correct inaccuracies in computation of the rupees prepaid, paid, or transferred pursuant to the preceding paragraphs 1(b) and 1(c).

2. Public Law 480 rupees remaining in the Transition Account after the date of this Agreement may be expended up to June 30, 1974 for any of the purposes and activities for which Public Law 480 rupees had been spent by the Government of the United States of America prior to June of 1972 in accordance with the consultative procedures in effect prior to such date. Any such rupees which are unexpended as of June 30, 1974 shall be transferred promptly thereafter to

the Government of India as an additional part of the grant provided for in paragraph 3 of this Part I, such amount to be allocated among the sectors specified in paragraph 4 (a) of this Part I as the Government of India shall determine.

#### FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

3. To promote agricultural and other economic development in India, including programs designed to promote, increase and improve food production and related activities, the Government of the United States of America hereby delivers to the Government of India (which hereby acknowledges receipt thereof) its check in the amount of Rs. 16,640 million. Except as provided in paragraph 2, 6 and 7 of this Part I, delivery of this check to the Government of India shall terminate all rights of the Government of the United States of America to own or in any manner use Public Law 480 rupees.

4 (a) The proceeds of the grant provided for in the preceding paragraph 3 shall be applied by the Government of India in their entirety to projects to be chosen by the Government of India in the following sectors and shall be expended in the amounts indicated:

(i) Agriculture, including: agricultural research and education; minor irrigation; animal husbandry and dairy; special projects and programs of rural development and employment; soil conservation and land development - Rs. 10,000 million

(ii) Housing - Rs. 1,800 million

(iii) Family Planning, Including: services and supplies (rural family planning centers, sub-centers, family planning bureaus, intensive district programs and provision of transport) -- Rs. 1,050 million

(iv) Health: National malaria eradication and smallpox

schemes                      Rs. 400 million

(v) Technical Education, including:  
Indian Institutes of Technology;  
Indian Institutes of Manage-  
ment; regional engineering  
colleges -                      Rs. 350 million

(vi) power Central Sector, in-  
cluding: regional load des-  
patch stations and interstate  
links -                      Rs. 700 million

(vii) Power State Sector, including:  
10 hydroelectric and Thermal  
projects -                      Rs. 1,800 million

(viii) Rural Electrification -  
Rs. 540 million

Total:                      Rs. 16,640 million

(b) The Government of India may in its sole discretion re-allocate amounts among the sectors specified in the preceding paragraph 4 (a), so long as the amount for each sector shall not be increased or decreased by more than 15 percent. Further, the Government of India may, in agreement with the Government of the United States of America, make reallocations resulting in increases or decreases of more than 15 percent for any of those sectors or, again in agreement with the Government of the United States of America, may make allocations, within the same total, to new sectors.

5. The grant provided for in the preceding paragraph 3, including any addition thereto made pursuant to paragraph 2 or paragraph 7 of this Part 1, shall, in the absence of extraordinary circumstances, be fully expended in the sectors identified in the preceding paragraph 4(a), or in the new sectors referred to in the preceding paragraph 4(b), within a period not exceeding five years from April 1, 1974. Until the said amounts have been fully expended, the Government of

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India will furnish to the Government of the United States of America an annual summary statement, by September 30 of each year, setting forth for the preceding Government

of India fiscal year the amount of the grant expended in each of the sectors, the remaining balance allocated to each sector and a brief description of each project or activity financed with such funds. The final statement showing the total amounts expended in each of the sectors will be furnished for the fiscal year of the Government of India in which these funds are fully expended. The Government of India will also furnish such additional summary information concerning use of these funds as the Government of the United States of America may from time to time reasonably request.

#### COOLEY ACCOUNT

6 All payments of principal and interest received after the date of this Agreement by the Government of the United States of America pursuant to the terms of the Cooley Agreements will be credited upon receipt to a separate non-interest bearing account to be established to the credit of the Government of the United States of America within the Public Account of the Government of India (the "Cooley Account"). Payments thus received and credited will be available for use only as follows:..

(a) In satisfaction of the conversion obligations contained in the agreements listed in Annex IV, the Government of India will exchange rupees held in the Cooley Account for United States dollars in an amount equal to \$ 64 million in ten equal installments, on the first business day in India of July of calendar years 1974 through 1983. The applicable exchange rate for this purpose shall be the rate derived by multiplying the selling rate for the United States dollar in terms of the pound sterling in London on the last preceding business day (as used by the Reserve Bank of India for similar transactions) by the Reserve Bank of India's selling rate in Bombay on such business day for the pound sterling in terms of the rupee; provided, that if on any conversion date the applicable exchange rate cannot be so derived, it shall be the rate legally available in India on such date which requires the smallest number of rupees for the purchase of each United States

dollar and which is not less favourable to the Government of the United States of America than the exchange rate obtainable by any other nation on such date.

(b) All United States dollars obtained by the Government of the United States of America pursuant to the preceding paragraph 6(a) may, without any restriction or imposition, be transferred to the United States or otherwise employed as the Government of the United States of America shall determine.

(c) In the event that, based on the rupee dollar exchange rate referred to in the preceding paragraph 6 (a), Cooley Agreement payments received and deposited in the Cooley Account by the Government of the United States of America during the twelve months preceding the date of any scheduled conversion prove insufficient as of such date to equal the dollars then due, the Government of the United States of America may meet any and all such deficits by use of its retained Non-Public Law 480 rupees, as provided in paragraph 10(e) of Part II of this Agreement.

(d) In the event that (i) based on the same rupee\dollar exchange rate, Cooley Agreement payments received and deposited into the Cooley Account by the Government of the United States of America during the twelve months preceding the date of any scheduled conversion prove excessive to the dollars due from the Government of India as of such date, or (ii) there shall be rupees remaining or received in the Cooley Account after the final conversion date specified in the preceding paragraph 6(a), then all such excess rupees may be used or allocated by the Government of the United States of America for any of the purposes and activities for which Public Law 480 rupees had been spent by that Government prior to June of 1972. Such purposes and activities may include support by the Government of the United States of America for its economic assistance program in Nepal, including related transshipment costs in India and the training at Indian institutions of citizens of Nepal, provided that such use or allocation of rupees in sup-

port of the Nepal program will be subject to the procedures, and within the limitations, of paragraphs 10(a) and 10(b) of Part II of this Agreement.

7. The Government of the United States of America shall transfer, as of the

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date of this Agreement, Rs. 190 million from the Transition Account to the Cooley Account, such amount to be allocated solely for future expenditure against commitments of Public Law 480 rupees by that Government prior to the date of this Agreement, Any rupees so transferred which at any future time are deemed by the Government of the United States of America to be no longer required to meet such commitments shall be transferred promptly to the Government of India as an additional part of the grant provided for in paragraph 3 of this Part 1, such amount to be allocated, as the Government of India shall determine, among the sectors specified in the preceding paragraph 4(a)

## PART II

### NON-PUBLIC LAW 480 RUPEES

Whereas the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America have from time to time entered into certain loan agreements, specified in Annex V hereto, pursuant to the terms of which the Government of India has agreed to make repayment in rupees of amounts thereby loaned and to pay interest to the Government of the United States of America on the outstanding amounts of such loans (the "Development Loan Agreements");

Whereas the Government of the United States of America has also entered into the loan agreements specified in Annex VI hereto with certain borrowers other than the Government of India, also providing for payment of principal and interest in rupees (the "Commercial Loan Agreements");

Whereas (subject to adjustment as provided for in paragraph 6 of this Part II), the Government of the United States of America

on the date of this Agreement has unexpended balances of Rs. 4737 million in special securities of the Government of India, on deposit with the Reserve Bank of India, which securities were purchased with (a) amounts repaid to the Government of the United States of America pursuant to the terms of the Development Loan and Commercial Loan Agreements, (b) interest earned on the special securities thus purchased, and (c) interest earned on securities purchased with amounts paid to the Government of the United States of America under agreements entered into pursuant to Public Law 480;

Whereas the Government of the United States of America on the date of this Agreement also holds on deposit Rs. 765 million with certain other banks in India, as specified in Annex VII hereto; and

Whereas the two Governments, parties hereto, are desirous that the Government of India's future obligations under the Development Loan Agreements be prepaid, and that procedures pertinent to deposit and expenditure of funds to be retained by the Government of the United States of America, accruing from the loan agreements specified above, be restated and changed in certain particulars;

Now, therefore, the two Governments hereby agree as follows:

#### RUPEE AND DOLLAR DENOMNATED ACCOUNTS

I. The Government of India shall prepay, on the date of this Agreement, the entire unpaid and outstanding principal, and shall pay accrued interest up to the date of this Agreement, under the Development Loan Agreements.

2. The Government of India shall make the foregoing prepayment of principal and payment of accrued interest by depositing, on the date of this Agreement, Rs. 2218 million into a new account in favor of the Government of the United States of America within the Public Account of the Government of India, such account to bear no interest (the "Rupee Account").

3. The Government of India and the Government of the United States of America shall, on the date of this Agreement, cause Rs. 4737 million in securities now held with the Reserve Bank of India, as referred to in the third preambular clause of this Part II, to be exchanged for rupees. The Government of the United States of America shall thereupon, also on the date of this Agreement, deposit such rupees in the Rupee Account.

4. The following provisions pertain to maintenance in value, by the Government of India, of a portion of the rupees retained hereunder by the Government of the United States of America:

(a) On the date of this Agreement, the Government of the United States of America

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shall transfer the rupee equivalent of \$ 500 million from the Rupee Account to a new account established in its favor within the Public Account of the Government of India, such account to bear no interest (the "Dollar Denominated Account"). At the applicable rate of exchange in effect on the date of this Agreement, the amount so transferred shall be Rs. 4140 million.

(b) On the first business day in India following the anniversary date of this Agreement in each of the year-, 1975 through 1984, inclusive, the Government of India shall cause the Dollar Denominated Account to be debited by the amount in Indian rupees equivalent to \$ 50 million, calculated at the applicable exchange rate in effect on such anniversary date, and the Rupee Account to be credited by an equal amount of rupees. The Government of India shall pay into the Dollar Denominated Account additional rupees, if necessary, to permit credit to the Rupee Account of the full \$ 50 million (rupee equivalent) for each of the years 1975 through 1984.

(c) For purposes of the preceding paragraphs 4(a) and 4(b) of this Part II, the applicable exchange rate on the date of this Agreement and on any anniversary date

shall be the rate derived by multiplying the selling rate for the United States dollar in terms of the pound sterling in London on the last preceding business day (as used by the Reserve Bank of India for similar transactions) by the Reserve Bank of India's selling rate in Bombay on such business day for the pound sterling in terms of the rupee; provided, that if on any anniversary date the applicable exchange rate cannot be derived in accordance with the foregoing, it shall be the rate legally available in India on the last preceding business day which would require the smallest number of rupees for the purchase of each United States dollar and which is not less favorable to the Government of the United States of America than the exchange rate obtainable by any other nation on such business day.

(d) No portion of the Rupee Account shall at any time be subject to maintenance of value.

5 The Government of the United States of America will also transfer to the Rupee Account, in its name, all future payments of principal and interest, as received, pursuant to the Commercial Loan Agreements.

6. Within ninety days of the date of this Agreement, or by such other date as the two Governments shall agree, the Government of India shall deposit in the Rupee Account, or the Government of the United States of America shall transfer to the Government of India from the Rupee Account, as may be appropriate, such amount in rupees as may be required to correct inaccuracies in computation of the rupees prepaid, paid or transferred pursuant to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Part II.

7. All amounts deposited to the Rupee Account and the Dollar Denominated Account pursuant to paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this Part II (herein referred to as "Non-Public Law 480 rupees") shall remain on deposit in said Account until used or committed pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

OTHER ACCOUNTS

8. All other accounts presently existing in the name of the Government of the United States of America in India, as specified in Annex VII hereto, may, at the discretion of the Government of the United States of America, be continued. These accounts may continue to bear such interest as the depository banks may lawfully pay.

#### RUPEE EXPENDITURES

9. The following provisions pertain to expenditures, following the date of this Agreement, by the Government of the United States of America of its retained Non-Public Law 480 rupees, of its rupees in the accounts identified in the immediately preceding paragraph, and of its excess rupees (if any) in the Cooley Account mentioned in paragraph 6 (d) of Part I:

(a) Existing arrangements under which the Government of the United States of America furnishes to the Government of India an annual estimate of contemplated expenditures from its rupee balances during the forthcoming Indian fiscal year will continue until all such rupees have been expended.

(b) The Government of the United States of America will ensure that future

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annual expenditures of such rupees will be made only within the following general categories: (i) established uses of rupees by the Government of the United States of America, prior to June of 1972, the consultative procedures with the Government of India concerning such uses being the same as prior to June of 1972; (ii) other uses herein agreed upon, as identified in paragraph 10 of this Part II; or (iii) such other uses as shall be approved by the Government of India.

(c) Except as the two Governments shall otherwise agree, the annual expenditures of such rupees by the Government of the United States of America shall not exceed the average of its annual rupee expenditures during the three years immediately preceding June of 1972, such average to be com-

puted without, reference to development grants made during those years to the Government of India pursuant to Section 104(f) of Public Law 480; provided, that for each future year, as additive to such average, commensurate allowance shall be made, by agreement between the two Governments, to reflect any price inflation experienced in India for that year.

10. In addition to established uses as recognized prior to June of 1972, the following provisions pertain to additional uses of the rupees retained by the Government of the United States of America, as identified in the introductory clause of paragraph 9 of this Part II:

(a) The Government of the United States of America may in its discretion, for the three years immediately following the date of this Agreement, use or otherwise allocate a portion of said rupees to help finance its economic assistance program in Nepal, including transshipment costs in India, in an amount not to exceed Rs. 65 million per year; provided, that for each such year, as additive to the said Rs. 65 million, commensurate allowance shall be made, by agreement between the two Governments, to reflect any price inflation experienced in India for that year.

(b) The two Governments are also agreed in principle that the said rupees may be used to finance the training in India, at Indian institutions, of citizens of Nepal whose training would be in furtherance of the objectives of the economic assistance program of the Government of the United States of America in Nepal, the arrangements concerning the training programs to be worked out with the concerned Indian institutions and to be subject to the concurrence of the Government of India.

(c) The Government of the United States of America may purchase, for export, Indian goods and services totalling upto \$ 100 million over a five year period from the date of this Agreement; provided that, for each such year, as additive to the said \$ 100 million total, commensurate allowance

shall be made, by agreement between the two Governments, to reflect any price inflation experienced in India for that year. One quarter of the cost of any such purchases may be paid for with the said rupees, with the remainder payable in dollars. All such purchases shall be subject to agreement between the two Governments parties hereto.

(d) The Government of the United States of America may, from the said rupees, finance rupee costs of the American Embassy School in New Delhi.

(e) The Government of the United States of America may also, from the said rupees, make up any deficit in its Public Law 480 rupees which may be required to give full effect to the provisions concerning conversion obligations set forth in paragraph 6 of Part I of this Agreement.

### PART III

#### MISCELLANEOUS

1. Each Government party hereto shall deliver such additional documents and take such further action requested by the other as may be necessary or appropriate for the full implementation of this Agreement in accordance with its terms.

2. In the case of any inconsistency or conflict between the terms of this Agreement and those of any Sales Agreement, Loan Agreement or Development Loan Agreement, or of any other agreement relating to Public Law 480 or other economic assistance entered into between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America prior to the date hereof, the terms of this Agreement shall apply, and the inconsistent or conflicting agreement, if any,

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is hereby amended to the extent necessary to render it compatible herewith.

3. Upon the implementation in full of this Agreement, all obligations of the Government of India under the Public Law 480 Sales Agreements and Loan Agreements, and

under the Development Loan Agreements, shall be deemed fulfilled, and neither the Government of India nor the Government of the United States of America shall have any further rights or obligations under any such agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the two Governments, duly authorized for the purpose, have affixed their respective signatures.

DONE at New Delhi hi duplicale this 18th day of February, 1974.

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USA INDIA PERU LATVIA UNITED KINGDOM NEPAL

**Date :** Feb 01, 1974

**March**

**Volume No**

1995

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**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

AUSTRALIA

Press Communiqué on Indo-Australian Official Consultations

The following is the text of a Press Communiqué issued at the end of the sixth Indo-Australian official consultations in Canberra and released in New Delhi on March 3, 1974:

The sixth round of Indo-Australian officials talks was held in Australia from February 27 to March 1. The Indian delegation was led by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Kewal Singh, and the Australian delegation by the Secretary of Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. A. P. Renouf. The talks covering a wide range of international and

bilateral questions were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere. In a general review of the world political and economic situation, the role of major powers and their influence in the countries of the region was discussed. In the present era of detente it was felt that medium and small powers also had a significant role to play in the promotion of international understanding.

The maintenance of Indian Ocean as a zone of peace was discussed. The delegations welcomed the recognition of Bangladesh and the Indian delegation indicated the processes that it was hoped would further be initiated for peace and stability in the subcontinent. The Australian delegation referred to the recent visit of the Prime Minister to South-East Asian countries and the prospects for regional cooperation. The delegations discussed the desirability of ending nuclear tests in the atmosphere as well as the issues of common interest to be discussed at the forthcoming Law of the Sea conference.

These discussions revealed a close identity of views on international questions shared by the two governments.

The urgent need to improve the international monetary system was recognised and the effects of the world energy crisis particularly on the developing countries were also discussed.

Considerable emphasis was placed in the talks on developing and strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries and a number of proposals were discussed to this end.

It was agreed that efforts would be made to increase the level of trade and economic exchanges between the two countries. The Indian delegation noted the increased opportunities provided for the expansion of Indian exports to Australia as a result of the measures recently adopted by the Australian Government. The possibility was examined of arrangements for regular consultations on bilateral economic matters and of concluding trade agreements.

The two sides agreed that there was scope for continued cooperation in regard to certain aspects of Indian development plans. The value of existing Indo-Australian projects in the agricultural field was noted and it was agreed to explore prospects for further collaboration in this field particularly in areas such as sheep and cattle breeding seed improvement, arid zone research and bakeries. An Australian expert mission would visit India in the near future to examine the prospects for cooperation in the woollen textile industry.

It was agreed that the civil aviation authorities of the two Governments would ratify the agreement on future operations concluded between the respective national airlines as soon as possible.

The Indian delegation suggested a number of fields in which collaboration with Australian scientists and institutes would be of value' to both countries, such as solar energy standards, radio astronomy, ionospheric research, food freezing and hydrology. It was agreed to consider the conclusion of an agreement to facilitate scientific and technical exchanges.

The two delegations also reviewed the operation of - the Indo-Australian Cultural Agreement concluded in 1971 and agreed that the scope for increased exchanges under the agreement would be facilitated by the

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projection of a two or three-year programme. A number of proposals were discussed for possible inclusion in such a programme.

The Indian and Australian delegations expressed their satisfaction with the progress achieved during the talks and their appreciation of the value of continuing consultations at official level between the two countries. It was agreed that the next round of talks would be held in New Delhi at a mutually convenient time.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA BANGLADESH

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Mr. Todorov

Following is the text of the prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the banquet hosted by her in honour of Bulgarian Prime Minister in New Delhi on March 4, 1974:

It is indeed a pleasure to welcome in our midst the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Bulgarian People's Republic, H.E. Mr. Stanko Todorov, and Madame Sonia Todorova. They come from a country with which we have close ties of friendship and cooperation. May I say 'Dobri Doshli' to them on behalf of all of us present here? Through them the people of India send their greetings to the warm-hearted and talented people of Bulgaria who are known for their friendship and their love of peace.

We have read of the heroic history of the Bulgarian people, who have fought through centuries against foreign occupation and imperialism. The name of Georgi Dimitrov, the great Bulgarian patriot who successfully led the struggle against Fascist rule and Nazi occupation, is a source of inspiration to people all over the world in their fight for liberty and justice.

In the short span of thirty years, Bulgaria has been transformed from an agricultural country into a modern industrial state under the guidance, of dedicated leadership. While developing Bulgaria's natural resources and technological skills, you have placed equal emphasis on the promotion of the arts.

We appreciate Bulgaria's consistent

efforts, under the leadership of Chairman Todor Zhivkov (whom we have had the pleasure of welcoming to India), to foster good neighbourliness in Eastern Europe and relaxation on the European continent.

We in India have been firm believers in peaceful co-existence between States with differing political systems. Friendship with all has been a fundamental premiss of our foreign policy. We therefore welcomed the steps towards detente in Europe and we hoped that the spirit of reconciliation would also spread to other continents. However, recent tendencies have given rise to new types of confrontation. Political and economic issues have got inter-mingled and the global economic crisis has hit the developing nations particularly hard.

In our own part of the world, we are persisting patiently and determinedly in an effort to bring about normalisation and co-operation between our immediate neighbours. We have also extended full support to the just demands of the peoples of South-East Asia and West Asia. Initiatives to establish conditions of peace, which will enable Asian and African countries to devote their undivided attention to development, can hardly be helped by some recent moves to establish a military base in the Indian Ocean or by the accumulation of arms in this region.

Excellency, you are aware of India's endeavours to develop and modernise its economy. We can point to many industries, especially in steel and metallurgy, machine-building, aeronautics, and nuclear science, which bear witness to our progress and the skill of our people. This is but a small part of the gigantic tasks which have to be achiev-

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ed in order to liberate our people from the handicaps and evils of economic backwardness.

Cooperation among nations, especially among peoples who have a commitment to peace, is more necessary than ever before to meet the challenges of fast changing situations. Your Excellency's visit at this time

is significant and I am sure will further encourage the growing economic cooperation between Bulgaria and India and also in matters of trade, technology and cultural exchanges.

Political relations between our two countries has developed in a felicitous manner. We have no bilateral problems. We appreciate the consistent friendship you have shown us, especially your understanding and principled support to India's initiatives to achieve durable peace and normalisation of relations among the states of the sub-continent.

I wish Your Excellency and Madame Todorova and the rest of your party an enjoyable and interesting stay in our country. I hope that even in this short period of time, you will be able to glimpse something of our ancient heritage and see for yourselves the tremendous endeavours that our people are making to bring India out of the shadow of feudalism into a new age of equality and people's participation in progress at home and in the cause of international peace.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of our distinguished guests His Excellency Mr. Stanko Todorov and Madame Todorova, to friendship and cooperation between the peoples of India and the Bulgarian People's Republic.

BULGARIA INDIA USA MALI

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Reply by Bulgarian Prime Minister

Replying, H.E. Mr. Stanko Todorov delivered the following speech-

On behalf of my wife and the persons accompanying me, as well as on my own behalf, I would like to cordially thank the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, for the kind invitation to be the guests of your country, for your warm reception and for the attention with which we have been surrounded ever since our arrival here. I would also like to express my thanks for the warm words you have just said about the Bulgarian people and the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

We experience a feeling of particular joy to be on ancient Indian soil, to talk with the leaders of the talented and peace-loving Indian people who have made such a great contribution to the treasury of world civilization and culture, to see some of the exceptional masterpieces of Indian historical and architectural monuments and to get familiarized with the remarkable achievements of India during its free development.

The Bulgarian people who have also inherited an ancient culture and who themselves have created many things of artistic value, who have outlived centuries-long foreign oppression and who constantly fought for their national and social liberation, cherish feelings of high respect and warm regard for the heroic past of the Indian people, for their struggle to obliterate the traces of colonialism and to facilitate the flourishing and prosperity of India.

For just over a quarter of a century, India has achieved great successes in developing its economy and culture and in solving centuries-long national problems. The Indian National Congress Party was and is the main political force which, supported by the other progressive parties and movements, has united the Indian people in their struggle for national liberation and for their all-round progress. The Indian people can take pride in the fact that in their history there is a brilliant constellation of people's leaders among whom names of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi shine

bright. I would like to express personally my high respect for our hostess, the leader of the Indian Government - Mrs. Indira Gandhi, an outstanding stateswoman of our time and a selfless patriot of her homeland.

An ever growing exchange in the fields of economy, trade, culture, public organi-

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zations and others, has been going on between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of India for two decades now. High-level delegations have been exchanged among which I would like to stress the great importance of the visit of the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi to Bulgaria in 1967 and of the visit of Mr. Todor Zhivkov to India in 1969 in his capacity of Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. It was those meetings that provided the possibility to embark on an increasing political, economic and technological cooperation between our countries, a cooperation based on equal rights and mutual advantage. I am convinced that our talks now will also deepen Bulgarian-Indian friendship and will further facilitate our all-round cooperation.

At present the Bulgarian people are implementing the large-scale programme mapped out by the Bulgarian Communist Party for the construction of an advanced socialist society, for raising living standards through an all-round development of our country's forces of production and through using the new achievement of science and technology.

In this respect we have scored considerable successes, we have accumulated experience in many branches of industry, in construction and land improvement and in our rural economy as well. Bulgaria has shared and is ready to share this experience with everyone who wishes to share it, and is itself sharing the experience and knowledge of other countries. I am deeply convinced that India and Bulgaria can further enlarge their fruitful cooperation considerably on a mutually advantageous basis.

The process of building an advanced socialist society, the implementation of our

plans is inseparably linked with the necessity of a lasting peace and security in international relations, of cooperation and understanding among nations in the world. In an article Mrs. Gandhi expresses an idea which we support wholeheartedly. She says that India is striving for peace not only because peace is something good in itself but also because without peace it is impossible to improve living standards of the overwhelming majority of the nations in the world.

The foreign policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and cooperation is profoundly peaceful and constructive. Together with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and with all progressive countries we are trying to make our contribution to the just solution of the complex world problems and to the consolidation of peace and international security. Eloquent proof of our peaceloving policy is Bulgaria's role as a peace factor in the Balkans as well as our good neighbourly relations of cooperation with all Balkan countries.

We welcome the trends towards a relaxation of the international atmosphere and detente, which have emerged during the past few years. To us peace is indivisible and should embrace all parts of the world so that the hotbeds which might cause a local or even - a world-wide conflagration could be eliminated. We support the peaceful initiatives of the Indian Government including the initiative to establish good neighbourly relations in the subcontinent and to settle differences through negotiations between the governments concerned without interference from without.

We highly value India's positive role in international life, the development of its ties of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and its contribution to the consolidation of the anti-imperialist and progressive forces in the world. We know quite well that that was the line of policy unswervingly pursued by the great son of the Indian people Jawaharlal Nehru. We are glad to note that this policy is being successfully conducted and

further developed by the Prime Minister, the honourable Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

We do not cherish the illusion that the road to peace and understanding among nations is an easy one. There exist and act forces which are pulling back to the cold war, they are stubbornly resisting all peace initiatives, they are fomenting the artificial creation of tensions and are provoking local conflicts. Because of the aggressive policy conducted by Israel, the Middle East crisis is still going on, the Saigon administration is violating the Paris agreements, racist and other reactionary forces continue to poison the atmosphere in parts of Africa and Latin

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America and to hamper the liberation struggle of the peoples.

The warmongering and reactionary forces are trying to amass black clouds on the international horizon. But the clouds cannot move against the wind as the Indian people wisely say. We are convinced that the warm wind of detente will drive away the clouds from the sky, that as a result of the efforts and the concrete measures of the Governments of the peace-loving countries, the trends towards understanding and detente will assume an irreversible nature so that justice and peace will triumph throughout the world.

Years ago Jawaharlal Nehru quoted the wise words from the old Indian written monuments - the Upanishads "The sun never sets nor rises. When people think to themselves the sun is setting he only changes about after reaching the end of the day, and makes night below and day to what is on the other side. Then when people think he rises in the morning, he only shifts himself about after reaching the end of the night, and makes day below and night to what is on the other side. In fact he never does set at all." The friendship among all nations making efforts to secure a lasting peace, should be like this - a friendship which does not set at all, which is warm and life-giving. Such is the friendship between India and Bulgaria, between our two friendly nations,

Mrs. Prime Minister,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thanking you once more for the reception accorded me, please allow me to propose a toast

to the health of the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi,

to the successes and prosperity of the great, Indian people,

to the fruitful friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples!

to peace in the world!

BULGARIA USA INDIA OMAN ISRAEL FRANCE

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Mr. Todorov's Speech at Civic Reception

Replying to the address by the Mayor on behalf of citizens of Delhi, the Prime Minister of Bulgaria, H. E. Mr. Stanko Todorov said (at a Civic Reception on March 5, 1974:

We have been guests of ancient India for several days only but we have been met everywhere as friends, surrounded by cordiality and warmth, my first words, therefore, are words of gratitude for the honour shown to us - to take part in this pleasant meeting with you, citizens of the city of Delhi, in this memorable celebration of Indian-Bulgarian friendship.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey to you citizens of Delhi and at the same time to the Indian people of many millions, the most heartfelt greetings and good wishes of far away Bulgaria, the country of Georgi Dimitrov, of its industrious people, of the citizens of our capital Sofia.

We left for India on a day which is historical for our people. Almost a hundred years ago, on March 3rd, after longstanding revolutionary struggles, with the help of Russia, Bulgaria threw off from a heavy oppression which had lasted for five centuries. And now we feel even more moved by the fact that our meeting is being held in this place sacred to every Indian heart - the historical Red Fort, where the Flag of free and independent India was hoisted twenty-seven years ago. It was here that the first Prime Minister of the young Republic Jawaharlal Nehru showed with wisdom and foresight, worthy of his people, the road to be followed by independent and democratic India, a road leading to a better future for the great Indian people.

Having experienced the bitterness of oppression and the delight of freedom, our people followed with keen interest and warmth the longstanding dedicated struggles of many generations of Indian patriots, guided by brave leaders and wise thinkers such as Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and

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many others, As far back as 1857 when the Sepoi Uprising broke out in India against foreign domination, for independence, liberty and justice, the great Bulgarian revolutionary Georgi Sava Rakovski called on the world to protect India and its patriots. His slogan was: "India for the Indians".

These friendly feelings for the fate and future of India, manifested at a time which was tragic for our people too, grew stronger during the years of your country's free and independent development. Today every Bulgarian rejoices, along with you, in the great successes and social progress achieved by the Indian people. On behalf of our people we can rightfully say: Bulgaria was invariably

and wholly with you at all difficult times when the ups and downs of your fate brought you face to face with new grievous experiences; we shall share in your great cause in the future too.

Esteemed hosts, to certain reactionary circles in the world, the beautiful phrases about peace are just another convenient cover for them to carry out their perfidious military, political or economic designs and schemes. But India's love of peace is inseparable from India's name, from India's history and from the Indian presence. It is connected with the kind nature of the Indians and with the traditions of your country. Today India enjoys an increased international prestige as a result of the steady peaceful policy pursued by your Government, a policy directed against imperialism, colonialism and racism, a policy supporting the peoples fighting for national liberation and a policy of adherence to the principles of peace and peaceful coexistence. The name of India is pronounced today by people throughout the world with respect and gratitude. India confirmed its prestige at the Conference of the Non-Aligned countries in Algeria, an eloquent - demonstration of the unceasing upsurge of the anti-imperialist, national-liberation and peaceloving forces.

Just as an individual cannot live in a society and be independent of it, so a country, no matter how great it may be, cannot live alone in the world. For an ancient Indian proverb says: "There are both lotuses and crocodiles in the water". In the life of the peoples there is much beauty, people have many sincere friends, but well-being and progress often have enemies. We, Bulgarians, want to live in brotherhood, cooperation and peace with all peoples in the world. As far as India and its people are concerned, we have only one wish: let in our relations - cultural, economic and political, bloom only lotuses, only beauty, peace and cooperation.

India is a great country not only when one considers its territory and number of population, but also when one considers the richness of its ancient culture. The whole world knows and values the magnificent

monuments of ancient Indian art, culture and literature. Three thousand years before our era, the cities of India were superbly planned and supplied with a sewerage system, quite modern for those times; in your capital, not far from here stands a wonderful iron column constructed far back in the fifth century. India has given the world famous mathematicians, surgeons and astronomers. All this is a tremendous cultural heritage, a mighty spiritual potential, a solid basis for a steady development of today's economy, culture and social progress.

Therefore we consider your, present successes in the field of economy, industry, rural economy and culture as quite natural. The efforts being made by your Government and the whole nation so that your country's future should be more beautiful and richer than what it is today have already produced tangible results.

The wisdom of your people rightly says that thirst is not quenched with tears. Bravery, foresight and sincere patriotism were needed in order to lead the people towards the heights of a free national development, to satisfy their centuries old desire for a better life. Jawaharlal Nehru, the founder of new India was the embodiment of those noble virtues. To the Indian people, to us, who are your sincere friends, to all progressive peoples in the world, Madame Indira Gandhi is a worthy continuer of his historic cause. On behalf of the Bulgarian people I would like to wholeheartedly wish the Indian Government, the Indian National Congress Party and the other progressive parties and movements still greater successes in rallying the Indian people closer together in the name of their bright and happy future. May your work be crowned with greater prosperity so that you may enjoy welfare in all fields of life.

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Esteemed citizens of Delhi, the best reflection of our mutual feelings and goodwill is the atmosphere of sincerity, deep respect and mutual confidence, in which our talks with the Prime Minister of India, the esteem-

ed Madame Indira Gandhi, are taking place.

This is no mere accident: it is a natural result of our longstanding cooperation, mutual trust and respect, the result of the systematic efforts, made by our two Governments.

The distance dividing us has never been an obstacle to our economic, political and cultural cooperation. Half a century ago the great Bengali poet Rabindranath Tagore, travelling around Europe, did not forget Bulgaria. He was received with feelings of joy by the progressive Bulgarian intellectuals, our people eagerly listened to his words of wisdom. The Bulgarian artist Boris Georgiev spent his mature creative years in your country and created art of great artistic value. Mrs. Amrita Pritam, a well known poetess and eminent representative of modern Indian literature, has been our guest on several occasions; she has written books on Bulgaria and has translated some Bulgarian literature into Punjabi. -Thanks to the efforts of a number of Indian literary workers, your readers can get acquainted with some works of Bulgarian political and literary men, translated into Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Punjabi and other languages.

For years now our two countries have been enjoying a mutual and growing exchange in the field of economy and trade, scientific and technical cooperation and culture. The number of the exchanged political and specialized delegations is constantly increasing. Our two peoples readily exchange the fruit of their work and they share their experience in the sphere of science and economy. A turning point and a great progress in this respect followed the visits of Mr. Giri and Madame Indira Gandhi to Bulgaria and of Mr. Todor Zhivkov to India. It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to fulfil a pleasant obligation: to convey to you and to the whole Indian people the sincere greetings of the president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Todor Zhivkov.

What has been so far accomplished by our two Governments, our talks which are

going on successfully, the unity of views expressed on a series of questions of bilateral nature, give me grounds to expect with confidence that our present visit and the talks with Madame Indira Gandhi will contribute to raising the relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of India to no", heights.

Esteemed friends, we have been moved deeply by the words of the Mayor in honour of the Bulgarian people and the People's Republic of Bulgaria as well as by the evaluation of the achievements reached by our people and of the peaceful foreign policy Pursued by our Government.

During the current year the Bulgarian people will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the victory of the Socialist Revolution in Bulgaria.

If someone who visited our country thirty years ago were to revisit it now, he would not be able to recognize it. The once poor Bulgaria with a parcelled-up agriculture is a powerful industrial and agrarian socialist state today, with a developed industry and a flourishing culture. People in Bulgaria have long since forgotten such evils as unemployment, poverty, illiteracy and contagious disease.

A great number of large plants and enterprises have been built in our country. Machines working in the fields, there is no village without electricity or a radio system, medical treatment is free of charge and education is obligatory, and accessible to all.

However we are not satisfied with these achievements. We are now working for the further prosperity of our people, for reaching still higher standards of living and for guaranteeing the people a lasting prosperity.

If we are asked how we have succeeded within a comparatively short historical period in leading our country on to the road of all-round development and progress, we shall answer in cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other peaceloving nations. By keeping what is ours and by observing the

dignity and prestige of all countries, near or far away, by broadening friendship and our mutual ties with the countries which have emerged as a result of the victories of the

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national liberation movement in Asia and Latin America and Africa; by being always in the ranks of the fighters for peace, friendship and understanding among nations.

Today, being economically stronger, we shall raise our voice still higher in defence of liberty and peace, for peaceful cooperation and understanding among countries throughout world.

We express our solidarity with the struggle of the Indian people to eliminate the imperialist military bases in the region of the Indian Ocean and we support the initiative of the Government of India to turn the area into a zone of peace and to establish good neighbourly relations on the Sub-continent. We would like to add: the virtue of a nation is great when it places freedom and peace above everything else, when it strives for its prosperity, social equality and spiritual unity. But this noble virtue is even greater when the freedom and peace of other peoples are valued as well, when a nation shares in the great cause of another nation. Although the Indian wise saying: "The lion responds to thunder and not to jackals" is a just one, we have to take the "jackals" into account, to keep watch over their acts and hinder them by all possible means from carrying out their intentions, no matter in which part of the world.

Esteemed friends, our meeting is taking place in a season when the earth at home is beginning to get warm, when the snow is melting so as to make way for luxuriant verdure, for the sun and for happiness. This may be accidental, but it gives us grounds for high hopes; with common efforts we shall shorten the distance between our two countries more and more and we shall be joining hands more often for an all-round cooperation. It is now sowing time at home and people live with the hope of a plentiful harvest. We would like to believe that what

we plant here today will bring a good harvest for the joy and happiness of our two peoples.

BULGARIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ALGERIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Joint Indo-Bulgarian Communique

The following joint communique was issued in New Delhi on March 10, 1974 at the end of the visit of H.E. Mr. Stanko Todorov to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Stanko Todorov, and Madame Sonia Todorova, paid an official friendly visit to the Republic of India from March 4 to 10, 1974.

During his stay in Delhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria was received by the President of the Republic of India, Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Stanko Todorov, paid tribute to the memory of the leaders of the national liberation movement of the Indian people, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri and laid wreaths at Rajghat, Shantivana and Vijay Ghat.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria was accorded a Civic Reception at the historic Red Fort where he was welcomed with warmth and cordiality by the citizens of

Delhi.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Stanko Todorov, also visited Bangalore and Bombay where he met the leaders of the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra, visited industrial enterprises and scientific institutions and had meetings with the representatives of the public and business circles.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and members of his party were accorded a warm and cordial welcome everywhere they went, symbolising the traditional ties of sincere and close friendship existing between the two countries.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Prime Minister of India reviewed

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all aspects of Indo-Bulgarian relations and exchanged views on major international questions of common interest. The talks were held in an atmosphere of sincere friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding.

Participating in the talks were:

ON THE INDIAN SIDE:

Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister for Planning; Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister for Industrial Development and Science and Technology; Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister for Commerce; Shri V. C. Shukla, Minister of State for Defence Production; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri K. Poonen Lukose, Ambassador of India to Bulgaria; and Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

ON THE BULGARIAN SIDE:

Eng. Toncho Chakarev, Minister for

Machine-Building; Mr. Ivan Nedev, Minister of Foreign Trade; Eng. Pando Vanchov, Member of the State Council, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the District People's Council in Kaskovo; Mr. Nenko Chendov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Georgi Georgiev, Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Committee; Mr. Marko Markov, Head of the Prime Minister's Office; Mr. Nayden Beltchev, Ambassador, Head of the Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Mr. Stoyan Zaimov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to India.

The two sides noted with satisfaction that the relations of equal and mutually advantageous cooperation between India and Bulgaria, based on the principles of friendship and solidarity, continue to strengthen and develop successfully in all fields.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria acquainted the Prime Minister of India with the economic and cultural achievements of the Bulgarian people under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, on the significance of the Sixth Five-Year Plan of Bulgaria, as well as with the efforts of the Bulgarian Government to strengthen good neighbourly cooperation with all Balkan States.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, highly assessed the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria aimed at constructive cooperation among all Balkan States and at strengthening peace and cooperation among the States in Europe and the world as a whole.

The Prime Minister of India informed the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria on the development of the Indian economy and the socioeconomic measures taken for improving the living standards of the Indian people and on the foreign policy of India based on non-alignment and peaceful co-existence which is making an important contribution to strengthening of peace and security in the world.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria highly assessed the peaceful foreign policy of India, which constitutes an important factor for consolidating and preserving the positive trends in international relations and for establishing peaceful and good-neighbourly relations on the Indian Sub-Continent.

## II

Both sides expressed their deep satisfaction at the pace of development of the economic, scientific and technical cooperation between India and Bulgaria and noted that the Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement of 1967 is being successfully implemented. They re-affirmed their determination to expand and deepen Indo-Bulgarian cooperation further in all fields.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Prime Minister of India noted that possibilities exist for broadening this cooperation particularly in the fields of machine-building, electronic industry, metallurgical and ore-mining industry, textile industry, agriculture, power generation and irrigation.

The two sides expressed their appreciation of the diversification and increase in

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their annual trade exchanges. They agreed that in the interest of future cooperation in this sphere and for the particular benefit of the developing economies of the two countries, it would be useful to expand still further the exchange of goods and to widen their economic ties. To this end they would work out long-term programmes for cooperation on the basis of the economic plans of the two countries.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation in November 1973 and shared the view that this Commission will serve as an effective body for the practical implementation of future economic cooperation.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the results achieved so far in regard to their mutual economic, scientific and technical co-operation and agreed to exchange their experience in the development of the respective branches of national economies and in the training of qualified personnel with the view to promoting purposeful cooperation on a long-term basis. To this end, they will study the possibility of establishing new production capacities in the two countries in order to increase mutual deliveries of goods required by each other.

The two sides are desirous of developing further the cooperation in the fields of culture, education, press, television, tourism and sports which will contribute to the intensification of the traditional friendship and understanding between the peoples of India and- Bulgaria and to their deeper mutual acquaintance.

In this connection, both sides stressed the importance of the following Agreements concluded during the visit of the Chariman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

1. Protocol on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.
2. Trade and Payments Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.
3. Exchange of Letters for the mutual abolition of visas between India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria.
4. Protocol on the Third Session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

The exchange of opinions on the inter-

national situation confirmed the closeness of the positions of the two sides on the questions discussed.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the positive tendencies in the development of international relations and the growing trend towards detente on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence, resulting from the endeavours of the Socialist countries, all peace-loving States and all progressive forces. They agreed that the strengthening of contacts between national leaders is of advantage to all countries and contributes to the consolidation of world peace and international cooperation.

The two sides welcomed the growing detente in Europe and noted the role in this respect of the Agreement concluded by the USSR, Poland and Czechoslovakia with the Federal Republic of Germany as well as the Agreement between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany and the Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin. The two sides are convinced that the successful conclusion of the All-European Conference on Security and Cooperation will create the necessary conditions for safeguarding peace and detente in that Continent. They expressed the hope that this favourable development in Europe will also help in the relaxation of tensions and promote peace in Asia and other parts of the world.

Both sides believe that the Simla Agreement of July 2, 1972 and the Delhi Agreement of August 28, 1973 provide a firm basis for generating an atmosphere of reconciliation and for building a structure of durable peace in the Sub-continent and welcomed the positive steps taken so far towards normalisation of relations between the concerned States. The Bulgarian side expressed its support for the initiatives taken by the Indian side in this regard.

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The two sides called for the immediate admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations and consider that

there are no grounds, whatsoever, to delay the realisation of the legitimate right of Bangladesh to be a member of this world Organisation.

With the aim of creating a lasting foundation for peace and security in South-East Asia, both sides emphasised the need for all signatories to the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam to observe its provisions strictly and consistently. Both sides also called for a consistent and faithful implementation of the Agreement on the Restoration of Peace and National Reconciliation in Laos as well as the subsequent Protocol emerging from it. They expressed the hope that an early and peaceful settlement will be reached in Cambodia in conformity with the interests and wishes of the Cambodian people.

Both sides called for the immediate liquidation of the cause of the conflict in West Asia, namely, the continued occupation of Arab territories by Israel. They actively support the consistent implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions No. 242 of November 22, 1967 and No. 338 of October 21, 1973, so that a peaceful and just settlement can be achieved. Both sides welcomed the convening of the Conference in Geneva and hope that it will contribute positively to a durable and just peace in West Asia on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and restoration of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

The two sides welcomed the positive tendencies developing in the Korean peninsula and expressed the opinion that the move towards peaceful unification through bilateral agreement, without foreign interference, will meet the just interests of the Korean people and serve the cause of peace and security in that part of the world.

Both sides declared their support for the United Nations and consider it as an important instrument for safe-guarding world peace and security as well as for furthering international cooperation. They agreed to strengthen their bilateral and multi-lateral

cooperation within the UN and its Specialised Agencies.

Both sides supported the proposal for the convening of a World Disarmament Conference, with the participation of all countries, in order to halt the armaments race and to achieve General and Complete Disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under effective international control.

Both sides expressed again their full support to national liberation movements in colonial territories and resolutely called for the immediate and complete liquidation of the last vestiges of colonialism in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and peoples. They resolutely condemned all manifestations of neo-fascism, racism and Apartheid as an outrage on the conscience of mankind and incompatible with basic human rights and liberties.

#### IV

Both sides agreed on the importance of the exchange of visits at all levels between the two friendly countries and noted with satisfaction that the visit to India by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Bulgarian People's Republic and his Delegation has led to greater mutual understanding and to the strengthening of cooperation in all fields between India and Bulgaria. They agreed to maintain similar contacts at all levels, aimed at development of fruitful and regular exchange of views on important bilateral and multi-lateral issues of mutual interest.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria expressed his appreciation of the warm hospitality shown to him and members of his party by the Government and people of India. He extended a cordial invitation on behalf of the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Todor Zhivkov, and on his own behalf to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to pay an official friendly visit to Bulgaria at a mutually convenient time. The invitation

was accepted with thanks.

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BULGARIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA NORWAY POLAND SLOVAKIA GERMANY  
MALI BANGLADESH VIETNAM LAOS CAMBODIA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND KOREA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade and Payment Agreement

Following is the text of the trade and payment agreement signed by Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, on behalf of India, and Mr. Ivan Nedev, Minister for Foreign Trade, on behalf of Bulgaria, in New Delhi on March 6, 1974:

The Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, animated by the desire to develop economic and trade relations between the two countries on a mutually advantageous and balanced basis and to increase the volume of trade between them to as high level as possible, have agreed upon the following:

### ARTICLE 1

1. Both Governments will in every possible way develop and strengthen the economic and trade relations between the two countries on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. They will study and with the utmost goodwill take decisions on the suggestions which either of them would like to present for the consideration of the other, with the purpose of achieving closer economic relations.

2. During the period of validity of this Agreement, the total value of imports will

be equal to the total value of exports effected by either -country, including also payments of a non-commercial nature, deferred payments or payments in cash, relating to the contracts concluded or to be concluded on the basis of this and the earlier Indo-Bulgarian Trade and Payments Agreement and the repayment of the principal and payment of interest arising out of the utilisation of funds under Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreements concluded between the two countries.

## ARTICLE 2

Upon importation and exportation of goods from one country to the other the two Governments will accord each other maximum facilities allowed by their respective laws, rules and regulations, In any case the said goods shall enjoy the most-favoured nation treatment with respect to customs duties and charges of any kind imposed on imports or export or in connection therewith with respect to the methods of levying such duties and charges, with respect to rules, formalities and charges in connection with customs clearing operations and charges of any kind imposed on or in connection with the imported goods.

The two Governments will accord each other in respect of the issuance of import and export licences treatment no less favourable than -that granted to any other country.

## ARTICLE 3

Any advantage, favour, privilege or immunity granted by either of the Governments to import or export of any product originating in the territory of a third country or destined for its territory shall be accorded immediately and unconditionally to the like product originating in the territory of either of the Governments or destined to be imported into its territory.

## ARTICLE 4

The provisions of Article 2 and 3 shall not, however, apply to the grant or continuance of any:

a) privileges which are or will be granted by either of the Governments to contiguous countries in order to facilitate frontier trade;

b) advantages, resulting from any Customs Union or privileges, to which either contracting party is or may become a member;

c) any advantages or preferences accorded under any scheme for expansion of trade and economic cooperation among developing countries which is open for participation by all developing countries and to which either of the Governments is or may become a party.

#### ARTICLE 5

The export of goods from Bulgaria to India and from India to Bulgaria during the period of validity of the present Agreement will be carried out in accordance with the

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export and import lists agreed upon between the two Governments for every calendar year.

Schedules 'A' and 'B' attached to this Agreement are indicative lists of goods available for export from either country. These schedules can be extended, altered or renewed by letters exchanged between the two Governments.

#### ARTICLE 6

The import and export of the goods stipulated in Article 5 will be carried out in accordance with the import, export, and foreign exchange regulations in force in either country and on the basis of contracts to be concluded between the Bulgarian foreign trade organisations on the one side, and the Indian physical and juridical persons, including Indian state-owned organisations.

#### ARTICLE 7

1. All payments of a commercial and non-

commercial nature between physical and juridical persons residing in Bulgaria and physical and juridical persons residing in India will be effected in non-convertible Indian Rupees.

2. For the purpose of effecting the aforementioned payments:

a) The Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank will continue to maintain a Central Account with the Reserve Bank of India and one or more accounts with one or more commercial banks in India, authorized to deal in foreign exchange;

b) The Central Account maintained by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade bank with the Reserve Bank of India, will be used for depositing the rupee holdings of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank and for replenishing the accounts of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the authorized Indian Commercial Banks and for operating the Technical Credit;

c) The accounts maintained by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the Indian Commercial Banks will be used for carrying out all other operations connected with the payments of a commercial and non-commercial nature mentioned above;

d) The Government of India will grant to the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank through the Reserve Bank of India a technical credit up to an amount of 15 million rupees. The technical credit up to an amount of 1 million rupees will be interestfree and above this amount it will bear interest at the current rate of the three months Treasury Bills of the Government of India.

In the cases when under the Central Account of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the Reserve Bank of India, mentioned in Article 7 paragraph 2(a) the

balance exceeds the amount of 1 million rupees, Reserve Bank of India under instructions of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank will secure the investment of the amounts under the account exceeding 1 million rupees in Treasury Bills of the Indian Government and will undertake rediscounting of these bills whenever the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank needs funds under the Central Account for effecting current payments.

e) The Central Account will be replenished by transfer of funds in Indian rupees from the accounts maintained by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the Indian Commercial Banks and by receipts under the technical credit;

f) The accounts with the Commercial Banks will be replenished by transfers of funds from other similar accounts and from the Central Account.

3. The payments permitted in accordance with the Indian Foreign Exchange Control laws and regulations will be effected on the basis of this Agreement to the physical and juridical persons residing in the People's Republic of Bulgaria by the physical and juridical persons residing in India, by crediting the amount of such payments to the accounts of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the Indian Commercial Banks.

Likewise, the payments which are to be effected by the physical and juridical persons residing in the People's Republic of

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Bulgaria to the physical and juridical persons residing in India in accordance with the Bulgarian Foreign Exchange Control laws and regulations will be effected by debiting the accounts maintained by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the Indian Commercial Banks, under the instructions of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank.

4. The Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank and the Reserve Bank of India will enter into a banking arrangement on the technical de-

tails connected with the operation of this Agreement.

5. Any balance in the Rupee Accounts of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank or any debt of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank in connection with the grant of technical credit will, upon expiry of this Agreement, be used during the ensuing 12 months for the put-chase of such Indian or Bulgarian goods as the case may be as were eligible for exchange during the previous year.

Payments arising from contracts concluded before the expiry of this Agreement but falling due after the expiry of this Agreement shall notwithstanding the expiry of this Agreement, be effected in accordance with the provisions of this Article and be utilized in the same manner as the balances referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph during the ensuing 12 months after such expiry of the Agreement.

In both cases, after the expiry of the said twelve months period, any balances outstanding will be settled in such a way as may be agreed upon between the two Governments.

6. In the event of a variation in the current par value of the Indian rupee, viz. one Indian rupee being equal to 0.118489 grams of fine gold (excepting when such change occurs as a result of revision of the official price of gold) the balances in the Central Account maintained by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank with the Reserve Bank of India mentioned in Article 7 of the Trade and Payments Agreement, including the amounts invested in, Indian Treasury Bills, and or indebtedness of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank resulting from the use of the technical credit will be automatically revalued proportionately to the change in such par value.

## ARTICLE 8

1. The two Governments agree that, in exercise of their rights of shippers preference they shall, to the maximum extent possible, utilise the vessels owned or chartered

by shipping organisations of the two countries concerned for shipping cargoes imported or exported under this Agreement on the basis of world competitive freight, rates and conditions.

2. The most-favoured-nation treatment will apply to the ships of both countries in respect of port charges or dues to be levied, in respect of the privileges rendered at entering or leaving the ports, as well as to the regulations in force regarding the stay of ships, the crew, the goods, passengers, at the ports, and in respect of loading, unloading and transhipment of the goods. This principle shall not, however, apply to ships engaged in coastal navigation.

#### ARTICLE 9

In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, the two Governments agree to consult each other at the request of either party in respect of matters connected with trade and payments between the two countries.

For this purpose, the representatives of the two Governments will meet at the request of either party, at a place and time to be mutually agreed upon, the meeting being held within 45 days of the receipt of the request.

This Agreement will come into force from March 6, 1974 and will remain valid until December 31, 1978.

DONE in New Delhi on March 6, 1974 in two original sets each in the Hindi and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

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BULGARIA INDIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

**Volume No**

BULGARIA

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Protocol on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation between India and Bulgaria

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The following is the text of a Protocol on economic, technical and scientific cooperation between the Governments of the Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bulgaria which was signed in New Delhi on March 6, 1974 by Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister for Industrial Development, Science and Technology and Co-Chairman of Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic Scientific and Technical Cooperation, for India and Mr. Toncho Chakarov, Minister for Machine Building and Metallurgy and Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission, for Bulgaria:

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, His Excellency Mr. Stanko Todorov, and the delegations of the two countries, took the opportunity to review the trade, economic, technical and scientific cooperation between India and Bulgaria, during the visit of His Excellency, Mr. Todorov, to India in March, 1974. The two sides agreed that these relations had been friendly and mutually advantageous and expressed their strong desire to further expand and strengthen economic relations between the two countries to mutual advantage.

2. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the work done by the delegations of experts exchanged between the two countries in September 1973 and January 1974 and noted the fields which had been mutually identified as a result in the pharmaceutical, food processing, chemical, machine-building, electronics and metallurgical industries. These areas offered tangible scope for collaboration in the immediate or near future. Both sides agreed that an identification of the actual areas for further collaboration and terms

thereof should be worked out immediately in the light of the recommendations made by the experts and that this examination should be completed in all fields by the time of the First Session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission.

3. To enable cooperation in selected fields to be taken in hand immediately both sides agreed that terms for collaboration should be finalised in the following areas and that a suitable time-frame for the implementation of schemes mutually decided upon should also be worked out:

Plant for manufacture of apple processing and for production of pectin; packing of fruit and vegetable concentrates including supply of packaging bottling lines for packaging in herretical glass containers; development in the production of fruit and vegetable juice concentrates; cooperation in horticulture and agricultural development by providing technical know-how, quality seeds for growing fruits and vegetables, etc.; setting up of agro-industrial complexes in India; assistance to the Indian Veterinary Research Institute in setting up a Poultry Hybrid Centre, production of calcium carbide and calcium carbonate.

4. Both sides agreed that a Committee on Electronics should be immediately set up by both sides for cooperation in this field. The Committee would be one of the constituent Committees of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission.

5. It was derided that a decision on possibilities of collaboration in the following fields should be taken up in as short a time as possible.

Antibiotics and anti-pyretics; processing of poppy husk; production of Sodium-Tripolyphosphate, Soda Ash, PVC, Ethyl Benzene and Styrene, exchange in machine tools, railway wagons and coaches, castings and forgings, steel structurals, food processing machinery, material handling equipment including Container Services Equipment, Electricals and tropical insulations in machine tools; exploitation and beneficiation of cop-

per; production of complex fertilizers.

6. Both sides noted with gratification the increasing trade turnover under the Trade and Payments Agreement. It was observed that the volume of trade between the two countries had grown from Rs. 59.36 m. in 1967 to an anticipated Rs. 400 m. in 1973. Both sides noted that the Trade Plan for 1974 envisages a turnover of approximately Rs. 740 m. and it was agreed that every effort should be made to achieve this level during the current year. The necessity for a suitable change in the trade pattern was re-

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cognized by both sides to maintain balanced and expanding growth of trade between the two countries. The Indian side expressed the view that exports from India in future should include a greater share of non-traditional items, particularly of engineering and manufactured goods. Both sides, were agreed that it was desirable to adopt a long-term frame for trade exchanges between the two countries which would include commodities having special interest to both countries.

7. Both sides noted the considerable Bulgarian participation in projects in India. With the increased pace of credit utilisation it is expected that the economic collaboration between the two countries as well as the volume of trade in future would register considerable increase.

8. Both sides noted with satisfaction the setting up of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation on November 29, 1973. It was the earnest desire of both sides that the deliberations of the Joint Commission should lead to further accelerated Progress in Indo-Bulgarian collaboration in various commercial, technical and scientific fields and to the successful development of economic relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Both sides agreed that the preparatory work done through the exchange of delegations of experts would enable the Joint Commission to review and consider a wide field of cooperation.

9. Both sides agreed to hold the First Session of the Joint Commission in New Delhi in November\December, 1974.

10. Both sides hoped that, with the conclusion of the new protocol on Scientific and Technical Cooperation during the current visit of His Excellency, Mr. Todorov, cooperation -in the field of science and technology would be further strengthened.

Done in New Delhi on March 6, 1974 in two original copies, each in English and Bulgarian, both texts being equally authentic.

BULGARIA INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Exchange of Letters Abolishing Visas between India and Bulgaria

Letters were exchanged in New Delhi on March 6, 1974 between Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Mr. Nenko Chendov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, regarding abolition of visas between India and Bulgaria. The following is the text of the Letters:

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 6, 1974 which reads as follows:

"Sir,

I have the honour to state that the following understanding has been reached between our two Governments on facilitation of travel between the two countries:

(i) Citizens of either country holding valid national passports for travel abroad, shall be free to enter the other country at any border crossing point for the purpose of temporary stay in that country for a period up to 90 days, or for transit, without being required to obtain a visa. The said 90 days period shall include all periods of stay during the preceding six months.

(ii) The waiver of visa requirements shall not exempt citizens of either country entering the territory of the other from the necessity of complying with its laws and regulations concerning the entry into, movement within and residence whether temporary or permanent, of foreigners. They shall not be allowed to take employment, set up business or exercise any profession, paid or unpaid. This requirement, however, shall not apply to businessmen or business delegations from either country going to the other to conclude business agreements, contracts or other business transactions and to conduct negotiations with their counterparts.

(iii) The authorities of each country reserve the right to refuse entry

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into or terminate stay in its territory of such citizens of the other country as are considered undesirable.

2. I have the honour to state further that this letter and your reply confirming the aforesaid understanding shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force 30 days after the date of your reply. The said agreement may be temporarily suspended in whole or in part by either Government for reasons of public order or public health. Such suspension shall be notified immediately to the other Government through diplomatic channels and, if possible, after prior consultations. Further, the said agreement may be terminated by either

Government notifying the, other in that regard in writing.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd\ - Nenko Chendov

I have the honour to convey the confirmation by the Government of India of the understanding referred to in your letter and to state that your letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest considerations.

Sd\ - V. C. Trivedi

BULGARIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Protocol of Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation

The following is the text of the Protocol of the third session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation signed in New Delhi on March 5, 1974 by Dr. Y. Nayudamma, Secretary to the Government of India and Director-General, Scientific and Industrial Research and Eng. Roumen Popov, M.Sc., First Vice-President of the Committee for Science, Technical Progress and Higher Education, Government of Bulgaria:

In accordance with the agreement signed on 2nd May, 1967, the Indian and Bulgarian Scientific Delegations held discussion in New Delhi from 25th to 28th February, 1974, to

finalise programme of Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the Republic of India and People's Republic of Bulgaria for the years 1974-75.

The Protocol of the Second Session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation which was finalised in Sofia in October 1972 had drawn up a list of items which were to be studied in detail after exchange of information between the corresponding institutions and agencies of the two countries and visits and discussions by respective specialists. The two sides reviewed the action taken by the respective institutions/agencies on the items. The two sides also noted the areas of cooperation in the field of Science and Technology which were suggested by the Hon'ble Minister Shri C. Subramaniam, after his visit to Bulgaria in May/June 1973 and the discussions held in Sofia on Indo-Bulgarian Scientific, Technical and Economic Cooperation in September 1973. Based upon these studies and exchanges by the two sides a Work Plan has been agreed upon for implementation during the years 1974-75.

### III

It was agreed that the cooperating institutions in respect of the projects identified by the two sides would exchange delegations of specialists during 1974-75. There will be short-term exchanges at senior level and long term exchanges at middle-junior levels. A programme of cooperation would be drawn up for each project. It was also agreed that the short-term visit would be for a period of 3-4 weeks and the long term stay would be upto 6 months.

The list of projects along with the cooperating institutions and the number of scientists to be exchanged for each of them are indicated in the Work Plan.

### IV

Both sides agreed to exchange scientific and technical information and documen-

tation in the field of projects included in the Work Plan and other areas of mutual interest between respective institutions.

V

Both sides agreed to offer 3 scholarships on reciprocal basis for research and training upto 36 months each. Subject of research and institutions will be decided by mutual consultation.

VI

"INDIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DAYS" will be organised in Sofia in May 1975 in accordance with the Aide Memoire agreed upon by the two sides in January, 1974.

VII

The general and financial terms will be in accordance with the current Cultural Exchange Programme between the two countries. These terms will also hold good for scientists' visits for periods upto 6 months.

VIII

The two delegations agree to hold the next Session in Sofia in May 1975, the exact date to be fixed by mutual consultation.

Done in two authentic copies in English and signed in New Delhi on the Fifth Day of March, 1974.

BULGARIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Reply to Lok Sabha Debate on President's Address

Replying to the debate on President's Address the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, made the following statement in Lok Sabha on March 1, 1974:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been a wide-ranging debate reflecting not only the mood of the House but the mood of the country. There has, perhaps understandably, been much talk of the people's anger and hunger. Unfortunately hunger has been a companion an old companion of the Indian people. And it was to eliminate hunger and injustice that we fought for Swaraj and we are now struggling for socialism. It is true that in the last few months the difficulties of our people have been aggravated because of price increases and scarcity of essential commodities which are themselves due to a variety of factors, domestic as well as foreign. I am not the one to shirk responsibility, nor have I done so. Government may have made mistakes and this would not be unnatural in view of the vast size of our problems and our crises. While focussing attention on them would it be right or honest to ignore the magnitude of the challenges which have confronted us during the last few years and what we are able to achieve in spite of challenges and difficulties? The question before us, here in Parliament and in front of the country, is how to face the crisis, how to lighten these burdens. Can this be done merely through anger, by giving vent to helplessness and by condoning violence and encouraging violence, or through a sense of responsibility and through grim determination to act? I think the President's Address reflects this determination and sense of responsibility, and I am glad that this was also the tone of most of the speeches from this-side of the House.

I should like to deal with some of the points raised by members. Quotations from English literature enlivens our debates. But when quoting figures there should be greater regard for accuracy and relevance. For instance, what is one to make of the statement of the hon. Member opposite, and I quote his words "In the 1942 Quit India Movement

the British could not take more than 12 lives." He and we were in opposite sides during the Quit India Movement....

There is no other reliable document than the paper printed by the office. Anyway, he and we were on opposite sides during the Quit India Movement. Still, I do not imagine that there would be an Indian today to speak approvingly of the moderation of the foreign rulers. The strings of miscellaneous figures which he flung at us, rather indiscriminately, seems to be of the same order of accuracy.

We have been accused of dictatorship. The hon. House perhaps knows with effusion some of the antics which we have seen here. They are ample evidence of our tolerance....

The same member misquoted me as having claimed some advantages for dictatorship. Far from condoning dictatorship rule, I was stating the ease for democracy because some other peoples statements appeared in the newspapers. I was answering the recent statements which seemed to indicate a lot of faith in democracy. I had stated, as I have practically on every occasion, that although democracy by its very nature is a slower process, it is a process which strengthens the people as a whole, and that we as a party and as a country are deeply committed to the democratic process.

The most astounding statement was made by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It was the substance, if it can be so-called, not the fact of making a statement, that I call astounding. There was a lot of thunder but no truth and no attempt at any serious assessment of what is happening in India or abroad. Taking Shri Vajpayee's statement regarding the elections to its logical conclusion, one would have to decide that there should be no elections for then there would be no expenses, and this from one who is advocating fresh elections in Gujarat straightway. His statement that I have told any group of people that UP will not get adequate Central aid if the people did not vote for the Congress, I would call very mischievous, malicious,

politically motivated and entirely false.

I have always said - I think I speak quite distinctly - I have very distinctly stated in numerous meetings the disadvantages - I consider them disadvantages - of a coalition Ministry and a Ministry which does not approve of a Plan which is passed and agreed to. Also, certain parties have openly said that, they do not believe in heavy industries, for instance. Is this in the interests of UP? I put forward my point of view. At no stage have I said that this will make a difference. In fact, on the contrary, I have specifically said that we have always helped any Government, regardless of the party, once it is elected and it is in power, the Centre has the same relationship with them as with any other Government. But if a Government disapproves of our policy basically, as some Governments and people have done in the past, then our help is not very useful to them, and they do not want that type of help ....

Shri Vajpayee perhaps was so absorbed in his own eloquence that he forgot that he was still not addressing an election meeting in UP but he was here with us in Parliament. While some other Members of his party have complained that I am blaming the Opposition or some of the Opposition parties for exploiting the people's discontent and troubles, Shri Vajpayee was honest enough in this one case in asserting that his party considers it their moral duty to mobilise public discontent. Now, in normal circumstances, it is the right of the Opposition to try and use discontent for their own purposes and their own advantage. The point that I made was not that they should not do so but merely that in the present situation, the economic crisis through which the country is passing is not a normal one. It is not a question of party; it is not even a question which affects the Government. It is a national crisis which affects millions of our people. If the Opposition hits the Government it is understandable. We do not object, and we are able to bear their hits. But in the present crisis, there is no doubt that these various agitations have hit the people and have, therefore, increased their suffering.

The Jan Sangh has made a fine art of distortion and of making false statements with great flourish. Shri Vajpayee has also misquoted me as saying, and again, I quote - these are, his words, not my words -

"Muslims should not divide themselves as they will grow weaker if they do."

I said this in a particular context, and when I spoke about Muslims standing together, it

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was in the same sense as I said that developing countries, for instance, should stand together. At the same meeting where I said this, I remarked or stated clearly that vote should be given on the basis of policies and programmes and not for individuals or according to one's religion or caste.

Speaking of the writing on the wall in this debate, it seemed to be a favourite phrase of many speakers. Perhaps, they had discussed it together, I do not know. But we know that what is happening in Gujarat is a rehearsal of what is being planned on a larger scale. The democratic processes for which Shri Vajpayee was arguing here are being subverted by his partymen in Gujarat. From the speeches of the Honourable Members of the Opposition it would seem as if the beginning and the end of life are concerned with who is in power, who is going to come into power and who is going to be removed from power. My own thinking and training and inclination is very different. To me it is more important what I stand for and what I struggle for, regardless of any question of winning or losing. If the people throw me out, I shall certainly accept it with good grace. But I shall not give up the policies or the ideals which I consider right, and for which I shall continue fighting, regardless of position or lack of it or of people's praise or misunderstanding.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Shiv Sena.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIN: Muslim League.

PRIME MINISTER: Shri Shamim, thinks

that the parliamentary system is becoming isolated from the people. Would it not be more correct to say that some MPs are getting isolated from the masses? But surely the people who have gone to the polls in millions in the last few days cannot be accused of having lost faith in the system.

However, I do agree with him entirely about the dangers of communalism and casteism. These have to be fought with all our strength; and all those who hold the same view should get together, and combine their strength to do so. I can assure him that we have not made unprincipled alliances with communal parties or with others.... in the north, the Muslim League has played an entirely different role and that role cannot be ignored. Because of that, we cannot blame the Kerala Muslim League, but so far as we know, this matter was gone into in quite good depth before the Congress split.... I have been accused of many failings, but never so far of lack of courtesy nor indeed do I think that I have been guilty of it. Shri Desai has accused us of ridiculing the suggestions of the Opposition. But I am not sure of what he means when he talks about it.

The main Opposition here, as we know, is the CPM. I do not know if Shri Desai has changed his politics. He used to be quite violently - in words, of course, opposed to the CPM point of view. It is not we, but the different Opposition parties and groups which ridicule and contradict each other.

Shri Morarji Desai also spoke of my blaming or our blaming the official machinery. I should like to distinguish between the individuals in the administration and the system. I have always said that while there are dedicated and efficient officials, the structure of our administration is an outdated one. Many suggestions have been made by the Administrative Reforms Commission. In fact, we are still at it. I find that every now and then some other suggestions which have been processed are brought before us, and many of these suggestions have been acted upon. But they have not really made any great difference, because what is needed is not a patchwork or a small change here

and there but something more basic, which is not an easy thing to do. But my own view remains that it is a necessary thing to do.

Now, there is, on every possible occasion, talk of corruption. When Shri Morarji Desai was in Government, he disapproved of the habit of making sweeping charges of corruption. He now chooses to brand the whole system as corrupt and the whole nation as corrupt. It is certainly deplorable that corruption which was so widely prevalent in the feudal and colonial days should continue to exist now that we are free. But we all know that during periods of growth and change, frailties of human nature often come to the surface. In a situation of shortages and scarcities, the temptation of what the Americans might call making a fast buck seems to be irresistible to some people. In the capitalist system, where the acquisitive instincts are encouraged by competition, this tendency is much more marked and has even

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been elevated into a business ethics. But even in the non-capitalist systems, they have not been able to entirely eradicate this evil. That, of course, is no reason for us to be complacent or to tolerate such obvious anti-social behaviour. We must remove it. Many people who indulge in anti-social acts are discovered and dealt with. But about the process, I agree with the Honourable Members that we should be far more prompt, thorough and strict in dealing with them. There are also allegations which are base-

The ultimate solution lies in removing shortages and scarcities. Greater production, particularly of articles of daily consumption and more equitable distribution will improve the situation. We must also curb the desire to imitate other modes of life and we must all try to create an atmosphere where, on the one hand, temptation is lessened and, on the other hand, anti-social acts are disapproved by the neighbours and the community at large.

Shri Morarji Desai has made a comparison between the drought years of 1965-66

and the one we have gone through during the last two years. The manner in which he has added up the foodgrains output may create some confusion. I am afraid, the simple arithmetical comparisons are not very meaningful. For example, he has completely ignored the fact that between the two droughts, the population of India increased by 85-90 millions and that, while in the earlier drought we have to deal with Bihar alone, this time we had to maintain programmes of relief works in five States on a very intensive scale and in several others on a lesser scale. He has ignored the fact that we did not ask for concessional food imports or relief from abroad. I should like to remind the House that during 1965-66 drought, 19 million tonnes of foodgrains were imported while this time we imported only 4 million tonnes and that too on commercial terms.

The internal procurement in 1972-73 totals 16 million tonnes as against 8 million tonnes in the two years of the earlier drought. While all this was happening, we did not ask for PL-480 assistance and, at the same time, we had to provide food aid to our neighbours. All these are measures of self-help for which the people and the Government deserve a word of praise, not a cynical condemnation.

During the drought, this time, an intensive public distribution system was organised and considerable quantities of foodgrains to the tune of 22 million tonnes in the two years were distributed. This has been acknowledged all over the world. The allocations were somewhat reduced only after the last kharif harvest. Even now, over 8 lakh tonnes are being distributed every month. What has happened is that because of the general rise in prices and the big difference between the prices of Government-distributed grain and the grain in the open market and because of the existence of a wide network of public distribution arrangements, the demand on it has not come down even after a good harvest as used to happen in earlier years.

Yesterday, I had spoken about the increase in production and the prospects this year. So, I am not going into the details. I would like to say that the improvement in

the working of public enterprises is particularly noteworthy. They turned the corner in 1972-73 and their performance this year is expected to be much better both as regards the quantum of production as well as the profits. This reassures us in our faith in the efficiency of the public sector as an instrument of growth.

Yesterday, my colleague, the Finance Minister presented the Budget. It is an anti-inflationary budget designed to stimulate production in essential sectors. The deficit has been kept low. The situation will be kept under constant watch and Government will see to it that the deficit is not allowed to increase. The Union Government and the State Government must, of course, exercise stringent financial discipline. Budget is only one of the instruments to deal with the situation. Other instruments will also be used in-the effort to stabilise our economy.

Many members spoke of Gujarat with understandable pain and sorrow which I fully share. There was a complaint made that the reference in the President's Address was a very short one. But I am sure that members will understand that the situation was such a fast-changing one that it was not a lack of concern that kept this reference short but merely the desire not to say anything which might aggravate the situation. When emotions are aroused, we know that even a well-meant sentiment or word can be miscon-

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trued or quoted out of context and aggravate the trouble.... That is why, only the very essential minimum was mentioned, namely, the need to join hands to restore normalcy.

The hon. Member opposite said something about my not going there, saying that perhaps I was afraid. It is another failing of which I have never been accused and there has never been a cause for such accusation either. I can tell him that, on several occasions, I was prepared to dash, but again the advice was that my going would not help; it would aggravate the situation. One goes only if there is a possibility of soothing the sentiments or bringing the people together; but

if one's going is to sharpen the differences and aggravate the situation, then I am sure that hon. members will agree that, even though one's heart may be there, one may be wanting to go there, one has to postpone it. There is no doubt that there has been much suffering due to scarcity and also much suffering due to the rioting, the firing and the situation which has arisen because of this.... My sympathy is with all those who have suffered. I have expressed my condolences and deep sympathy with the families of the bereaved, my sympathy with all those who have been injured or who have suffered from loss of property. And, I think, we should also spare a word of sympathy for the police who are also people and who, as I said the other day, are also sons of Gujarat.... It has been said that Gujarat's case was one of spontaneous combustion of people's anger expressing itself. This part is certainly there, but alongside of it, other elements have been added. For instance, an opposition Member of Parliament spoke to me about the attack on banks and said that the manner in which a particular bank had been destroyed was done in a most professional manner. I doubt if any of the teachers and students who were in the struggle had this type of expertise. Obviously, somebody else is also here. It is the high-minded and idealistic students and teachers who took the lead, who ought to realise that, perhaps without their knowing it, the situation is being exploited by others. From the reports we get there seems to be a deep design at work and fascist methods are being used by coercive forces which want to subvert the entire system.

Teachers and students are the people who are the most concerned about the morrow. That is why we say that today they must think deeply about the nature of the society and about the system they want to build in Gujarat and in the country. Do they want to have a system where violence will call the tune? That is what has happened before when the idealistic urges of young people have been exploited and cleverly manipulated by various sinister organisations. And, today, a strange situation has arisen. The situation in Gujarat was complicated enough, but now we find lots of people are

jumping on to the band-wagon - even those very ones against whom the anger of the Gujarat people was first expressed.

So, it is time for all thinking people to pause and consider the situation from all angles.

Our intentions are quite clear. We want peace. We want sanity. We want order in the State. We want a calm atmosphere in which the administration can fulfil its essential task of supplying the essential commodities and needs - as Shri Mavalankar was saying just now. But, in the present situation, it is extremely difficult to do so. As I said on another occasion, shops of small shopkeepers have been burnt. So, whatever rations or other goods that were there, were all destroyed and it is not possible to replenish those stocks and they are afraid to do so even if they had a place to put them in. I am not saying that this is the whole of the situation because, obviously, in a speech like this, I cannot go into all the details. I am merely pointing out that the situation is far more complex than it seems on the surface. What is needed is a frame of mind in which an suggestions and discussions can be discussed and discussions can take place without anger, bitterness or recrimination.

Many people have made the demand for dissolution. I have already explained that we are not against dissolution, on principle or as a matter of policy. It is not a question of policy. But the point is whether it can be accepted under coercion. When many MLAs are being intimidated to resign or when we see sudden somersaults which we cannot take for a genuine change of heart. There have been stories in the newspapers. You must have seen that there was a story of an MLA's son being kidnapped and told that unless he resigns, the boy will not be returned. Then there were stories of people's houses being

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burnt. There were stories that when one or two MLAs came here, their families have been frantically telephoning, 'You have gone away, the children and we are being threaten-

ed. Please come back'. Naturally, they did go back. They did. These are some of the factors which we must all discuss before we take any final decision.

We should also like to have a clearer understanding of what is to come after. Sonic groups which demand dissolution have expressed themselves against our entire system of elections and against parliamentary democracy itself. This, in all conscience, is either too naive or there is some method in this sort of madness. I would say, 'Why don't we give the people in general an opportunity to go about their work?' Then we can sit down, we can discuss all aspects of the matter. President's Rule will remain in force so long as it is necessary. It is obviously not possible to instal any government in the State nor have we any intention of doing so.

I want to say a word about the brief but very refreshing speech of Shri Ranabhadur Singh, who took us above all the problems of today and difficulties, into the fundamental thought of what is called the Greeko-Rornan political thought and he requested Parliament to discuss this and to see how far this ancient tradition, European tradition, was relevant for the whole world, not just for India; and I must say I found his speech very refreshing and I think it would make a most interesting debate if the hon. Members would be interested to have it here.

Shri Madhu Limaye raised a point which has nothing to do with the President's Address. But I would like to deal with it with your permission, Sir. This is about inter-caste marriages. He knows and I presume the House knows that I have very strong feelings about this and I do think that such marriages should be encouraged and commended and the young couple congratulated. It is a matter of sorrow that they should have to suffer for it. Personally, of course, I do not know the facts, but if it is true that they have been dismissed only for this, we have to look into it, because, again, if it is a private institution, I don't know what we can do, but we certainly will look into it ....

On a previous occasion also I have said to the House that this all matters concerning the Harijans and so on which can come under the put-view of the Centre, - where most of the things happen in the States - can be decided only with the opposition, regarding what attitude to take, how much can the Centre interfere and so on. I don't think that we can do this by ourselves. Because some Governments are our Governments, that does not mean that they listen to us more than the others listen. But even so, some are ours and some are not ours. If everybody together can come to an understanding or a decision then we will be in a better position to enforce.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Does that apply to the Shiv Sena's doings in Maharashtra also? Can the Centre do anything about it because they are State Government matters?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: An ally of the Congress.

PRIME MINISTER: It was not an ally of the Congress.

SHRI PILOO MODY: An employee of the Congress.

PRIME MINISTER: Neither an employee nor an ally. It is a phenomenon which is very dangerous to the unity of the country. And, as I said, it has tarnished the fair name of Bombay as one of our most beautiful, cosmopolitan, progressive State cities. And I think that we are all interested in seeing that such tendencies, any parochial, communal tendencies should be curbed.

I now come to international matters. The President's Address has reiterated our desire to enter into negotiations with Pakistan to implement the remaining parts of the Simla Agreement. The recognition of Bangladesh by Pakistan, as expected, has been widely welcomed as a step towards further normalisation on the sub-continent. There will soon be tripartite talks to devise further measures of cooperation. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh, as you may have seen in

the papers, will be here later this month. I am sure he will receive a very warm welcome. Very recently we have had the privilege of welcoming President Sadat, Sardar Naim and the Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates. I should particularly

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draw attention to our growing economic relations with Iraq and Iran.

As regards military bases, I have spoken. I do not want to enlarge on this' theme. I just do not want to touch on it because I have spoken on it outside the House.

Military bases and the accumulation of arms around us have caused us a concern and they do require a constant vigil. Despite the detente which we so warmly welcome, we find that tensions are still building up and new dangers are lurking. But, this does not mean that we, as a nation, should be afraid of anything that is happening outside. It does mean that we must concentrate on stabilising our economy and achieving greater discipline as a people. These are basic to national strength and to energise our people to meet the great challenges which confront us and, which, even if we overcome the present difficulties, with the whole changing world, will always present some crises, some dangers to us and, unless, we are vigilant and strong enough to face them, we will not be able to hold our own.

This is the time of trial and testing of our capacity to bear hardship and sacrifice rather than succumbing to the defeatist attitude which, I am afraid, many of us, on both sides of the House, sometimes are going to face. Let us combine to promote self-confidence and determination required when there are no major elections immediately around the corner. It may be more easy to do so.

I would request all of you now that we have quarrelled, we have fought and we will always have differences of opinion, there would always be differences on major issues. But, when we see the Sort of situation which we are facing, not only within the country

but also in the international sphere, is it not time that we should find some common ground as we did during the war in the Bangladesh crisis where we say that on this limited issue, we cooperate and we try to find a solution?

This we have done because I know that it is possible. So, the only thing is to have the will and the desire. I personally do not think that there is any danger or difficulty which, the Indian people, cannot face with courage.

As I said yesterday, in our long history, we have had many dark periods but, we have come through them and we go through them without being in any way debased or humiliated. This is the time, with all our inner resources of the country, when unity is needed to meet the present crisis. I am sure, if we do face it unitedly, this is the period of opportunity, an opportunity in a very practical sense also, I think that this has been stated in the House, with regard to exports and so on, and in all international difficulties, this is the period when we can increase exports and make more money for us to help the people.

One thing is for a person to be acquisitive and it is another thing for the people as a whole to want to have the resources to undertake various essential programmes. So, I am not talking of the type of acquisitive which, obviously, the hon. Member, Shri Mody, has in mind and this is not something which we want to keep in banks; this is something which has to go out immediately to the people in the shape of productive creative programmes which will improve matters.

Oil is part of a creative programme just now.

Sir, I thank the hon. Members for listening so patiently to me, and I find that even Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu is much tamer than he has usually been. I hope that this will not be a provocation.

I commend that the Motion of Thanks to

the President be accepted by the House.

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USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI PERU FRANCE PAKISTAN BANGLADESH UNITED ARAB EMIRATES IRAN IRAQ

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Indian Delegate's Statement at Conference on International Humanitarian Law

The following is the text of Ambassador Mishra's statement made on March 11, 1974 at the UN Diplomatic Conference on International Humanitarian Law held in Geneva:

At the outset my delegation would like to join other delegations in congratulating out, president, Minister Graber, on his unanimous election. It is a tribute to his personal qualities, so well displayed in recent weeks, and to the historic role of Switzerland in the evolution of international humanitarian law. We thank the Swiss Federal Council for the initiative it has taken to convene this conference. We could expect nothing less from a country which is the birth place of the Red Cross and the depositary of the Geneva Conventions.

We have already welcomed the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the representatives of national liberation movements recognised by regional intergovernmental , organisations. Their experience will give an important and necessary perspective to our discussions. We also express our appreciation to our distinguished Secretary-General for his work for the conference.

A quarter century has elapsed since the Conventions of 1949 were adopted. The basic

humanitarian principles underlying them are of permanent significance. But all law needs affirmation, development and amplification to maintain its dynamism in the face of change. The need for this has been widely felt in the field of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts. There have been many changes since 1949 in the world scene - in situation, in concepts, in technology, in the nature of armed conflicts - and all these are relevant to the promotion of humanitarian principles in such conflicts,.

A central feature of these changes has been the emergence into independence of nations from colonial and imperial bondage and domination. Compare the membership of this conference with that of 1949, and it is sufficient testimony to this change. These countries have regained their independence after long struggles and bitter sacrifices. They are determined to preserve and consolidate their freedom, sovereignty and equal rights and to resist all attempts or possibilities at outside interference or pressure, under whatever guise, which would undermine these cherished values. At the same time, they wish to cooperate on an equal basis in the common efforts of the international community to search for a better and more just organisation of international life.

Another important aspect is that the struggle for independence from colonialism is not yet complete. It continues with ever increasing momentum with the United support of all those who have been already successful. Increasingly, those engaged in liberation struggles have been forced to take up arms, because the intransigence of their oppressors have left them with no other course. The legitimacy of this struggle has been recognised by the international community as also the illegitimacy of the oppression against which this struggle is directed.

The countries which have regained their independence, and those who are still struggling for it, are second to none in their adherence to humanitarian principles. Those very principles, the freedom, the dignity and equality of all men, have been and are the cornerstone of their struggles to gain or preserve their independence. They know full well the

human suffering and misery which arises from armed conflicts. In these last twenty-five years, they have been the main victims of this suffering and misery. Their experience, concerns and aspirations, therefore, have a fundamental bearing on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law in armed conflicts which we are now attempting.

India's interest in the development of international humanitarian law is impelled by our history and traditions, and the ideal of non-violence which guided our liberation movement. Shortly after independence, India participated in the diplomatic conference of

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1949, and was privileged to serve as chairman of its second committee. In recent years, Indian experts participated actively in the conference of Government experts convened by the ICRC and an Indian served as chairman of one of its committees. We appreciate the importance and the essentiality of the task on which this conference is embarked. At the same time, we are aware of its complexities, especially in view of the change which make it necessary to revise many orthodox presumptions ....

As we discuss and debate the articles and formulations which will come before us, we must not forget that our main purpose is the upholding of the universal humanitarian principles which underline international humanitarian law. We must not forget that the letter of this law is susceptible to misrepresentation and misinterpretation for ulterior purposes, and can even be cited to impede agreed solutions of the essentially humanitarian problems which are the main concern of this law. Our own recent (experience?) has shown that the solution of humanitarian problems arising from armed conflicts can be achieved through direct contact among the parties concerned without involving it with political issues. In his conference also we will be guided, not by propagandistic and shortsighted aims, but by the need to concentrate on humanitarian principles in devising the best means to ensure that they are upheld ....

Mr. President, we consider that the success of any conference depends upon the widest possible acceptance of its decisions. be they in the form of resolutions, declaration or a convention. This is particularly true of the present diplomatic conference, and we hope that our decisions can be based on consensus as far as possible. Therefore, our efforts must be directed towards understanding each other's point of view to reach generally acceptable solutions. If this is done, we can very well hope that the outcome of this conference will be a landmark in the service of humanity.

INDIA SWITZERLAND USA GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIAN OCEAN

Statement by Minister of External Affairs

The following statement was made by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh in the Lok Sabha on March 12, 1974 regarding the reported order given by the United States Government to its nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Kitty Hawk" to sail into the Indian Ocean:

The House will recall the statement that I made last November when a US Task Force with the aircraft carrier "Hancock" entered the Indian Ocean. US sources had then offered various explanations. I had expressed Government's misgivings at this development based on the eventuality that it would lead to a more permanent military presence and thus start a chain reaction leading to big power rivalry and military competition in the area.

It is with concern therefore that we have received the information which has been confirmed by our Embassy in Washington about the arrival of the aircraft carrier "Kitty Hawk". Whether it is a replacement or an addition, it supports the belief that US Naval forces are intending to stay in the Indian Ocean for a considerable period of time. We cannot also escape the conclusion that the expansion of base facilities in Diego Garcia by the US is connected with such a more long term presence of US Naval forces in this area.

Our policy regarding the Indian Ocean has been repeatedly expressed. Any large scale presence of the navy of one big Power is bound to attract the navies of other big

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Powers. Such rivalry would create problems for littoral countries the overwhelming majority of whom desire to maintain the Indian Ocean as an area of peace. Government of India have strongly supported the UN General Assembly Resolution of December 16, 1971 declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace for all time and calling upon the Great Powers to halt the further escalation and expansion of their military presence in the Indian Ocean Government have also associated themselves actively with efforts in the United Nations and elsewhere for the realisation of this objective. We are therefore deeply concerned at the continuing presence of the US naval task force in the Indian Ocean which is confirmed by the arrival of the aircraft carrier "Kitty Hawk".

INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

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IRAQ

Speaking at a banquet hosted in honour of H.E. Mr. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq, held in New, Delhi on March 26, 1974, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi said:

It is a privilege to welcome His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq, and our other distinguished guests.

The land of the Euphrates-Tigris and the land of the Ganga-Jamuna are among the first homes of civilisation. There were close bonds between the two which brought mutual enrichment. One of the earliest literary works of our country (the Baberu Jataka) records the commercial and other relations which existed in earliest times between Iraq and India. The name of Baghdad occupies a prominent place in the folklore of northern India.

In our own times, Iraq and India have been together in the fight against colonialism and feudalism. The Indian National Congress offered consistent support to Arab nationalism. Through sacrifice and struggle, we both achieved political freedom and are now endeavouring to bring a better life to our people. We in India have watched with admiration the progress made by Iraq in recent years under the dynamic guidance of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and the revolutionary leadership of His Excellency President Bakr and of His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein.

In the two and a half decades that we have been free, we have been struggling without respite to modernise our agriculture and to build our industry. The application of science and irrigation engineering has enabled us to double our agricultural production. Our determination to achieve technological self-reliance has enabled us to manufacture a wide range of machinery and heavy engi-

neering products. Poverty and disparity are still our main problems. Simultaneously we face many new problems which have been created by development and progress. That is one of the reasons why the recent international monetary crisis and the fuel crisis have so severely affected our economy. However we are confident that through our own efforts and with the sympathy of friendly nations, we shall be able to overcome these obstacles.

Iraq and India belong to the Asian-African community of nations which have been brought together in their quest for freedom and by their determination to retain independence of judgement and action. The conference of non-aligned nations in Algiers last September demonstrated the important role which non-alignment continues to play in ensuring international peace and equality.

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It is essential that we should all exert ourselves to maintain the solidarity of non-aligned nations and to enlarge understanding of one another's problems.

From the very beginning we have supported the Arab position in the West Asian dispute guided by our fellow feeling for the Arabs and the basic justness of their cause. In the war of October 1973 the men and women of Iraq and other Arab countries demonstrated their courage, capacity and readiness to sacrifice. We hope that a lasting solution which will safeguard the aspirations of the Arabs will be found.

We are glad that His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein has been able to visit India at this important juncture. This morning we had the privilege of having wide-ranging discussions with him and his distinguished colleagues on matters of mutual interest and concern. I have no doubt that their visit will further strengthen the traditional friendship between our two countries and deepen the area of our cooperation.

May I request you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in wishing long life to His Excellency the President of the

Republic of Iraq, to the health and happiness of our eminent guest, His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein. May the people of Iraq attain greater well-being and prosperity under their guidance. May the friendly relations between Iraq and India prosper.

IRAQ USA INDIA LATVIA RUSSIA ALGERIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

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IRAQ

Reply by Iraqi Vice-President

Replying His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein said:

It gives me pleasure to convey to You the greetings of His Excellency President Ahmed Hassen al-Bakr, Baathist Socialist Party and the people and Government of the Republic of Iraq. I listened with the closest attention to Her Excellency Prime Minister. The warm welcome and the sentiment of friendship expressed in the speech are a source of pride and pleasure to me. While expressing my abundant gratitude for the kind invitation extended to us during our visit to your friendly country, I share with you the hope that this meeting will provide a good opportunity for further deepening our common understanding of bilateral and international questions which occupy our attention as well as for further developing co-operation between our two friendly countries in various fields and at all levels.

I think I am fully able to carry forward the mission of our glorious ancestors and I think it is only appropriate that we alone should be able to achieve this mission.

Madame Prime Minister, I think you are fully aware of the strength of the historical ties binding India and Iraq on the one hand and the Indian people and the Arab people on the other hand. The further promotion of relations between our two peoples and countries has been a prominent goal which we have been most keen of- achieving ever since the Revolution of 17th July 1968. The few past years have witnessed a remarkable development of our cordial relations through uninterrupted and progressive steps taken in this direction. We believe that our visit to your country, to your beautiful capital will contribute ever more to the consolidation of the deep-rooted ties and the bonds of friendship between Indian and Iraq peoples. The visit will contribute respectively to raising those relations to a mutual and joint action, coordination and cooperation in various fields. It is our firm conviction that the visit of our delegation to your country whose ancient civilisation is well known to us will constitute a new element in the promotion of peace and stability in this vital part of the world. This is because our objective falls within the framework of the policy of non-alignment and our keenness to develop this concept which is inimical to the imperialist aggression and exploitation as well as our striving to accelerate the process of development of our two countries along socialist lines and to promoting our economic independence and exploit our resources to the benefit

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of the present and future of the masses and our keenness on a stable peace and security in the Indian Ocean and the Arab Gulf and resistance for the presence of any foreign military bases in any part of the world and of curbing the imperialists and their agents and aborting their dark schemings. All this constitutes strong and active participation in the human endeavour which has for its aim building of a world free from aggression, greed and oppression.

Madame Prime Minister, the question of Zionist aggression which is supported by world imperialism, particularly American imperialism, occupies the position of priority in the foreign policy of Iraq which is an

Arab country led by nationalist and socialists parties. This is because this question is indissolvably linked with the march of our revolution which harbours enmity towards imperialism, its positions and interests and which has for its aim the building of a strong and balanced economy free from the hegemony of imperialist monopolists. It is our belief that facing upto the Zionist imperialistic aggression against our nation is a matter of concern to all free and progressive people in the world. Hence we consider it necessary to exert further effort to reach better understanding of the nature of that aggression and its root cause and the means of facing upto it in such a way as to guarantee the liberation of all occupied Arab lands and ensure regaining of all its usurped lands, and liquidate the hot-beds of aggression. In this alone lies the just and durable solution to the greatest human tragedy witnessed by the present century.

Madame Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, we have acquainted ourselves during our meeting with His Excellency, the President of the Republic of India and your colleagues, the members of the Government, with the tireless endeavours exerted in accordance with the policy of the Indian Government, the Congress Party, in order to achieve progress for India and to develop a better life for its struggling people. We fully appreciate your keenness on bypassing inherent difficulties and attaining the sought-after prosperity.

The people of Iraq Republic and Government party value the foreign policy pursued by the Republic of India, express their preparedness to develop bilateral relations in all fields in such a way as to guarantee for the mutual interests of our peoples.

In conclusion, please allow me on behalf of the Government of Iraq and on behalf of my colleagues, the members of Delegation, to reiterate my thankfulness for your invitation and for the warm welcome accorded to us in great India.

May I ask you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen to raise your glasses in proposing

a toast to His Excellency, the President of the Republic of India and Her Excellency the Prime Minister and Your Excellencies.

IRAQ USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

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IRAQ

Iraqi Vice-President's Speech at Civic Reception

Speaking at the civic reception on March 27, 1974, given by Mayor on behalf of the citizens of Delhi, H.E. Mr. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq said:

I thank you for the kind words of welcome you have presented to me on behalf of citizens of Delhi. I wish you and the citizens of Delhi all success and progress. The solid foundations of good relations laid down by our forefathers form a very good basis for fostering our relations further so that we could achieve progress with full maturity and sincerity and strengthen relations not only between India and Iraq but also between the peoples of India and Arab nations.

Ladies and gentlemen, the friendship between India and Iraq is not based on the historical foundation alone but it is also based on the interests of the two countries and the joint struggle of the two countries against colonialism provides wide possibilities for co-operation and coordination between the leaders of the two countries which will bring great benefit to our great struggling peoples.

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Dear friends, with great esteem I can say our relations with friendly India have

developed very much upwards ever since the Arab Baath Socialist Party took over power in Iraq after its revolution on 17th of July, 1968. And that was not at random or without any plan because making the relations firm between India and Iraq did not take place in a very spontaneous manner. It was, a gradual process which we achieved slowly,

The visits of senior officials of the two countries at the level of officials and party was a firm factor in the development of friendly relations between our two countries and we believe the, visit of this delegation of ours and the exchange of views which has taken place and the unity of approach and interests and the unity in ambitions and hopes and the determination to evolve the best form of co-operation will be a big factor for the development of very warm friendliness which derives its inspiration from the warmth of the hearts of the peoples of Iraq and India.

Gentlemen, we mentioned to you with the great esteem, with boundless esteem, your great stance with the Arab peoples against the imperialist zionism and we are very proud of the active solidarity which your great people have shown towards our just war on the 6th of October 1973 when the Arab fighters destroyed the falsehood and the legends which the imperialists tried to spread in minds of all about their strength and their allegations of their superiority and it is very necessary for us to assure you that peace and stability which we plead for, which we all plead and look to, cannot be achieved unless all the Arab territories are liberated and the rights of the Palestinean peoples are granted, who have been driven away from their homes for more than 25 years.

As regards our common concern for the peace of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Gulf, the Iraqi Government upholds its opposition to the presence of any foreign military base in these regions. We are very sincere and serious in supporting the non-aligned movement and to show itself against imperialism in the old and the new colonialism form and to lay the foundations for the peoples for self-determination and to refuse

all foreign intervention in their internal matters. Our two countries are agreed on achieving a real understanding regarding non-alignment based on social justice, liberation and peace.

Dear friends, the aim of our visit to India, the country of a great cultural and historical heritage, will not prevent us to feel easy and to feel the sincerity of your feelings of sympathies and the warmth of your welcome. On behalf of myself and the people of Iraq and the Government of Iraq and on behalf of the members of the delegation, I repeat my thanks and gratitude hoping that you will convey to all the citizens of the great capital city and to all the people of India our most sincere wishes and regards.

May the friendship of India and Iraq live for ever and the friendship of India and Arabs for ever.

IRAQ USA INDIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

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IRAQ

Indo-Iraq Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued in New Delhi on March 28, 1974 at the end of visit to India of H.E. Mr. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq

In response to an invitation extended by the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq paid a friendly official visit to India from March 25 to 28, 1974.

During the visit, His Excellency Mr. Saddam, Hussein and the delegation accompanying him acquainted themselves with the progress achieved by India under the leadership of the Government of Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

His Excellency the Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq called on the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri.

His Excellency, the Vice-Chairman and the Prime Minister held talks covering bila-

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teral relations and international questions of interest to both the countries particularly the situation in the Arab region and the sub-continent.

These discussions were held in an atmosphere of friendship, understanding and mutual confidence, reflecting the close and cordial relations between Iraq and India.

The discussions between the Vice-Chairman and the Prime Minister were attended on the Iraqi side by His Excellency Mr. Murtadha Saeed Abdul Baqi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Adnan Al-Hamdani, Member Regional Command of Arab Baath Socialist Party and Secretary General of the Follow-up Committee for Oil Affairs and Implementation of Agreements, H.E. Dr. Jawad Hashim, Minister of Planning, Dr. Fakhri Qaddouri, Head of Economic Bureau of Revolutionary Command Council, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Salloum Al Samarrai, the Ambassador of Iraq in India, Mr. Monther Oram, Director-General, Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Abdul Wadood Al-Sheikhly, Director General of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nazar Adib, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and economic, technical, press and information officials of the Government of Iraq; and on the Indian side

by Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister of Food & Agriculture, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning, Shri D. K. Barooah, Minister of Petroleum & Chemicals, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri K. R. P. Sigh, Ambassador of India to Iraq and senior officials of the Government of India.

The two sides expressed satisfaction over the development of bilateral relations between their respective countries and stressed their desire further to expand and deepen cooperation in the political, economic and other fields in the interests of their Peoples so as to contribute to development and progress in their countries

The Indian side outlined the latest developments in the sub-continent. Both sides welcomed the formal recognition of Bangladesh by Pakistan and expressed the hope that all outstanding problems would be resolved by direct negotiations and peaceful means in the interest of progress, security and durable peace in the sub-continent.

Discussing the situation in the Arab region, the two sides condemned the aggression against the Arab people and reiterated their belief that a just peace cannot prevail in the region without the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and the restoration to the Arab people of Palestine of their full rights. The two sides reiterated the full support of their Governments to the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their homeland.

The Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq referred to the Gulf and the tense situation prevailing there and along Iraq's eastern borders. He pointed out the extent to which this threatened peace and security in the region. The Prime Minister of India expressed the Government of India's full awareness of the dimensions of these problems. Both sides underlined the necessity of resolving these problems in accordance with treaty provisions, international law and the principles of the UN Charter.

The two sides reviewed the situation in the area and agreed that the entire Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace and called on all States to promote this concept in consonance with the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly.

The two side reaffirmed their belief in the continuing validity of the policy of non-alignment and expressed the view that this policy had served the international community well and continued to be of relevance in the present-day world. Agreeing on the importance of maintaining the unity and the solidarity of the Non-aligned movement they resolved to do all in their power to maintain and develop co-operation among the non-aligned countries.

Both sides declared their support for the principles of the United Nations Charter and agreed to strengthen their cooperation within the UN and its Specialised Agencies-

The two sides reiterated their resolve to support the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racial discrimination and the struggle for freedom, independence, sovereignty and progress of all

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peoples. They welcomed the independence, of Guinea Bissau and called for the intensification of the liberation struggle in Africa.

The Prime Minister of India considered the visit of His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein as an important landmark in the development of Indo-Iraqi relations. In appreciation of the rapidly increasing opportunities of mutually beneficial cooperation the two countries signed an agreement setting up a permanent Joint Commission on economic and technical cooperation with an overall responsibility to promote and coordinate cooperation between the two countries in trade, economic, agricultural, industrial and cultural fields and in science and technology.

The Indian and Iraqi delegations identified areas of cooperation in trade, industries, agriculture and irrigation and science and

technology. The trade plan for the period April 1, 1974 to March 31, 1975 was concluded and it was gratifying to note that the volume of trade between the two countries has been greatly expanding. In the field of irrigation and agriculture the two governments have agreed to cooperate in the implementation of major projects in Iraq. As regards industries, several fields of mutual cooperation and collaboration were considered, particularly setting up of alumina and pelletised iron ore plants in India, with loans from Iraq, for long-term supply. The details of the understanding reached earlier on the question of affording a loan to India amounting to US \$ 110 million on soft terms in the matter of cost of oil imports from Iraq were worked out and incorporated in a formal agreement.

The Indian side agreed to provide facilities for the education of Iraqi national-, in Indian technical institutes polytechnics universities and institutes of higher learning and to undertake the establishment of three technical institutes polytechnics in Iraq on a turn key basis.

His Excellency Mr. Saddam Husain, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq and the delegation accompanying him expressed their thanks for the hospitable reception and the warm welcome accorded to them during the visit.

His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Iraq. The invitation was accepted with pleasure; the date of the visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

IRAQ INDIA USA PAKISTAN GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU LATVIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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Agreement for Establishing a Permanent Indo-Iraq Joint Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation

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Following is the text Of the agreement between India and Iraq for the establishment of a permanent Indo-Iraq joint Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation signed in Now Delhi on March 28, 1974 by Shri D. K. Barooah, Minister of petroleum and Chemicals, Government of India and Mr. Fakhri Qaddouri, Chairman, Economic Bureau , Revolutionary Command Council Government of the Republic of Iraq:

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF IRAQ,

BEARING IN MIND their mutual  
friendship and common interests and aspi-  
rations,

DESIROUS OF facilitating and coordi-  
nating implementation of the various existing  
as well as future cooperation agreements  
between the two countries,

HAVING IN VIEW further development  
and expansion of their relations in the trade,  
economic, agricultural, industrial, cultural,  
technical and scientific fields, and

CONFIDENT THAT the existing rela-  
tions in all these fields shall expand rapidly  
on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,  
HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Government of India and the  
Government of the Republic of Iraq have  
agreed to establish a permanent Indo-Iraq  
Joint Commission for Economic and Techni-  
cal Cooperation with an overall responsibility

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for promotion and coordination of trade,  
economic, agricultural, Industrial, cultural,  
technical and scientific cooperation between  
the two countries.

## ARTICLE II

The objectives of the Joint Commission shall be:

- (a) to coordinate and to oversee the functioning of the various bodies in the two countries engaged in the execution of existing and future agreements protocols concerning cooperation between the two countries, unless otherwise provided for specifically in any of the agreements;
- (b) to facilitate speedy implementation of the existing as well as future agreements\protocols for cooperation in the fields referred to in Article 1; and
- (c) to explore and identify new avenues for broadening the cooperation between the two countries in the fields referred to in Article 1.

## ARTICLE III

A. In the fields of trade, economic, agricultural and industrial cooperation, the tasks of the Commission shall be:

- (a) to explore the prospects, conditions, and forms of cooperation with the object of identifying specific areas\projects\programmes in the two countries which would provide opportunities for mutual cooperation and to initiate such studies or investigations as may be necessary for this purpose;
- (b) to formulate specific programmes in mutually agreed spheres for the purpose of reinforcing economic growth in the two countries through mutual cooperation;
- (c) to review, from time to time, programmes of cooperation between the two countries, with a view to facilitating their expeditious execution;
- (d) to explore possibilities of intensifying economic contacts between financial, industrial and commercial institutions in the two countries; and

(e) to study and utilise for mutual benefit the planning activities of the two countries to further the above-mentioned objectives.

B. In the fields of technical, scientific and cultural cooperation, the tasks of the Commission shall be:

(a) to discuss plans of technical and scientific cooperation between the two countries materialised through:

(i) mutual exchange of specialists for the purpose of specialised studies, granting of technical assistance, execution of projects and setting up of institutions;

(ii) organisation of technical consultations;

(iii) provision of training facilities.

(iv) exchange of technical documentation;

(v) cooperation between organisations engaged in design and consultancy services;

(vi) cooperation between the cultural organisations of the two countries; and

(b) to devise measures for coordination of technical, scientific and cultural cooperation between the two countries, their agencies and other organisations.

#### ARTICLE IV

(a) The Commission shall be composed of representatives at the ministerial and official levels, appointed by the respective Governments.

(b) Each Government shall appoint a Co-Chairman of the Commission.

(c) Each Government shall also appoint an Executive Secretary to the Commission.

- (d) Each Government shall appoint the Co-Chairman and other members of the Joint Commission within three months of the signing of this Agreement.
- (e) The two Co-Chairmen shall notify each other the names of the members representing their respective Governments and

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any alteration which may take place in regard to their representation on the Commission.

- (f) Each Government may appoint a number of experts and advisers to attend the meetings of the Commission.
- (g) The Commission may set up such standing or ad hoc committees as it may deem appropriate.

#### ARTICLE V

The decisions and recommendations of the Commission shall be recorded and signed by its two Co-Chairmen. Such decisions and recommendations shall come into effect after exchange of letters between the two Co-Chairmen notifying each other of the approval of their respective Governments.

#### ARTICLE VI

The Commission shall function in accordance with this Agreement and the Internal Regulations attached hereto. The Internal Regulations may be amended upon a recommendation from the Commission and on exchange of letters of approval between the two Co-Chairmen.

#### ARTICLE VII

(1) All agreements protocols concluded after the coming into force of this Agreement between India and Iraq in the fields referred to in Article I shall be notified to the Joint Commission within one month of the conclusion unless otherwise provided for specifically in such Agreements Protocols.

(2) The recommendations and findings

of the Committees set up under the existing or future agreements protocols in the fields referred to in Article I shall be reported to the Commission through the Executive Secretaries.

#### ARTICLE VIII

The Permanent Joint Commission now established under this Agreement shall be deemed to be a continuation of the Joint Commission set up through the exchange of letters on the 6th day of April, 1973 between the two Governments.

#### ARTICLE IX

This Agreement shall come into force upon signature. It shall remain valid unless terminated by either Government by giving a six months' notice in-writing to the other Government.

DONE IN NEW DELHI on the 28th day of March, 1974 in three original copies in Hindi, Arabic and English languages, all of which are equally authentic.

IRAQ INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

MALDIVES

Prime Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Mr. Ahmed Zaki

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, held a dinner in New Delhi on March 8, 1974 in honour of His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Zaki, Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives. Speaking on the occasion, Shrimati Indira Gandhi said:

We extend a warm welcome to His

Excellency Mr. Ahmed Zaki, who is the first Prime Minister of Maldives to visit our country. We welcome also the other members of the delegation. We are specially glad that Madame Zaki has been able to accompany the Prime Minister.

Our two countries have had cultural and commercial links from the earliest days and I have no doubt that this visit will further

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strengthen the friendly ties between our two peoples. Coral islands have a special beauty and romantic appeal and the Maldives are famous for their picturesqueness and tranquillity. The people of the Islands are known for the spirit of adventure which has lured them to many distant countries. Your boat-builders have been noted for their skill and expertise.

We have watched with interest the programme of development which you have undertaken after achieving independence and becoming a republic. In India also we give the highest priority to economic development. On this brief visit to our country, we hope that you will see not only something of our vastness and diversity but have glimpses of our progress in economic and cultural fields which could further stimulate our mutual co-operation. We shall be happy to share and exchange our experiences which could be of benefit to both of us in our common endeavour.

The concept of nonalignment is basic to India's foreign policy; we believe in peaceful co-existence with all countries and we respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations. These principles have special importance in today's world where, unfortunately, in spite of all efforts tensions do persist. On our own sub-continent our endeavour is to build a climate of confidence, friendship and cooperation.

Indeed we want close friendship with all nations in this part of the world, so that ours will be a region of peace and cooperation. As near neighbours it should be our duty to

live in amity and trust and to strive to enlarge the area of cooperation.

I am glad that our two countries are now establishing direct communication links and developing collaboration in educational and technical matters. I wish Your Excellency and Madame Zaki a pleasant and interesting stay in our country. It is a happy coincidence that you are here on one of our festival days. It is a festival of brotherhood and equality and a festival which is symbolic of the victory of good over evil. So I think it is a very good day on which to meet friends and to strengthen friendship. We all look forward to a more frequent exchange of visits in the future.

Excellencies and guests: I invite you to join me in wishing long life and health to His Excellency the President of the Maldives and to the Prime Minister and Madame Zaki. May Indo-Maldivian friendship grow steadily in strength.

MALDIVES INDIA OMAN USA PERU

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

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MALDIVES

Reply by Maldives Prime Minister

Replying, H. E. Mr. Ahmed Zaki said:

I am deeply touched by the warmth and sincerity of the welcome that has been extended to my wife and me by the Government of India.

Although this is the first time that the executive head of the composite State of Maldives had paid a formal visit to this great

country, I am extremely happy and in fact cherish the long and happy relations that have existed between our two countries. And I know fully well that the people of my country and my colleagues in the Government fully share my feelings.

This absence of personal contact between our two countries has, however, not been allowed to impair in the least, the warmth, sincerity and clear understanding between us. This flawlessness in our relationship can only be attributed to the mutual desire for peaceful cooperation between two countries that have such long-standing traditional ties.

I am conscious of the fact that just as, we have great responsibilities to our peoples respectively, we have to share a duty towards the interests of our brethren in Asia and in fact the entire humanity.

Modern scientific and technological advancement has made the world a small place and communities throughout the globe have come closer together thus making it imperative that every nation big or small, must play its part to promote and preserve the spirit of peaceful co-existence.

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Madam Prime Minister! We are inclined to release a great sigh of relief that after centuries of domination, we are now free as independent communities to decide on our destinies. But as I see it this process of transition from the moment of freedom to the time of establishment of ourselves on a sound foothold to be in a position to decide our own destinies is a period in which we must exercise the greatest possible restraint and self-control.

I am fully conscious of the tremendous efforts that the great leaders of India have exerted, after 1947, to maintain a steady path of progress for the people of this country. I believe that it is a Divine Law that every human community is provided with means to develop itself and continue in the righteous path. Therefore, India with her teeming millions, and with multiferous problems to

face with her steadily increasing population have had great and noble personalities to guide and lead the country on the path that she has chosen after her independence. Great men of wisdom, courage, determination like the late Mahatma Gandhi and the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru are not only leaders of India but men of rare calibre throughout the annals of recent history. Their tact, diplomacy, thoughtfulness and adaptability to various complex world issues are examples that give us inspiration and courage to face up to the challenges confronting our countries.

Madam Prime Minister! I know that you have in the recent past under similar arrangements as this evening welcomed great thinkers, philosophers, and international statesmen. But today you have before you the representative of one of the newly born small republics, in fact to use the United Nations term, a mini State, in this region who is yet only a student in the complex and delicate problems of world politics. I firmly believe that the relations between India and Maldives are neither complex nor unreasonably demanding on each other. It is a relationship based on understanding, mutual respect and an inherent desire for cooperation and promotion of goodwill. And in this regard I speak for my Government and for the entire population of my country.

As Muslims we in Maldives desire peace and friendship with all countries of the world, irrespective of size, wealth, power or ideology. Our external relations are based on

friendship towards all countries that have respect for our sovereignty, integrity and independence because we believe that we have as much right to exist as any other country.

Against this background, you have demonstrated to us your desire to extend your cooperation to us with sincerity of purpose. My presence before you this evening is proof of the value we attach to your goodwill.

Maldives is on the threshold of entering into a period of development. And in the process, I am exerting every possible effort

to be guided by a lesson imparted to you by one of your great leaders, because I sincerely believe that it is one hundred per cent true and it must be the basis on which every independent country must endeavour to realise its hopes and aspirations:

On October 6, 1947, the late Mahatma Gandhiji declared - I quote:

"The first lesson that we must learn is self-help and self-reliance. If we assimilate this lesson, we shall at once free ourselves from disastrous dependence upon the foreign countries and ultimate bankruptcy. This is not said in arrogance, but as a matter of fact".

Ladies and Gentlemen! This is an absolute and blatant truth, which can not be proved otherwise.

Close cooperation and friendship can and must survive any areas of differences of opinion between any two countries.

In this spirit, Madam Prime Minister! I sincerely believe that Indo-Maldives relations will continue on uninterrupted progressive trends, as it has done in the past, against the background of our historical, cultural and economic ties.

Admittedly, the basic geographical and environmental conditions surrounding Maldives differ considerably from that of India. And this will necessarily contribute to differences, even it is for the time being in some aspects of foreign policies of the two countries. But basic issues such as peace in Asia, regional cooperation and such other matters of major importance and bilateral co-

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operation for mutual benefit can receive our joint support thus further enhancing the prospects of closer cooperation between our two countries, based on a solid foundation of friendship and goodwill.

Madam Prime Minister and distinguished guests! I would be extremely failing in my duty this evening if I do not give expression

to the great admiration we in Maldives have towards your great leader of today.

No one can dispute the fact that you Madam, over the past eight years have proved to the people of India, Asia and in fact, to the world, your wonderful inherent qualities of leadership with full capabilities of exercising tact, patience, fortitude, and above all, your spirit of dedication to duty which is, undoubtedly a source of great inspiration to the people of this great country, as well as to those of other countries in this region.

We in Maldives have watched with the greatest admiration how you, Madam Prime Minister, have made dramatic decisions of unquestionable wisdom during dramatic moments and very trying moments as we believe of Indian political history.

I have no doubt therefore, that under your able leadership, Madam, India will continue to march forward with steady steps towards the goals of political, social and economic stability and self-sufficiency.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen! I have the honour to call upon You to join me in toasting the Prime Minister, Madam Indira Gandhi, the Government and the people of India.

MALDIVES INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

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MALDIVES

Maldives Prime Minister's Speech at Civic Reception

Replying to the Civic Reception accorded to him on March 11, 1974 at the Red Fort,

the Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives, His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Zaki, said:

On my arrival in your great country last Friday, I was struck by the tremendous changes that have occurred over the past 12 years. The skyline has definitely undergone dramatic changes and the people have apparently developed greater confidence and reliance in their own ability to promote political, economic and social stability of the country. These are healthy signs of a developing country in possession of great potential.

Ladies and Gentlemen, your capital city of New Delhi has definitely undergone constructional changes and the cleanliness of the roads and the city planning schemes are definitely indicative of the rapid advancements made over the past few years, in civil engineering which is worthy of compliment.

Mr. Mayor, I am sure you have been instrumental in directing the affairs of this beautiful and historic city, and I dare say that you have justified the expectations of you being chosen to fill your high office. Ladies and Gentlemen, while I do not profess to be competent to judge over intricate and highly complex problems of National reconstruction and integrated development, I dare say that India has been taking fast strides in the path laying a foundation which is firm enough to bear the strains of 600 millions people.

I warmly congratulate the Government of India for the steady and determined manner in which they are facing up to the tremendous challenge of catering to the welfare of such a huge population distributed over such a vast land subject to such immense climatic changes and varied domestic problems. I am sure that no one would envy the position of your leaders. Because I can see, even if it is a fraction of it, the heavy and onerous responsibilities that weigh them down during every minute of the twenty four hours and I compliment their integrity, devotion to duty and tenacity. I have every confidence that with your cooperation, Ladies and Gentlemen, India will emerge victorious

in the struggle for survival against the background of the present era of a swift world population growth and a most incompatible rate of world food production. We in the Republic of Maldives have been watching

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your great efforts to reach the goal of economic stability and self-sufficiency. Your achievements on this path have been tremendous, and I dare say that countries far and near have derived inspiration from your great efforts. There is no doubt that the rare example of wisdom, statesmanship, perseverance and love of peace demonstrated by your beloved leaders --- the late Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, is an immeasurable asset to you and to the rest of mankind as a whole.

Just as you all in this great country, we in the small Republic of Maldives, are endeavouring to promote education to the greatest possible extent that our resources permit. It is a difficult and uphill task for us, and the fact is that the geographical lay out of our country presents tremendous administrative and communication difficulties. As you will appreciate our archipelago has more sea than land and we are subject to full monsoonal weather conditions which greatly hamper continued physical contact between the Government and the entire population. The absence of suitable mechanised craft capable of withstanding adverse weather is felt to a great extent.

Your Government has given us considerable support in our efforts to chart out an integrated development plan in the field of education, and we are deeply grateful for it.

As I see it there are a number of other fields in which your great country as a developing community, can help and inspire us in the Republic of Maldives. And I have every hope that Maldives and India can co-operate most fruitfully for the mutual benefit of the two countries in the days ahead.

Of course, we are mutually fully conscious of the fast changing world of today, and we do appreciate the aspirations of our peoples and thus value immensely the noble

codes of peaceful co-existence.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am indeed extremely grateful to the Prime Minister and the Government of - India for the excellent arrangements made for my visit to this great country. I am really overwhelmed by the generous hospitality extended to me. This, of course, is clear indication of the high esteem, true spirit of friendship and close relations, and mutual respect you have in your hearts towards the Republic of Maldives.

We in Maldives have closely followed and admired the heroic struggle and the immeasurable sacrifices your great leaders had made in their noble efforts to gain independence. Under the guidance of your dynamic leaders you have correctly demonstrated to the peoples of the world the wise policy of non-violence. Discipline, loyalty, courage, duty, dedication and determination were the incessant preachings of your most illustrious great leaders like the late Mahatma Gandhi and the late Pandit, Jawaharlal Nehru. India must surely be proud of the great number of outstanding leaders and statesmen who readily sacrificed their own lives for the sake of the mother land, thus setting immortal examples for the generations to follow.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my firm belief that the time has come for concentrated efforts especially on the part of small countries to plan for more regional understanding and cooperation. Already faced with an acute world food crisis, the oil problems have threatened the very foundation of the economy of the developing countries. Notwithstanding the fact that efforts have been made by individual countries together with the assistance of the United Nations and its many Agencies, the gap between the developed and the developing countries, is ever being widened. Therefore, it is indeed left for us to find solutions to the various problems that face us today. In my humble opinion the only way left for the solution of the problems is joining concentrated efforts through genuine regional consultation and cooperation.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do not think it inappropriate at this juncture to go back to 9th August, 1933 to recall and re-collect the finishing touches of that splended and immortal "last letter" the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru wrote in prison. Mr. Nehru had thought it fit to conclude his most valuable and treasured book "Glimpse of world History" containing tremendous wealth of authoritative knowledge with a poem by that great world famous poet Dr. Rabindra Nath Tagore, I quote:

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held up;  
Where knowledge is free;

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

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Where words come out from the depth  
of truth;

Where 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".

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, these are words that have deep meanings. These are words surely we must all try to translate into reality if we are to make our country worthwhile for the generations to follow.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I earnestly trust my visit to your great country, a country blessed with Wonderful scenic beauty, historical relics, many patriotic leaders and statesmen whose heroic deeds for the sake of the mother land had made India to possess a history that can justly be called the Pride of India, making tremendous advancements in all scientific and technological fields, would pave the way for still closer understanding and meaningful cooperation

between our two countries.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am honoured to be with you today and while I accept this privilege in all humility, let me assure you that the people and the Government of my country join me in wishing you continued progress and prosperity.

MALDIVES USA INDIA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

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MALDIVES

Indo-Maldives Joint Communique

The following is the text of the Joint Communique issued on March 14, 1974, at the end of the visit to India of H.E. Mr. Ahmed Zaki, Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Zaki, accompanied by Mrs. Zaki, visited India from March 8 to 14, 1974.

During his stay in India, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives and party also visited Agra, Bombay and Cochin, where they saw industrial and agricultural projects and places of historical and cultural interest. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives was accorded a civic reception at the Red Fort by the Mayor and citizens of Delhi and received everywhere a warm and cordial reception reflecting the traditional ties of friendship existing between the peoples of the two countries.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of

the Maldives called on the President of India and had meetings with the Minister of Agriculture and the Foreign Minister of India.

The two Prime Ministers discussed a number of subjects of common interest and reviewed in detail their bilateral relations.

At these talks the Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives was assisted by Mr. U. Abdullah Khaleel, Director of the Department of Development and Foreign Aid, Mr. Ahmed Jaleel, Chief of Protocol, and other officials. The Prime Minister of India was assisted by the Foreign Minister, the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Maldives and senior officials of the Government of India. These talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual confidence and cordiality and revealed a close similarity of views on matters of interest to the two countries.

The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their faith in the principles of the U.N. Charter; they reiterated their conviction that relations among nations should be based on mutual respect for their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity in the spirit of peaceful co-existence.

On the West Asian crisis, the two Prime Ministers stressed the need for the full implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolutions No. 242 of November, 1967, and No. 338 of October, 1973. Taking note of the recent positive developments towards a resolution of the crisis, they reiterated their belief that a durable settlement in the region implied respect for the principles of the inadmissibility of acquisition of terri-

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tory by force of arms, of the right of all the States in the region to live in peace and security and of the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The Prime Minister of India explained the measures taken by the Government of India for normalising the situation in the sub-continent, The Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives welcomed these developments, which would contribute to the streng-

thening of peace and cooperation among all countries in the region. Both Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the mutual recognition of Bangladesh and Pakistan as a positive step in this direction.

Both Prime Ministers expressed their strong opposition to colonialism, neo-colonialism and all manifestations of racism; they affirmed their full support and sympathy to the liberation movements and for the struggle of all peoples against such forms of oppression.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their full support for the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace free from great Power rivalries, tensions and military escalation.

The Prime Ministers emphasised the need for regional cooperation among all countries of the area for the promotion of mutual understanding, economic development, peace and stability.

Reviewing economic and technical cooperation between the two countries, the two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the progress achieved. It was agreed that the Government of India would extend on a continuing basis facilities for training Maldivian personnel in educational and technical fields. Both sides agreed to explore in detail further measures for fruitful economic cooperation.

The Prime Minister of India considered the visit of the Prime Minister of Maldives a significant landmark in the friendly relations already existing between the two countries and was confident that it would greatly contribute to strengthening further their cooperation in many fields. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Maldives thanked the Indian Prime Minister for the friendly hospitality extended to him and his party. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit the Republic of Maldives which the Government and people of the Republic of Maldives would greatly welcome. The Prime Minister of India accepted the invitation with pleasure.

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NEW ZEALAND

Joint Press Statement on Foreign Secretary's Visit to New Zealand

Following joint press statement on the Foreign Secretary, Shri Kewal Singh's visit to New Zealand was issued in Wellington on March 6, 1974:

A delegation from New Delhi, led by the Indian Foreign Secretary, Mr. Kewal Singh, visited Wellington from March 4th to 6th, for three days of talks with the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Corner and other officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Trade and industry. The talks followed the visit to India last December by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Norman Kirk.

The Indian and New Zealand delegations discussed a wide range of topics of both international and bilateral interest. The Indian Foreign Secretary referred to the recent developments in the sub-continent of India and the prospects for peace and stabi-

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lity in the region. The two sides noted their Government's support for the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

Developments in East Asia and the Pacific were also considered, together with the prospects for regional cooperation, the outlook for arms control and the international economic situation.

The two sides discussed the effects of the oil crisis on developing countries, possible measures which might improve this situation, and the relevance of various international gatherings, including the special session of the United Nations General Assembly and the World Food Conference to be held later this year, as a means of focussing attention on the need for effective action.

They reviewed the progress since the Prime Minister's visit on specific aspects of trade and aid where further areas of cooperation are being developed by New Zealand and India. Possible fields of scientific and technological cooperation were also considered.

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**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

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NON-ALIGNED BUREAU MEETING

Statement by Minister of External Affairs

The following statements were made by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh at the IV Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, Meeting of the Bureau, Algiers, March 19 - 21, 1974:

Mr. Chairman, allow me at the outset to express our great pleasure in meeting together again with our friends from the non-aligned in this historic and beautiful city of Algiers, where we had met not so long ago for a great summit conference last year. Algeria represents, for us all, the very quintessence of the indomitable spirit of man in his quest for freedom and progress. The wisdom and statesmanship of President Boumedienne, the illustrious leader of Algeria, are

an inspiration to all of us. The blue waters of the Mediterranean and the pleasant mild climate which have greeted us since our arrival and the warmth and friendliness of your reception - which is characteristic of the long gracious traditions of hospitality of your great country - have provided a most agreeable setting for our meeting. We look forward to fruitful deliberations and constructive conclusions from this meeting under your wise and able chairmanship.

This meeting of the Co-ordination Committee of the Non-Aligned Countries is most timely. Far reaching developments have taken place in the world political and economic scene which require the urgent attention of the non-aligned countries. We are beset by new problems of grave dimensions and our joint endeavours to build a just order of international political and economic relations based on the equality of all states and a better balance between the developed and the developing world are encountering many obstacles. Attempts may well be made by interested powers to exploit these new developments to disrupt the unity of the non-aligned countries. It is, therefore, of paramount importance for us not only to meet together to review these developments but also to reaffirm our solidarity and renew our efforts for achieving world peace and progress.

In the Middle East, significant developments have taken place since we last met at the Summit. We are indeed most grateful to our Syrian, Egyptian and other colleagues for the detailed exposition they have given us of the fast moving events of the last few months, the present situation and the outlook for the future. The conflict of last October

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led to the defreezing of the situation that had frozen into a critical impasse for over six years by the continued and persistent intransigence of Israel. The courage, bravery, determination and sacrifice of our Arab brethren on the battle field and elsewhere have borne fruit, but many obstacles and diffi-

culties still lie ahead of us and we cannot afford to ignore or discount them.

4. Despite disengagement on the Sinai front, which has once again restored the Suez Canal to its rightful owner, our friend, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Israel still continues in occupation of large Egyptian territory, which has to be vacated by Israel. The situation in the Golan Heights is extremely serious and continues to cause grave concern to all of us. Israel maintains its arrogant and aggressive posture and the conflict still continues. Even today I read in the newspapers that Israel in its indiscriminate bombardment of Syria, also hit the U.N. positions. Our brave and determined brothers, the Syrian people, are facing the aggression squarely and courageously.

5. Efforts are being made for disengagement on the Golan Heights. Such disengagement will, however, be only the first step and the discussions in Geneva are bound to be long and protracted. AU of us in the non-aligned family should, therefore, continue to give our Arab colleagues full support in all the forums and in all manner, in their just cause to rid all their lands of the aggressor and ensure a rightful place to the brave Palestinians.

6. It is a matter of deep satisfaction for all of us that during the grave days of the October conflict all peace-loving countries in the world, and the non-aligned countries in particular, stood by our Arab friends and extended the fullest sympathy and support to them both in the United Nations and elsewhere. We, the non-aligned, have always defended the just cause of the Arab countries. We have always insisted that Israel has no right to remain in occupation of the territories seized by it by armed force: We have seen over long years Israel in illegal occupation of Arab territories and its total refusal even to accept the principle of withdrawal. We have also consistently held that a stable peace in the area can be established only on the basis of respect for the Inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

7. Arab countries have shown in the last

few months a great deal of flexibility and a high order of statesmanship. They have demonstrated their earnest desire for a peaceful settlement of this problem. Israel, for its part, must show a sense of realism and recognise the force of world opinion so that this long standing problem can be solved in a just manner, and in the interest of all the countries of the region. The issue is grave but clear. All the Arab lands must be vacated by Israel and the Palestinians must be restored their legitimate rights.

S. Mr. Chairman, to avoid another intervention, I would like to mention briefly some other urgent political problems.

9. We are happy to note that the process of detente, which we welcomed at the Summit last year, is continuing. We would like to reiterate the hope expressed in the Algiers Declaration that this process would extend to all regions of the world and that all countries of the world would be able to participate in it on the basis of equality and mutual respect for achieving a genuine and universal reduction of tensions.

10. In this context, I cannot fail to note, with particular concern and urgency, the recent decision to develop the Anglo-American base facilities in the Island of Diego Garcia. This is a serious development which goes against the publicly expressed desire of the overwhelming majority of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean to make this area into a zone of peace through a reduction of great power rivalries and tensions. The decision to develop the base facilities constitutes an explicit extension of presence of one great power which could not but have the effect of sparking an escalation of rivalries and consequent tensions. It ignores the repeated calls made by all the non-aligned countries since the Lusaka Conference for keeping the Indian Ocean a zone of peace and constitutes a violation of the declaration adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1971. It is our earnest hope that, even at this late stage, the great powers concerned would respect the wishes of the littoral states and desist from proceeding further with the implementation of this decision. It is therefore appropriate

that all non-aligned countries continue their efforts both in the United Nations and elsewhere in their common endeavour to attain this objective.

11. In the last two decades, a large number of countries in Asia, Africa and the Carribean have thrown off the shackles of colonialism and emerged into independent nationhood. However, in Africa, the last vestiges of colonialism and the evil abhorrent practices of racialism still persist. The colonial powers stubbornly refuse to recognise the winds of change that have swept the three continents and have ushered in an era of national liberation and progress and consolidation of the ranks of freedom loving people. Colonialism and racism are anachronism and outrages on humanity. If they are still surviving, it is because of the support, of their imperialist allies, the sub-imperialist system of South Africa and the illegal regime of Ian Smith in Zimbabwe in defiance of world opinion.

12. In this context, the emergence of Guinea (Bissau) as an independent sovereign state represents an outstanding victory of the people's struggle for national liberation against heavy odds. However, while on the one hand we have welcomed Guinea Bissau to the ranks of independent nations, our hearts go out to the people of Mozambique and Angola who are still struggling against the most severe and grim form of colonial repression. We have no doubt that the people of Angola and Mozambique will soon succeed in their struggle for independence. Ways must be found for giving effective support to the liberation struggle of the people of Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia and Mozambique. The freedom fighters of these countries have scored creditable successes against the colonial forces of occupation. The reiteration of support to their worthy cause and the determination of the non-aligned countries to help them is bound to expedite the realisation of their just aspiration for freedom and their legitimate place in the community of nations on the basis of equality

and respect for human dignity.

13. While thanking you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor, I would request your indulgence to give me later an opportunity to give our views on the economic problems facing the non-aligned community.

## II

Mr. Chairman, at our historic Summit last year, we took a number of decisions of far reaching importance. If implemented speedily they can make a great contribution to the future well-being of our peoples. Our deliberations and conclusions at the Last Summit clearly demonstrated the feeling of confidence, sense of determination and strength of purpose which inspires all of us. It is necessary for us to translate these conclusions into concrete action.

2. We are deeply gratified that the non-aligned countries were able to work with unity of purpose at the last session of the General Assembly. The convening of a world Food Conference which had been called for by our Heads of State and Government has now been agreed to. The special session of the General Assembly devoted to problems of development in the special context of the mid-term review of the strategy for the second development decade urged by our Heads of State and Government has also been endorsed by the General Assembly for 1975. We must now bend our energies to working closely together for ensuring the success of these vital meetings.

3. Our Heads of State and Government also adopted last year an impressive programme of action for mutual cooperation. This embraces diverse matters ranging from commercial and economic matters to cooperation in the field of communication, culture etc. The mandate of the country coordinators nominated for promoting action in specified areas was also renewed. We stand ready to participate in meaningful discussion with all our colleagues here to devise further appropriate and concrete measures for speedy and effective implementation of the decisions of our Heads of State and Govern-

ment.

4. Mr. Chairman, allow me now to make a few brief observations with regard to the specific items listed under Agenda item 5. Taking sub-item (a) first, we recall that our Heads of State and Government at their meeting here last year had considered it advisable that a conference of developing countries be convened on commodities with a view to developing an effective strategy for restructuring world trade and improving

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their bargaining power. The further follow-up action in regard to this matter would now need to be considered in the context of the Special Session of the General Assembly meeting next month at New York to consider the problems of raw materials and development. My delegation would venture to express the opinion that the precise timing of the conference of developing countries could be considered more appropriately after the results of the Special Session are available to us. In this connection, it has been suggested, by the delegation of Peru, that it may be useful to follow-up the work of the Special Session with a special intergovernmental working group of the non-aligned countries.

5. Adverting now to sub-item (b), one of the important decisions taken by our Heads of State and Government in the field of economic cooperation was the establishment of a development and solidarity Fund for non-aligned countries. We believe that more concrete steps towards economic and technical cooperation among the non-aligned countries can be promoted if surplus resources available in the non-aligned world are channelised and institutionalised into a common fund. We have heard with much attention the proposal made by the distinguished Foreign Minister of Kuwait for giving concrete shape to this proposal. We welcome this initiative. The detailed and comprehensive paper which the delegation of Kuwait has presented to us is a useful contribution and needs to be examined with care and attention by all of us. We would hope that it would be possible for us to agree on the setting up of a working party of experts as

envisaged in the Action Programme and as suggested in the Kuwaiti proposal to carry forward the implementation of this particular decision of our last Summit.

6. On sub-item (c), while we look forward with interest to the report which will be submitted by the United Nations group of eminent experts on multi-national corporation and its detailed examination by the summer session of the Economic and Social Council and later the General Assembly, we agree that early action should be taken to establish an information centre on the activities of such corporations in the various countries of the non-aligned and developing world. Such a centre would promote exchange of Information not otherwise readily available to us and our experiences with the operations of these corporations in different countries. This would assist us in our efforts at the international level to formulate a code of conduct for the regulation of the activities of the multi-national corporations.

7. I turn now, Mr. Chairman, to sub-item (d). It will be recalled that Indonesia and India have been entrusted with the task of projecting ideas in the field of financial and monetary co-operation. The framework for action by the coordinators had been set up in the Georgetown Action Programme on the following lines:

i) Non-Aligned countries, wherever possible should settle payments amongst themselves in their own currencies, through clearing arrangements which should be established for this purpose.

ii) Non-Aligned countries should seek to establish "correspondent" banking relations between their national (indigenous) commercial banks.

iii) Non-Aligned countries should adopt the following measures towards closer cooperation and coordination of monetary and financial policies:

a) expert credit guarantee institutions;

b) exchange control policies, within the context of integration groupings, wherever the adoption of such policies become necessary.

8. In the paper that Indonesia and India presented to the last meeting of our Heads of State and Government, we had explored the scope and framework of clearing arrangements and inter-regional trade liberalisation programmes and analyse their various aspects and implications. We had also developed some thoughts on trade expansion and payments arrangements and offered some ideas in relation to co-operation in the field of research, science and technology. The paper also contained concrete suggestions in regard to establishment of banking relations, export credit guarantee institutions, exchange control practices and other related matters which could form integral parts of an action programme.

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9. Our purpose in presenting this paper was to highlight the significance, scope and potentialities that exist for co-operation in the monetary and financial fields among non-aligned countries. We trust that the ideas presented in our paper would stimulate further discussion amongst ourselves in order to identify specific fields of mutual cooperation. We would welcome comments and suggestions from other delegations either here at this stage or later so that cooperation in financial and monetary fields among the nonaligned countries could be further promoted.

10. We have time and again expressed our deep concern and sympathies at the continuing drought situation in the Sudano-Sahelian region in Africa. The recent news of drought in parts of Ethiopia is also distressing. Such drought and such other natural calamities affect other parts of the developing world also with serious consequences on the economic development and welfare of millions of people. The non-aligned countries should therefore extend their full moral and material support to efforts being organised at international levels to extend assistance to the victims of

natural disasters.

### III

Mr. Chairman, very soon we shall be meeting in New York for the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly which is being convened on the initiative of President Boumediene to consider the problems of 'raw materials and development'. My country, among other countries, has supported this initiative and we look forward to the Special Session in New York next month to break new ground in restoring the cause of development to its legitimate place and imparting it a sense of urgency. The widening gap between the developed and developing countries can be narrowed by building up a new relationship between them based on equitable cooperation and mutual benefit. Though the international situation, especially in Europe, is by and large marked by relaxation of tension and an atmosphere of detente, in the sphere of international economic relations, imbalances between developed and developing countries continue and the developing countries in particular continue to be vulnerable to the series of crises which have taken place in the trade, monetary and financial spheres in recent years.

2. A new and just world economic order can emerge only if the developing countries get an equal and effective voice in its shaping in order to protect their legitimate interests - those of accelerated social and economic development. Steps towards a more rational and balanced world economy based on global inter-dependence can however be taken if in the first instance we in the developing world not only stand together but also develop collective self-reliance. We must go to the Special Session therefore fully prepared to protect our vital interests vis-a-vis the developed countries by asserting our sovereignty over exploitation, marketing and distribution of our natural resources as well as by ensuring the attainment of the legitimate aspirations and objectives of all the developing nations.

3. It will not be enough if at the Special

Session we adopt yet one more Declaration. We have the International Development Strategy for the second development decade adopted at the United Nations unanimously four years back. The position of the developing countries is already well reflected in several historical documents such as the final act of UNCTAD, the Charter of Algiers, the Lima Declaration and the Economic Declaration and the Action Programme of Economic Cooperation adopted at the Summit meeting last year in Algiers. What is required is the formulation of well conceived measures in the field of specific raw materials and other primary products which are crucial to the development of developing countries. The Special Session should lay down a time-bound programme for the implementation of various obligations particularly those already assumed by the developed countries and the additional obligations which they must undertake in the context of the changing world economic scene and imperatives of a new world economic order.

4. While the need for an integrated and coordinated approach to all the problems and sectors of development cannot be over-emphasised, it is necessary to give due attention to the urgent and acute problems facing the more seriously affected developing countries in the field of specific commodities.

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Measures of collective self-reliance and co-operation worked out before the Session among the developing countries in such spheres would go a long way in ensuring a more forthcoming response from the developed world to the cause of development of the developing world.

5. In our view, these measures will provide a principled framework for the cherished solidarity that we of the non-aligned family have to maintain, particularly in the face of attempts that may be made to dilute our unity at the Special Session.

6. Mr. Chairman, the tasks before the developing world are indeed formidable. Their share in the world trade has continued to decline and their terms of trade and pros-

pects of development have continued to deteriorate. While they have had to pay ever-increasing prices for the imports of needed raw materials - both agricultural and industrial as well as capital goods and equipment - exports of their own primary products and manufactured goods have been fetching disproportionately low prices in the markets of the developed world. Continuing international inflationary pressures have aggravated the burden of the developing countries who have to pay increasingly higher prices for their imports especially the essential ones. The current instability in the monetary system and the slow progress in agreeing on an equitable and stable system, which would take into account the special interests of the developing countries, has further added to the uncertainty of the prospects of their development

7. Following the 1 October war in the Middle East, there have been significant and dramatic developments on the world economic scene. Non-Aligned countries have supported the steps taken by the Arab countries in the economic field with, a view to forcing the pace towards the attainment of a just political settlement in the Middle East. This has indeed been a gratifying demonstration of the unity and solidarity of the non-aligned community in rallying round to the support of those who need such support.

8. The events of the last few months have also demonstrated the potentialities of joint action by developing countries for protecting their natural resources and for securing better terms of trade by adopting joint measures. As developing countries which have been consistently pressing for a more just, rational and balanced economic order, this experience has brought to us in a most vivid and dramatic manner the strength we can acquire if we act in unison and the power that we have in our hands when it is used in our common interest.

9. At the same time, it is essential for us to be completely honest in recognising the effects of these developments on the vast majority of developing countries. In most cases, the impact of the sudden and steep in-

crease in the price of oil has been serious and unprecedented. Many countries face an unexpected foreign exchange burden and a balance of payments problem of a magnitude hitherto never experienced by them. As a consequence, their plans for economic development are in jeopardy and their rate of growth in imminent danger of retardation. The high cost of fertilisers and non-availability of this essential input in adequate quantities imply a new and widespread wave of perilous food shortage for the millions living in these countries.

10. By way of illustration, in the case of my country, we produce about 7 million tons of oil from our own oil wells and we import the rest. If we attempt to maintain and stabilise our consumption at the current levels, which incidentally covers only the bare minimum needs of industrial and agricultural development, the annual cost of oil imports will be over 1500 million dollars, or more than 50% of our export earnings. This contrasts so vividly with the figures of 1972, when our import bill was 250 million dollars representing 10% of our export earnings. If the burden of debt servicing on our existing development loans is added, 75 to 80% on our export earnings would have to be earmarked only to meet the cost of oil imports at past levels and debt servicing without allowing for any growth. This implies a considerable setback to the process of our planned economic development not only because of any lack of increased availability of oil products so vital for further economic growth but because of the lack of wherewithal to ensure imports of needed industrial raw materials, fertilisers and capital goods to sustain growth at existing levels. We would inevitably have to cut down and slow down our economic growth to face this grave crisis, as indeed we are doing. But in the immediate future as well as in the long run this is bound to

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have disastrous consequences for the welfare of our people.

12. Mr. Chairman, we are passing through critical times. It is now, more than ever before, indispensable for the non-aligned

countries and the developing countries to stand together in their common struggle for peace and progress. This unity should be further strengthened on the basis of solidarity and mutual understanding of our common concerns, common objectives and common willingness to help each other.

13. This is a time when we must close our ranks and, in our discussions with the developed countries, we must not allow them an opportunity to divide us and to exploit our own problems to their advantage. At the same time, it is incumbent on us to agree willingly on concrete measures for alleviating the unbearable burden that is being borne by a number of developing countries. The additional burden on developing countries being comparatively small in proportion to the total size of the increased accruals to the oil exporting countries, the problem is manageable. Earnest efforts are, therefore, necessary to tackle it in the traditional spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding. We value greatly the opportunity such as this provided by the initiative of your country, Mr. Chairman, in calling this meeting of the Co-ordination Committee of the Non-Aligned countries for working together.

14. A number of suggestions have been made about the lines along which such measures could be worked out. In this connection, the proposal made by the distinguished Foreign Minister of Guyana is a practical and equitable scheme for providing immediate and direct relief to the oil importing developing countries. It is a constructive contribution to our consideration of the problem and merits careful study. Another method of providing relief is through credits on a long-term basis and on soft terms, Proposals for the setting up of a Fund are being mentioned in this context and also deserve our consideration. The important thing is to take concrete action and to take it in the immediate future.

15. Before I conclude, Mr. Chairman, I should like to make a brief comment on item 8. From the report on the activities of the non-aligned countries since the Summit presented to us, we have a clear idea of the effective manner in which our repre-

representatives on the Coordination Committee at New York have been able to forge constructive cooperative action in respect of many issues in the United Nations. We are convinced that the Coordination Committee at New York provides a practical and convenient machinery for ensuring follow-up action in various directions. We hope that as a result of our consultations here we would be able to give a clear mandate to our Coordination Committee at New York and urge it to pursue action with vigour and expedition. This mandate should include (i) coordination of action in the U.N. (ii) implementation of our Action Programme and (iii) preparations for the next meeting of the Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries.

16. Mr. Chairman, as I have said before, these are momentous and critical times. As representatives of non-aligned countries devoted to peace, justice and progress and true democratisation of international relations, it is our duty to take stock of the situation and come up with appropriate conclusions and recommendations for future action in a spirit of harmony and solidarity, within the framework of the decisions of the fourth Summit, which we can commend for the approval of our colleagues of the non-aligned world. This would provide a valuable basis for an early meeting of the whole group of non-aligned countries at Foreign Ministers level for which there seems to be both a need and a desire.

ALGERIA USA PERU EGYPT SYRIA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND INDIA ZAMBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN  
REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA NAMIBIA  
KUWAIT INDONESIA GUYANA SUDAN ETHIOPIA RUSSIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED BUREAU MEETING

Declaration on West Asia and Question of Palestine

The following declaration on the Middle East and the question of Palestine was adopted by the meeting of the Bureau of IV Conference of Non-Aligned countries, Algiers, March 19-21, 1974:

1) The non-aligned countries hail the heroic struggle waged by the people of Syria, Egypt and the people of Palestine in October 1973 to liberate its land and restore its rights and sovereignty. They consider this struggle an indivisible part of the struggle of the States and peoples of the Third World against colonialism, racism and imperialist domination.

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2) The non-aligned countries consider the cause of the Arab territories occupied since 1967 as the case of all non-aligned countries. Hence they pledge to intensify their efforts in all fields to uphold this cause and adopt all necessary measures to terminate the Israeli occupation and liquidate the consequences of aggression, on the basis that the continuation of such aggression constitutes a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and the principles and objectives of non-alignment and pose a grave menace to world peace and security.

3) The non-aligned countries note with concern that Israel has not drawn the lessons it should have drawn from the October war. Though the October War had destroyed the military Zionist arrogance, Israel's leaders still continue to pursue a policy of aggression, annexation of territory, and deprivation of the Arab people of its fundamental rights and sovereignty over its territory. No doubt Israel's Intransigence derives from the considerable aid extended to it by the imperialist camp in all fields particularly in the military, economic and political spheres.

4) The non-aligned countries take note with grave concern of the information contained in reports submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations by the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli

Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, composed of Sri Lanka, Somalia and Yugoslavia. These reports contain irrefutable evidence that Israel is grossly violating the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, the Hague Rules and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and declare that all measures taken by Israel to change the geographic, demographic and economic structure of the Arab occupied territories are null and void, and should under no circumstances be recognized.

5) The non-aligned countries, which firmly believe in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, reaffirm their commitment to the endeavour to establish just peace in the Middle East. Such peace can neither be just nor durable if not established on the following two indispensable fundamental prerequisites:

- a) Unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories since June 1967.
- b) Restoration of the Palestine people's national rights, foremost among which is the right to return to its homeland and exercise its right to self-determination.

6) The non-aligned countries underline the importance of their active participation in all the effort,; exerted to solve major international problems. In that respect they are determined to assume fully their role in the efforts aimed at establishing just and durable peace in the Middle East. They also stress the constructive part they can play in the Security Council, in the General Assembly of the United Nations and in other international organization and bodies. They stress the need for a continuing role of the United Nations in all the efforts directed, towards a just and durable peace in the Middle East based on U.N. resolutions.

7) The non-aligned countries regard the situation in the Middle East as warranting grave concern because of the continued Zionist imperialist manoeuvres to safeguard the Israeli occupation and compensate its aggression. Therefore, they consider the

pretext of "secure borders", which Israel propagates as an overt attempt to delude world public opinion and distract attention from the Israeli policy of annexation and expansion.

Moreover, Israel's distorted interpretation of "troop disengagement" is merely a means to prolong occupation, create a fait accompli in the occupied Arab territories and return to the State of no war - no peace.

The disengagement of forces would be of no avail if it is not organically linked with the total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, and commitment to the restoration of the Arab Palestine People's national rights.

8) Noting with the raising of the rank of diplomatic representation between Israel and South Africa constitutes a new irrefutable evidence of the common identity and ideological collusion between the racist regimes of Tel-Aviv and Pretoria.

9) Since peace is still remote because Israel's intransigence, defiance of the International will, persistent aggression, forcible annexation of lands and displacing the

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Arab inhabitants, the Non-Aligned countries are called upon to assume their responsibilities in full, particularly with regard to the adoption of the following practical measures:

A--Non-aligned countries which have not as yet severed their diplomatic relations with Israel should do so immediately in implementation of the resolution adopted by the Fourth Summit Conference.

As the nonaligned countries express their appreciation to all states which broke off their relations with Israel, they praise this constructive step which played an effective role in isolating Israel and revealing its aggressive nature.

B - Non-aligned countries are requested not only to boycott Israel diplomatically but also economically and culturally and in the

field of maritime and air transport.

C - Exploration of the prospect of depriving Israel of membership in the United Nations and its specialized agencies and barring it from participation in international conferences if it does not withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories in a short period of time and recognize the Palestine people's rights.

D - Non-aligned countries should try to convince by all means those powers which support Israel politically, militarily, economically and otherwise to cease forthwith this aid and support.

E - Ensuring global recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people and its struggle, and considering it a fundamental party in till the efforts exerted to establish just peace.

10) Non-aligned countries are called upon to expose the racist expansionist nature of the Zionist ideology as well as its practices to dismantle national communities by disseminating the seeds of sedition, racism and overt interference in the internal affairs of states. They should also pledge to condemn at the United Nations and at other international organizations Zionism as an ideology based on racial superiority similar to Nazism and to the apartheid policy pursued by the White Minority regime in South Africa.

11) In solidarity with the African peoples and countries, all non-aligned, oil-producing countries call for the continuation of the embargo imposed on oil exports to Portugal, South Africa and Rhodesia, and ensuring that oil is not smuggled to these countries by any means.

ALGERIA SYRIA EGYPT USA ISRAEL MALI SOMALIA SRI LANKA YUGOSLAVIA SWITZERLAND  
SOUTH AFRICA PORTUGAL

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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1995

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OMAN

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Indo-Oman Joint Statement

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At the conclusion of the talks between Shri D. P. Dhar, Union Minister of Planning and the visiting Minister for Development, Sultanate of Oman, Mr. Karim Ahmad Al-Haremi, the following joint statement was issued in New Delhi on March 5, 1974:

H.E. Mr. Karim Ahmad Al-Haremi, Minister for Development, Sultanate of Oman, visited India from-February 24 to March 5, 1974 at the invitation of Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning, Government of India. He was accompanied by Mr. Abdulla Suleman, Director of Agriculture.

During his visit, the Minister of Development, Sultanate of Oman, visited Agra, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Madras and Bangalore, where he saw some development projects and places of historical interest.

The Minister for Development, Sultanate of Oman, had meetings with the Minister for 123 Planning, Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals, Minister of State for Food and Agriculture and officials of the Planning Commission. The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and covered economic cooperation between India and Oman in a large number of areas of agriculture, industry and infrastructure development.

Both the Ministers emphasised the historic ties between India and Oman and reiterated the close and friendly relationship that exists between the two countries. It was agreed that this relationship would be further strengthened by the development of close economic cooperation between the two countries.

The Minister of Development, Sultanate

of Oman expressed appreciation for the report "Techno-Economic Survey of Oman" prepared by the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited (NIDC), India. He specifically indicated the Government of Oman's desire for cooperation with India in the following areas:

- (1) Production of agricultural implements and setting up of small scale industries.
- (2) Experts for urban road construction and for creating an organisation in Oman for building and maintenance of roads.
- (3) Experts for setting up agricultural farms and creating a nucleus of agricultural research capabilities in Oman.

The Minister for Development, Sultanate of Oman further requested the Government of India to provide doctors, other medical personnel and town planners for employment with the Government of Oman.

The Minister of Planning of India informed the Oman delegation that India would be ready to share its experience and expertise to develop a nucleus of agricultural research capabilities and for the development of state agricultural farms in Oman. He added that India would consider the request of the Government of Oman for making available doctors, other medical personnel, town planners and any other skilled personnel that may be desired for employment in Oman.

H.E. Mr. Karim Ahmad Al-Haremi, Minister for Development, Sultanate of Oman showed interest in the purchase from India of cement and Basmati rice. H.E. Mr. Karim Ahmad Al-Haremi was informed that this request would be considered by the Government of India. Government of India indicated its ability to offer to Oman a wide variety of electrical equipment, construction equipment, sugar and cement machinery which the Minister of Oman agreed to consider.

India showed interest in participating

in an integrated refinery-cum-fertilizer project with Oman and a feasibility report of such a project is to be handed over to the Minister of Development of Oman.

The Minister for Development of Oman and Planning Minister of India considered that this friendly visit would further strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries and contribute to developing co-operation between the two countries in technical and economic fields. The Development Minister of Oman thanked the Government of India for the friendly hospitality extended to him and his party.

OMAN USA INDIA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Cultural Agreement between India and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

The following is the text of the cultural agreement signed by Prof. Nurul Hasan, Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture for India and Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mutie, Foreign Minister for the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in New Delhi on March 17, 1974.

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen,

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INSPIRED BY a common desire to establish and develop closer cultural relations in the spirit of the high ideals of the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation,

AND DESIROUS OF promoting and developing in every possible manner the relations and understanding between India and Yemen in the field of art and culture, education, science and technology, sports, public health and mass media,

HAVE AGREED to conclude the following Agreement:

#### ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate and encourage co-operation in the fields of art and culture, education, science and technology, mass media of information and education, sports and games and journalism in order to contribute towards a better knowledge of their respective cultures and activities in these fields.

#### ARTICLE 2

The Contracting Parties shall encourage and facilitate:

- (a) reciprocal visits of professors and experts for delivering lectures, study tours and conducting of special courses;
- (b) reciprocal visits of representatives of educational, literary, scientific, technical, artistic, sports and journalists association and organisations and participation in congresses, conferences, symposia and seminars;]
- (c) exchange of materials in the fields of culture, science, education and sports, translation and exchange of books, periodicals and other educational, scientific, technical, cultural and sports publications; and as far as possible, exchange of art specimens; and
- (d) reciprocal facilities to archaeologists to enable them to gain experience of excavations as well as preservation and display of archaeological finds, training facilities and also exchange of specimens or casts.

Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to provide facilities and scholarships to

students and scientific personnel of the other country seeking to study in its institutions of higher education and research laboratories)

#### ARTICLE 4

Each Contracting Party undertakes to examine the conditions under which the equivalence of diplomas, certificates and university degrees awarded in the two countries can be mutually recognised.

#### ARTICLE 5

Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to present different facets of the life and culture of the other Party through the medium of radio, television and press. With this end in view, the two Parties shall exchange suitable materials and programmes.

#### ARTICLE 6

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate and promote:

- a) exchange of artists, and dance and music ensembles;
- b) exchange of art and other exhibitions;
- c) exchange of films, documentaries, radio and television programme recordings and, recordings on discs and tapes; and
- d) exchange of experts in the field of cinematography and participation in each other's International Film Festivals.

#### ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties shall encourage visits of sports teams between the two countries and shall facilitate, subject to the national laws and regulations in force, their stay and movements in their respective countries.

#### ARTICLE 8

The Contracting Parties shall, so far as

it lies within their power, ensure that text-

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books prescribed for educational institutions, particularly those in History and Geography, do not contain any error or misrepresentation about each other's country.

#### ARTICLE 9

Each Contracting Party shall welcome the establishment in its territory of cultural institutes or friendship associations devoted to educational and cultural pursuits by the other party, or the parties jointly,- in accordance with its laws, regulations and general policy in this regard.

It, is understood by both Parties that prior clearance of the Government concerned would be obtained before any institution is established in pursuance of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 10

Considering their common interest in the promotion of tourism and realising that mutual benefits can be derived from closer cooperation in this field, the Contracting Parties:

- a) agree to take all necessary steps to encourage tourism and facilitate travel between the two countries, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations;
- b) agree to offer, on a reciprocal basis, technical assistance and expertise for specific projects in the contracts between the organisations engaged in the promotion and marketing of tourism; and
- c) further agree that reciprocal publicity arrangements should be introduced in their respective countries and gradually intensified using all available media of publicity.

#### ARTICLE; 11

For the fulfilment of the objectives of

the present Agreement a joint committee consisting of an equal number of representatives of both the Contracting Parties shall be established to draw executive programmes, each of which shall be valid for two years.

The joint committee shall meet alternately in New Delhi and Aden.

The joint committee will also be responsible for keeping under periodical review, as and when the need arises, the working of the Agreement, advising the Governments concerned in formulating and recommending any items of interest to either party in the fields within the scope of the Agreement and also advising on the manner in which the working of the Agreement may be improved upon.

#### ARTICLE 12,

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date of the exchange of the Instruments of its Ratification. It shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be renewed automatically thereafter unless one of the Contracting Parties gives six months prior notice in writing to terminate it.

Done in New Delhi on 26th Phalguna 1895 (Saka) corresponding to 17th March, 1974 in six originals, two each in Hindi, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic 'except in case of doubt when the English text shall prevail.

YEMEN INDIA USA

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Indo-PDRY Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued in New Delhi on March 18, 1974 at the conclusion of the visit to India of H.E. Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mutie, Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen:

At the invitation of Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mutie, Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, accompanied by a delegation of senior officials, paid an official visit to India from March 12 to 18, 1974.

During his stay in India, His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mutie was received

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by the President of India and the Prime Minister. He also held discussions with the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Planning, the Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture.

The two Foreign Ministers had extensive discussions on general political issues, both global and regional, as well as on bilateral relations between the PDRY and India. These discussions revealed a close similarity of views and approach between the two Governments. In these talks, His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mutie was assisted by Mr. Moh Ali Basurrah, Director, Mr. Hussain Saeed-al-Elfi, Director, Mr. Mohamood Mohammed Jaffar, CDA, and Mr. Mohammed Mahmood Bahi, Director. The Foreign Minister of India was assisted by Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State, Shri B. K. Sanyal and Shri M. A. Rahman, Additional Secretaries, Shri N. P. Alexander, Joint Secretary, Shri K. Srinivasan and Shri A. M. Khaleeli, Directors in the Ministry of External Affairs.

The two Foreign Ministers apprised each other of the economic and foreign policies their Governments were following in

order to ensure the rapid economic and social development of their peoples and to strengthen the independence and sovereignty of all countries. The two Foreign Ministers expressed appreciation of the efforts made by the two countries in these directions.

The two sides reaffirmed the continuing relevance and validity of the principles of non-alignment and expressed their determination to work for the strengthening of these principles and to greater cooperation and coordination among the non-aligned countries. They decided to coordinate their efforts in all international forums to promote the full application of these principles.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed the situation in Middle East and the Palestinian issue. They hailed the significant Arab successes in the war of October 1973. They paid their tribute to the Arab men and women who laid down their lives or made other sacrifices for the attainment of their just and legitimate objectives. Both sides reiterated the demand for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Both Foreign Ministers stressed the need for a speedy solution of these problems.

The Foreign Minister of the PDRY outlined the efforts made by peaceful means and direct negotiations for achieving the unification of Yemen. Sardar Swaran Singh expressed his appreciation of these efforts, and wished them success.

The Foreign Minister of India outlined the measures taken for normalising the relations in the Sub-Continent by peaceful means and direct negotiations. The Foreign Minister of the PDRY expressed his appreciation of the steps taken in this direction and hoped that outstanding issues would soon be settled. Both sides welcomed the mutual recognition of Bangladesh and Pakistan and hoped that this would contribute to the ushering in of an era of peace and cooperation in the region whole.

Both sides were of the view that the entire Indian Ocean area should be a zone

of peace free from international tensions, Great Power rivalries and military escalation. Deploring all steps leading to the creation of tension in the Indian Ocean, the two sides viewed with grave concern the decision to expand the base-facilities on the island of Diego Garcia which goes against these principles as well as the resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly on this subject.

The two sides reaffirmed their opposition to colonialism, neocolonialism and imperialism and resolved that these should be liquidated in accordance with the Resolutions of the United Nations and the Non-aligned Conferences. They welcomed the emergence to independence of Guinea-Bissau and the intensification of the liberation struggle in Africa. They expressed their abhorrence of apartheid and racism in all their forms.

During the visit, a Cultural Agreement between the two countries was signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PDRY and the Indian Minister for Education, Social Welfare and Culture. Both sides expressed their confidence that this Agreement has created a framework conducive to deepening cooperation in the cultural field.

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The two sides discussed economic, technical and scientific cooperation between their two countries. They were of the view that the potentialities for mutual cooperation in these fields were considerable and required purposeful development. A number of concrete steps in these fields have been decided upon and both sides will ensure their quick and effective implementation.

The Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen expressed his deep appreciation for the cordial reception and warm hospitality accorded to him and the other members of his party by the Government and people of India.

His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mutie extended an invitation to Sardar Swaran Singh to visit the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

**Date :** Mar 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Indo-UAE Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on March 1, 1974, on the visit of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Khalifa Al-Suwaid, Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates:

At the invitation of Shri Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, His Excellency Mr. Ahmad Khalifa Al-Suwaidi, Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates, accompanied by a delegation of senior officials paid an official visit to India from February 25 to 28, 1974.

During his stay in India, His Excellency Mr. Ahmad Khalifa Al-Suwaidi was received by the President of India and the Prime Minister. He also held discussions with the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals,

The two Foreign Ministers had extensive discussions on a number of subjects of common interest and reviewed in detail relations between the United Arab Emirates and India. These discussions were held in an atmosphere of extreme cordiality and friendship in keeping with the traditionally close and friendly ties between the two countries and revealed a close identity of views.

In these talks His Excellency Mr. Ahmad Khalifa Al-Suwaidi was assisted by a delegation of senior officials which included H.E.

Mr. Mohammed Issa Al-Ali, Ambassador of the UAE to India. The Foreign Minister of India was assisted by officials of the Government of India.

The two sides reaffirmed the continuing relevance and validity of the principles of non-alignment and expressed their determination to contribute to the strengthening of these principles and to greater co-operation and coordination among the non-aligned countries.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed the situation in West Asia. Both sides were of the view that the elimination of Israeli occupation of all Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are essential pre-requisites for bringing about a just and durable peace in the area. The Foreign Minister of the UAE expressed his warm appreciation of India's consistent support to the Arab cause.

The Foreign Minister of India outlined the measures taken for normalising the relations in the Sub-continent by peaceful means and direct negotiations. The Foreign

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Minister of the UAE expressed his satisfaction at recent developments and hoped that all outstanding issues would soon be settled in a similar peaceful and friendly spirit. Both sides welcomed the mutual recognition of Bangladesh and Pakistan and hoped that this would contribute to the ushering in of an era of peace and cooperation in the region as a whole.

Both sides were of the view that the entire Indian Ocean area should be a zone of peace free from international tensions, Great Power rivalries and military escalation.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed the situation in Africa and expressed their support for all liberation movements against colonialism in the continent and condemned racism and apartheid in all its forms.

It was recalled that the Foreign Minister of India had visited the UAE in February

1973 and since then considerable progress had been made by the two sides to identify areas in which cooperation could be achieved. It was agreed that there were immediate prospects of collaboration in the fields of fertilisers, refineries, cement plants, steel mills and other ancillaries as well as in the exchange of commodities required by either country. in view of this progress and to intensify cooperation in commercial, economic and technical fields, the two sides have decided that they would immediately set up a Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Co-operation, headed by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

The Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates expressed his deep appreciation for the cordial reception and warm hospitality accorded to him and the other members of his party by the Government and people of India.

His Excellency Mr. Ahmad Khalifa Al-Suwaidi extended an invitation to Shri Swaran Singh to visit the United Arab Emirates. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA ISRAEL MALI BANGLADESH PAKISTAN

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BURMA INDIA IRAN MONGOLIA BANGLADESH PAKISTAN

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Finance Minister's Address

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The following is the presidential address delivered by the Finance Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan on April 25, 1974 at the seventh annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank held at Kuala Lumpur:

On behalf of this Seventh Meeting of the Board of Governors I thank His Excellency the Prime Minister of Malaysia for declaring open this meeting and for his inspiring address. I should like on this occasion to express the sincere gratitude of all who are gathered here for this meeting to the Malaysian Government and the people of Malaysia for the excellent arrangements made and for the warm hospitality extended to us.

Malaysia has a long history. It has been a cross road for trade between East and West, for centuries. Apart from its importance in international trade, Malaysia has been a source of certain natural resources essential to world industrial production. It is in fact the largest producer of natural rubber and of tin in the world. Malaysia is an encouraging example of the fulfilment by the Bank of its Charter obligation to accelerate the process of economic development of the developing member countries of the region. The Bank can be justifiably proud of having been a partner in Malaysia's impressive growth. The Bank's assistance by itself, however, would have achieved little without the high quality of Malaysia's planning techniques, the innate capacity of its people, and the sense of purpose of its Government. I am sure I am expressing the thoughts of this meeting in wishing His Excellency the Prime Minister and the people of his country continued prosperity and happiness.

#### ADB's PERFORMANCE

The Bank's own performance during

1973, as brought out in the Annual Report gives considerable cause for satisfaction. The volume of lending has been well over \$400 million, and substantially in excess of the target set for 1973. There has been, also, a distinct and welcome trend towards the evening out of the volume of its operations as between different member countries. It is indeed gratifying to note that increasing attention is being given to the smaller and less developed among developing countries of the region. The Bank's lending now embraces 21 developing countries, quite a few of whom have needs and problems quite different from those of the more advanced developing countries. The Bank has also been able to respond to the needs of these less advanced countries for technical assistance, and effectively assist them in identification and preparation of projects for Bank loans. As the Annual Report shows, eleven of the thirtynine projects financed by loans in 1973 benefited from technical assistance provided by the Bank itself in earlier years. The strength of a chain is the strength of its weakest link. In that sense the prosperity of this region must be judged by the advance achieved by its least developed members. By helping these countries in significant measure the Bank is contributing effectively to the advancement of the Asian region. This augurs well for the future of the Bank and of the region it serves.

#### IMPORTED INFLATION

An institution like the ADB is both affected by, and must react to, the environment in which it works. The severely disturbed conditions in the international money and capital markets are one aspect of this environment, which is of direct consequence to the Bank. Equally relevant are the adverse effects these conditions have produced on the economies of the Bank's developing member countries, On the one hand, con-

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siderable uncertainty has been created in regard to the export earnings of developing countries. On the other, these same countries have had to pay exorbitant prices for their imports, in large measure as a result

of inflationary conditions in the developed countries. This imported inflation has compounded domestic inflation to an extent that imperils their economies. Some remedial action has been attempted through a number of international discussions on monetary reform under the aegis of the IMF. These have indeed been useful, but not even an optimist would claim that the present unsettled monetary conditions will return to normalcy in the near future. The oil crisis, the high international prices of a large number of commodities and manufactures, and the resulting inflationary pressures, have greatly increased the uncertainties facing the international payments system. These very factors have added to the risks inherent in a situation in which members of the international community adopt uncoordinated and conflicting approaches to the solution of problems that affect all of them. Notwithstanding obvious difficulties, there is today pressing need for orderly international monetary arrangements in order to sustain high rates of growth of income, output, employment and trade, all the world over. It is obvious that until order and discipline returns to the international monetary scene the burden of suffering will fall principally on the developing countries.

#### GLOBAL SHORTAGES

I believe that a situation has emerged in 1973 which seems to introduce an altogether new element into considerations of development strategy. The year 1973 and the early months of 1974 have witnessed large global shortages of important commodities, such as newsprint, food, fertiliser and certain metals. Scarceness in terms of availability, has been combined with abnormally high prices. The sharp increase in oil price is but one of the phenomena - though perhaps the most dramatic - which seems to me to signify passage to an epoch of high prices and global scarcities. How far this situation will stay bad or worsen, and what the outcome will be for the world's economy is difficult to forecast. It does, however, seem fairly clear that the period of scarcities and high prices we have entered upon will remain with us for some time. This is a sobering

thought.

#### STRAIN ON BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

The most direct and immediate effect of this situation is to reinforce the steep upward trend in cost of living indices. Another is the depressing effect on the balance of payments of those developing countries which possess neither oil or natural gas. These balance of payments effects have been assessed by various international financial and developmental institutions and I have no doubt the ADB has made its own estimates for the developing countries of the Asian region. While the figures may vary, what seems certain is that the cumulative effect of these global shortages and high prices will tend to nullify the effect of the existing aid flows. This will happen because the net transfers will be more than matched by the increased strain on the balance of payments of developing countries, caused mainly by higher import prices and partly by uncertainty in export prospects. These problems will be aggravated if, and this is a real danger, the present situation leads to a recession in industrialised countries. The problem of the future of the world's economy in its various aspects is still being discussed at the Special Session of the United Nation in New York, and I fervently hope that these deliberations of the world body will end in constructive proposals which may lead the world safely out of a situation which threatens grave setbacks to the progress of many vulnerable countries. This can only be brought about if nations will adhere to a code of economic behaviour endorsed by the world community.

#### INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The effects on development of the global economic situation are indeed alarming. Import capacities are major constraints on the pace of development, and the strains on the international payments of developing countries will have inevitable repercussions on their growth prospects. This will lead to a further widening in the gap in living standards; between the rich and the poor, with its explosive consequences. This is a major

challenge that faces the world community as it undertakes a mid-term review of the international development strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Developing countries accept, as they have always accepted, that development is primarily their own responsibility. But if international economic cooperation for development is to have any meaning, the international community must find effective ways of assisting developing countries in the situation which they face today, to enable them to realise the modest growth targets of the Second Development Decade.

#### ADB IN NEW SITUATION

The Asian Development Bank is primarily concerned with the foreign exchange needs of borrowing member countries. It must fashion its efforts in a manner which will help to redress the adverse effects of the present situation on the balance of payments of the poorer developing countries. The immediate objective must be to alleviate the damage to the current balance of payments of these countries by the global phenomenon of scarcity and inflation. How this is to be done within the parameters of its resources position, and the methods and programmes that will need to be improvised to meet this situation is a challenge to the ingenuity and imaginativeness of the Bank's management and Board of Directors. I am sure that my confidence is justified when I express the hope that the ADB will respond to the new situation with vigour and imagination, and will diversify its method and operations to meet the challenge.

In this context the problem of resources which the Bank has to contend with is central. While the Bank has been able to maintain its interest rate in its ordinary operations; despite the volatile situation in the world's money markets, it cannot long continue to fulfil its responsibilities towards its poorer members unless it is invested with the requisite capacity and enlarged scope for concessional lending. The Bank now has the experience and the expertise to be an effective catalyst in the process of rapid advancement of the peoples of this region. It would be

sad to see it falter for want of sufficient resources. It is my earnest hope that we shall have the full cooperation of the developed member countries of the Bank to see that this does not happen.

#### ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

I note with satisfaction that considerable progress has been made since the last Annual Meeting towards the funding and the formal inauguration of the Asian Development Fund. The transitional arrangements reconcile divergent requirements, and have made it possible for all the major subscribers to provide the first instalments of their contributions. At the same time they have enabled other developed countries to contribute their due shares. I trust I am not being unduly optimistic in feeling confident that by the target date of 30th June 1974 the Asian Development Fund will be a going concern. On this occasion I would like to express the sincere gratitude of the Bank and its borrowers to the Governments, legislatures, and peoples of all the countries who have made this possible.

My fellow Governors, we, who are engaged in this task of accelerating the economic and social development of this region know that it is not just the transfer of resources and technology but the increased well-being of the people of Asia that is our real objective. This can and must be achieved mainly by their own efforts- and their own sacrifices. The objective of self-sustaining growth will require discipline, adherence to right policies, hard work, and far-sightedness. It will not be easy. But it can be done through our coordinated efforts, and with the assistance of this fine institution whose affairs we are gathered here to discuss. I am confident that our deliberations here at Kuala Lumpur will help in achieving that objective.

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MALAYSIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

# Volume No

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BURMA

India-Burma Joint Communiqué

The following Joint Communiqué was issued in New Delhi on April 26, 1974 at the conclusion of the visit of the President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, H.E. U Ne Win:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri V. V. Giri, and the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, His Excellency U Ne Win, paid a friendly and goodwill visit to India from April 23 to 26, 1974. President U Ne Win was accompanied by Dr. Hla Han, and Dr. Maung Maung, Members of the Council of State, U Hla Phone, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and other officials of the Government of Burma.

The President of Burma and members of his party were accorded a warm welcome by the Government and the people of India, reflecting the traditional friendly ties between the two countries.

President U Ne Win had a friendly exchange of views with the President of India and had several meetings with the Prime Minister of India. He also received the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh. These meetings, which covered a wide range of subjects dealing with international issues and the further development of the friendly relations and cooperation existing between Burma and India, were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. The discussions disclosed a large measure of agreement on a wide range of matters of mutual concern to the two countries.

The Indian Minister of Industrial Development and Science and Technology, the Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Irrigation and Power also called on the President of Burma.

The President of Burma and the Prime Minister of India explained the recent developments in their respective countries. The Prime Minister of India conveyed the good wishes of the Government of India for the further progress and prosperity of the people of Burma under the new Constitution. The two leaders expressed their belief that Burma and India could both benefit from each other's experience in building a new society.

The President and the Prime Minister next reviewed relations between their two countries and expressed satisfaction that these were characterised by a spirit of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding. They expressed their determination to further develop these relations, and agreed to explore further possibilities for expanding economic and technical cooperation between their two countries. They believe that this would serve not only the interest of their two countries but also the cause of cooperation on a wider basis.

The Prime Minister of India explained the situation in the sub-continent, the improved prospects for reconciliation after the recently signed Bangladesh-India-Pakistan Agreement and India's continuing efforts for the normalisation of relations among the countries of the sub-continent. President U Ne Win welcomed and appreciated the steps taken by the three countries to promote peace, cooperation and good neighbourly relations, among them.

The President and the Prime Minister viewed with concern recent developments in the Indian Ocean area, and they reiterated their desire for establishing the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. They called upon all concerned to refrain from any action that militates against this objective.

The President and the Prime Minister

reaffirmed their faith in the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter as a necessary condition for the maintenance and promotion of international peace and progress.

The two leaders expressed concern at the continuing difficulties in the international

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economic situation. They felt that problems of food, energy and inflation required urgent solutions which must be sought in a renewed spirit of international cooperation and mutual benefit. They welcomed the initiative of the non-aligned countries in convening the Sixth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on "Raw Materials and Development,". They expressed the hope that effective measures would be taken to ease the immediate problems faced by the developing countries as well as to enable them to realise their legitimate aspirations for sustained and steady growth.

Both sides reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of nonalignment and to continuing cooperation among non-aligned countries. They stressed the continued validity of the concept of non-alignment in the present international situation. The two leaders agreed that the non-aligned countries should continue to strive for the promotion of world peace, progress and more equitable world economic order. They also agreed that the non-aligned countries should concert and intensify their efforts to give greater viability and strength to their economies.

Whilst appreciating the steps taken to bring about disengagement and the reduction of tension in West Asia, the two sides expressed concern at the delay in the progress towards a durable settlement in West Asia which demands the earliest implementation of the relevant UN Resolutions. They expressed the hope that efforts would be continued towards the early realisation of peace and stability in the region.

The two leaders reviewed the current situation in Indo-China. They welcomed the formation of the Provisional Government of

National Union in Laos and hoped that this development would usher in an era of peace, stability and prosperity in that country. The two leaders noted with concern the continuance of armed conflict in Cambodia and Vietnam and hoped that an early and peaceful settlement would be achieved. The two leaders agreed that the implementation of the Paris Agreement of January 1973, on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam, by all concerned would facilitate the establishment of peace in Vietnam.

The two sides expressed their conviction in the equality of mankind irrespective of race or colour and declared their abhorrence of policies of colonialism, neocolonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid. They called for the speedy and complete elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism in accordance with the UN Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

President U Ne Win conveyed to the Government and the people of India his heartfelt thanks for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and the members of his party, and extended an invitation to Their Excellencies the President and the Prime Minister of India, to pay a goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma at a time convenient to them. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

BURMA INDIA USA LATVIA BANGLADESH PAKISTAN MALI CHINA LAOS CAMBODIA VIETNAM  
FRANCE

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement on U.N. Conference on Law of Sea

The following statement was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha by the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, on April 3, 1974 in reply to a starred question:

The first session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea was held in New York from December 3 to 15, 1973 and dealt with matters relating to the Organisation of the Conference, including the constitution of Committees, election of officers and adoption of the rules of procedure. No substantive questions were discussed during this session.

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The following decisions were taken at the first session of the Conference:

i) COMMITTEES: The Conference will be organised into three main Committees of the whole. Committee I will deal with the international regime for the seabed including an international machinery for the exploitation of the seabed resources. Committee II will deal with the subjects relating to the law of the sea, including those concerning the regime of territorial waters, the continental shelf, fisheries, navigation through international straits, archipelagos etc. Committee III will deal with the preservation of the marine environment and scientific research.

In addition, a General Committee composed of 48 members, a Credentials Committee composed of 9 members and a Drafting Committee composed of 23 members were established.

ii) OFFICERS: H.E. Hamilton Shirley Amersinghe, Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations, was elected President of the Conference. The Conference also elected other members of the bureau, including 31 Vice-Presidents, Chairmen of Main Committees, Rapporteurs and members of other Committees. India was elected member of the Drafting Committee.

iii) RULES OF PROCEDURE: The Conference was not able to adopt its rules of

procedure. A number of proposals were made and it was decided to consider them during the first week of the second session of the Conference which will be held at Caracas (Venezuela) from June 20 to August 29, 1974.

The preparatory work for the forthcoming Conference has been done in the U.N. Seabed Committee from 1971 to 1973. India took active part in the deliberations of the U.N. Seabed Committee. The approach to the forthcoming Conference is now under consideration of the Government of India and the Indian delegation to the Conference will be suitably briefed.

INDIA USA BERMUDA SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Sardar Swaran Singh's Address at Special Session of U.N. General Assembly

The following is the text of the statement of Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, at the sixth special session of the United Nations General Assembly on April 19, 1974:

Mr. President,

I have great pleasure to offer you, Mr, President, my own congratulations and the congratulations of my delegation on your election to preside over the deliberations of this historic session. Our earnest hope is that your wise guidance will make it Possible for the international community to determine the principles for the more harmonious development of international economic relations and to evolve a practical

Programme of action for achieving the objectives to which we have been committed so long in the United Nations.

My delegation expresses its gratitude to His Excellency President Boumediene for his timely initiative in proposing that a special session be called to give urgent and serious consideration to the critical problems that confront the international community in the economic field.

The Heads of non-aligned States and Governments meeting in their fourth session in Algiers in September, 1973, were conscious of the storm that had been gathering for some time on the horizon and were greatly concerned at the low priority assigned by rich countries to the problems of development. They, accordingly, decided to call for "a special session of the General Assembly at a high political level devoted exclusively to the problems of development, including the revitalisation of structures and the implementation of the goals and objectives of the international development strategy." At that meeting, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi referred to the "story of man and his progressive emergence into freedom." She emphasised that "the end should be the use of power for the good of man". She went on to urge that "the unfinished revolution must, therefore, continue until freedom is assured to all,

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until inequalities amongst nations and within them are narrowed and until the power at the disposal of nations is tamed through institutions in which all peoples can participate". Similar sentiments were expressed by our distinguished Secretary-General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, in his opening statement on the 9th of April. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his unflagging interest in problems of development.

In the months that have elapsed since the non-aligned summit of Algiers, the economic situation has worsened; it is beset with new uncertainties and fresh difficulties. The world economy has been caught up in a vicious circle of scarcities and spiralling prices. In consequence, the inequality amongst nations has become sharper and

problems of exceptional magnitude confront a very large part of the developing world. While the fear of recession grips some industrial nations, uncontrolled inflation threatens to erode the recent gains made by the producers of some raw materials.

These difficulties can be surmounted only by concerted action in a framework of international co-operation, based on equality and equity and on the rights and obligations of the poor and the rich. On this, I think we are all agreed. In the lobbies and halls of the United Nations, a new atmosphere has been generated by the action of OPEC countries.

Distinguished representatives of sovereign states are rightly emphasising more and more that we live in an interdependent world. For long, interdependence of nations has belonged to the realm of abstract concepts. Today it is recognised to be a fact of life. In the statements that we have so far heard, there is a growing evidence of a new political will to grapple, sincerely and seriously, with the problems of development and to seek through their effective solution a possible remedy for the ills of every nation, rich or poor, developed or developing. Gone are the days when the decisions of a few could determine the destiny of many. The global emergency - to borrow a phrase from our distinguished Secretary-General - poses a challenge to all nations. The world is looking to this Assembly for an effective response.

We are glad that OPEC's action has revealed the inequities and the weaknesses of the international economic system in all its aspects, and more particularly in the conduct of world trade in raw materials. These have been at the root of the failure of the first development decade and could jeopardize the prospects of the second. We have now a common interest in redressing them without further delay. In their adequate and early redress lies the key to the future progress of mankind.

For many years, the problem of securing remunerative prices for raw materials exported from developing countries has engaged the attention of the international community.

Despite many efforts in UNCTAD and other forums, little concrete action has been taken in this regard. It is true that there has recently been an upsurge in the prices of some commodities. This has partly been due to speculative activity stemming largely from erosion of confidence in the international monetary system. It is not clear whether some of these rises will endure. The price behaviour has, however, been uneven. In the case of many other commodities, important in the trade of a large number of developing countries, prices have continued to stagnate and have in fact declined in real terms.

As an example, let us look at the case of iron ore. It is a non-renewable resource, vitally needed for the manufacture of steel. While steel prices have shot up, the already inequitable share of the producers of its basic raw material - iron ore - has declined sharply. Take the case of tea. Its price index has declined from 100 in 1963 to 78 in 1973. The retail prices for consumers have gone on increasing, but the return to the producers has been diminishing.

I need not give more examples. Those who control the levers of price mechanism have successfully denied to the producers of a number of raw materials exported from developing countries their due profit from their labour and from their natural endowment. In consequence, the terms of trade of most developing countries have undergone a drastic deterioration.

An end must be put to this deplorable state of affairs. Fortunately, the leaders of all nations have accepted the urgent need for the adoption of new integrated international policy for raw materials. Clearly,

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the producer must have a fair deal and a remunerative price. If further shocks to the world economy are to be avoided, a plan for securing a steadily progressive improvement in commodity prices must be worked out at this session. This plan must take into account the pace of inflation in developed countries and the unfulfilled development needs of developing countries. To this end,

I suggest that a reference line for prices be established and norms evolved for their progressive improvement.

The uneven behaviour and violent fluctuation of commodity prices have disrupted national economies and dislocated development plans. In the interest of harmonious co-operation, it is essential to ensure that the progressive improvement in commodity prices takes place across the board, and is broad-based and orderly. Nature has scattered its bounties over the globe in such a manner that no nation possesses within its borders all that it needs for the good life of its people. The importance of relative values and price relationships being based on reason and equity is, therefore, obvious. The plan for the improvement in commodity prices must take account of this important factor.

The developing countries, producers of raw materials, must enjoy full weight in determining the prices of their products. The mere establishment of associations of producers will, however, not be enough in all cases. These associations should also provide technical and financial collaboration to one another, for without financial intervention and technical expertise it may not be easy for each producer association to influence the entrenched market forces in the desired direction and to enforce a genuine collective discipline.

For some commodities, even market action may prove to be inadequate. The device of levying export duties may be tried in such cases. Flexible employment of this device will also enable developing countries to organise their mutual trade in commodities, on a preferential basis, to the growing benefit of both the producers and the consumers in the developing world.

There is an essential inter-connection between the rate of consumption for some important raw materials and the economic progress of developing countries. At present, the developed countries use up by far the greater proportion of available raw materials. There is need for them to institute conservation measures. Further, the prices they

charge for finished products can bear a much higher return to the suppliers of raw materials. The developing countries, on the other hand, need more of these raw materials to sustain the momentum of their development, but they are unable, until they succeed in developing their economies fully, to pay the same price. A solution for this difficulty has to be found in the spirit of collective self-reliance and in pursuit of our plans for mutual co-operation.

The improvement in the purchasing power and export income of developing countries is an essential component of the international development strategy adopted by the General Assembly for the Second Development Decade. This, however, cannot be secured without a higher degree of co-operation amongst developing countries and without determined action at the level of the international community. The persisting problems and emerging possibilities of world trade in raw materials should persuade, indeed impel, this Assembly to lay down the guidelines for evolving a programme of practical action and to entrust its execution to a competent agency or organisation in the U.N. system.

It may take some time for the intended results to be achieved across the board. The feasibility of providing genuine compensation for shortfalls in export revenues during the transitional period deserves careful consideration.

I referred, a little while ago, to the vicious circle of scarcities and spiralling prices. Regrettably, prices of essential goods needed by developing countries have risen more sharply. The price of wheat, for instance, had trebled over a short period. The price of urea rose from \$ 62 per ton in 1962 to \$ 225 per ton in December, 1973. The facts about fuel are well known. The cost of importing machinery and technology has recorded a very substantial increase.

The explosion of import costs has more adversely affected those countries which are least able to withstand its impact. It would

seem that the principal burden of world inflation is borne by the land-locked, the least developed, the producers of raw materials which await revalorization and the populous countries with low per-capita income. The export income of these countries has appreciated only marginally. The volume of development assistance has remained substantially unchanged but its value in real terms has declined sharply.

All these countries have been engaged in the effort to modernise their economies, to develop their resources and to improve the living conditions of their people. These efforts have yielded some significant results. But as the process of development progressed, the demand for developmental inputs increased. This demand has to be met if further advance in development is to be achieved. Unfortunately, the sudden and sharp escalation in the cost of imported inputs for development obliges these countries to reverse the gear and impose drastic cuts on the import of even essential items. In consequence, even ongoing development programmes have to be pruned, new ones abandoned and scarce resources redirected to avoid disruption and to maintain the basic social fabric.

For over a decade developing countries have been strenuously striving to break through the inherited barriers to development and progress, and urging the world community to bring into being a new international economic order. They have been seeking proper value for their labour and their products and fair and equitable participation in commercial flows, monetary management and technological exchanges. While heavily engaged in this unequal struggle, a thousand million people from the developing world have been harder hit. More than a quarter of the human race is affected. This is a global emergency, if I may repeat the phrase, of grave proportions. Our immediate concern is to deal with it, adequately and effectively.

The experience of my country has some relevance to the momentous issues before this session. As distinguished delegates are

aware, we in India have been engaged, over the last two decades, in a determined effort to develop our human and material resources and to bring about some improvement in the standards of living of our people. During this period we have doubled the output of foodgrains. The output of electric energy has increased from 5.3 billion units to 74 billion units. Production of steel, aluminium and cement has been stepped up manifold. We have built up a diversified structure of industrial production and developed technological competence in many fields. We have had the privilege of placing at the disposal of other developing countries whatever experience we have gained or expertise we have acquired. We have endeavoured to utilise the gains of our development to extend and intensify mutual economic cooperation amongst developing countries.

We have recently embarked on our Fifth Plan and have set for ourselves a modest target of growth at 5.5 per cent per annum. Our endeavour will be to continue to combine economic growth with social justice. At the same time, our aim has been to achieve as rapidly as possible a situation in which we could dispense with external aid.

The impact of world inflation, however, threatens to throttle our effort to achieve self-reliance. Last year, we spent about \$225 million on the import of fertilisers owing to rising prices. This figure is likely to be more than doubled this year. Petroleum imports cost us \$ 500 million last year; this figure may rise in the current year to \$ 1.5 billion. The additional cost to us of other essential imports such as equipment, machinery, chemicals, steel and technology will be heavy. Such foodgrains as we may need to import will now cost us much more.

An increasing volume of imports is needed to achieve the modest targets of our fifth Plan. And yet we have had to examine the possibility of curtailing imports so that we may live within our constricted means. We have found little room for manoeuvre in our austere planning. As is well known, for many years we have been restricting imports to essentials.

Nevertheless, to adjust ourselves to the new situation, we have embarked on programmes to curb the consumption of petroleum products, to conserve scarce energy, and to meet a part of the rising requirements for energy, from increased production of coal. These programmes will inevitably require additional outlays and take time to yield results.

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We fear if we are obliged to curtail our imports substantially, our development plans will be seriously jeopardised and it will not be possible to achieve even the modest rate of growth envisaged in the fifth Plan. To give only one instance, the shortage of fuel and fertilisers in the agricultural sector will drastically reduce the output of foodgrains, thus wiping out the major gains of our "green revolution".

We are trying to increase the value and to expand the range of our exports. The value obtained by our principal products in the world markets remains, under prevailing conditions, comparatively low and inelastic. As a result, we cannot possibly meet the cost of the sharp increase in the price of our essential imports such as fuel, food, fertilisers, industrial raw Materials, machinery, equipment and technology.

I have drawn upon the experience of my country to illustrate the impact on a large number of developing countries of escalation in the import costs of developmental inputs. This may help the Assembly to judge the extent to which the progress of developing countries towards economic self-reliance might be retarded and their dependence on external aid and assistance increased.

Mr. President, we fully support the inalienable right and indeed appreciate the reasons that prompt the developing countries, which export oil principally to developed countries, to demand and secure a remunerative return for their finite resource. We wish them success in their efforts to diversify their economies and to use their sovereignty over their own resources to achieve improvement

in their economic relations with developed countries.

I confess I have some difficulty in appreciating the justification for the enormous increase in the cost of our essential imports from developed countries. I am, however, convinced that neither they nor the exporters of fuel would wish to insist upon additional transfer of real resources from developing countries which are unable to bear the burden of phenomenal increases in their import bills. Such a transfer from the poor to the rich ill accords with the economic order we have been striving to evolve together for so many years.

I am aware of the efforts that are being made by oil exporting countries to overcome the difficulties of countries which have been hit hard by the rise in prices of their essential imports. I would like to acknowledge with thanks the accommodation extended to India by the Governments of Iraq and Iran to meet a part of our import needs from them.

In this context the Assembly would recall that the Bureau of the non-aligned countries recently declared that there was a paramount need for cooperation among non-aligned countries in evolving urgently and in a spirit of solidarity all possible means to assist the nonaligned and other developing countries to cope with the immediate problems resulting from the legitimate revalorization of oil prices.

My delegation, in common with those of other specially affected countries, has noted with appreciation the information that has been given and the helpful suggestions that have been put forward by the distinguished representatives of OPEC countries in this regard. It is a matter of gratification that they have to their own accord declared their desire to help those who find their progress hampered by fresh difficulties.

Distinguished members are aware of the decision recently taken by the OPEC ministers at their meeting in Geneva to establish a development fund. In his statement the distinguished minister of Iraq has informed

us of the substantial contributions by Iraq recently in the form of grants and soft loans. We have heard with interest what the distinguished Foreign Minister of Kuwait said about the expansion in the size and scope of the Kuwait fund and appreciate the liberality of their gesture. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has also been generous in assisting some developing countries. The forward-looking and wide-ranging proposals made by the Shahanshah of Iran a couple of months ago, have been elaborated in a document by my distinguished colleague, Iran's Finance Minister, to serve as a possible basis for an integrated effort on a world scale.

Distinguished members will, of course, remember the eloquent call of President Boumediene for a special programme to be undertaken to lighten the burden on the affected developing countries. My delegation

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greatly appreciates the spirit that animates those proposals. I am confident that as the genesis and nature of the problems that confront the affected countries are analysed and appreciated, it would become possible that the response matches the requirements of the situation. Early action on their part will dispel uncertainties and difficulties, promote the spirit of collective self-reliance in the developing world, and serve wider causes.

Distinguished leaders from industrial countries have also indicated in their statements their awareness of the necessity to bestow urgent attention on the needs of the affected nations. Several valuable suggestions have been made in this regards. With your permission, Sir, I would invite particular reference to the determination of the European Economic Community to examine forthwith "the most effective procedures" for an exceptional international aid project, with the aim of neutralising the increase in import costs for countries "in a situation of acute crisis".

I know financial matters have ordinarily their own complexities. It normally takes time to settle them. We must not, however, forget that we are facing an extraordinary

and unprecedented situation. We cannot find our way towards an effective solution by the light of our past experience. "The traditional mechanisms for financial aid", to quote the distinguished Minister from France, "will not be sufficient to cope with the dramatic situation of some developing countries". This situation casts a duty on us to evolve new attitudes and techniques to resolve the difficulties that confronts.

The phenomenon we are experiencing is not less damaging in its effect on the affected population than a natural calamity. In the event of natural calamities, urgent and effective measures are normally adopted. Should not the international community respond with similar action in the present situation?

This situation is the product of the erratic functioning of the price mechanism and the arbitrariness of the economic system inherited from a past in which colonialism and other forms of exploitation were the dominant features. We must take steps, without any further delay to correct the mechanism and restructure the system. The countries in special difficulty need additional liquidity to cope with their present situation and to adjust their economies to the changing economic environment. There are many ways in which this need for additional liquidity can be met. Various devices can be contrived to this end. In the choice of remedies there is room for variety, for individual preferences. In this connection it is, however, necessary to bear in mind the need to avoid transfer of real resources from affected countries. Accumulation of short term liabilities could add to their burden, without mitigating their difficulties. There is both scope and need for action at the national level, at the group level, and on a world scale. It may be possible to take such action with in a broad global framework.

No excessive sacrifice is expected or needed from any nations. If each nation does the best it can, the burden of all will be lightened. Our common effort should be to neutralise the rise in import cost so that no developing country is starved of essential

development inputs or feels obliged to add to its unbearably heavy debt burden.

This Assembly is fully aware of the nature of the emergency. We should, therefore, evolve adequate recommendations for urgent measures to be adopted by the member states to cope with it. Should these measures be delayed, or prove to be inadequate, or impose fresh burdens on specially affected countries, the ultimate political and economic consequences for all nations could be very serious. The disastrous situation that has been building up over so many years could perhaps have been avoided if the repeated declarations made by developing countries over the last ten years had not gone unheeded. We trust we shall have the determination and wisdom to ensure that we do not again miss the opportunity provided by this special session.

President Boumediene in his address has called upon the distinguished Assembly to examine to what extent we can devise and work out both jointly and separately new ideas, new methods, new attitudes, new institutions and new goals. The experience of successive failures and some very limited successes should guide us in tackling our task with speed and vigour.

The long and agonising history of exploitation, intended or not, cannot be reversed

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nor its consequences erased by anger or revenge or confrontation. All member-states are currently beset with uncertainty and apprehension and now appear convinced that the solution lies in a meaningful, constructive and co-operative endeavour. We must go beyond generalised declarations of principles. We should bend all our energies to adopt a practical programme of action and implement it in the coming months and years through the relevant agencies and organisations of the U.N. system. May I put forward in this connection some suggestions for your consideration.

EIGHT-POINT PROPOSAL

1. Development targets set out in the International Development Strategy adopted for the second development decade by the United Nations in December, 1970 be reaffirmed and wherever necessary, in the light of recent experience, amplified.

2. A comprehensive policy for revalorization of prices of raw materials should be elaborated, spelling out the objectives and laying down the guidelines for a time bound programme of action to be entrusted to UNCTAD for implementation.

3. Emergency needs of specially affected countries should be met by timely provision of additional liquidity. The criteria for contribution and disbursement and relevant operational procedures and terms should be determined by the essential characteristics of this exceptional situation. If resources fall short of requirements, recourse may also be had to such measures as commodity loans or grants, partial neutralisation of increase in export prices and suspension of export taxes.

4. A scheme to reform the international monetary system, providing a substantial degree of stability should be formulated and implemented as soon as possible. The additional liquidity generated by the action of OPEC and the keen interest taken by its member states to promote development funds makes it much easier to accord primacy to the developmental potential of a reformed monetary system. The need for a SDR aid link has been widely-accepted. Current economic developments lend urgency to its early establishment. A more equitable pattern of voting rights in the International Monetary Fund and other international financing institutions should be established at an early date.

5. The targets for development aid provided in the International Development Strategy should be fulfilled, and the current arrangements revised to provide for speedier disbursement on softer terms.

6. The staggering burden of debt repayments greatly hampers the speed of development. A comprehensive policy based on

equity and development needs should be worked out.

7. In the coming months and years larger sums of money are likely to be available to the international capital market. A scheme should be devised to tap these markets for development funds. A scheme to subsidise interest rates will make it possible for a portion to these funds to be lent to developing countries on soft terms.

8. Financial and technical assistance should be made available to developing countries for the creation of additional capacity for production of scarce commodities such as fertilisers and steel to be set up in areas where the needed raw materials are available.

I have tried to put forward our view on this important subject without cavil or rancour. We would suggest that our proposals together with those made by other delegations should be studied by the appropriate organs, agencies and institutions of the U.N. system in the speediest manner and in a co-ordinated way. Indeed such measures, as may be agreed upon, can be made a part of the second development strategy to which we are all committed. We would co-operate with other delegations in working out such a plan of action as is feasible during the special session.

The truly gigantic difficulties we face will not be removed by creating conditions of chaos or by a bitter confrontation between the rich and the poor. Only through co-operation and mutual accommodation, through concession and compromise, can we hope to achieve a wiser and fairer use of the world's resources and put accumulated skill and experience to the service of mankind. We still have to prove that the weakest among us

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will not suffer and that the sovereign states can and will cooperate with each other to the benefit of all and detriment of none. If the present Assembly marks even the beginning of this task, we may finally succeed in removing hunger, disease, ignorance and multitude of other ills. This indeed is the

new economic order on which alone we can build a solid and reliable structure of international peace and security.

INDIA USA ALGERIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA IRAN IRAQ SWITZERLAND KUWAIT  
FRANCE

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

Iranian Prime Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Shrimati Indira Gandhi

The following is the text of the speech of the Prime Minister of Iran, Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, at the dinner given by him in honour of the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in Tehran on April 29, 1974:

It is with immense personal pleasure that I cordially welcome this evening a person so remarkably well-known, respected and admired universally that an introduction seems hardly needed. The political leader of the world's largest democracy, a lady of outstanding intellect and of exquisite charm, we are delighted to have with us tonight Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India.

It is diplomatic custom on occasions such as this to refer to the historic ties of friendship and understanding between the two countries. But when the cultural and spiritual lives of two peoples have been so intricately interwoven for over four millennia, as is the case with the Iranian and Indian peoples, the task becomes admittedly a difficult one.

From that most ancient document of world literature, the Rig-Veda, the inimitable culture of India has evolved to assert that

"knowledge is the key to understanding, and understanding the only path to true liberation." The social philosophy emanating from this view of individual salvation is tolerance: the acceptance of others as the seed which blooms into the acceptance of ourselves. In accepting others, we accept diversity; and in accepting diversity, we allow for change. Change is the basis of all growth, and growth the fundamental condition of life. The culture of India is in essence, therefore, a resounding plea for the affirmation of life.

In this spiritual evolution, the culture of Iran, in both its Zoroastrian and Islamic manifestations, has played a part. In our tradition, we have gone so far as to assert that perfect knowledge is synonymous with, and indeed the key to, perfect love. In a world fraught with discord and characterised by disparity, our common heritage of understanding and tolerance are assets that serve us well; for they are the preconditions for exploring solutions to the problems besetting the human community.

It is a valid commentary on the spirit of our time that the difficulties the international community faces today emanate not so much from war and conflict as from a growing recognition of the interdependence of nations. The disarray in the world economic order, which affects us all, requires a planetary solution that would safeguard the interests and aspirations of all nations, developed and developing alike. For too long now has the Third World been penalised for its inability to protect itself against the economic preponderance of the developed economies. As the Shahanshah has observed in his message to the Special Session of the General Assembly, the "outcry of the Third World against unfair trade has struck a silent chord of apathy. Its raw materials offered at cheap

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prices and in abundance have glutted the developed markets, leading not only to the further affluence of the rich nations, but also to unrestrained waste. The economies of the developing countries have become increasingly vulnerable to fluctuations in the world money markets, in the regulation of which

they wield no significant influence. They have been denied unrestricted access to world markets, while no adequate international division of labour has yet materialized."

It was inevitable that the Pursuit of such myopic policies by the industrial nations should ultimately have led to the realisation that the earth's resources were not inexhaustible, and that some of them, like oil, could never be replenished. That realisation has dawned upon us today, with the consequence that the logic of the laws of supply and demand, operating in conditions of scarcity, have led to higher prices for the world's raw materials, including oil.

it is dishonest and inelegant to argue, as some have done, that the woes besetting the world economy are the result of the higher price of oil. Rampant inflation in the industrial countries which, through their exports, is hitting the developing countries hardest, and the astronomic increases in the price of wheat, sugar, oil seeds, not to mention industrial goods, must all be considered before any finger of accusation is unjustly pointed. The price of oil now reflects the cost of producing similar energy from alternative sources. its price, at least to the consumers in the importing countries, could be considerably lower, were it not, to quote an American Senator, "for the obscene level of profits enjoyed by the international oil companies."

The exporters of the world's raw materials cannot be expected to deny their people the true value of their diminishing national wealth, in order to subsidise the greater affluence, and at times indolence, of the industrial: countries.

On the other hand, it was recognised and accepted that the higher Price of oil Could cause disruptions in the Plans of the developing countries and mate, in the short term, certain problems of adjustment in the world economy. This was why the Shahanshah took the initiative to propose a constructive, disinterested and far-reaching solution to the problems facing the developing as well as the developed countries.

The Shahanshah's proposal is already known, and it is now up to the international community to decide on its outcome. The assistance that we propose is offered unconditionally. It is made not in a spirit of charity, but in recognition of the right of all to live in freedom from hunger and poverty. What is important to realise is that for the first time a positive and generous attitude of international-mindedness has been shown in seeking global solutions to world problems. Whether the proposal is eventually implemented or not, it will in no way detract from Iran's avowed intention to come to the aid of those in need. The co-operation that we seek, internationally and bilaterally, aims to promote a more rational and equitable world economic order.

Madam Prime Minister, it is a source of particular gratification for us in Iran to see our bilateral relations with your great country in so excellent a state. No clouds of suspicion or misunderstanding mar the atmosphere of these relations. Indeed, a new spirit of mutual comprehension and trust, born of a deeper appreciation of our respective positions and aspirations now prevails between us- and we greatly welcome this state of affairs.

With equal fervour, we welcome the measures taken and supported by your Government that have led to a considerable easing of tension in the South Asian sub-continent. The constructive and conciliatory attitude adopted by all Governments concerned has restored to the international affairs of the sub-continent a marked degree of stability.

Madam Prime Minister, in extending to you once again a most cordial welcome to our country, I want to assure you of the Iranian people's sentiments of esteem and true friendship for you and your noble compatriots. I know that you share with us the conviction that the future economic and political co-operation of our two countries can be a most vital instrument in securing greater prosperity for our people and reinforcing the foundations of peace in Asia.

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Reply

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the dinner given in her honour by the Prime Minister of Iran:

Prime Minister, Excellencies, distinguished guests, it is indeed a pleasure for me to be in Iran once again and to meet you, Prime Minister. May I thank you for your kind words and the generous and thoughtful hospitality which has been extended to me and to my party? India's links with this great country go far back into pre-history and there has been an almost continuous interflow of influences. In today's rapidly changing situation it is especially important to have the opportunity of meeting and exchanging views with the Shahanshah, with you, Prime Minister, and other Iranian leaders.

Twenty-six years ago my father spoke of India's tryst with destiny. When I look back to that momentous day I can still feel the surge of hope which imbued an entire people. It seemed then that sacrifice and hardship were at an end and that we had at long last broken through the major barrier to our progress. We could not foresee the myriad other obstacles which would thwart our every move: some remnants of colonialism, some born of our own inexperience and the magnitude of our tasks, natural calami-

ties of vast dimensions, repeated aggression from outside and other international developments. Yet, our people have faced these challenges with courage and in spite of the crippling burdens we have had to bear, we are moving forward in our endeavour to improve our agriculture and build our industry through the planned development of our natural and human resources. Wealth is produced by refining raw materials and wealth producing capacity is generated by trained minds. Our national income and agricultural output have doubled, and many basic and sophisticated industries have been established. In the volume and variety of industrial production India now ranks in the first dozen industrial countries. But we are poignantly aware that the problems of poverty will take many years to solve and that as we go along they are joined by the no-less complex problems of development and growth. Many people, the old as well as the young, are lured by the affluence and better opportunities of the Western world. There is always the temptation to imitate and to seek short cuts. But short cuts are never without dangers and, in following them, we may risk losing our way. Our every programme must be judged from the point of view of our people's needs. We must specify our own standards, suited to our climate, our character and the future we envisage.-

In the last months, the world situation has changed dramatically posing new problems and bringing greater responsibilities. At this crucial stage Iran is progressing under the able leadership of the Shahanshah who is modern in mind yet committed to preserve Persia's ancient culture. You, Prime Minister, have served your country over the past many years with elegance and distinction. Iran and India have inherited similar problems. There is wide scope to augment the range and depth of our industrial and scientific co-operation. Five years ago, during the Shahanshah's visit to India an Indo-Iranian joint commission was established. Since then, our wish to work together is taking concrete form and several measures have been adopted to enhance the area of our economic mutuality.

We welcome Iran's emphasis on regional co-operation in trade and economic development. Idealism and pragmatism are not always in conflict. For our own strength we should work for the economic development of the entire region.

As the Government and people of Iran know, India has stood consistently for co-existence and co-operation among nations, irrespective of their political systems or foreign policies. It has been our conviction that in the contemporary world, where technology is binding nations closer together, it is short-sighted to seek exclusive relationships. Friendship with one group of countries should not mean hostility for another. Every country has distinctive problems because of its historical experience, geographical location and the peculiar endowments of its natural wealth. Answers to these questions

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should be such as will lessen the world's frictions and foster a sense of common, human responsibility.

It is in this spirit that we in India have approached problems existing between Pakistan, Bangladesh and ourselves. We are glad that our initiatives to remove mistrust, to mitigate hatred and to find solutions, not to satisfy national pride but from the human angle, have borne some fruit. At an important moment in our recent history, we gave reality to our ideal of peace.

I am grateful to His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah, to Your Excellency and to the Government of Iran for the invitation which has brought me here. I hope it will further strengthen our bilateral friendship and co-operation. Valuable as these will be in terms of mutual benefit, I venture to think that they will also be of some importance in the wider context of regional co-operation and global peace.

Prime Minister, you have referred to the Vedas. The sages of the Vedas beheld the dawn of knowledge. The imperishable truth which they celebrated and their message of hope and fearlessness are a legacy not for

my country alone but for all mankind.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I propose a toast to Their Imperial Majesties the Shahanshah and the Shahbano, to His Excellency the Prime Minister of Iran, to the continued prosperity of the people of Iran and to the growth and fulfilment of Indo-Iran relations.

IRAN USA INDIA PERU BANGLADESH

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

Shahanshah's Remarks at Dinner for Shrimati Indira Gandhi

The following short speech was delivered by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah of Iran at dinner for Shrimati Indira Gandhi in Tehran on April 30, 1974:

Mrs. Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to express our deep satisfaction once more at the visit that you are paying to our country although it is short. We know that your presence is needed in your country for the tremendous effort for the betterment of the lives of your people. Our satisfaction at this trip is, on our part, reflected by our sincere desire to establish the closest possible relations with your great country. So many affinities exist between our two peoples - our historical background, our way of seeing things, our philosophy of life. I believe that today, more than ever, the sentiment is shared by both our countries and our peoples that by developing our friendship, we shall not only be serving the cause of our respective countries but will eventually give - at least we shall try to give - to our region of the world a

The reference is to the final of the Asian Youth Football Championship played at Bangkok on April 30, 1974 in which Iran and India drew with each other.

new meaning, a new impetus to try to get to-ether and by doing so solve more easily the problems facing all of us. These problems are not negligible. It will require all the concentrated efforts of all the countries of this region to achieve our goal which is to live in harmony and peace, to achieve better standards of living for our people, and also to have humanitarian goals as well as material goals in our lives, because all the progress that we might make in the material field would eventually be empty if we lose the heritage of our past glory and our philosophy of life. In that domain, I think, our two countries could give a great deal.

I shall not enter into the subjects of our very fruitful discussions because the results have been either announced or will be soon announced. But I can say this, that I could not find better goodwill and better understanding during any conversation with any other responsible leader of any other country. I think that this spirit of friendship and cooperation has reached extraordinary proportions because we have heard that even football teams fight for victory have decided to make a draw today in your honour. I hope that what we have stated will continue and eventually go from strength to strength.

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In wishing you, Mrs. Prime Minister, a happy stay in our country, Godspeed home, success in your work and also success and happiness and glory to your great country, I would like to ask our guests to raise their glass to your very good health, to the prosperity of the people of India and friendship between our two countries.

IRAN USA INDIA

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

IRAN

Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner by Shahanshah

Following is the text of the Prime Minister's speech at dinner given by the Shahanshah, Tehran, April 30, 1974:

Your Imperial Majesties, May I first of all thank you very much for giving us the opportunity not only of being in Iran but also being here in your presence today. You have spoken of our talks. For me it was a rare privilege and pleasure to have this conversation with you, and I can say that I have learnt a great deal through it. I should like to thank you also for the very gracious words which you have uttered just now.

It is a pleasure to be in Iran in spring the season of renewal. It is also the flowering time of another brilliant epoch in the long history of this ancient land.

Our countries have pursued different paths but even in the life of the contemporary Indian, there are many reminders of our past links. Our speech is punctuated with words of Persian, and music is interlaced with Persian melodies and the Persian style is clearly seen in many of our historic monuments. So, no Indian can feel a complete stranger here. I come as a representative of a people who cherish their kinship with you in thought and custom. I bring you greetings from the people of India and their message of regard and friendship.

We have watched with interest the increasing tempo of Iran's advance under Your Imperial Majesty's dynamic leadership. Iran has entered the era of rapid, all-round industrialisation, commanding as it does the means of investment out of its own exports. Equally significant, I think, are the new

directions being given to rural development, to education, and health services for the tribal people. Your Majesty is taking special care in the choice of appropriate technology to evolve a set of values which would be in keeping with your national identity as well as the aspirations of your people. The Shahbano's deep personal interest and patronage has given fresh impetus to many aspects of cultural development.

In India appreciate the steps taken by Iran and other friends in the neighbourhood to gain greater control over their natural resources and to secure larger revenues from their exports of oil for the development of their economies. For too long have the terms of trade operated in favour of affluent industrialised countries. This has been one of the major factors contributing to the phenomenal rise in the living standards of developed countries particularly in the last two decades. We are glad that Iran and other oil exporting countries have sought to redress this trend through collective action.

However, in the process, developing countries which are dependent on imports of oil, have been hit hard. It would indeed be a pity if the correction of one imbalance were to lead to another. The task of statesmanship in oil exporting countries should be to find ways and means of softening the impact of the rise in oil prices on the economies of under developed countries. Hence we wholeheartedly welcome the initiatives taken by Your Imperial Majesty to help developing countries on a bilateral and multilateral basis. We hope that they will fructify and further strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation among all developing nations.

The world is at a turning point in history. For three centuries since the industrial revolution, mankind, bedazzled by science and technology, has been rushing along meeting each crisis with hastily contrived responses instead of clearly defining its goals and charting the course towards them. Suddenly we find that what we had mistaken for radiance is but superficial glitter and what was to give happiness has brought only transitory pleasure and that also to a few. All over the

world, there is a questioning of the methods the structure of society, the values them-

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selves. Are the three inseparably interlocked? Or is it possible for man to redesign the structure and adopt new methods, not to jettison timeless values but to give them reality - with the help of, not at the cost of, his fellows and environment so that the spirit of cooperation helps every one to live and grow in his own way without harm or hurt to others, each persons being free to shape his personality as each nation does its own? If I have the Shahbano's permission, I should like to pick up a point which she made yesterday: We should aim at bringing about equality of social opportunity. Perhaps economic competition which has become so much a part of every sphere of activity is unavoidable. But it need not be so obsessive as to hinder cooperation. The importance of material things cannot be ignored. But this does not imply plunder of the environment or a wasting or destruction of the irreplaceable, nor should it preclude a respect for other values.

We in the developing countries and indeed all the deprived and under-privileged of this earth echo poet Saadi's question: (of course, all of you know it better than I and I can only say it in English): "Have you arranged the affairs of the world so well that you want to assault the heavens?" But man's greatness and his future he in his unceasing endeavour to expand his mental horizons. The question before us is whether the vision of the future cannot incorporate a better present.

Amongst the qualities which Iran and India have in common is the genius for assimilation without sacrificing individuality. Can we not assimilate the best of the new and adapt the benefits of modern science to more relevant patterns of satisfaction? This could yet be the greatest contribution that our two nations could make to the human family.

Ours is surely the age of decision, the first time when man has not only the oppor-

tunity but also the knowledge and the tools with which to give conscious guidance to events and re-fashion the world, to renew its life-giving quality and soul-stirring beauty.

Once again, I should like to thank you very much, Your Imperial Majesties. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to rise and join me in drinking a toast to the health of Their Imperial Majesties, Shahanshah and Shahbano, the prosperity and welfare of the people of Iran and the further growth of friendship between Iran and India.

IRAN USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Indo-Mongolian Joint Communique

The following Joint Communique was issued in New Delhi on April 19, 1974, on the talks held during the visit of H.E. Mr. D. Erdembileg, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic:

A delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic led by His Excellency Mr. D. Erdembileg, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, visited India from April 13 to 20, 1974 for the third round of bilateral talks between the Foreign Offices of India and Mongolia, The Mongolian delegation consisted of the following:

H.E. Mr. D. Erdembileg, Deputy Foreign Minister of Mongolian People's Republic..... Leader

H.E. Mr. Buyantyn Dashtseren, Amba-

sador of Mongolia in India  
Mr. Dashdavagyn Chuluundorj, Mongolian Foreign Office  
Mr. Sh. Lhashid, Counsellor, Mongolian Embassy

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The Indian delegation consisted of the following:

Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs                      Leader  
Shri V. V. Paranjpe, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs  
Shri A. S. Gill, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce  
Shri P. K. Budhwar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs

The Mongolian delegation was received by Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi on April 19, 1974. On the same day they called on the Minister of State, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, who later on entertained them to lunch. The delegation also called on Shri Kewal Singh, the Foreign Secretary. The delegation paid a brief visit to Bombay and Mussoorie.

The bilateral talks were held at the Ministry of External Affairs on April 17 and 18, 1974 and took place in an atmosphere of utmost friendship and cordiality. The two sides exchanged views on bilateral relations and international issues of common interest. The talks revealed complete identity or close similarity of views on all matters discussed.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction at the development of friendly relations between India and Mongolia and reaffirmed their determination to further strengthen the same for the benefit of peace, security and progress in Asia and the world.

In the course of the talks, both sides noted with satisfaction the fruitful results of the visit to India by His Excellency, Mr. Yu. Tsendenbal, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic in February, 1973 and underlined the importance of the Indo-Mongolian Joint Declaration issued on that occasion, which lays

down the principles governing their bilateral and international relations.

The Mongolian delegation handed over to the Indian delegation an invitation from their Foreign Minister to Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, to pay an official friendly visit to Mongolia.

It was decided that the Fourth Round of Bilateral talks will be held in Ulan Bator at a mutually convenient time.

MONGOLIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE

Bangladesh-India-Pakistan Agreement

Following is the text of the tripartite Agreement signed by Mr. Kamal Hossain, Minister of Foreign Affairs for Bangladesh, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs for India and Mr. Aziz Ahmed Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs for Pakistan, in New Delhi on April 9, 1974:

On July 2, 1972, the President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of India signed an historic agreement at Simla under which they resolved that "the two countries put an end to the conflict and confrontation that have hitherto marred their relations and work for the promotion of a friendly and harmonious relationship and the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent." The Agreement also provided for the settlement of "their differences by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations or by any other peaceful means mutually agreed upon."

2. Bangladesh welcomed the Simla Agreement. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh strongly supported its objective of reconciliation, good neighbourliness and establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent.

3. The humanitarian problems arising in the wake of the tragic events of 1971 constituted a major obstacle in the way of reconciliation and normalisation among the countries of the sub-continent. In the absence of recognition, it was not possible to have tripartite talks to settle the humanitarian problems as Bangladesh could not participate in such a meeting except on the basis of sovereign equality.

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4. On April 17, 1973, India and Bangladesh took a major step forward to break the deadlock on the humanitarian issues by setting aside the political problem of recognition. In a Declaration issued on that date they said that they "are resolved to continue their efforts to reduce tension, promote friendly and harmonious relationship in the sub-continent and work together towards the establishment of a durable peace." Inspired by this vision and "in the larger interests of reconciliation, peace and stability in the sub-continent" they jointly proposed that the problem of the detained and stranded persons should be resolved on humanitarian considerations through simultaneous repatriation of all such persons except those Pakistani prisoners of war who might be required by the Government of Bangladesh for trial on certain charges.

5. Following the Declaration there were a series of talks between India and Bangladesh and India and Pakistan. These talks resulted in an agreement at Delhi on August 28, 1973 between India and Pakistan with the Concurrence of Bangladesh which provided for a solution of the outstanding humanitarian problems.

6. In pursuance of this Agreement, the process of three-way repatriation commenced on September 19, 1973. So far nearly 300,000

persons have been repatriated which has generated an atmosphere of reconciliation and paved the way for normalisation of relations in the sub-continent.

7. In February 1974, recognition took place thus facilitating the participation of Bangladesh in the tripartite meeting envisaged in the Delhi Agreement, on the basis of sovereign equality. Accordingly, His Excellency, Dr. Kamal Hossain, Foreign Minister of the Government of Bangladesh, His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India and His Excellency, Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs of the Government of Pakistan, met in New Delhi from April 5 to April 9, 1974 and discussed the various issues mentioned in the Delhi Agreement, in particular the question of the 195 prisoners of war and the completion of the three-way process of repatriation involving Bangalees in Pakistan, Pakistanis in Bangladesh and Pakistani prisoners of war in India.

8. The Ministers reviewed the progress of the three way repatriation under the Delhi Agreement of August 28, 1973. They were gratified that such a large number of persons detained or stranded in the three countries had since reached their destinations.

9. The Ministers also considered steps that needed to be taken in order expeditiously to bring the process of the three-way repatriation to a satisfactory conclusion.

10. The Indian side stated that the remaining Pakistani prisoners of war and civilian internees in India to be repatriated under the Delhi Agreement, numbering approximately 6,500, would be repatriated at the usual pace of a train on alternate days and the likely short-fall due to the suspension of trains from April 10 to April 19, 1974, on account of Kumbh Mela, would be made up by running additional trains after April 19. It was thus hoped that the repatriation of prisoners of war would be completed by the end of April, 1974.

11. The Pakistan side stated that the re-

patriation of Bangladesh nationals from Pakistan was approaching completion. The remaining Bangladesh nationals in Pakistan would also be repatriated without let or hindrance.

12. In respect of non-Bangalees in Bangladesh, the Pakistan side stated that the Government of Pakistan had already issued clearances for movement to Pakistan in favour of those non-Bangalees who were either domiciled in former West Pakistan, were employees of the Central Government and their families or were members of the divided families, irrespective of their original domicile. The issuance of clearances to 25,000 persons who constitute hardship cases was also in progress. The Pakistan side reiterated that all those who fall under the first three categories would be received by Pakistan without any limit as to numbers. In respect of persons whose applications had been rejected, the Government of Pakistan would, upon request, provide reasons why any particular case was rejected. Any aggrieved applicant could, at any time, seek a review of his application provided he was able to supply new facts or further information to the Government of Pakistan in support of his contention that he qualified in one or other of the three categories. The claims of such persons would not be time-barred. In

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the event of the decision of review of a case being adverse the Governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh might seek to resolve it by mutual consultation.

13. The question of 195 Pakistani prisoners of war was discussed by the three Ministers, in the context of the earnest desire of the Governments for reconciliation, peace and friendship in the sub-continent. The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh stated that the excesses and manifold crimes committed by these prisoners of war constituted, according to the relevant provisions of the U.N. General Assembly Resolutions and International Law, war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, and that there was universal consensus that persons charged with such crimes as the 195 Pakistani prison-

ers of war should be held to account and subjected to the due process of law. The Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs of the Government of Pakistan said that his Government condemned and deeply regretted any crimes that may have been committed.

14. In this connection the three Ministers noted that the matter should be viewed in the context of the determination of the three countries to continue resolutely to work for reconciliation. The Ministers further noted that following recognition, the Prime Minister of Pakistan had declared that he would visit Bangladesh in response to the invitation of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and appealed to the people of Bangladesh to forgive and forget the mistakes of the past, in order to promote reconciliation. Similarly, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, had declared with regard to the atrocities and destruction committed in Bangladesh in 1971, that he wanted the people to forget the past and to make a fresh start, stating that the people of Bangladesh knew how to forgive.

15. In the light of the foregoing and, in particular, having regard to the appeal of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to the people of Bangladesh to forgive and forget the mistakes of the past, the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh stated that the Government of Bangladesh had decided not to proceed with the trial, as an act of clemency. It was agreed that the 195 prisoners of war may be repatriated to Pakistan along with the other prisoners of war now in the process of repatriation under the Delhi Agreement.

16. The Ministers expressed their conviction that the above agreements provide a firm basis for the resolution of the humanitarian problems arising out of the conflict of 1971. They reaffirmed the vital stake the seven hundred million people of the three countries have in peace and progress and reiterated the resolve of their Governments to work for the promotion of normalisation of relations and the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent.

Signed in New Delhi on April 9, 1974,  
in three originals, each of which is equally  
authentic.

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

### TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE

#### India-Pakistan Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Joint Communique reviewing the progress of the process of normalisation between India and Pakistan under Simla Agreement was issued in New Delhi on April 9, 1974 during the visit of Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan:

During the presence of His Excellency Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan, and his delegation in New Delhi from April 5 to April 9, 1974, it was decided by mutual consent to review the progress in the implementation of the Simla Agreement. The two Ministers agreed that since the signing of the Simla Agreement, there had been steady progress towards the realisation of its objectives. They reiterated the resolve of the two countries to settle their differences in accordance with the provisions of the Simla Agreement.

It was agreed that the time had come for exchange of delegations to discuss the implementation of normalisation measures envisaged in paragraph 3 of the Simla Agree-

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ment. Discussions would commence shortly for working out fresh agreements, where necessary for the resumption of postal and telecommunication links, restoration of travel

facilities, particularly for pilgrims on a priority basis. Steps would also be taken progressively to implement other measures mentioned in paragraph 3 - of the Simla Agreement.

On the question of military and para military personnel the two countries reported missing following the conflict of 1971 it was agreed that, in this purely humanitarian matter, further efforts should be made to locate them. In this regard the two countries will afford necessary facilities to the Tracing Agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The two Ministers signed an agreement for the release and repatriation of all nationals of either country detained in the other prior to the conflict of 1971.

INDIA PAKISTAN MALI USA

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE

Agreement between India and Pakistan

Following is the text of the Agreement between India and Pakistan on release and repatriation of persons detained in either country prior to the conflict of 1971 signed by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs for the Government of India and Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs for the Government of Pakistan in New Delhi on April 9, 1974:

The Minister of External Affairs,  
Government of India, and the Minister of  
State for Defence and Foreign Affairs,

Government of Pakistan, examined the question of the nationals of either country detained in the other prior to the conflict of 1971. They agreed that this was a humanitarian question which should be settled quickly with a view to alleviating the suffering of the hundreds of individuals involved and their families.

2. With this objective in view, the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan have agreed as follows:

- (i) All nationals of either country detained in the other prior to the conflict of 1971 shall be released and repatriated, irrespective of the charges on which they are detained, with the maximum possible despatch but in no case later than August 14, 1974. After that date, neither country shall continue to detain any national of the other who was arrested prior to the conflict of 1971.
- (ii) The process of release and repatriation shall commence without waiting for the compilation of complete lists of such detainees. The detainees so far visited by the representatives of the Swiss Missions, shall be repatriated forthwith. The remaining detainees shall similarly be released and repatriated after they are located by the representatives of the Swiss Mission in either country.
- (iii) The two Governments shall give extensive publicity to this Agreement in the Press and over the Radio and bring it to the attention of the Governments of their States Provinces and of the authorities in charge of all jails, prisons and detention centres for immediate compliance.
- (iv) Each Government shall provide all necessary facilities to the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross to trace those of the pre-war detainees who are still re-

ported to be missing after August 14, 1974.

(v) If a detainee claims to be the national of the country in which he is detained, his case shall be investigated and decided by mutual agreement between the two Governments.

(vi) Pending their release and repatriation all detainees shall be treated with humanity and consideration.

3. This Agreement shall enter into force on signature. Signed in duplicate at New Delhi, on April 9, 1974.

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INDIA PAKISTAN USA

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

## Volume No

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TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE

Statement by the Minister of External Affairs in Lok Sabha

The following statement was made by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, in the Lok Sabha on April 10, 1974 regarding the Bangladesh-India-Pakistan Agreement:

I have the honour to lay on the table of the House, the text of the Bangladesh-India-Pakistan Agreement, signed in New Delhi on April 9, 1974. This Agreement is in culmination of our efforts since the end of the conflict in 1971 to bring about a resolution of all humanitarian issues arising out

of the events of 1971 through bilateral and peaceful means. As the House is aware, India undaunted by the difficulties and obstacles, continued to take repeated initiatives, in consultation with the People's Republic of Bangladesh, so that today India and Bangladesh can say with some satisfaction that our efforts have borne fruit. The three countries of the sub-continent have reached the threshold of reconciliation. This is largely due to the enlightened statesmanship of the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan who were prepared to work for mutual accommodation and reconciliation in the larger interests of their people. In this context India's well-known stand advocating the establishment of harmonious and peaceful relations between the three countries of the sub-continent based on mutuality of interest and equality has been amply vindicated.

In April 1973 Bangladesh and India took the initiative of issuing a Joint Declaration delinking the political questions from the resolution of humanitarian issues. This was a major step forward to break the deadlock, existing at that time due to the non-recognition of Bangladesh. Following the Declaration, India again took the initiative to hold, a series of talks with Bangladesh and Pakistan which ultimately resulted in the Delhi Agreement of August 1973. This Agreement has already enabled nearly 300,000 people to return to their homes. Almost all the Bangalees in Pakistan, who wanted to return to Bangladesh have been repatriated, 84,000 Pakistani Prisoners of War and civilian internees have been repatriated by India while over 90,000 Pakistan nationals from Bangladesh have so far been cleared for repatriation to Pakistan. In accordance with the recent Tripartite Agreement, Pakistan has reiterated that all those Pakistanis in Bangladesh who fall in the specified categories would be received by Pakistan without any limit its to numbers, and that the rejected cases would be subject to review between the Governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh. This Agreement, brings about a final and mutually agreed solution to the humanitarian problems arising out of the conflict of 1971.

The question of 195 prisoners of war has

been resolved to the mutual satisfaction of both Bangladesh and Pakistan Governments and we welcome this development. This decision, is in the larger interests of the 700 million people of the three countries and signifies the resolve of their Governments to work for the promotion of normalisation of relations and establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent.

I am also placing on the table of the House the text of a bilateral Agreement between India and Pakistan on the release and repatriation of pre-war detainees and the text of a Joint Communique. The Agreement on the release of pre-war detainees denotes an important step which will bring about an end to the continued detention of hundreds of Indian nationals languishing in Pakistani jails for many years, some of them since 1966. This Agreement envisages that all Indian and Pakistani nationals of this category will be released and repatriated by both countries latest by the 14th August 1974.

The progress in the implementation of the Simla Agreement, particularly the implementation of normalisation measures envisaged in paragraph 3, was reviewed. In the last note sent by us to Pakistan on 25 February, we had suggested that not only should discussions commence on the resumption of all forms of communications between the two countries but that restoration of travel should also be discussed to alleviate the hardship caused to the people on both sides. Pakistan has now agreed to exchange delegations to discuss and work out fresh agreements on postal and telecommunication links, resto-

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ration of travel facilities, particularly for pilgrims on a priority basis.

Yet another humanitarian problem, that of military and para-military personnel reported missing following the conflict of 1971 has also been tackled. It was agreed that the two countries will afford necessary facilities to the tracing agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross to enquire into such cases with the help of the local authorities,

BANGLADESH INDIA USA PAKISTAN MALI

**Date :** Apr 01, 1974

**May**

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BANGLADESH INDIA FINLAND IRAN PAKISTAN SENEGAL

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India-Bangladesh Joint Declaration

The following joint declaration was issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1974, at the end of the visit of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and signed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries:

At the invitation of Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, visited New Delhi from May 12 to 16, 1974. The Bangladesh Prime Minister was accompanied by Mr. Khandker Moshtaq Ahmed, Minister of Commerce and Foreign Trade, Dr. Kamal Hossain, Foreign Minister and Dr. Nurul Islam, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and senior officials of the Government of Bangladesh.

2. During his stay in New Delhi the Bangladesh Prime Minister called on the President of India, His Excellency, Shri V. V. Giri, and had a very friendly exchange of views.

3. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh paid homage to the memories of Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and laid wreaths at Rajghat and Shantivana.

4. The two Prime Ministers discussed matters of mutual interest on several occasions during the visit. These discussions were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and friendship and were marked by frankness and mutual trust, reflecting the strong bonds of friendship and understanding between the Governments and the peoples of the two countries.

5. The Bangladesh Minister of Commerce and Foreign Trade held separate talks with the Minister for Commerce of India

6. The Bangladesh Foreign Minister also held talks with the Indian Foreign Minister on bilateral relations and on the international situation.

7. The Deputy Chairman of the Bangladesh Planning Commission held talks with Members of the Planning Commission of India.

8. The opportunity was also availed of to have discussions at the officials level on various aspects of relations between the two countries.

9. Participating in the talks from the Bangladesh side were Mr. Khandker Moshtaq Ahmed, Minister for Commerce and Foreign Trade, Dr. Kamal Hossain, Foreign Minister, Dr. Nurul Islam, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Dr. A. R. Mallick, Bangladesh High Commissioner in India, Prof. Rahman Sobhan, Member, Planning Commission, Mr. B. M. Abbas, Adviser to the Prime Minister, Mr. Nurul Islam, Secretary, Foreign Trade, Dr. M. A. Sattar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, Acting

Foreign Secretary, Mr. Asafuddin, Acting Secretary, Water Resources Division and other senior officials. On the Indian side were Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Prof D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Shri K. C. Pant, Minister in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, Shri Surendrapal Singh, Minister of State, External Affairs, Prof. S. Chakravarti, Member, Planning Commission, Shri S. Dutt, High Commissioner for India in Bangladesh, Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Shri P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Shri Y. T. Shah, Commerce Secretary, Shri R. V. Subramaniam, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation and Power, Shri B. K. Sanyal, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and other senior officials.

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10. The two Prime Ministers had detailed discussions on the situation in the sub-continent and on international developments. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh paid high tribute to the personal contribution of Shrimati Indira Gandhi to the liberation struggle of Bangladesh and her outstanding leadership in the promotion of durable peace and harmonious relations in the sub-continent. The Prime Minister of India stated that but for the high statesmanship and magnanimity shown by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, it would not have been possible to arrive at the Delhi Agreement of August, 1973, and the recent tripartite agreement between Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

11. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the prospects for normalisation in the sub-continent following the signing of the Tripartite Agreement of April 9, 1974. They agreed that the spirit of mutual accommodation and reconciliation shown by the Governments of the three countries, which had led to the successful conclusion of this Agreement, should not be allowed to be dissipated and the improved prospects for establishing durable peace in the sub-continent should be further strengthened by concrete action. They expressed the hope that the three countries of the sub-continent would discuss and work out mutually beneficial agreements which can

lead to substantive normalisation in all fields, particularly in the fields of tele-communications, civil aviation, travel, trade and economic cooperation. For this purpose they reiterated their faith in the method of settling all differences by peaceful means through bilateral discussions.

12. In the course of their talks, the Prime Ministers expressed deep satisfaction at the growing ties of cooperation between their two countries based upon mutual respect, sovereignty, equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

13. The Prime Ministers were glad to note that substantial progress had been made in all spheres of Indo-Bangladesh relations. They reaffirmed their resolve to further consolidate and expand this co-operation, thus fulfilling the deeply felt aspirations of the peoples of the two countries. They expressed the hope that this would promote cooperation in the region as a whole.

14. The two Prime Ministers reviewed the commercial relations and economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and took the following decisions:

- (a) In recognition of the vital importance of jute in the economics of the two countries and the need for closer cooperation between them in the field of production, trade, technical development, manufacture and promotion of this sector, a Joint Commission at the level of Ministers will be set up.
- (b) Noting that, despite measures taken in the past to eliminate contravention of customs and currency regulations of the two countries, unauthorised transactions still continue, a high powered Joint Committee will be set up at Ministers level to take further immediate measures to effectively control illegal transactions. The Committee will ensure coordinated and intensified measures against such transactions and especially against all those engaged in financing and organising

such activities.

- (c) With regard to the current Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement, the two Governments will step up exports to ensure the fulfilment of targets.
  - (d) As a further step towards greater economic cooperation between the two countries, the two Governments will establish the following four industrial projects base on the supply of raw materials and products from one country to the other and a guaranteed off-take of the exportable surplus of these projects on mutually acceptable terms and conditions:
    - (i) A Cement Plant at Chatak in Bangladesh based on limestone from Meghalaya in India.
    - (ii) A Clinker Plant in Meghalaya for supplying clinker to Bangladesh.
    - (iii) A Fertiliser Plant in Bangladesh for the supply of urea to India.
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- (iv) A Sponge Iron Plant in Bangladesh based on the supply of iron ore from India.

India will extend credits to Bangladesh on mutually acceptable terms and conditions to finance the procurement of equipment, goods and services as may be available from India for these projects. The modalities of implementing the aforementioned decisions will be worked out immediately by the officials of the two Governments and a programme of action submitted to their respective Governments.

Other areas of Industrial Cooperation might be examined by the two Governments with a view to identifying further specific projects.

15. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh noted with satisfaction that during the financial year 1974-75, Rs. 38 crores of credits would be available from India to Bangladesh. Of this, Rs. 5 crores would be on a Government-to-Government basis for the new Chatak Cement Plant and a similar credit of Rs. 10 crores for the purchase of commodities by Bangladesh from India. The rest of the credit of Rs. 23 crores would be provided by the Industrial Development Bank of India.

16. Agreement was reached between the two Governments to carry out a joint survey for the provision of a rail link from Akhaura Singarbil to Agartala to facilitate the movement of cross traffic from Calcutta to Agartala via Chandpur Akhaura and vice versa.

17. The two Prime Ministers took note of the fact that the Farakka Barrage Project would be commissioned before the end of 1974. They recognised that during the periods of minimum flow in the Ganga, there might not be enough water to meet the needs of the Calcutta Port and the full requirements of Bangladesh and, therefore, the fair weather flow of the Ganga in the lean months would have to be augmented to meet the requirements of the two countries. It was agreed that the problems should be approached with understanding so that the interests of both the countries are reconciled and the difficulties removed in a spirit of friendship and cooperation. It was, accordingly, decided that the best means of such augmentation through optimum utilisation of the water resources of the region available to the two countries should be studied by the Joint Rivers Commission. The Commission should make suitable recommendations to meet the requirements of both the countries.

18. It was recognised that it would take some years to give effect to the recommendations of the Commission as accepted by the two Governments. In the meantime, the two sides expressed their determination that before the Farakka Project is commissioned they would arrive at a mutually acceptable allocation of the water available during the

periods of minimum flow in the Ganga.

19. The discussions of the two Prime Ministers have led to an agreement on the demarcation of the remaining portion of the Indo-Bangladesh border. They expressed their gratification that they were able, thus, to resolve issues that had eluded solution for a whole generation.

20. Reviewing the international situation, the two Prime Ministers reaffirmed that the policy of Non-alignment to which both countries were deeply committed constituted a positive force in the strengthening of national sovereignty, independence and the attainment of peace, stability and a just international economic order, in accordance with the aspirations of peoples the world over. In this context they reiterated their determination to co-operate with each other in making the maximum contribution to the implementation of the decisions of the Fourth Summit Conference of the Non-aligned Nations held in Algiers.

21. The Prime Ministers expressed high appreciation of the work of the Bureau of the Non-aligned countries in its recent conference as well as of the Special Session of the General Assembly convened at the instance of President Boumedienne of Algeria.

22. The two Prime Ministers expressed complete agreement on the desirability of ensuring the sovereignty of countries over their natural resources and an equitable return to the producers of raw-materials and primary products. They welcomed the Special Programme adopted at the recently concluded Special Session of the UN General Assembly

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to give immediate and long-term relief to the developing countries most seriously affected and expressed the hope that this Programme would be implemented expeditiously.

23. The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that a lasting settlement of the West Asia crisis could only be achieved on the basis of complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and

the restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine.

24. They also reaffirmed their support to the right of the Vietnamese people to decide their own future without outside interference.

25. The two Prime Ministers expressed their support for the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle against colonialism, racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid.

26. Concerning recent developments in the extension of military and naval facilities in the Island of Diego Garcia, the two Prime Ministers considered that the aggravation of big power rivalries in the Indian Ocean runs counter to the concept of the area as a zone of peace and disregards the just aspirations of the littoral States. They expressed the hope that the big powers would respect the resolutions of the UN General Assembly on the subject and the wishes of the littoral states.

27. The Bangladesh Prime Minister expressed his warm thanks for the cordial and friendly reception accorded to him and his delegation and for the demonstration of abiding friendship by the people of India for the people of Bangladesh. He thanked the Prime Minister of India for the warm hospitality extended to the Bangladesh delegation and for the excellence of the arrangements for the visit.

28. The two sides expressed their confidence that the visit of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had made a significant contribution to the growth of friendship and fruitful cooperation between India and Bangladesh and to the cause of durable peace in the sub-continent.

29. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman gave expression to the pleasure with which the Government and people of Bangladesh looked forward to the forthcoming visit of His Excellency Shri V. V. Giri to Bangladesh.

30. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman conveyed an invitation to Shrimati

Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, to visit Bangladesh which was accepted with pleasure.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA LATVIA PAKISTAN MALI RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC  
ALGERIA ISRAEL VIETNAM

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

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BANGLADESH

Border Agreement between India and Bangladesh

Following is the text of the Agreement between, the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh concerning the demarcation of the land boundary between India and Bangladesh and related matters signed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for India and Prime Minister Mujibur Rahman for Bangladesh in New Delhi on May 16, 1974:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh,

BEARING IN MIND the friendly relations existing between the two countries,

DESIRING TO define more accurately at certain points and to complete the demarcation of the land boundary between India and Bangladesh,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

### ARTICLE 1

The land boundary between India and Bangladesh in the areas mentioned below shall be demarcated in the following manner:

1. MIZORAM-BANGLADESH SECTOR

Demarcation should be completed on the basis of the latest pre-partition notifications and records.

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2. TRIPURA-SYLHET SECTOR

Demarcation which is already in progress in this area on the agreed basis, should be completed as early as possible.

3. BHAGALPUR RAILWAY LINE

The boundary should be demarcated at a distance of 75 feet parallel to the toe of the railway embankment towards the east.

4. SIBPUR-GAURANGALA SECTOR

The boundary should be demarcated in continuation of the process started in 1951-52 on the basis of the District Settlement Maps of 1915-1918.

5. MUHURI RIVER (BELONIA) SECTOR

The boundary in this area should be demarcated along the midstream of the course of Muhuri River at the time of demarcation, This boundary will be a fixed boundary. The two Governments should raise embankments on their respective sides with a view to stabilising the river in its present course.

6. REMAINING PORTION OF THE TRIPURA-NOAKHALI COMILLA SECTOR

The demarcation in this sector should be completed on the basis of Chakla-Roshanabad Estate Maps of 1892-1894 and the District Settlement Maps of 1915-1918 for areas not covered by the Chakla-Roshanabad Maps.

7. FENNY RIVER

The boundary should be demarcated along the mid-stream of the course at the time of demarcation of that branch of the Fenny River indicated as the Fenny River on Survey of India Map Sheet No. 79 MI 15, 1st Edition 1935, till it joins the stream

shown as Asalong C on the said Map. From that point on, downstream, the boundary should be demarcated along the mid-stream of the course of the Fenny River at the time of demarcation of the boundary. The boundary in this sector will be a fixed boundary.

#### 8. REST OF TRIPURA-CHITTAGONG HILL TRACT SECTOR

The boundary will follow the mid-stream of that branch of the Fenny River, referred to in para 7 above, upto Grid reference 009779 (map sheet as in para 7 above) from where the boundary will follow the midstream of the eastern-most tributary. From the source of this tributary, the boundary will run along the shortest distance to the midstream of the stream marked Bayan Asalong, on the map referred to above, and thence will run generally northwards along the mid-stream of this river till it reaches its source on the ridge (indicated by grid reference 046810 on the map referred to above). From there it will run along the crest of this ridge upto Boghoban Trig Station. From Boghoban Trig Station upto the tri-junction of the Bangladesh-Assam-Tripura boundary (Khan Talang Trig Station), the boundary will run along the watershed of the river systems of the two countries. In case of any difference between the map and the ground, the ground shall prevail. The boundary will be a fixed boundary in this sector.

#### 9. BEANIBAZAR-KARIMGANJ SECTOR

The undemarcated portion of the boundary west of Umapati village should be demarcated in accordance with the agreed basis of demarcation, leaving Umapati village in India.

#### 10. HAKAR KHAL

The boundary should be demarcated in accordance with the Nehru-Noon Agreement of September, 1958, treating Hakar Khal as a geographical feature distinct from the Ichhamati River. The boundary will be a fixed boundary.

#### 11. BAIKARI KHAL

In the Baikari Khal, the boundary should be demarcated on the agreed basis and principles, namely, that the ground shall prevail, i.e. as per the agreement reached between the Directors of Land Records and Surveys of West Bengal and erstwhile East Pakistan in 1949. The boundary will be a fixed boundary.

## 12. ENCLAVES

The Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and the Bangladesh enclaves in India should be exchanged expeditiously, excepting the enclaves mentioned in paragraph 14 without

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claim to compensation for the additional area going to Bangladesh.

## 13. HILLI

The area will be demarcated in accordance with Radcliffe Award and the line drawn by him on the map.

## 14. BERUBARI

India will retain the southern half of South Berubari Union No. 12 and the adjacent enclaves, measuring an area of 2.64 square miles approximately, and in exchange Bangladesh will retain the Dahagram and Angarpota enclaves. India will lease in perpetuity to Bangladesh an area of 178 metres X 85 metres near Tin Bigha to connect Dahagram with Panbari Mouza (P. S. Patgram) of Bangladesh.

## 15. LATHITILLA-DUMABARI

From point Y (the last demarcated boundary pillar position), the boundary shall run southwards along the Patharia Hills RF boundary upto the point where it meets the western boundary of Dumabari Mouza. Thence along the same Mouza boundary upto the tri-junction of Mouzas Dumabari, Lathitilla and Bara Putnigaon through the junction of the two Mouzas Dumabari and Lathitilla. From this point it shall run along the shortest distance to meet the mid-stream of Putni

Chara. Thence it shall run generally southwards along the midstream of the course of Putni Chara at the time of demarcation, till it meets the boundary between Sylhet (Bangladesh) and Tripura (India).

#### ARTICLE 2

The Governments of India and Bangladesh agree that territories in adverse possession in areas already demarcated in respect of which boundary strip maps are already prepared, shall be exchanged within six months of the signing of the boundary strip maps by the plenipotentiaries. They may sign the relevant maps as early as possible and in any case not later than the 31st December, 1974. Early measures may be taken to print maps in respect of other areas where demarcation has already taken place. These should be printed by 31st May 1975 and signed by the plenipotentiaries thereafter in order that the exchange of adversely held possessions in these areas may take place by the 31st December, 1975. In sectors still to be demarcated, transfer of territorial jurisdiction may take place within six months of the signature by plenipotentiaries on the concerned boundary strip maps.

#### ARTICLE 3

The Governments of India and Bangladesh agree that when areas are transferred, the people in these areas shall be given the right of staying on where they are, as nationals of the State to which the areas are transferred. Pending demarcation of the boundary and exchange of territory by mutual agreement, there should be no disturbance of the status quo and peaceful conditions shall be maintained in the border regions. Necessary instructions in this regard shall be issued to the local authorities on the border by the two countries.

#### ARTICLE 4

The Governments of India and Bangladesh agree that any dispute concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled peacefully through mutual consultations.

## ARTICLE 5

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification by the Governments of India and Bangladesh and Instruments of Ratification shall be exchanged as early as possible. The Agreement shall take effect from the date of the exchange of the Instruments of Ratification.

Signed in New Delhi on May 16, 1974, in two originals each of which is equally authentic.

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BANGLADESH INDIA PAKISTAN USA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Protocol on Credit Arrangement between India and Bangladesh

Following is the text of the Protocol on credit arrangement between India and Bangladesh signed in New Delhi on May 16, 1974 (without the Annexures):

The Government of India and the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh mutually desirous of further developing and strengthening economic relations between the two countries, have entered into this Protocol whereby the Government of India will make available to the Government of Bangladesh a line of credit upto an amount of Indian Rupees one hundred million.

## ARTICLE 1

The credit of Indian Rupees one hundred million shall be available to the Government

of Bangladesh for importing from India goods produced in India as may be mutually agreed upon.

#### ARTICLE 2

The export of goods from India and their import into Bangladesh under this Credit shall take place through normal commercial channels subject to the laws and regulations in force in both countries. Prices and other terms and conditions shall be settled between exporters in India and importers in Bangladesh.

#### ARTICLE 3

The Credit will cover 90% of the C&F value of the goods upto the Indo-Bangladesh border when transported to Bangladesh by rail, or upto the port of disembarkation in Bangladesh when transported by sea in vessels of Indian flag. If the goods are transported in non-Indian owned vessels, the credit will cover 90% of the FOB value of such goods. The initial 10% of the C&F or FOB value, as the case may be, shall be paid by the importer in free convertible currency as down-payment. Letters of Credit shall specify that the first 10% shall be met by remittances from Bangladesh while the balance 90% shall be financed from the Credit.

#### ARTICLE 4

The Credit shall come into force immediately on signing of this Protocol. Contracts to be financed under this Credit shall be signed and Letter of Credit established by June 30, 1975. If the full amount of the loan is not drawn by June 30, 1976, the balance shall be cancelled and the amount to be repaid by the Government of Bangladesh reduced accordingly.

#### ARTICLE 5

The Government of India designates the State Bank of India, Calcutta, as its Agent to disburse the credit and to receive repayments of principal and payments of interest. The State Bank of India shall maintain an account in the style of "Rupees hundred million Credit to Bangladesh (1974)" and

make disbursements therefrom in accordance with the procedure as included in Annexure I to this Protocol.

#### ARTICLE 6

(i) The Government of Bangladesh shall pay interest at the rate of 5% per annum on outstanding credit amounts. Interest shall be charged from the dates on which disbursements are effected by the State Bank of India upto the dates on which repayments are received by them.

(ii) interest charges shall be payable every six months on the last day of August and February of each year.

#### ARTICLE, 7

(i) The Government of Bangladesh shall repay the principle amount of the loan in 24 equal semi-annual instalments, payable on the last day of August and February of each year commencing on 31.8.1977 in accordance with the amortisation schedule set forth in Annexure II.

(ii) The Government of Bangladesh shall have the right to pre-pay all or any part of the principal, without penalty, on any date on which interest is due. Except as the Government of India may otherwise agree, all pre-payments shall be applied first to accrued interest and then to the remaining instalments of principal in the inverse order of their maturity.

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#### ARTICLE 8

All repayments of principal and payment of interest shall be made in Indian Rupuees through the sale of convertible foreign currencies to authorised foreign exchange banks in India.

#### ARTICLE 9

(i) For all overdue payments, the Government of Bangladesh shall pay to the Government of India interest on the overdue principal and or interest, at 2% over the rate mentioned in Article 6 of this Protocol. The

interest shall be computed from the due date to the date immediately preceding the date of actual payment, both inclusive.

(ii) In the event of default by the Government of Bangladesh in the payment of an instalment of principal or of any interest for a period of three months beyond the due date, the Government of India may declare that all the principal amount then outstanding, along with interest thereon, has become due and payable immediately and upon such declaration the same shall become due and payable immediately.

#### ARTICLE 10

Claims or disputes relating to any of the contracts financed under this Credit shall not exempt the Government of Bangladesh from any obligation by way of payment of interest or repayment of principal on the due dates, arising out of payments made by the State Bank of India by debit to the Account referred to in Article 5.

#### ARTICLE 11

So long as the credit remains outstanding, each Government shall, at the request of the other, furnish such reports and information as may be reasonably and specifically asked for regarding the implementation or administration of this credit agreement.

#### ARTICLE 12

The amount of credit under this Protocol is based on the current par value of the Indian rupee, viz. one Indian Rupee now containing 0.118489 gramme of fine gold. In the event of any change in the par value of the Indian Rupee, except when such change occurs as a result of a revision of the official price of gold, the amount of unutilised credit, the value of unfulfilled deliveries on the contracts concluded, the value of credit already utilised but not yet repaid and outstanding interest shall automatically be adjusted, as from the date when the change takes place, in proportion to the change in the gold

parity.

#### ARTICLE 13

All payments due to be effected by the Government of Bangladesh under this Agreement shall be made without any deductions for taxes, fees, duties, and any other charges.

#### ARTICLE 14

All official communications in connection with this Protocol should be sent to the following addresses:

On the Indian side:

Director (EBD),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

On the Bangladesh side:

The Secretary,  
Ministry of Planning (External Resources Division),  
The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh,  
Dacca.

Signed at New Delhi on the 16th day of May 1974 in two originals in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Protocol on Credit Arrangement between India and Bangladesh

Following is the text of the Protocol on

credit arrangement between India and Bangladesh signed in New Delhi on May 16, 1974 (Annexures not reproduced):

The Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh, mutually desirous of further developing and strengthening economic relations between the two countries, have entered into this Protocol whereby the Government of India will make available to the Government of Bangladesh a line of credit upto an amount of Indian Rupees Sixty million.

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#### ARTICLE 1

The credit of Indian Rupees Sixty million shall be available to the Government of Bangladesh for importing from India textile machinery of Indian manufacture as listed in Annexure III to this Protocol. This list of machinery may be modified from time to time by way of additions, deletions or substitutions by mutual agreement between the two Governments.

#### ARTICLE 2

The export of goods from India and their import into Bangladesh under this credit shall take place, through normal commercial channels subject to the laws and regulations in force in both countries. Prices and other terms and conditions shall be settled between exporters in India and importers in Bangladesh.

#### ARTICLE 3

The credit will cover 100% of the C&F value of the goods upto the Indo-Bangladesh border when transported to Bangladesh by rail or upto the port of disembarkation in Bangladesh when the goods are transported by sea in vessels of Indian flag. If the goods are transported in non-Indian owned vessels, the credit will cover 100% of the FOB value of such goods. These conditions will be specified in the letters of credit opened under this credit.

#### ARTICLE 4

This credit agreement shall come into force immediately on signing of this Protocol. Contracts to be financed under this credit shall be signed and letters of credit established by December 31, 1975. If the full amount of the credit is not drawn by June 30, 1976, the balance shall be cancelled and the amount to be repaid by the Government of Bangladesh reduced accordingly.

#### ARTICLE 5

The Government of India designates the State Bank of India, Calcutta, as its Agent to disburse the credit and to receive repayments of principal and payments of interest. The State Bank of India shall maintain an account in the style of "Textile Machinery Credit to Bangladesh" and make disbursements therefrom in accordance with the procedure as indicated in Annexure I to this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 6

(i) The Government of Bangladesh shall pay interest at the rate of 4% per annum on outstanding credit amounts. Interest shall be charged from the dates on which disbursements are effected by the State Bank of India to the dates on which repayments are received by them.

(ii) Interest charges shall be payable every six months on the last days of August and February of each year.

#### ARTICLE 7

(i) The Government of Bangladesh shall repay the principal amount of the loan in 30 equal semi-annual instalments repayable on the last days of August and February of each year commencing from 31st August, 1979, in accordance with the amortisation schedule set forth in Annexure II to this Protocol.

(ii) The Government of Bangladesh shall have the right to pre-pay all or any part of the principal, without penalty, on any

date on which interest is due. Except as the Government of India may otherwise agree, all pre-payments shall be applied first to accrued interest and then to the remaining instalments of principal in the inverse order of their maturity.

#### ARTICLE 8

All repayments of principal and payments of interest shall be made in Indian Rupees acquired through the sale of convertible foreign currencies to authorised foreign exchange banks in India.

#### ARTICLE 9

(i) For all overdue payments, the Government of Bangladesh shall pay to the Government of India interest on the overdue principal and or interest, at 2% over the rate mentioned in Article 6 of this Protocol. The interest shall be computed from the due date to the date immediately preceding the date of actual payment thereof, both inclusive.

(ii) In the event of default by the Government of Bangladesh in the payment

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of an instalment of principal or of any interest for a period of three months beyond the due date, the Government of India may declare that all the principal amount then outstanding, along with interest thereon, has become due and payable immediately and upon such declaration the same shall become due and payable immediately.

#### ARTICLE 10

Claims or disputes relating to any of the contracts financed under this credit shall not exempt the Government of Bangladesh from any obligation by way of payment of interest or repayment of principal on the due dates, arising out of payments made by the State Bank of India by debit to the Account referred to in Article 5.

#### ARTICLE

So long as the credit remains outstanding, each Government shall, at the request of the other, furnish such reports and information as may be reasonably and specifically asked for regarding the implementation or administration of this credit agreement.

#### ARTICLE 12

The amount of credit under this Protocol is based on the current par value of the Indian rupee, viz. one Indian Rupee now containing 0.118489 gramme of fine gold. In the event if any change in the par value of the Indian rupee, except when such change occurs as a result of a revision of the official price of gold, the amount of unutilized credit, the value of unfulfilled deliveries on the contracts concluded, the value of credit already utilized but not yet repaid and outstanding interest shall automatically be adjusted as from the date when the change takes place in proportion to the change in the gold parity.

#### ARTICLE 13

All payments due to be effected by the Government of Bangladesh under this Protocol shall be made without any deductions for taxes, fees, duties and any others charges.

#### ARTICLE 14

All official communications in connection with this Protocol should be sent to the following addresses:

On the Indian side:

Director (E.B.D.)  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

On the Bangladesh side:

The Secretary,  
Ministry of Planning (External Resources Division),  
The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh,  
Dacca.

Signed at New Delhi on the 16th day of May 1974 in two originals in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Agreements for Special Bank Credits

The following press release on the special Bank credits agreements signed between the Industrial Development Bank of India and three financial institutions in Bangladesh was issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1974:

The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) signed here today agreements for special bank credits totalling Rs. 25 crores to three financial institutions in Bangladesh, namely, the Janata Bank, the Bangladesh Shilpa Bank and the Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha.

The 15-year credits, inclusive of grace periods, which will carry interest at five per cent, will be utilised to finance 87.5 per cent of the C. and F. cost of the imports from India into Bangladesh of specified capital goods including railway wagons and coaches, railway equipment, power transmission and distribution equipment, agricultural machinery, and tea, jute and cement mill machinery. The remaining 12 1/2 per cent comprises the advance and down payments to be made by the importers in Bangladesh. The credits will enable the Indian exporters to get the

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full contract value of shipments soon after they are effected.

All contracts to be financed out of the credits will need prior clearance of the Plan-

ning Commission of Bangladesh and, where their value exceeds Rs. 15 lakhs, of IDBI also. The Bangladesh importer will be required to make an advance payment to the Indian exporter to the extent of five per cent of the contract price and the balance will be available to the exporter against presentation of shipping documents under a letter of credit to be opened in his favour on behalf of the importer.

The United Commercial Bank and the United Bank of India will be participating with IDBI in the extension of the special bank credits and they will handle in India all the letters of credit to be opened under the credit arrangements.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Indo-EEC Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the Joint Communiqué on the first meeting of the Indo-EEC joint commission, released simultaneously from Brussels and New Delhi on May 29, 1974:

The joint committee set up under the commercial cooperation agreement between India and the European Economic Community held its first session in Brussels on May 27 and 28, 1974. The formal opening ceremony was presided over by Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, and Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Indian Minister of Commerce.

Sir Christopher Soames pledged every effort by the Commission of the European Communities to contribute to the fruitfulness of the joint commission's investigatory work and to encourage acceptance of the practical measures it proposes, so that the joint commission becomes a useful instrument for extending and diversifying further the economic and commercial links between the community and India. Prof. Chattopadhyaya emphasized great importance and significance which the Indian Government attach to the deliberations of the joint commission and expressed the Indian readiness to cooperate fully in implementing the recommendations of the joint commission. The Community Delegation was led by Mr. Wolfgang Ernst, Deputy Director General for External Relations of the Commission of the European Communities, who was elected chairman of the joint commission for the period ending June 30, 1974. The Indian Delegation was led by H.E. Dr. K. B. Lal, Ambassador of India to EEC.

The joint commission adopted its rules of procedure and agreed on its work programme for 1974. It also set up two specialised sub-commissions. The first sub-commission will deal with the sectoral agreements on jute coir, cotton textiles and cottage industry goods (handicrafts and handloom fabrics), according to the specific mandates approved by the joint commission. The joint commission also took note of certain suggestions put forward by the Indian delegation for improving the functioning of the different sectoral agreements and decided to refer them to the competent authorities. It was agreed that certain suggestions regarding cooperation in the field of research and product development for jute and coir products would be followed up.

The second sub-commission was given a mandate covering cooperation measures concerning the wide range of activities foreseen

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in the work programme such as efficient utilisation of GSP, possible liberalisation measures for products of interest to India, the study of particular measures including

technical assistance for trade promotion, joint research and economic cooperation with a view to encouraging the development and diversification of trade between India and the Community. The sub-commission will prepare a series of reports which will, inter alia, form the basis of the work of the next meeting of the Joint commission.

The joint commission agreed to recommend tariff adjustments on certain products of interest to India as requested by the Indian side.

The Indian Government invited the joint commission to hold its second meeting in New Delhi before the end of the year.

BELGIUM INDIA USA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

FINLAND

Indo-Finnish Joint Communique

The following joint communique on the visit of Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya to Finland was issued in New Delhi on May 23, 1974:

At the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Jermu Laine, Minister for Foreign Trade of Finland, His Excellency Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce of the Government of India, paid a visit to Finland from May 19 to 23, 1974.

The Indian Commerce Minister was received by the President of the Republic of Finland, His Excellency Dr. Urho Kekkonen, the Prime Minister of Finland, His Excellency Mr. Kalevi Sorsa, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr. Abti

Karjalainen.

The visiting Indian Commerce Minister had discussions with Mr. Jermu Laine, Minister for Foreign Trade of Finland, relating to cooperation between Finland and India in the economic, commercial, industrial, scientific and technical fields, in a warm and friendly atmosphere. They agreed to strengthen the relations between their two countries and decided to establish for this purpose an Indo-Finnish Joint Commission. The Commission shall identify areas of cooperation between the two countries and recommend suitable measures for achieving this goal. The two Ministers reviewed the possibility of Indo-Finnish industrial and technical cooperation as well as exploring the scope for joint ventures.

Finland has traditionally accorded liberal treatment to imports of Indian textiles, including handloom products for which there has been a growing demand. During the discussions, it was emphasised that Finland will continue this liberal policy in accordance with its international commitments. Problems, if any, in the continuance of this treatment will be discussed within the framework of the Indo-Finnish Joint Commission. The need for increased, continued, long-term supply and accelerated shipments of newsprint, to India was emphasised by the Indian Commerce Minister during these discussions. It was recognised that there was a global shortage of newsprint. Keeping this in mind it was considered desirable to initiate early dialogue between the concerned organisations of the two countries with a view to evolving a satisfactory arrangement. The possibility of supply of copper and copper products from Finland to India would be examined in further detail.

The Minister for Foreign Trade of Finland emphasised the active interest of the Finnish industry in the possibilities offered by the expanding Indian market, particularly in the fields of pulp and paper industries, in-

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cluding paper mill projects and technology, electric and cable industries and ship build-

ing. It was agreed that proposals would be submitted to the Indian authorities and these prospects would be considered further in a positive spirit.

The two Ministers emphasised that special attention should be devoted towards increasing the flow of commercial information between the two countries and between their specialised organisations. Towards this end, exchanges of trade delegations, both at the official and private, levels, as well as the participation by both countries in each other's fairs and exhibitions were regarded as important instruments for increasing trade between the two countries.

The Indian delegation proposed commercial development programme as a specific measure for increasing commercial cooperation and trade between the two countries. The Finnish Minister affirmed that the Government of Finland had a positive attitude to such a programme, to be further explored and elaborated in the Joint Commission.

The Minister of Commerce of India, Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, expressed his gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Jermu Laine and the Government of Finland for the kind hospitality extended to him and his delegates during their stay in Finland, and for the useful opportunity provided for discussing matters of mutual economic interest.

Professor Chattopadhyaya extended an invitation on behalf of the Government of India to His Excellency Mr. jermu Laine to pay a visit to India at a date convenient to the Finnish Government in the near future. The invitation has been accepted with pleasure.

FINLAND INDIA USA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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1995

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Indian Representative's Statement in Committee on Disarmament

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The Representative of India to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, Shri B. C. Mishra, made the following statement in the CCD at Geneva on May 21, 1974:

The following official announcement has been made regarding an underground peaceful nuclear explosion conducted by India on 18th May, 1974.

"The Atomic Energy Commission, Government of India, announced today that it carried out a peaceful nuclear explosion experiment using an implosion device. The explosion was carried out at a depth of more than 100 meters.

"As part of the programme of study of peaceful uses of nuclear explosion the Government of India had undertaken a programme to keep itself abreast of developments in this technology particularly with reference to its use in the livid of mining and earth-moving operations.

"The Atomic Energy Commission, Government of India also stated that India had no intention of producing nuclear weapons and reiterated its strong Opposition to military uses of nuclear explosions.

"India has consistently affirmed its inherent right to use nuclear explosion technology for peaceful purposes and declared its intention to pursue experiments in that direction. The Government of India has repeatedly made its position clear in policy statements in Parliament and in various international forums that India planned to utilize all applications of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, including peaceful nuclear explosions."

The Government of India has been and remains firmly committed to a policy of

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using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and, in that context, of studying and working on all meaningful applications of economic significance. The development of peaceful nuclear explosion technology is an integral part of that policy.

Some press reports have mentioned that India has become the sixth nuclear power. I should like to take this opportunity to clarify the position. All countries developing uses of nuclear energy are nuclear powers; those which develop or possess nuclear weapons are nuclear weapon powers. India has no intention of becoming a nuclear weapon power. At the same time, India maintains its right to promote the fullest development of all peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

INDIA SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

India-Iran Joint Communique

The following joint communique on the official visit of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to Iran was issued in New Delhi on May 2, 1974:

At the invitation of the Imperial Government of Iran and His Excellency Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, the Prime Minister of Iran, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, paid an official visit to Iran from April 28 to May 2, 1974.

During her visit the Prime Minister of India had discussions with His Imperial

Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr, the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Imperial Iranian Government, covering bilateral relations as well as international questions of mutual interest. These discussions were held in an atmosphere of understanding, cordiality and warm friendship reflecting the close and traditional ties between India and Iran.

At these discussions, those present on the Iranian side were:

His Excellency Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, the Prime Minister,

His Excellency Mr. Abbas Ali Khalatbary, the Foreign Minister,

His Excellency Mr. Sadegh Sadriyeh, Director General for Political Affairs Asia and Africa, Ministry for Foreign Affairs,

Mr. Abbas Hedayat Vaziri, Director of the Fifth Political Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The Prime Minister of India was assisted by:

Sardar Swaran Singh, Foreign Minister of India,

Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to Prime Minister,

Shri B. K. Sanyal, Secretary Economic Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri R. D. Sathe, Ambassador of India in Iran.

The Prime Minister of India explained the various initiatives taken by India to normalise relations on the sub-continent and outlined the recent tripartite agreement between Pakistan, Bangladesh and India. She expressed the hope that these developments will further lead to normalisation of relations in communication, trade, economic, cultural and political relations, between India and Pakistan. The Prime Minister of Iran appreciated

the initiatives taken by India and expressed satisfaction over the developments in the sub-continent culminating in the tripartite agreement. The Prime Minister of Iran complimented the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh, Pakistan and India for their statesmanship and spirit of mutual accommodation in arriving at the tripartite agreement in the larger interests of peace and cooperation in the region. They supported all efforts to settle outstanding disputes between India and Pakistan through bilateral negotiations and through peaceful means.

In the course of the exchange of views on international affairs, special attention was focussed on the situation in the Middle East. They stressed the need and reaffirmed their support for the efforts being made for the speedy settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict. The two sides considered that a just and overall settlement of the problem could be achieved on the basis of full implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 242 of November 22, 1967, which calls for complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories, and a just solution of the Palestinian problem.

The Iranian side explained the importance of the security and stability in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz and emphasized the vital importance of safeguarding stability and peace in the Persian Gulf and settlement of issues by the littoral states themselves in accordance with the principles of the U.N. Charter without outside interference. The Indian side expressed its agreement with the Iranian view.

The Iranian side explained the situation on their western borders and their apprehension that the present situation would lead to instability in the region.

The Indian side expressed full understanding of the dimensions of the problem. Both sides underlined the necessity of resolving these problems in accordance with the rules and norms of international law and practice and principles of the U.N. Charter.

The two sides reviewed the situation in the Indian Ocean area and reaffirmed their support for declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, as envisaged in the United Nations Resolution 2832.

Both sides declared their support to the principles of the U.N. Charter and agreed to maintain close consultations on all matters of mutual concern within the framework of the U.N. and its specialised Agencies with a view to strengthening their co-operation.

The two sides reemphasized their conviction that a peaceful and secure world order can only be achieved by strict adherence to the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations, respect for territorial integrity and non-use of force in international relations or for settling any disputes.

During discussions on the international situation the two sides surveyed recent developments towards relaxation of tensions and agreed that these developments constitute a step towards world peace. However, they expressed the opinion that detente could only be effective on world wide basis.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the rapidly expanding economic and commercial relations between the two countries. They agreed that the bilateral collaboration and exchanges should be further strengthened to the mutual benefit of the two countries.

The two sides decided to increase the production capacity of the Kudremukh iron ore project to 7.5 million tons per year for use in Iran. They also agreed to undertake a joint study to set up an alumina plant with an annual capacity of 300,000 tons for which Iran shall have first option. Iran agreed to extend soft loans for the implementation of these projects under terms to be mutually agreed upon.

The two sides also decided to form a joint shipping line with Iranian financial assistance with an initial capacity of 50,000

tons, to operate between the two countries, as well as to ports in the Far East and other routes which may be agreed upon.

The two sides will further cooperate to maximize the capacity of Indian industries to meet the requirements of both countries. Priority will be given to the production of cement, sugar, billets and other steel products, paper and newsprint and chemicals. The Iranian side agreed to provide financial facilities for the implementation of the above projects. Contacts will also be made between the atomic energy organizations in the two coun-

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tries in order to establish a basis for cooperation in this field.

It was also agreed that India would provide technical personnel, engineers, professors and doctors for service in Iran.

The two sides discussed measures for economic and commercial co-operation in the region and expressed the hope that all the Asian and African countries in the region would work together on the basis of mutual trust and for mutual benefit so that they can bring peace and prosperity to the region.

The two sides reviewed the current economic situation in the world and emphasized the need for measures to mitigate the impact of rising prices of commodities on the developing countries. The Prime Minister of India welcomed the initiative taken by His Imperial Majesty for the establishment of an international neutral fund for this purpose. Both sides also emphasized the necessity of ensuring that the developing countries exercise full sovereignty and control over their natural resources and of co-operating in the endeavour to bring about a rational and equitable basis for international economic relations.

They expressed the hope that such conclusions would be reached at the Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly that would make a positive contribution to the achievement of these objectives.

The Prime Minister of India expressed her gratitude for the very warm and cordial hospitality extended to her and members of her party by His Imperial Majesty and the Government and people of Iran.

The Prime Minister of India extended cordial invitation of the Government of India to Their Imperial Majesties Shahanshah Aryamehr and the Shahbano to visit India. Their Majesties have accepted the invitation with pleasure.

The Prime Minister of India also extended an invitation to His Excellency Mr. Amir Abbas Hoveyda, Prime Minister of Iran, to visit India. The invitation has been accepted with pleasure.

IRAN INDIA USA MALI BANGLADESH PAKISTAN ISRAEL UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** May 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement on India's Peaceful Nuclear Experiment

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, issued the following statement on May 21, 1974 regarding the peaceful nuclear experiment conducted recently:

We are happy to note that the peaceful nuclear experiment which took place on May 18, 1974, represents a step forward on the road to peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the welfare of our people. I would like to congratulate our scientists and others who have made it possible for this achievement by our country. This experiment is an important land-mark in the development of nuclear technology for peaceful and economic uses. We have no intention of developing

nuclear weapons.

Indian scientists and technologists have been active in this field for two decades; and it is well-known that already two atomic power plants are supplying nuclear energy into our national power grid, for the use of our people. The present experiment is important, because it represents our resolve to develop our indigenous resources of energy for the benefit of our people through our own efforts. In performing this scientific test India has not violated any of her international obligations. We are heartened by

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the enthusiastic support which we have received in this endeavour from the countries of developing world.

It is singularly unfortunate that the peaceful nature of this nuclear experiment of ours should be misconstrued and mis-read in Pakistan. The apprehensions aroused in Pakistan are unfounded. We value our commitment under the Simla Agreement to settle all our differences with Pakistan by peaceful and bilateral means. Moreover, both countries have resolved that the past policies of confrontation and conflict are banished for ever.

We hope, therefore, that whatever misconception has arisen in Pakistan about this experiment will be replaced, after cool reflection, by a more objective and realistic assessment. India has always supported the development of cooperation amongst countries of this region on the basis of sovereign equality. Pakistan's allegations of hegemonistic designs have no basis at all, and are, to say the least, uncharitable.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA

**Date :** May 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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President Giri's Speech at Banquet in honour of Senegal President

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The President, Shri V. V. Giri, held a banquet in honour of His Excellency Mr. Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal, in New Delhi on May 18, 1974. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Giri said:

I welcome you once again, Mr. President, Madame Senghor and distinguished members of your delegation on my behalf and on behalf of the Government and people of India. Your gracious presence with us to-night is a privilege and honour to our country.

In welcoming you, we also pay tribute to the friendly Senegalese people whom Your Excellency has successfully led to freedom and independence from colonial rule, and whose energies under your wise guidance are now dedicated to national development and progress. We admire your achievements in establishing in so short a time a democratic, secular and socialist society in Senegal.

Great distance separates India and Senegal but our two countries have the closest relationship based on common aspirations and ideals and on our hopes and endeavours for a world order built on peaceful cooperation, justice and equality. You have always extended to us a most sympathetic understanding of our problems, for which we are profoundly appreciative.

Mr. President, you are internationally acclaimed as a poet, philosopher, scholar and statesman. Through your works you have created a new awareness and a renaissance of the African personality and culture, so aptly symbolised by you in the concept of 'negritude'. The essence of 'negritude' in your own words is "to establish an effective revolution, our revolution, first we had to divest ourselves of our borrowed attire and

assert our being, that is to say our negritude".

Your poetry encompasses the totality of African experience; it reflects the tears and laughter of an old civilisation, the suppression of free peoples, the scars of racial arrogance and bitter struggle, liberty and independence, forgiveness and brotherhood. In your famous book "Black Hosts" we hear the generous voice of Africa, when you write:

"No hate in your hateless soul, no guile in your guileless soul.

Oh black martyrs immortal race, let me say the words that forgive".

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Your words remind us, Mr. President, of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our nation, who lived and died teaching us to fight evil without hate. Indeed, it was Gandhi who laid the foundation of India's modern links with the countries of Africa; amid the racial hatreds and brutalities which surrounded him in South Africa, he breathed into the humble and the hopeless, faith and confidence in humanity.

India's contacts with Africa over the centuries are attested by the records of the earliest travels of Phoenician Greek, Roman and Aran navigators. The best products of our culture no less than our waves travelled across friendly seas. Some twenty-five centuries ago the East African ports are described as crowded with distant shipping and merchandise from India and the East. Two thousand years later, colonial fleets entered and began to dominate the Ocean, but could not altogether extinguish this traditional traffic. The colonial episode now disappears; and we resume an age-old exchange which revives our historic contacts in new and dynamic dimensions, offering to both our peoples material and cultural benefits.

Mr. President, we stand firmly behind the freedom struggle, for the independence of territories in Africa still under colonial rule or white minority dictation. We hail the independence of Guinea Bissau. We acclaim

the significant gains of the freedom struggle in colonial Africa which have brought about developments that clearly signify to the approaching collapse of colonial exploitation and domination.

The independent countries of Africa and India are developing nations, and we seek to establish between us a relationship with intensified political, economic and cultural cooperation, which only can bring maximum advantages to our peoples. Afro-Asian solidarity, we believe, is vital in a world recently overcast by the shadow of an economic crisis; a new international order is emerging. The developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America have vast resources of men and material. To harness these resources for the welfare of our peoples a cooperative effort, sharing our skills and experiences, is absolutely essential.

We are deeply concerned at the continuing drought in the Sahelian region of Africa of which Senegal is a part. This persistent drought has taken a heavy toll of life and material, and has placed a cruel burden on your economy. Whatever help we can furnish is only a token of our concern at the distress and suffering of your people.

Earlier I referred to Your Excellency's understanding of the developments in our sub-continent. I am happy to say that all the three countries, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India, have by direct negotiations recently succeeded in solving the humanitarian problems arising out of the unfortunate conflict of 1971. We are determined to pursue our efforts for achieving durable peace in our region and building a stable relationship based on mutual trust, equality and peaceful cooperation.

In view of these encouraging developments in the sub-continent your visit to India is of special significance to us. You have been the pioneer of cultural ties between India and Senegal. Already we have scholars from Senegal and India working in each other's country to study the language and culture of our two peoples. It is our sincere hope that the discussions which you will hold

with us will lead to the further expansion of the cultural, economic, scientific and technical exchange between our two countries. I am confident that your visit will not only strengthen our relations but also serve to demonstrate that developing countries of Africa and Asia are capable and confident of fulfilling their common aspirations by their own endeavours.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I now request you to raise your glasses to the health and happiness of our distinguished guests tonight, His Excellency the President of Senegal and Madame Senghor, to peace and prosperity for people of Senegal and to friendship and cooperation between India and Senegal.

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SENEGAL INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA OMAN GUINEA  
GUINEA-BISSAU BANGLADESH PAKISTAN

**Date :** May 01, 1974

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SENEGAL

Mr. Leopold Sedar Senghor's Speech

Replying to the toast of Shri V. V. Giri at the Banquet held in his honour, H.E. Mr. Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal said:

If I have covered such a great distance, from the furthest point of West Africa, to be precise, it is because of India's prestige in the world. Politically speaking, India was, in the person of Pandit Nehru, one of the participants in the Bandung Conference, and is still in the non-aligned movement, where it retains its place among the leaders. But my presence in your midst is due primarily

to the civilisation of India and your country's moral influence in the world.

There is the added fact, Mr. President, that the host who today bids welcome to my wife, the Senegalese delegation and myself, is no stranger to us. As one who has taken an interest in all matters affecting the Indian sub-continent, I have followed your career, especially your valient struggles in the cause of social emancipation for Indian workers and political independence for India. And so it was that you were invested with the highest responsibilities, first at the head of the Indian Trades Union, and later in various State governments before assuming the highest office in the federal State. Last but not least, you and Mrs. Giri, who is a talented poetess, are cultured persons.

Mr. President, my mind often dwelt on India, in the days when I was young student in Paris and it was not fashionable to talk about your country. At that time, I was an ardent reader of the works of two great Indians: the poet Rabindranath Tagore, and Mahatma Gandhi.

Rabindranath Tagore taught me that genuine poetry was the poetry of the soul, and he gave me a liking for Indian philosophy which I passed on to my son. What fascinates me in your philosophy is that unlike the dichotomy with which the discursive reason of Europe has invested animate beings and inanimate objects, the philosophy of India rightly makes mind inhere in matter. As far as Indian philosophy is concerned, God is not external but something internal, animating every form of life and matter. And it is Shri Aurobindo, the poet you introduced to readers of French who, in a poetic invocation to God, penned the following lines:

Thou who disdainest not the worm to be  
Nor even the clod,  
Therefore we know by that humility  
That Thou art God.

From spirituality inherent in the heaviest matter and the highest form of emotive sensitivity, sprang not only your philosophy, but also your literature, sculpture, painting and music, which are among

the greatest in the world. Besides, everyone knows how much Indian music is admired by great musicians like Messiaen, Stockhausen and Jean-Claude Eloy.

The fact that Indian civilisation is so great is due to its being a "syncretism", as it has often been defined, and even more a symbiosis by which I mean the living assimilation through the Aryan Brahmin philosophy of all popular cultures, especially the Dravidian culture which is its basic fertilising element.

By this advocacy of non-violence to which he sacrificed his life, non-violence which is no cowardly creed since it is unarmed resistance, Mahatma Gandhi has taught us that in politics, the world is not changed by arms but by ideas, by love. And Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has completed the lesson by mapping out for us the road to Democratic Socialism, thought out afresh by us men of the South, who are as a rule men of the Third World.

It is this socialism which is reflected in the political activities of your Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. "Our socialism", she declared, "aims at securing the gradual but decisive reduction of unequal opportunities and incomes." Hence the Ten-point Programme published by the Congress in 1966.

The fascinating feature of Indian socialism, as far as Senegalese nationals are concerned, is the fact that it does not feed on a few imported formulae, as is all too often the case in the Third World, but is methodical, as the Ten-point Programme just referred to clearly shows.

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You realised there could be no goods to distribute unless there was an increase in their production. Hence your planning policy which is the practical expression of your socialism. And it is significant that you are now at the stage of your Fifth Development Plan. Thus the effort of the State as well as that of the Nation is geared to the dual goal of industrial and agricultural modernisation.

As regards Indian industry, which you intend to make the solid bedrock of your economic growth, using the skill and talents of your scientists and research workers, managers and engineers, you are, by reason of your advanced techniques, as your first nuclear explosion shows among the great nations of the Third World, I might even say of the whole world.

And if the rural revolution lags somewhat behind the industrial revolution, it is because the latter is more difficult to achieve, implying as it does the prerequisite of an industrial revolution, a fact very clearly demonstrated by the peoples democracies of Eastern Europe. The essential point, the over-riding fact is that with the green revolution you have introduced new farming techniques and new methods of co-operation which form the solid foundation of your agricultural development. I say development for, here quality counts as much as quantity.

There remains the fact that the distinctive difference between economic growth in your country and in the capitalist countries, is that yours is matched by an attempt at an equitable distribution of the fruits of labour, and thus it is converted into a process of development. Witness the progress made by your State capitalism which enables the Indian government to devise a more efficient method of financing socio-cultural infrastructure. Witness also the important post-independence agrarian legislation and the organization of rural co-operatives. And so I come back to where I began. The fact that we are here today is due to our cultural affinities and our political ones as well.

We are here essentially because of our cultural affinities, now being carefully studied by, our research workers who visit our respective States for significant reasons. It is no mere chance that we have jointly hit on the idea of organizing a Department of Indian Languages and Civilisation at the University of Dakar. And there is no doubt that as research proceeds, we are beginning to see affinities between Hinduism here and Negritude in West Africa, as the pervasive vision

of a spiritual world, all the more real and human because its roots lie in the body, even in matter.

As regards our political affinities, curiously enough, in the small State of Senegal as in the larger one of India, the percentage of rural inhabitants compared with urban dwellers is the same, as well as the percentage of industry in overall (industrial) production. More than this, like you, we are promoting public and semi-public enterprises. We have carried out agrarian reform, just as you are doing. And we have gone a long way, having nationalized 95% of the lands and, in accordance with ancient Negro-African customary law, made them available to the peasants who cultivate them. Like you, too, with the co-operation of the members of the community, we have introduced modern farming methods into the rural areas.

Thus everything induced us, as it still does, to continue to press on with bilateral co-operation. This actually goes back to a time just after Senegal attained independence in 1960, when you established an embassy in Dakar in July 1961.

My present visit to India gives us an opportunity to extend our co-operation and make it more dynamic. That is why I hope we shall be signing three agreements: a cultural agreement, a technical cooperation agreement and a trade agreement.

A cultural agreement for the reasons just given. And, in point of fact, we are not interested only in the Dravidian languages which have certain affinities with Senegalese and Guinean languages, but also in Sanskrit which belongs to the same group as Latin and Greek, the study of which we encourage.

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Co-operation in technology and trade, as far as Third World countries are concerned is still the most effective means of combating the deterioration of the terms of trade imposed on us by the developed countries. This is a situation which, if we are not careful, will certainly end up in a war involving

the five continents, a war from which mankind will not emerge unscathed.

There is certainly no intention of cancelling vertical relations with the former colonising powers. Indeed we intend to develop to the full horizontal relations among Third World countries. Of course, such relations, particularly co-operation between India and Senegal, existed before I undertook this journey, but they were rather slender. They need to be developed. At present we receive technical assistance from India, and our Institute of Food Technology has also received supplies of equipment from your country.

Mr. President, I must conclude. The Indian sub-continent, if we think carefully, though in Asia, is still the continent closest to Africa, as its geography, proto-history and history prove. Like the Indian sub-continent, our most brilliant civilizations are the results of a cultural miscegenation between North and South. The truth of the assertion that every great civilization is a civilization of cultural miscegenation, a biological miscegenation, to begin with, has been proved by none better than yours, and this makes it incomparably great.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to raise your glasses and drink to the health of His Excellency Shri V. V. Giri, President of the Republic of India, to Mrs. Giri, to whom I pay my kind respects, to the prosperity and happiness of the friendly people of India, and to co-operation between India and Senegal, to solidarity of the Third World peoples.

SENEGAL INDIA USA INDONESIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE GUINEA

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India-Senegal Joint Communique

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The following joint communique on the State visit of H.E. Mr. Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal, to India was issued in New Delhi on May 26, 1974:

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of India, Shri V. V. Giri, the President of the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Mr. Leopold Sedar Senghor and Madame Senghor paid a state visit to India from May 18 to 26, 1974.

His Excellency President Senghor was accompanied by the Foreign Minister of Senegal, His Excellency Mr. Assane Seek and Madame Seek, His Excellency Ambassador Andre Coulbary, His Excellency Ambassador Cheikh Leye, the Chief of Protocol, His Excellency Mr. Pierre Kame, Director of Foreign Trade of Senegal, Mr. Abdou Karim Sidibe, Technical Adviser in the Ministry of Rural Development and Hydraulics, Mr. Ibrahima Sy, Head of the Asian Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other officials of the Government of Senegal.

During their visit in India, the President of Senegal, Madame Senghor, and the party were given a warm and cordial welcome symbolising the traditional friendship existing between the two countries.

President Senghor held discussions with President Giri and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and received the Minister of External Affairs and the Minister of Planning of the Government of India.

The President of Senegal laid wreaths at Rajghat, Shantivana and Vijayaghat in homage to the Indian leaders. In Delhi, President Senghor was elected Fellow of the Sahitya Akademi, the first international dignitary to receive this honour. President Senghor, Madame Senghor and members of

the Delegation visited places of historical, cultural and industrial interest in Srinagar, Agra, Bangalore and Madras. He addressed members of Faculties and students of Annamalai and Madras Universities on the subject "Reasons for Creating the Department of Indo-African Studies in the Fundamental

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Institute of Black Africa in Dakar" and spoke to intellectuals, scholars and research workers at Madras on the concept of Negritude.

The President of Senegal and the Indian Prime Minister held discussions on international and bilateral issues of mutual interest. These talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding reflecting the close ties, existing between the two countries and revealed a large measure of identity of views.

President Senghor welcomed the recent Tripartite Agreement between India, Pakistan and Bangladesh and congratulated Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her Government for their efforts to establish a durable peace and normalise relations between all the countries of the sub-continent. President Senghor conveyed his appreciation of the role of India in international affairs and paid a tribute to the peaceful and non-aligned policy of the Government of India.

Informed of the first Indian underground nuclear experiment on May 18, 1974, the Senegalese side note with satisfaction that India, while thus confirming the high quality of their scientists and experts, had decided that nuclear energy would be used for peaceful purposes in the service of the people of India and humanity as a whole.

The Prime Minister of India expressed her appreciation of the socialist and democratic policies followed by Senegal. She acknowledged the great contribution made by President Senghor towards the progressive building of African unity, the assertion of Negritude, to Afro-Asian solidarity and international understanding.

Both leaders stressed the desirability of

expanding trade, economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. They both agreed that there were many possibilities for developing cooperation in agriculture, irrigation projects and industry. It was further agreed that delegations would be exchanged to identify specific areas of collaboration for commercial, economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

In the field of cultural relations, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi greatly valued President Senghor's profound interest in Indian culture and his endeavours to widen and deepen the cultural links between India and Africa. Both leaders agreed to increase contacts between educational and cultural institutions and Universities and encourage joint programmes of research in Indian and Africans studies.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of a trade Agreement, an Agreement on Technical, Economic and Scientific Cooperation and a comprehensive Cultural Agreement between the two countries, which were signed during the visit of the President of Senegal.

Both leaders reiterated their support for the liberation movements in Africa against colonial and racial domination; they hailed the establishment of the independent state of Guinea-Bissau and noted the successes of the liberation movements in other parts of Africa which had recently led to developments that held significant prospects for hastening the inevitable end of colonial rule and racial discrimination.

Reviewing the situation in West Asia, the two leaders reiterated their belief that a just and durable peace demanded the earliest vacation of Arab territories forcibly occupied by Israel and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine.

The two sides reaffirmed their support for the United Nations General Assembly resolutions declaring the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace free from Great Power rivalry, tensions and military escalation.

Both sides welcomed the initiatives recently taken by the group of non-aligned countries to strengthen the position of the developing world and strongly affirmed that their economic relationship with developed nations must be placed on a more just and equitable basis. They looked to the countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America to increase their cooperation in every field for achieving this objective. They welcomed the deliberations of the recent special session of the United Nations General Assembly and hoped that the resolutions adopted are implemented and concrete results achieved so as to establish a just world economic order.

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The Prime Minister of India conveyed to the President of Senegal the deep concern and sympathy of the Government and people of India at the sad loss of life and property caused by the unprecedented drought in the Sahelian region of Africa of which Senegal was a part. President Senghor thanked the Prime Minister for India's concern and assistance in meeting the difficult situation.

President Senghor expressed his profound gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his party and conveyed invitations to President Giri and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to visit Senegal. The invitations were gratefully accepted.

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SENEGAL INDIA USA BANGLADESH MALI LATVIA GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU ISRAEL

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BANGLADESH

Speech by Bangladesh President at Winner in Honour of President Giri

Following is the text of the speech by the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Muhammadullah, at the dinner in honour of Shri and Shrimati V. V. Giri at Dacca on June 15, 1974:

I would like to extend our warmest welcome to the President of India and Mrs. Giri on this their first visit to Bangladesh. The distinguished President of India is an honoured statesman whose entire life has been dedicated to the cause of human freedom and the democratic rights of his countrymen. President Giri enjoys a special position in the history of India's freedom movement to which he with many others devoted his entire life, for the realisation of independence and the building of a new and glorious country. He has given to India moral leadership of a high order, informed at all times by a deep rooted concern for the welfare of the ordinary citizen, for the rights of the down-trodden and for the dignity of labour. As a distinguished former trade union leader President Giri has helped to establish the great Trade Union Movement in India.

It is only fitting in that I should take this opportunity to make a reference to the personal contribution of President Giri as the Head of State of our great neighbour India to the liberation struggle of Bangladesh. Speaking with the authority of his high office and true to the ideals of freedom and democracy that have marked his entire political career he voiced powerful support for the struggling people of Bangladesh in their long and bitter fight against tyranny and militarism.

We salute, therefore, this day an exceptional man whose courage and dedication have marked a long and fruitful career in the service of his great country.

To Madame Giri, my wife and I extend a cordial welcome. It is a matter of sincere gratification that she has been able to accompany President Giri to visit our land.

Your visit marks an important step in the continuous development of the friendship and cooperation between India and Bangladesh. It was in November, 1972 that my distinguished predecessor Mr. Abu Sayeed Chowdhury visited India. We in Bangladesh see these exchange of visits at the highest level as part of the organic process of mutual consultation, the sharing of mutual concerns, in the ever deepening relationship between our two countries.

Culture and history bind our two countries in ties of close friendship and understanding. We share a common dedication to the ideals of democracy, socialism, secularism and social justice. Our two Governments seek to achieve the establishment of a just society through just means. The principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence based upon mutual respect and non-interference in each others internal affairs form the common basis of our respective foreign policies. And above all our two countries share a determination to establish peace and harmonious relations in the Sub-continent. Our joint efforts in this regard have yielded important and lasting results as exemplified in the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Declaration of April,

1973, the Delhi Agreement of August, 1973 and the Tripartite Agreement of April, 1974. These Agreements have given an impulse to the constant search for peace and tranquillity in our area whose history has been marked by so much blood-shed and strife in the past. The shared philosophy of peace represents for us a most powerful factor in meeting the just aspiration of our peoples for progress and harmony.

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The over-riding interest of our countries and peoples for the establishment of lasting peace has at no time been clearer than today. Our countries are faced with an immense crisis of economic expectation against the background of rising prices-affecting the very basis of our economy. There can be no doubt that for countries like India and Bangladesh the search for economic freedom will henceforth dominate all aspects of our policies. That we may better be able to dedicate ourselves to this task makes peace and the establishment of an environment of peace a condition of survival.

It is important that our two countries which have hitherto co-operated so successfully in the field of foreign affairs should increase and consolidate cooperation in the field of economic development. I have no doubt that such a concert of policies between our two countries will be marked with equally fruitful results as our efforts in the field of foreign policy.

During the visit of our Prime Minister and the Father of our Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to India last May the foundations of economic cooperation between our two countries through joint ventures have been laid. This represents a remarkable step forward and we believe offers, an example to other neighbouring countries of the type of cooperation that is becoming an increasing necessity in facing the awesome economic challenges that face our region. We believe that economic cooperation between India and Bangladesh may be seen in a wider perspective as a further step towards the establishment of peace and tranquillity in our area for the betterment and progress of our

two peoples. The search for peace and the search for economic freedom are complementary and India and Bangladesh have I believe set a noble example in this respect.

In the end I would call upon our distinguished guests, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen to rise with me in proposing a toast to the health, long life and happiness of President Giri and his charming lady wife Shrimati Giri, to the Prime Minister of the great Union of India Shrimati Indira Gandhi and to the friendship, cooperation and understanding between the Governments and the peoples of India and Bangladesh.

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BANGLADESH

President Giri's Reply

Following is the text of the speech of president Giri at the, Banquet given by president Mohammadullah of Bangladesh at Dacca on June 15, 1974:

I am deeply touched by the generous sentiments which you, Mr. President, have expressed and your warm words of goodwill and friendship towards my country. I should like at the very outset to state how fully I reciprocate your sentiments and share your conviction of continued friendship and close relations between our two countries.

I would recall, if you would permit me, Mr. President, the significant contribution that you have made to the national life of your country in the aftermath of liberation. When you were the Speaker of the first

Parliament of free Bangladesh, your wisdom contributed in large measure to the establishment of democratic conventions in the new-born country. Your part in fostering these conventions will live in the history of this great land. If I may say so, the people and the Government of Bangladesh are fortunate in having so distinguished and eminent a person as you, to guide the destinies of this nation.

I am very happy indeed to meet again your distinguished Prime Minister. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was recently in India on all too brief a visit, but even this brief visit has added significantly to strengthening the relations between our two countries. We always welcome Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman not only as the distinguished leader of the 75 million people of Bangladesh and the beloved Prime Minister of a friendly neighbouring country, but also as the symbol of a heroic struggle for freedom.

Both the countries are engaged in the stupendous task of achieving the economic

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and social welfare of our peoples and the eradication of poverty, ignorance and disease. It is in order to bend our energies to this task that we sought the independence of our nations; and no one who has lived through the past few years can fail to be impressed by the matchless courage of the people of Bangladesh in their struggle for freedom. We, in India, are glad that it was given to us in some measures to participate in, that struggle.

It, is now for your nation, as it is for ours, a time for consolidation and for building up the strength of the nation. We seek this strength, not in military terms, but in order that we may give to each one of our nationals a richer life and we are convinced that this great task in which we are engaged can be made lighter by co-operation between our two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. It is for this reason that we have together examined and laid the foundations for co-operation over a wide

spectrum of activity, from commerce to education. Historians of the future will indeed marvel at the manifold and whole-hearted participation of our two nations in so short a period of time. That Bangladesh was able, so quickly after independence, to decide upon the objectives of its policy and to pursue them with such vigour is a tribute to its redoubtable spirit of nationalism and its impatience to overcome the obstacles in the path of progress.

We have also been proud to co-operate with Bangladesh in important international forums, such as, the Non-aligned Conference, the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference and a number of other international conferences. We are very happy indeed that the Security Council has unanimously recommended Bangladesh's membership of the United Nations and we look forward to Bangladesh taking her rightful place in that organisation. We are sure that Bangladesh will make there a contribution to peace no less important than she has already made in the affairs of the sub-continent. We earnestly hope that the measures for peace on the sub-continent, that she has made possible in her magnanimity and statesmanship, will not have been in vain, for it is only in peace that we can devote ourselves to the cause of our peoples which to both of us is of such fundamental importance. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, May I request you to join me in a toast to His Excellency the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Mohammadullah; to Begum Moharnmadullah; to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman; to the progress and prosperity of the people of Bangladesh, to Indo-Bangladesh friendship.

BANGLADESH USA INDIA

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President Girl's Speech at Civic Reception

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Following is the text of the speech of President V. V. Giri at a civic reception in Dacca on June 16, 1974:

I am grateful to you for your very generous words and the reception that you have accorded to me on behalf of the citizens of this ancient city, ancient, yes, but one which has also burst, upon the conscience of 20th century men. This city, once the by-word, for the civilised arts of man, has today epitomised his struggle for freedom. It is the birth-place of a nation. This city and its university have zealously safeguarded the cultural and political heritage of the nation of which the late Dr. Shahid-ullah was such a shining symbol. It nurtured the revolutionary fire kindled by great heroes like Surja Sen of the Chittagong armoury raid fame.

It is the intellectuals, the political leaders of this city who launched the language movement in 1952, which evolved into a national movement for liberation. This is the city, in which your distinguished Prime Minister gave the clarion call for your liberation on March 7, 1971, declaring that "the struggle this time is the struggle for freedom, the struggle this time is the struggle of emancipation." It is this city, which saw the denouement of the 16th December, 1971. Dacca today is being transformed into the capital of a new and populous state. The projects initiated by your Ministry of Public Works and Urban Development and

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Urban improvement plans being worked on by the Dacca Improvement Trust, indicate the vision and imagination with which you plan to transform Dacca into the centre of your economic, socio-cultural and political life. I understand that your efforts at modernizing this city are tempered by a desire to retain a link between the glory of the past and your present needs.

It is often said that a capital city does not necessarily represent the country as a whole. In Dacca, however, you have maintained the city's vital cultural and political links with the rest of the country. This is also reflected in the future plans for your city and, particularly, in the project of the new capital being built at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. The manner, in which you are meeting your problems, will be an example to societies faced with the problem of building new capitals and urban centres.

You, the civil leaders of Dacca, have a rich intellectual and cultural past to draw upon the deployment of your city. You have too wealth of talent, as I have seen from the intellectuals, political leaders and creative artists, who are of Dacca by birth and who have enriched the culture and civilization of the sub-continent.

Mr. Minister, while again thanking you and the assembled distinguished company, I would like to convey to you and through you to the inhabitants of this city, sincere good wishes on behalf of my wife, myself and my colleagues. I would like to give you my good wishes for your personal welfare, for the prosperity of your city and its inhabitants and for its emergence as a fitting capital for your great country.

BANGLADESH USA

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

President Giri's Address to Bangladesh Parliament

Following is the text of the address delivered by the President, Shri V. V. Giri,

to the Special Session of Bangladesh Jatiyo Sangshad (Parliament) on June 18, 1974:

I consider myself greatly privileged to address this Special Session of your Parliament. The occasion is of particular significance to me as, in meeting you the chosen representatives of your people, I see the realisation of your cherished dream which found fulfilment in 1971 - a dream which the people of India shared with you. I should like to recall the Resolution which was adopted by the Parliament of India on the 31st March, 1971, which stated in part: "This House records its profound conviction that the historic upsurge of the 75 million people of East Bengal will triumph. The House wishes to assure them that their struggle and sacrifices will receive the wholehearted sympathy and support of the people of India."

Many of you who are Members of Parliament of free Bangladesh today were also chosen representatives of the people of Bangladesh when your struggle for freedom broke out. In large measure it was initiated by you under the leadership of your distinguished Prime Minister; and I should like today to pay homage to you and, through you, to the great and friendly people of Bangladesh and their valiant freedom-fighters, of their heroism and devotion to the values of individual freedom, justice and liberty. We were proud to share in your struggle, for it was dedicated to the ideals we also believe in. It is this dedication, and not only shared experience, which ensures the strength and the continuity of Indo-Bangladesh friendship.

What are these ideals? We talk about freedom, but we desire freedom not simply as an end in itself; but as a means to enrich the lives of individual human beings and so the life of the nation. Our peoples must have the knowledge and the confidence that they can participate in the life of the nation and guide its destiny, and in order that they may be able to do so it is not enough merely to indulge in abstract talk of freedom but to make the conditions in which the exercise of such freedom is possible. It is for this

reason that we wish to give our peoples, at the very least, the necessities of life. It is for this reason that we wish to provide them

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with the means by which their mental horizon can be expanded. It is only by the deliberate participation of the thinking individual that a nation's life can be enriched. It has become hackneyed to talk about the removal of disease and ignorance; but unless we can bend our efforts to the utmost for this purpose we shall be depriving our nations of the greatness of which they are capable.

It is unfortunate that through the centuries greatness has come to be equated with military prowess, but I think we can take legitimate pride in the fact that in both our countries it is the man of peace, of goodwill, of compassion that has been accorded the highest respect.

We are not rich nations, Mr. Speaker. We do not yet suffer from the problems of affluence; but in order that the vast majority of our peoples may be able to attain their full stature as human beings, we have to ensure the equitable distribution of the national wealth. This effort is naturally accompanied by social strains, but these too can be mitigated by the realisation that there can be no fuller life than one dedicated to the service of one's fellow human beings. Perhaps one's pride for one's nation is at the root of their realisation; and indeed we have seen that it is this burning pride that has created the State of Bangladesh and is carrying it to economic progress and social cohesion.

We in India have watched with admiration how within twelve months of a harrowing liberation war, you have given to your nation a democratic Constitution and defined the principles which will guide it. In your quest for a democratic and egalitarian society you have enunciated the highest ideals of man and taken bold steps. These have evoked the warmest fraternal feelings of the people of India.

In the search for economic and social

progress India and Bangladesh have established areas of cooperation and shared institutions. Our cooperative endeavours in the spheres of development, commerce, transport and communications, cultural exchanges, science and technology, have made a good beginning. Indeed so many vital aspects of the development of our economies have already been enriched by cooperation between our two countries. We in India are happy at this cooperation because we are convinced that it is for the benefit of both our peoples. It is possible to argue that each of our countries can develop without such mutual cooperation. But then the question arises, at what cost? Are we to put up artificial barriers between our two countries, merely because we are separate sovereign States? To do so is surely nationalism at its most chauvinistic. If we act together, it is so that we can give to our peoples a more joyous future without detracting by a single iota from the sovereign right of each of our nations to make its own decisions. We have recently been happy to welcome to India your great Prime Minister. We welcomed him as a great statesman, as a great friend and as the representative of a people who believe in the progress of our two nations through friendship and cooperation.

In the field of foreign affairs, your success has been spectacular. Based on the principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence, your foreign policy has brought about the acknowledgement of your country as a full-fledged member of the international community. Bangladesh is today recognised by 123 countries. It is a member of 26 international organisations. And in the very near future, India and other members of the United Nations will have the opportunity of welcoming your country into the United Nations Organisation to take your rightful place in the councils of the world as an independent and sovereign State.

We are particularly gratified at your being a full-fledged member of the Conference of Non-Aligned Nations. I am sure that your presence in this important world forum will strengthen the forces of peace in the world.

We rejoice in Bangladesh's successes not only as a friend and a neighbour, but because our two countries share the same principles in the creation of a stable international order. Both India and Bangladesh desire friendship with all countries of the world. Both firmly believe that the sovereign equality of nations respect for each other's territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and development of relations for mutual benefit should be the guiding principles of relations between States. Guided

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by these principles India looks forward to working closely with Bangladesh in the cause of Peace.

Our cooperation has already had sonic measure of success in the sub-continent. India and Bangladesh can take pride in the joint initiatives they have taken in the last two years to resolve the problems arising from the conflict of 1971. Mr. Speaker, the magnanimity of your leadership and of your people have made possible those initiatives. We hope that they will have helped to put an end to an era of suspicion and strife so that we on this sub-continent can direct our attention to the pressing tasks of development for the welfare of our peoples.

Yet it is obvious that certain trends in the world at large affect, and will continue to affect, us in a fundamental way. It is perhaps the growing inequality between the developed and developing nations that has become a central issue of our time. The non-aligned forum and the United Nations and its agencies have been giving consideration to this problem. We are convinced that closer cooperation amongst the non-aligned nations will enable them to resist external pressures and to exercise fuller control over their natural resources for the benefit of their peoples. We are convinced of the need to make progress in the directions envisaged at Algiers and at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly. In this vital task, as in other fields of endeavour, we are glad to cooperate with Bangladesh for it is our cooperation which so greatly increases the possibilities of success.

Mr. Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Members of Parliament, I must thank you for the honour that you have done me today by giving me this opportunity to address you. I bring to you, and through you to the 75 million people of Bangladesh, the greetings of the people of India and their feelings of sincere friendship and good wishes for the progress, prosperity and stability of your country. I believe that the friendship between India and Bangladesh, based on mutual respect and equality, and baptised in the difficult times of your liberation struggle, will grow in substance and we shall witness a glorious efflorescence. I believe that the cooperation between our two countries, and the spirit of goodwill that underlines it, will bring durable peace to our sub-continent and will contribute to stability and peace in the world.

I wish you and the people of Bangladesh all happiness and prosperity.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ALGERIA

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

President Giri's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Bangladesh President and Prime Minister

The following speech. was delivered by the President, Shri V. V. Giri, at the dinner hosted by him on June 18, 1974, in honour of Bangladesh President, Mr. Muham-madullah, and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you this evening. My wife, and I and my colleagues have been treated with great affec-

tion and overwhelming hospitality. I would like to thank you, Mr. President, and through you, your Government and your people, for having made our stay here so memorable.

On my last evening here, I cannot help looking back to the tumultuous times our two countries have passed through together. 1971 and your liberation struggle which is a landmark of heroism in the history of mankind; 1972 and the emergence of 75 million people to freedom, which is the birthright of Man; 1973, and now 1974, the building of the nation, both internally and in the councils of mankind. These are stirring events; and those of us who have lived through them must be grateful that it has fallen to our lot to be participants in some small measures

These years have seen meetings between our leaders and, indeed, meetings between the peoples of Bangladesh and India at various levels. It is, I am sure, these meetings that have laid the surest foundation for Indo-Bangladesh friendship, for friendship is

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born not in formal documents or agreements, but in the meetings of the minds of men.

We have seen our friendship take concrete shape in various fields and we are happy and proud that this should be so. I have, in the course of my visit, mentioned some of the results of our joint efforts at greater length elsewhere; but if they have come about, it is because of the affinity in our thinking and the similarity in the methods we adopt to enrich the lives of our peoples: and if we pursue our joint endeavours it is because we are convinced that this will lead to our objectives, to peace, progress and prosperity. The starting point of our friendship and its goal are thus both to be found in our common humanity.

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, friends, this great land and this beautiful city have contributed so much in the past to that humanity. Bangladesh is now master of its

own destiny; and I am sure that the future too will see an equal and, indeed greater, if that were possible, contribution from this land. In these last few days, I had had the privilege of visiting some parts of it; and I carry back with me lasting memories not only of its breathtaking beauty, but of what it is trying to achieve in its new youth which yet carries with it so much of the heritage of the past.

May I thank you, Mr. President, and Begum Muhammadullah, Mr. Prime Minister and the Government and the people of Bangladesh for generosity, affection and warmth with which you have received my wife, myself and my colleagues during this visit? I hope you will give us an occasion to reciprocate your affection and friendship, if not in equal measure at least in part, at an early opportunity.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to join in a toast to His Excellency the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Muhammadullah, and Begum Muhammadullah, to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Bangladesh, to Indo-Bangladesh friendship.

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**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

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BANGLADESH

India-Bangladesh Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued on June 19, 1974 at the conclusion of the visit of the President, Shri V. V. Giri, to Bangladesh:

At the invitation of the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the President of the Republic of India, His Excellency Shri V. V. Giri, accompanied by Shrimati Giri, paid a visit to Bangladesh from the 15th to the 19th June, 1974. The President of India was accompanied by His Excellency Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, and senior officials. Their Excellencies Shri Surendra Pal Singh and Mr. Abdul Mannan, Minister for Health and Social Welfare, Government of Bangladesh, accompanied the President of India at Ministers-in-Waiting during the visit.

2. The President of India called on His Excellency Mr. Muhammadullah, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. He had a warm and cordial exchange of views with His Excellency Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. During the course of his visit, the President of India also received His Excellency Dr. Kamal Hos-sain, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh.

3. The President of India laid a wreath at the National Memorial for Martyrs at Savar as a mark of homage on behalf of the people of India. The President also paid a visit to Kaptai and was able to see not only some of the beautiful countryside of Bangladesh, but also something of the determined efforts of the Bangladesh people in the economic reconstruction of their country. The President was also particularly happy to address the Jatio Sangshad, which epitomises the democratic ideals of the people of Bangladesh.

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4. The President of India conveyed to the President and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh the esteem and warmest feelings of friendship of the Government and people of India for the Government and the people of Bangladesh. He paid tribute to the heroic sacrifices of the people of Bangladesh in their struggle for independence and expressed admiration for the dynamic efforts of the Government and the people of Bangladesh in the achievement of social and economic

progress.

5. The President of Bangladesh paid homage to the memory of those valiant soldiers of India who fell in the liberation struggle of Bangladesh. He also paid rich tributes to the valuable support extended by the Government and the people of India to the liberation, struggle of Bangladesh and since liberation, to the national reconstruction efforts. The President of Bangladesh conveyed warm feelings of friendship that the Government and the people of Bangladesh cherish for the Government and the people of India and their admiration for Indian achievements in the fields of science, technology and industry aimed at securing economic and social justice in conformity with the ideals of democracy.

6. The two Presidents expressed their deep conviction that the close and friendly relations between the two countries, rooted in common ideals, sovereign equality and mutual respect would continue to grow from strength to strength.

7. The President of India extended a cordial invitation to the President of Bangladesh to visit India. The invitation was accepted with much pleasure.

8. The President of India expressed his gratitude for the very warm hospitality and friendship shown to him and his party during their visit by the Government and people of Bangladesh.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA

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**Volume No**

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Acting Permanent Representative of India on Admission of Bangladesh to UN

Following is the text of the statement made by Shri N. P. Jain, Acting Permanent Representative of India in the Security Council June 10, 1974 in connection with the admission of Bangladesh in the United Nations:

The delegation of India is grateful to you and to the members of the Council for this opportunity to participate in the proceedings of the Council today when it has decided unanimously to recommend to the General Assembly the admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to membership in the United Nations. The decision of the Security Council on the renewed request of the Government of Bangladesh at last opens the way for Bangladesh - the eighth most populous country in the world, a great country of Asia whose people have bravely and successfully weathered many a calamity - both natural as well as man-made - and a distinguished member of the non-aligned movement and the developing world - to take its due place in our organisation as a full member. India warmly welcomes and applauds both the decision of the Council as well as the manner of its adoption today.

We are happy that it was possible to come to this agreed and unanimous conclusion, thanks to the intensive consultations conducted informally following the request of Bangladesh for the renewed consideration of their application for membership made originally in 1972. Our warm tributes go to

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you, Mr. President, and to your distinguished predecessor in office Ambassador Maina of Kenya, for the skill and the ability, the pragmatism and the persuasiveness with which you have both guided the Council towards unanimity of this question.

India welcomes the resolution just adopted as it would enable the General Assembly at its forthcoming session to take a significant step towards giving the United Nations a more universally representative character which is so vital for its effective-

ness. Bangladesh has been an independent sovereign state for some (time) now, and has been recognised by over 120 countries from different regions of the world. It has already made an effective contribution in various organs and specialized agencies of the U.N. of which it has been a member for some time. Its presence in our organisation as a full member is indeed overdue. Since its inception, it has not only expressed its willingness and enthusiasm for abiding by the U.N. Charter, but has also demonstrated its ability and sincerity to do so through its unremitting efforts in furthering the cause of peace, understanding and co-operation particularly in our part of the world even though the U.N. membership was denied to it so far. In spite of the sufferings that it has endured and sacrifices that it has made in the past, Bangladesh has shown tremendous courage in taking bold initiatives which have furthered the cause of normalisation and establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent. This is indeed a testimony to the generosity of its people, the statesmanship of its leaders and the magnanimity of its spirit. We in the United Nations should be proud to welcome this peace-loving nation which would enrich the organisation with its cultural heritage, wisdom and grace, maturity and modern outlook.

India welcomes today's Council decision since it opens the doors of the United Nations to a neighbouring and a fellow Asian country with whom India has close and growing bonds of friendship and with whom it is united by a dedication to the principles of democracy, secularism, socialism and the establishment of an egalitarian society in which there will be no discrimination on the basis of religion, sex or creed. In the field of foreign relations, we share the commitment to non-alignment, peaceful co-existence, cause of development particularly of developing countries and opposition to colonialism, racialism and imperialism in all its manifestations.

At the fourth session of the Heads of States Governments at Algiers last year, Bangladesh was warmly embraced as a member of the non-aligned family and the

summit called for the admission of this independent non-aligned country in the U.N. without delay. It is indeed gratifying and, as the distinguished Ambassador of Algeria has already pointed out, Bangladesh has declared its determination to continue to Where) to a policy of non-alignment which has played a positive and constructive role in strengthening national sovereignty and independence and forces of peace and stability and social and economic justice and Bangladesh and India have made determined efforts to normalise relations of all the countries on the sub-continent based on mutual trust and understanding, respect and friendship. The process of conciliation initiated with the conclusion of the Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan culminated the Tripartite Agreement concluded on April 11, 1974, between Bangladesh, Pakistan and India which has affirmed the common resolve of these countries to achieve a friendly and harmonious relationship. We are dedicated to this cause and renew its expression here. We believe that it should not be interrupted for any reason on any pretext. Challenging tasks lie ahead for all the three countries in the field of exploitation and harnessing of resources to meet the legitimate aspirations and needs of their people for a better life. All the three countries should now look forward to the consolidation of the new era of constructive co-operation to achieve peace, progress and justice for their people. This is not the time for looking back or to cling to the hangover of the past. It is time to look ahead and forge close and friendly co-operation which would contribute to the maximum good and welfare of all the people of the sub-continent.

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**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

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Labour Minister's Address to ILO

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The following is the full text of the Labour Minister, Shri K. V. Raghunatha Reddy's address at the 59th session of ILO being held in Geneva from June 5 to 26, 1974 (the text was released in New Delhi on June 14, 1974):

The crisis through which the world is passing today has many facets, economic, political, social, spiritual and moral. These aspects are closely intertwined and each exerts a profound influence on the other. We here are principally concerned with the economic and social forces which have determined and continue to influence the material structure and march of human civilisation. Facts of life and history compel us to make a distinction between the advanced and backward societies, between developed and developing nations and between countries marked by prosperity and affluence and those which witness extreme forms of poverty and deprivation.

These divisions of the world into two segments cannot, however, ignore the concept which has grown in recent decades and which seeks to transcend all the divisions. This concept is the product of not only the remarkable advances in science and technology but is also the triumph of basic philosophy of humanism. It is the main task of the international order, of international organisations like ours, to reduce and eliminate these divisions and strengthen and support the forces which endeavour to build up the oneness of the world.

Questions relating to employment and unemployment lie at the very heart and root of our endeavours. Not all poor countries are under-endowed by nature: their poverty arises from the insufficient utilisation of resources, both human and natural, which are available to them. Unemployment and under-employment inhibit their growth and where

unemployment reaches massive proportions, as it unfortunately does in many countries of the developing part of the world, its effects on the material welfare of the peoples can be grave indeed. That apart, unemployment is an affront to the basic dignity and worth of man. Man needs to work not merely as an economic necessity to earn a living but also to satisfy and fulfil certain fundamental urges and aspirations that are deep-seated in him. Gainful employment is but the means of giving actuality to the potential in man, constructive, artistic, literary and social. To deny him these opportunities for self-expression and achievement is to take away a large part of him and to lower and stultify his life.

It is in this context that it, may be truly said that the ILO has rendered a signal service by conceiving and establishing the world employment programme. The change in economic thinking which the programme embodies and entails, constitutes a watershed of great value. When the era of economic growth started at the end of the Second World War, the central target aimed at was an increase in the GNP. This was perhaps appropriate for the developed countries which already had a well-developed economic base. But even in the developed countries the exclusive pursuit of this target was soon called in question on the ground that it is leading to a crisis in values - social and cultural which have an intimate bearing on human welfare, and the development of personality. In the developing countries, economic growth was certainly a prime need, but having regard to the socioeconomic structures and traditional values, the forces of growth led to a widening of the economic inequalities, creating in its turn grave social problems. The former Director-General, Mr. Wilfred Jenks, made a pointed reference to the problems of inequalities and unequal opportunities, inherent in the socioeconomic system itself. I have no doubt in my mind that political democracy alone cannot solve our problems to achieve stability and economic growth with social justice. Political democracy should transform itself into economic democracy. Perforce economic democracy includes industrial democracy. As long as

the economic system and property relations remain unchanged, economic growth would certainly lead to widening of inequalities and not to its diminution and expressions like equality and equality of opportunity would lose their concreteness. Hence, Mr. President, if we are committed to equality then socialism becomes irresistible otherwise equality would become an alienating verbosity. There is no other alternative.

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The world employment programme has no doubt come to the rescue by emphasising the social aspects of economic growth, largely because of the lead given by the ILO. The comprehensive employment missions sent out to several countries and the various studies initiated by the ILO have been of inestimable value.

When one considers the state of full employment in the developed part of the world and of massive unemployment in the developing countries, one appreciates the force of the Director-General's observation that the world needs today, above everything else, a new international division of labour with a better dispersion of industry, agriculture and services, leading in its turn, to higher levels of employment and a better distribution of income. The present international economic order is in need of major overhauling to provide for fairer terms of trade and industry to the developing countries which have so far received inadequate and uncertain prices for their raw materials as against a machinery and equipment. We have noted with great interest the paper prepared by the International Labour Office dealing with the effects of trade expansion on employment in developing and developed countries and we hope that, in concert with other international organisations in the U.N. system, concrete measures will be soon initiated in this direction. While on this subject, I should refer to the state of price inflation in the Western countries which threatens to become a new factor jeopardising the process of economic development in the developing part of the world. The world monetary and currency systems are in a state of disarray and disequilibrium and one must

hope that before inflation reaches a crisis point, measures aimed at stabilisation will be taken. The causes of inflation are not merely economic and monetary, social and political conditions and value systems have a considerable bearing.

Because of the predominantly agricultural and rural character of economies, the problem of unemployment in the developing countries has special features of its own. Taking Asia, for instance, over seventy per cent of the population is found in the agricultural sector and here unemployment and under-employment is the heaviest. The drift from the land to the cities and urban areas can be arrested only by creating new employment opportunities in the rural areas. Industrialisation is no doubt an answer to the problems of the poorer countries but it is only part of the answer. Problems of agricultural and rural development have, therefore, acquired a particular importance and urgency in Asia and, if I am not mistaken, in Africa and Latin America as well. The basic causes of the malady are well-known, maldistribution of land resources, ineffective planning and implementation and inadequate resource mobilisation. The green revolution while it has yielded many benefits, has also created new problems. It is our experience that it has widened the rural inequalities and created grave social tensions. We have introduced various measures of land reform designed to root out the evils of parasitism and to give the land to the actual tiller, we have also taken several other steps to provide the tiller with better seed, fertiliser and irrigation facilities. The problem can be solved only by a revitalised and expanded agriculture, the development of agro-industries in the rural areas, better communications and marketing facilities. It is in these directions that we are trying to move in India and the Asian component of the world employment programme has a significance for us precisely for this reason. We entirely agree with the Director-General's observation that the balance of ILO action should shift progressively from advice on concepts and broad strategies to practical help in designing and implementing specific measures of development policy geared to em-

ployment promotion.

The Director-General has referred to the connection between unemployment and income distribution. As he has remarked, the distribution of income not only reflects the existence of the unemployment problems, it also causes it to exist. It is true that an attack on poverty requires, as an essential pre-requisite, a massive increase in production and services; economic planning must therefore be essentially production-oriented. But it is equally true that employment and income distribution should form an important part of the strategy of development. Only a rational system of income distribution can create the pattern of demand that will lead to the production of essentials, like food, clothing and housing, which are required for "the masses" and will equally discourage the production of luxuries catering to the privi-

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leged and elitist classes. Economic and social philosophy as well as fiscal policies should be geared towards this end. The existing wide disparities between the emoluments of the managerial class and those of workers should be progressively reduced. Equally, wages for the workers should be based on a national system of job analysis and classification and provide incentives for the improvements of skills.

Mr. President, all questions relating to the development and utilisation of human resources and the increase of employment, especially in the rural areas, are of vital importance and concern to the developing countries today. That is why we are happy that these form a central part of the agenda before us and we await with great interest and expectation the outcome of the Conference deliberations.

I would like to refer to another important matter - the growth of multinational corporations. There are no doubt difficult and controversial questions arising out of the operations of these corporations and the role they have played in developing countries. It is high time that their role and influence in the sphere of income distribution, balance

of payments, effects on growth and other related economic, political and social aspects are investigated.

Man is the unique product of evolution and the working man is the real creator of wealth. He is yet to be liberated from poverty, disease, hunger, economic insecurity and in some parts of the world from neo-colonialism too. Only radical restructuring of society can liberate the creative impulse of man for achieving real progress and equality. Conscious social forces are to be generated to overcome the constraints of a system. Such conscious social forces can be generated only when the economic struggles become part and parcel of the struggle for social transformation resulting in the transformation of man himself and not when motivated and guided by mere economism. ILO too can perhaps play a significant role in this great endeavour. I wish the deliberations of the Conference all success.

INDIA SWITZERLAND USA LATVIA

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Indian Representative on Nuclear Explosion by India

Following is the text of a statement by Ambassador R. Jaipal on June, 15, 1974 at the IAEA Board in Vienna on the nuclear explosion by India:

As is well known, the Department of Atomic Energy of the Government of India carried out successfully the explosion of a nuclear device underground at a depth of more than 100 metres within Indian territory. The explosion was completely contained. Our scientists approached the site short-

ly afterwards within 250 metres on the ground and were 30 metres above the ground in a helicopter. They found zero radio activity. It was an experiment undertaken exclusively for peaceful purposes connected with mining and earthmoving operations. The facilities, equipment, materials etc. used for the device were not under multinational or bilateral or agency safeguards. The nuclear explosive device was fabricated by Indian scientists and engineers and no foreign help was involved. India is a party to the Partial Test Ban Treaty and has not violated it in any way. We shall challenge any claim to the contrary.

The Indian experiment should not have caused any surprise to those who follow the proceedings of the Indian Parliament. On the 2nd of August, 1972 and again on 15th of November 1973, the Prime Minister of India informed the Indian Parliament in response to questions that the Indian Department of Atomic Energy was studying situations under which peaceful nuclear explosions underground could be of economic benefit to India. The Prime Minister stated further that the Indian Atomic Energy Commission was constantly reviewing progress in the technology of underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes both from theoretical and experimental angles, and that underground tests for peaceful purposes would be undertaken. Those statements were made more than a year before the underground experiment took place last month.

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Earlier, over 4 years ago in March 1970 at a panel meeting organised by the IAEA in Vienna, the Indian participant Dr. R. Chidambaram had explained in detail the variety of peaceful purposes in which we were interested and for which underground nuclear explosions could be utilised in India. His statement can be found on page 9 of the relevant IAEA publication.

In carrying out the underground nuclear experiment last month, India did not violate any international treaty or agreement. The Prime Minister of India reaffirmed India's opposition to nuclear weapons and their use,

and to the application of nuclear energy for military purposes, and reiterated that India had no intention of manufacturing nuclear weapons. This policy was enunciated by the first Prime Minister of India more than 20 years ago and has been reiterated by his successors. This is an important, well-established and consistent policy of the Indian Government. If it lacks credibility with one of our neighbours, it is not for lack of our good faith or assurances, which incidentally have been accepted and welcomed by most of our other neighbours.

However, India has always reserved its right to pursue its own independent policy of using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and of carrying out research and development into all meaningful applications of nuclear energy for economic development. The use of the nuclear explosive technology underground is an integral part of the Indian Government's policy of using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. In a competitive market for fuels and natural resources, this technology is vitally important for India.

The Indian Government is not alone in this respect. Peaceful nuclear explosions carried out underground over a period of several years by other member states have confirmed the feasibility of this technology, although many problems still remain to be solved. Their experiments have been oriented towards gas and oil stimulation, and have shown promising results and are even reported to have increased oil production by 30 to 60 per cent. More information regarding them can be found in the two interesting publications of the IAEA panels of this subject. A former chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Mr. Glenn Seaborg, stated "The technology and understanding of peaceful nuclear explosions has advanced to the state where they can be safely, efficiently and beneficially used for earth moving, for recovering natural resources and as research tools for man's understanding of his environment."

It should not, therefore, be a matter of surprise or regret if India, which is not subject to the constraints of any treaty, were to

experiment and try to develop this technology to see if it could be used for exploiting the natural resources within its own territory. What is the alternative? To invite foreigners to come into our territory to exploit our natural resource-, with their nuclear devices is not acceptable to India. We have a right to develop our own natural resources in accordance with well-established principles of international law.

India is not a party to the NPT for reasons of principle. But it has never campaigned against that treaty. India is opposed to nuclear weapons and naturally also to their proliferation. So far as India is concerned, India does not intend to manufacture any nuclear weapons. This was the policy of India long before anyone ever thought of the NPT. It is quite wrong to imagine that the Indian explosion for peaceful purposes has somehow damaged the future of the NPT. The NPT stands or falls by its own merits or demerits.

In the light of India's categorical declaration that it does not intend to manufacture nuclear weapons, it cannot legitimately be regarded as posing a nuclear threat to any state. There are those who say that there is no technological difference between a peaceful nuclear explosion and a nuclear weapon, because their characteristics are the same. But that is no reason for preventing peaceful nuclear explosions by some, while others are free to carry them out without any impediment. The same iron forge turns out both swords and ploughshares but one does not think of closing down the forge on that account. A hammer can be used to drive a nail into a wall in order to hang a beautiful picture on it. At the same time, a hammer can be used to bludgeon a person to death. One does not therefore prohibit

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the use of the hammer. Indeed a man's hand can be raised to greet another man, or to kill him. One does not on that account decide that the human community shall be divided into one group of men with several hands, and another group of men without any hands. Mr. Chairman, that is not the

Indian concept of world peace or of the community of nations.

It is also said that a state which explodes a nuclear device has acquired nuclear weapons capability. Is it only the fact of the explosion that gives it this capability? Or is it rather the fact of its possessing the knowledge to do so? There are several states who have the knowhow for exploding nuclear devices but have not yet done so. Don't they have nuclear weapons capability? The crux of the matter is whether a state manufactures nuclear weapons, and not whether it can or has exploded a nuclear device for peaceful purposes.

The General Conference and the General Assembly have accepted the Agency's competence to concern itself with the peaceful uses of nuclear explosions underground. Although nothing has yet been defined in an international agreement for peaceful nuclear explosions, the Agency is expected to play a role in promoting the development of this technology, in serving as an intermediary for the supply of explosive services, in observing the explosions, in exchanging information of scientific interest and of economic importance. The results of the Indian experiment will be made available in due course to the Agency.

The curious question has been raised whether India, because it has exploded a nuclear device, should be denied technical assistance. This surely begs the question whether the purpose of technical assistance is to enable member states to explode nuclear devices. There are established rules regarding the administration of technical assistance and they operate on the principle that assistance should be given to member states without discrimination in areas where they really need it. India is both a recipient and a donor of technical assistance in the field of nuclear energy.

I do not propose to reply in detail to various Governors who have expressed their views on this matter. Some Governors enquired whether India would place all its nuclear activities under IAEA safeguards. Well,

Mr. Chariman, we shall certainly consider this possibility when all the member states of the Agency and indeed others too outside the Agency, voluntarily place all their nuclear activities, civil and military, under the Agency's safeguards.

The Governors from Australia and Denmark and I think also to Governor from Ireland were good enough to welcome the clear assurances of the Indian Government regarding non-manufacture of nuclear weapons. The Governor from Canada, who expressed the deep regret of his Government, might also have taken note of our assurances. And so indeed might other Governors who have spoken, because these assurances were not lightly given by my Government.

To those Governors who have expressed concern, shock, distress or dismay etc. may I repeat the assurances of my Government that we are opposed to nuclear weapons; that we are therefore opposed to their proliferation; that we do not intend to manufacture nuclear weapons and that we shall use our nuclear energy and our nuclear explosive devices exclusively for peaceful purposes. May I conclude by saying that we are fully conscious of our responsibilities, our rights and our obligations to world peace and security.

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INDIA AUSTRIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA RUSSIA AUSTRALIA DENMARK IRELAND  
CANADA

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

**Volume No**

1995

PAKISTAN

Statement by Sardar Swaran Singh

The following statement on the message from Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the reply thereto was made by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, in New Delhi on June 7, 1974:

The Prime Minister of Pakistan has today responded to the message of our Prime Minister, sent to him on May 22, regarding India's peaceful nuclear explosion.

In view of Prime Minister Bhutto's decision to release the text of both messages, we are taking similar action. Our Prime Minister's message of May 22 was in the nature of a constructive and friendly effort to reassure Pakistan and to convey India's firm resolve to use nuclear technology for peaceful and economic uses. It is, therefore, unfortunate that Mr. Bhutto, in his reply, has reverted to his style of making baseless allegations of a propagandistic nature.

In July 1972, India and Pakistan signed the Simla Agreement which provides for the settlement of all differences peacefully and through bilateral discussions. This included the question of Kashmir which was to be settled in the context of normalisation of relations and the establishment of durable peace. Regrettably, instead of implementing the Simla Agreement, Prime Minister Bhutto has now started making accusations of broken assurances. It is well-known that in 1947 Pakistan armed forces had invaded Kashmir after the State's Accession to the Indian Union. In this context, the question of continued illegal occupation by Pakistan of a part of Jammu and Kashmir is a matter to be settled in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

It is strange that so soon after recognising Bangladesh and after concluding the Tripartite Agreement with Bangladesh and India, the Pakistan Prime Minister should deem it fit to make the unwarranted allegations that India was responsible for bringing about Pakistan's dismemberment. The entire world remembers and Prime Minister Bhutto has himself acknowledged that the

brutal and inhuman repression of the people of Bangladesh, by the Pakistan military junta headed by General Yahya Khan started the chain of events, that resulted in the resurgence of the people of Bangladesh, leading the country to freedom. As to who commenced the war in 1971, this is no longer a matter of doubt or dispute. Even a senior Pakistani General, General Fazal Muqem Khan, now their Defence Secretary, has acknowledged in his book that on December 3, 1971, Pakistani troops crossed the Western border into India according to a pre-conceived plan. Simultaneously, Pakistan Air Force had subjected Indian airfields to an unprovoked and concerted attack.

In a vain attempt to build up the bogey of India developing a nuclear weapons capability, Prime Minister Bhutto has even gone to the extent of distorting the nature and purpose of our scientific experiments in space research. India's programme of space research is open and well-known to the scientists of the world. Its basic objective is to explore new avenues and methods of disseminating scientific and educational knowledge. Pakistan is deliberately trying to distort and misrepresent India's programme of peaceful uses of nuclear and space technology by imputing military motives.

It is difficult to understand how a peaceful nuclear experiment could be considered a factor leading to the upsetting of the equilibrium and tranquillity in the sub-continent as alleged by Prime Minister Bhutto. India continues to believe firmly in the principle of sovereign equality of all her neighbours. The success of the nuclear experiment, does not in any way alter this position.

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PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI BANGLADESH

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

**Volume No**

1995

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Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Letter to Pakistan Prime Minister

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The following is the text of the letter dated May 22, 1974 from the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan (released in New Delhi on June 7, 1974):

I was planning to write to you when reports of your recent statement in Lahore regarding India's peaceful nuclear explosion test were brought to my notice, I am sorry that you should have assumed, in spite of our categorical declarations, that the nuclear test which our scientists have conducted entirely for developing nuclear technology for peaceful and economic uses, somehow poses a threat to Pakistan's security.

Our Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh has already made a statement but I also should like to assure you that we remain fully committed to our traditional policy of developing nuclear energy resources entirely for peaceful purposes. The recent underground nuclear experiment conducted by our scientists in no way alters this policy. The underground test was conducted in carefully controlled conditions and is designed to develop technology for various economic uses of nuclear energy. Every country has the right to develop its natural resources and this is especially so at a time when the world crisis in raw materials and energy resources has demonstrated that the tapping of all forms of energy resources is essential to our survival. India has advanced sufficiently in nuclear research to develop its nuclear technology for the utilization of its indigenous resources for peaceful and economic purposes. We have entered into collaboration with several developing countries for the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

I am aware that in popular parlance a nuclear explosion evokes an awesome and horrifying picture. However, this is because

our minds have been conditioned by the misuse of nuclear energy for the development of weapons and by the use of these weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We in India have condemned and will continue to condemn military uses of nuclear energy as a threat to humanity. However, the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, rather than posing a threat, provides a ray of hope for mankind, faced as it is by the spectre of dwindling energy resources.

It is strictly in this context that our scientists have launched on this experiment. Every care and precaution was taken to conduct the test underground in such a way as to preclude any risk of pollution or radiation hazards either to our own people or to those in neighbouring countries.

There are no political or foreign policy implications of this test. We remain committed to settle all our differences with Pakistan peacefully through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the Simla Agreement. Moreover, both countries have resolved to break away from the past history of confrontation and conflict and to work to develop normal relations and establish durable peace. I am sure you will acknowledge that the agreements which have been worked out between our two countries in the last two years, have been reached on the basis of absolute equality. There is no reason, whatsoever, to give up this healthy trend or for a change of policy on the part of either country merely because we have conducted a test for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

You have shown statesmanship in dealing with the problems of the sub-continent. We welcome the announcement of the forthcoming meeting of the officials of our two countries to discuss matters of common interest.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Reply from Prime Minister of Pakistan

The following is the text of the letter dated June 6, 1974 from the, Prime Minister of Pakistan to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (released in New Delhi on June 7, 1974):

We have taken note of your assurance that you remain fully committed to the development of nuclear energy resources for peaceful purposes only and that you will continue to condemn the military use of nuclear energy as a threat to humanity.

You will, however, appreciate that it is a question not only of intentions but of

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capabilities. As you know, in the past we received many assurances from India which regrettably remained unhonoured. India's categorical assurance regarding a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir in order to enable its people to freely decide their future is the most outstanding example.

It is well established that the testing of a nuclear device is no different from the detonation of a nuclear weapon. Given this indisputable fact, how is it possible for our fears to be assuaged by mere assurances, assurances which may in any case be ignored in subsequent years. Governments change, as do national attitudes. But the acquisition of a capability, which has direct and immediate military consequences, becomes a permanent factor to be reckoned with. I need hardly recall that no non-nuclear weapon State, including India, considered mere declarations of intent as sufficient to assure their security in the nuclear age.

Furthermore, the Indian nuclear explosion is an event which cannot be viewed in isolation from its surrounding circumstances. Your rapidly developing programme for acquiring medium range missiles and, with external assistance, placing a satellite in orbit, thus obtaining a delivery system for nuclear weapons, and your projected building of nuclear Navy are most pertinent in this context. These are matters of concern not only to Pakistan but to all countries which border on the Indian ocean.

Pakistan's reaction to India's nuclear explosion is, therefore, in no way abnormal shared by practically all impartial opinion or disproportionate. Indeed our reaction is throughout the world. Pakistan has additional reasons for a unique anxiety because no two among the five nuclear weapons States, have been involved in the kind of confrontation and unresolved disputes which have bedevilled relations between India and Pakistan. You have mentioned, rightly too, that agreements between India and Pakistan worked out during the last two years were reached on the basis of absolute equality. However, the fact cannot be dismissed that these agreements were but a sequel to the act of armed intervention by India which brought about the dismemberment of Pakistan.

You have referred to the economic compulsions behind your nuclear test. Since Pakistan faces economic problems broadly of the same kind as India, we cannot be unsympathetic to attempts at achieving a breakthrough in their solution. No one can disagree with the proposition that nuclear energy can be an immense boon. But one can have access to nuclear technology and nuclear power without having to conduct nuclear explosions. In fact it has been made entirely possible for the non-nuclear-weapon States to use nuclear explosives for peaceful application under procedures of international control. I am, therefore, at a loss to understand why a developing country like India should choose to divert immense resources to the acquisition of a nuclear weapon capability when these could be utilised for the alleviation of poverty and disease.

Our policy for the last two years has been to make every effort to establish relations between India and Pakistan on a rational neighbourly basis. We do not wish to be deflected from that policy, as said in my statement in Lahore on the 19th of last month. Your nuclear explosion, however, introduced an unbalancing factor at a time when progress was being made step by step towards normalisation of relations between our two countries and we had reason to look forward to equilibrium and tranquillity in the sub-continent. When Pakistan's attempts to obtain even spare parts under treaty commitments cause an outcry in India not only unjustified but totally disproportionate, it would be unnatural to expect public opinion in Pakistan not to react to the chauvinistic jubilation widely expressed in India at the acquisition of a nuclear status.

We find it difficult to believe that the deleterious effects of this new phenomenon can really be removed unless the nuclear weapon powers undertake the obligation jointly or individually to defend a non-nuclear-weapon State against the nuclear threat and unless also a nuclear State, which wishes to foresake the development of nuclear weapons, does so through one or more concrete and binding international instruments. Since you have declared that India does not want to develop nuclear weapons or to exercise a nuclear threat against any state, neither of these two components of a solution of the problem should be disagreeable to you.

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The question of a binding agreement between a nuclear State and one or more non-nuclear-weapon States which would preclude the use or threat of nuclear weapons is something that can be taken up between the States concerned. The question of credible assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States is, however, one of global implications and, therefore, of direct concern to the United Nations. In the sixties, India was among the first to put forward the idea of a joint nuclear umbrella, for the non-nuclear weapons States. I have, therefore, addressed the

Secretary General of the United Nations, who has the over-riding responsibility in this field, and the five permanent members of the Security Council asking them to give this question their urgent attention.

You will agree that this matter is of tremendous importance to both your people and ours. In view of its extraordinary nature, I propose to release to the press your letter and my answer after it will have reached you in Delhi. This has become all the more necessary since the press has already reported the substance of your letter.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Statement an Demarcation of Boundary between India and Sri Lanks

The following official statement was issued simultaneously in New Delhi and Colombo on June 28, 1974 regarding the agreement on the demarcation of boundary between India and Sri Lanka:

With a view to identifying and developing their natural resources to the fullest extent possible for the benefit of their peoples, the Governments of Sri Lanka and India have considered it desirable in a spirit of friendship and cooperation to demarcate the boundary of the two countries in the historic waters from Palk Strait to Adam's Bridge and to clarify certain related issues which had been handed down unresolved and undetermined from the colonial period.

Conscious of the need for an early decision in consonance with the close and

friendly relations between the two countries, both Prime Ministers instituted an exhaustive study of all available historical and other evidence and their legal implications. Accordingly a series of consultations took place in Colombo and in New Delhi between senior officials of both countries under the guidance of the two Prime Ministers.

As a result of this joint examination, a boundary in the Palk Bay has been defined in conformity with the historical evidence, legal international principles and precedents. This boundary falls one mile off the west coast of the uninhabited island of Kachchativu, while mutually satisfactory provisions have been made regarding navigation, pilgrimage, fishing and mineral exploration in the area.

The agreement, which has been reached on these matters and signed by the Prime Ministers, will be subject to ratification very shortly and will be made public immediately thereafter.

The two Prime Ministers are of the opinion that the agreement represents a historic landmark in the friendly relations between the two countries and heralds an era of even closer and more fruitful cooperation for their mutual benefits.

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SRI LANKA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

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1995

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Press Communique on U.A.E. Vice-President's Visit

The following press communique was issued in New Delhi at the conclusion of

the visit of the Vice-President of the United Arab Emirates:

At the invitation of Shri G. S. Pathak, the Vice-President of India, His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al-Maktoum, Vice-President of the United Arab Emirates, paid an official visit to India from 15th-22nd June, 1974. He was accompanied by His Excellency, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Defence Minister of the U.A.E., His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Sultan Bin Sullayem, Minister of State of the U.A.E., H.E. Mohamed Issa, U.A.E. Ambassador, and other high officials and leading businessmen from the U.A.E.

During their stay in India, the delegation visited places of historical importance as well as factories and industrial projects in Agra, Delhi and Bombay.

His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al-Maktoum held discussions with the Vice-President, the Prime Minister of India, the Minister of External Affairs and received the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals and the Minister of Industrial Development.

The Delegation also held discussions on economic, technical and commercial matters with high-ranking officials of the Government of India. All these discussions were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere reflecting the traditionally close and cordial ties existing between the two countries.

Both sides agreed on certain measures to further develop rapidly the relations between the two countries particularly in the economic, commercial and technical fields.

Further exchange of technical delegations will take place for early implementation of the agreements reached between the two sides for co-operation in the economic, commercial and technical fields.

Expressing his deep appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and his delegation, His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al-Maktoum, extended cordial invitations to the Vice-

President and the Prime Minister of India to visit the U.A.E. The invitations were gratefully accepted.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA

**Date :** Jun 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

WORLD MONETARY SITUATION

Shri Chavan's Address at Committee of Twenty

The following are the extracts from the Finance Minister Shri Y. B. Chavan's speech at the meeting of the Committee of 20 held in Washington on June 12, 1974:

### SDR AND LINK

I have heard with great attention the statements made by the distinguished Secretary of the Treasury of the United States and the Finance Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany on the subject of the Link. It is now clear that the link has the support of a great majority of members of this Committee, representing both developed and developing countries. That it has not found favour with the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany is a known fact.

During the course of the last two years, the developing countries represented in the

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Committee have made sincere efforts to dispel the doubts and suspicions that some developed countries may have had about the viability of the Link proposal. It is, however, unfortunate that we have not been able to persuade the United States and the Fede-

ral Republic of Germany to change their positions on this subject. At this meeting I shall, therefore, again make an effort to answer some of the criticism of the Link proposal as reflected in the statements of my two distinguished colleagues.

Both Mr. Apel and Mr. Simon have argued that the Link might accentuate inflationary tendencies of the world, Presumably what they have in mind is a fear that the acceptance of the Link might lead to an excessive creation of SDRS.

Mr. Chairman, developing countries have always emphasized that the decisions on the creation of SDRS must be based solely on an assessment of global needs for liquidity and must not in any way be influenced by development considerations. The fact that /despite an unambiguous statement on our part, fears about an excessive allocation of SDRS continue to be voiced by certain developed countries is a matter of great surprise to us.

Besides, Mr. Chairman, we must not forget that the developed countries hold nearly 72 per cent of the fund quotas and as such it is hardly realistic to assume that the developing countries can successfully pressurise them to agree to an excessive allocation of SDRS. Moreover, as I stated during the course of my intervention at an earlier meeting of the Committee, the fears of the developed countries can be fully met if we agree to a formula-based approach based on objective criteria for the allocation of SDRS as has been suggested by the Government of Italy. By adopting such an approach we would remove once and for all the scope for any group of countries being able to pressurize the International Monetary Fund for an excessive allocation of SDRS.

The distinguished Secretary of the U.S. Treasury also expressed an apprehension that the introduction of a Link might jeopardize the establishment of an SDR centered monetary system and that it might weaken confidence in the SDR. Mr. Chairman, the very fact that the SDR will be held only by monetary authorities and not by private in-

stitutions should suffice to convince everyone that this confidence problem is being unduly overplayed. If the developed countries agree to accept the SDR in settlement of payment imbalances, that is the end of the matter as far as this confidence problem is concerned. The argument that the Link might weaken confidence in the SDR reminds me of a similar argument which was used earlier in an attempt to deny developing countries a share in the allocation of SDRs. We have, however, seen that an SDR backed partly by the obligations of the developing countries need not be a weak asset. On the contrary, we are all very keen to make the SDR the centre of the new monetary system. Moreover, the fact that an asset backed by the obligations of developing countries need not necessarily be a weak asset is proved by the highest credit rating enjoyed by the World Bank bonds in financial markets, although the bulk of World Bank loans go to developing countries. The financial markets have never questioned the creditworthiness of World Bank bonds because of the backing of uncalled capital of developing countries. In the same way, if developed countries are willing to accept the SDR in international settlements, the confidence problem will not arise at all.

Both Mr. Apel and Mr. Simon have expressed the view that the Link might not lead to a genuine increase in the net transfer of real resources to developing countries. They have referred to the problems they face in persuading their legislatures to vote for higher aid appropriations. I fully recognize the fact that no country can be forced to give more aid than it really wants to do. The Link certainly is not a mechanism which can by itself ensure that the total flow of aid to developing countries is increased. However, one really hopes that so long as the flow of development assistance is much less than the internationally accepted target of one per cent of national income, developed countries will not use the acceptance of a Link as an argument for reducing their other flows of aid. I do not underestimate the problems that Governments have in persuading their legislatures to vote for higher aid appropriations. However, I derive some com-

fort from the fact that an important influential committee of the United States Congress has for many years consistently supported the establishment of a Link.

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I, therefore, sincerely hope that at this meeting we can reach an agreement to make the Link an essential element of the Interim Reform Package. In the absence of such an agreement, we would find it extremely difficult to support any reform package....

#### PLEDGE CONCERNING TRADE

We have taken the view that it will be difficult for us, especially the very poor countries, in the family, to give such a pledge not to intensify restrictions on current account transactions for balance of payments purposes without the agreement of the Fund.

We are willing generally to cooperate with the Fund in a most sincere manner, but it may become difficult to give such a pledge without knowing that we will get the necessary, or any, financial help to enable us to do this.

If the Fund's charges are to be increased in the manner now being suggested and the rate of interest on the SDRS is to be increased to more than three times the present rate, it will be difficult for poor countries like ours to borrow such costly money for maintaining short term balance of payments purposes. These rates are very close to rates at which we are borrowing development finance and if we have to choose between development financing, or maintaining a high level of current trade, our choice would be to give preference to borrowing for development.

Any such pledge without corresponding proposals for providing financial assistance to member countries at reasonable rates (and the proposed new charges for fund assistance not being attractive for us), it would be difficult for us to give such a pledge because we may not be able to honour it in practice. We, therefore, regret that we cannot give any such pledge....

## COMPOSITE DRAFT RESOLUTION

We feel very strongly that there is no point in amending the articles of agreement on a piecemeal basis. The Bretton Woods Treaty is a major international agreement and if it has to be amended, it has to be amended at one stage when all the ideas on reform, or most of them, reach a point where an international consensus for their acceptance is established.

As pointed out earlier, the present suggestions for amendment cover only a limited field, some of them are still in an experimental mould, and many problems of concern for the developing countries have still to be agreed upon.

The question of the Link is still up in the air, and the very important question of equitable distribution of quotas and voting rights has not even been discussed. These are questions of fundamental concern for the developing countries.

In these circumstances, the approach that we could support would be to establish a general agreement to work along the lines of the now agreed positions, not by amending the articles, but by holding some of the present fund articles, as may be necessary, in abeyance for an interim period while the rest of the reform outline proceeds for discussion and for the emergence of an eventual all round consensus on all matters.

For more than two years now the Fund has functioned in substantial modification of the existing provisions of the Bretton Woods Treaty. We see no serious problem in carrying on the functions of the Fund along those lines for another year or may be two, and then we should see the Reform Package as a whole carry out only one set of amendments and modify the Bretton Woods Treaty as a whole and not on a piecemeal basis.

For the same reasons it will also be difficult for us to accept the idea of a Draft Composite Resolution at this point. The same purpose would, in our judgment, be

served by a communique. This can set out the points of agreement such as may have been reached so far and Indicating the further areas in which work has to proceed. Then when we have a concept of the reform outline as a whole in all its aspects, we should proceed to amend the Bretton Woods Treaty....

#### DRAFT OUTLINE OF REFORM

It is a reform system only in parts. It deals with the problems and needs of the developed countries adequately and not at all with problems affecting the needs of the less developed countries. In particular it leaves the question of the Link in the air.

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Some of the areas like those relating to the adjustment process and the reserve indicators are in the nature of experiments whose validity in practice remains to be tested out and their feasibility still to be established. For these reasons it would be difficult for our delegation to accept it as the outline for a discussion.... to consider the stand taken by some of the developed countries on SDR and Link.

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**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Statement on Demarcation of Boundary between India and Bangladesh

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh and the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha respectively on July 22, 1974, regarding the Agreement on demarcation of the land boundary between India and Bangladesh:

As the House is aware, certain portions of our border with Bangladesh have remained undemarcated. This is because differences had arisen with the Government of Pakistan on interpretations of the Radcliffe and other Awards and on individual issues connected with demarcation. With the emergence of the sovereign Government of Bangladesh the completion of demarcation has been receiving the attention of both the Governments of Bangladesh and ourselves.

In the spirit of goodwill and accommodation that marks our relations with the friendly Government of Bangladesh, we have been able to resolve all the issues that had previously prevented demarcation and have signed on the 16th May, 1974, an Agreement with Bangladesh relating to the demarcation of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary. The way is now open to complete the demarcation of the entire border with Bangladesh although naturally the actual process of demarcation will take some time.

If I may dwell for a moment on the

main features of the Agreement, we have ensured the use of the waters of the Muhuri and Feni rivers to the nationals of both India and Bangladesh and have also secured the water supply of the town of Belonia, while recognising Bangladesh's position in the Asalong area. The whole of Berubari will remain with India while the Bangladesh enclaves of Dahagram and Angarpota will remain with that country. All other enclaves of the two countries will be exchanged. We will also lease to Bangladesh an area to connect the enclaves of Dahagram and Angarpota with Bangladesh, while ensuring that our nationals retain the facility of passage across this area. As demarcation takes place, territories in the adverse possession of one or the other country will come to light. These will be exchanged; and we have agreed that the people in areas which are transferred will be given the right of staying on where they are as nationals of the State to which the areas are transferred.

I am sure the House will appreciate that it is in our interest that we should ensure smooth demarcation of the boundary in accordance with the Agreement as the advantages that will accrue to both countries as a result of a friendly atmosphere will far outweigh any seeming dissatisfaction in any locality. The continuance of unsettled borders creates problems. As a result of the Agreement, there should be no reason for such problems to arise.

I lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Agreement.

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BANGLADESH INDIA USA PAKISTAN

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

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BULGARIA

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## Indo-Bulgarian Joint Communiqué

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Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in Sofia on July 1, 1974 at the end of Sardar Swaran Singh's Official visit to Bulgaria:

At the invitation of His Excellency, Mr. Petar Mladenov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh, the Minister of External Affairs of India, paid an official visit to Bulgaria from June 27 to July 1, 1974.

During the visit, the President of the State Council, H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, His Excellency Mr. Stanko Todorov received the Minister of External Affairs of India for a friendly exchange of views. The Minister of External Affairs of India also had meetings with H.E. Mr. Vladimir Bonev, President of the National Assembly, H.E. Mr. Ivan Popov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The Minister of External Affairs of India conveyed to the Party and Government leaders of the Bulgarian People's Republic the warm and cordial greetings of the Prime Minister of India, H.E. Smt. Indira Gandhi, which were most cordially reciprocated. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of External Affairs of India accompanied by their delegations had meetings and talks in a warm and friendly atmosphere regarding ways and means for the further widening of Indo-Bulgarian relations in all fields. They also informed each other concerning developments in their respective countries and exchanged views on international problems of mutual interest. Participating in the talks were: on the Bulgarian side: H.E. Mr. Nicolai Minchev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Nayden Beltchev, Ambassador Head of the Fifth Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Stoyan Zaimov, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bul-

garia to India, Mr. Drum Bossev, Head of the Press and Cultural Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zahari Yanakiev, Head of the Indian Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On the Indian side: H.E. Mr. K. Poonen Lukose, Indian Ambassador to Bulgaria, Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri P. C. Govil, First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Shri H. R. Chopra, Private Secretary to Minister of External Affairs.

Both sides noted with great satisfaction that the relations of fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries based on the principles of friendship and solidarity are continuing to strengthen and develop successfully in all fields. The exchange of views confirmed once again the identity or closeness of the view points of India and Bulgaria on the issues discussed.

Both sides noted the significant contribution made by the earlier visits of the President of India. H.E. Shri V. V. Giri and the Prime Minister of India, H.E. Shrimati Indira Gandhi to the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the reciprocal visits to India by the President of the State Council, H.E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov, in his then capacity of Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria as well as by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers H.E. Mr. Stanko Todorov.

Both sides agreed to expand and promote mutual economic, scientific and technological cooperation and to exchange experience and expertise in the development of the different branches of their national economies so as to encourage more intensive and effective cooperation on a long-term basis.

The two sides were confident that the setting up of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation in 1973 and the first session of which is planned to be held in New Delhi in October 1974 will promote the implementation of the programme of economic cooperation as well as diversification and enlargement of bilateral trade.

Both sides welcomed the recent positive changes in the international scene. They reaffirmed their conviction that the most important task at the present time is to work actively for the maintenance and consolidation of world peace. While reviewing international issues, the two sides considered that the strict adherence to the principles of peaceful co-existence, the renunciation of the use of force in the settlement of international problems, non-interference in internal affairs and a wide development of all round cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit will contribute greatly to the consolidation of peace and security in the whole world.

The two Ministers welcomed the growing detente in Europe and emphasized the important role played by the Socialist States in convening of all European conference on security and cooperation so as to ensure peace, security and cooperation on that continent. They were convinced that the successful conclusion of the conference would create the necessary prerequisites for consolidating peace and detente in Europe. Both sides earnestly hoped that this favourable development in Europe will help in the relaxation of tension and the solution of conflicts in other parts of the world as well.

Both sides believed that the outstanding problems that still remain unsolved in the Indian sub-continent should be settled peacefully and bilaterally in accordance with the Simla Agreement of July 2, 1972 which continues to provide a sound basis for building good neighbourly relations and a structure for durable peace in the sub-continent.

Both sides regarded the Paris Agreement for the termination of the Vietnam war as an event of world significance and a success for the Vietnamese people and of all peace-loving forces. They expressed their concern with the situation in Indo-China which continues to be difficult. They declared that the fulfilment of the Paris Agreement is a necessary prerequisite for the establishment of lasting peace in Vietnam.

The two Ministers pledged their support to the struggle of the Arab people for complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied by force and restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. They considered the convening of the Geneva Conference as a necessary step for establishing a just peace in the region.

Both sides reaffirmed their support for the United Nations and considered it as a valuable instrument for safeguarding world peace and security and to promote international co-operation. They agreed to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral co-operation further within the United Nations and its specialised agencies.

Both sides declared their wholehearted support for national liberation movements in colonial territories and resolutely condemned colonialism and racialism in all their manifestations as an outrage on the conscience of mankind and called for their final liquidation in consonance with the U.N. Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

Both sides supported the proposal for the convening of a World Disarmament Conference. They emphasised the importance of restricting the armaments race.

They stressed the need for joint energetic action to bring about the normalization of international economic relations and the elimination of artificial trade barriers thereby serving the vital interests of all nations in their efforts at achieving socio-economic progress.

Both sides agreed on the importance of exchanges of visits on all levels, between the two countries and noted with satisfaction that the visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria by the Minister of External Affairs of India had led to a greater mutual understanding and the further strengthening of the close and friendly cooperation already existing in all fields between the two countries.

The Minister of External Affairs of India

expressed his appreciation for the warm hospitality shown to him and the members of his party and extended a cordial invitation to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Petar Mladenov, to visit India at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

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BULGARIA INDIA UKRAINE UNITED KINGDOM USA FRANCE VIETNAM CHINA ISRAEL  
SWITZERLAND MALI

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

CYPRUS

Statements on Cyprus

I

The spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on July 17, 1974 regarding recent developments in Cyprus:

We are greatly concerned and distressed at the recent developments in Cyprus with whom we have close and friendly relations. We deplore the ouster of the constitutionally elected President and suppression of democracy by military measures. The relieving feature of the situation is that the earlier reports about the death of President Makarios have happily proved untrue.

India supports, as it has always done, the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Cyprus. The recent developments have caused world-wide dismay particularly in the non-aligned world of which Cyprus is an important member. India is following the situation closely and trusts that

the international community will take very early action to restore the peace and stability of the region which is threatened by the recent use of force against the legitimate Government of Cyprus.

## II

The spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on July 20, 1974 regarding the latest developments in Cyprus:

We are greatly concerned at the latest reports of developments in Cyprus. They have given a new dimension to an already disturbing situation created by the ouster of the constitutionally elected President by illegal violent means. We are following the developments closely. We remain firmly of the view that the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus should be fully restored.

CYPRUS USA INDIA

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

FRG Assistance to India

The following press release on the extension of a development assistance of Rs. 122 crores to India by the Federal Republic of Germany was issued in New Delhi on July 10, 1974:

Federal Republic of Germany has extended development assistance of Rs. 112 crores (DM 360 million) to India. The agreement was signed in Bonn on July 8.

At the conclusion of the talks, which commenced in Bonn on the 4th July 1974, an agreement was signed on the 8th July regarding the financial assistance which the Federal Republic of Germany will extend to India for the financial year 1974-75.

The German delegation to the talks was led by Dr. Franz Klamser, Ministerial Director in the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation while the Indian delegation was headed by Shri M. Narasimham, Additional Secretary in the Indian Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs).

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The agreement provides for assistance of Rs. 112.68 crores (DM 360 million) for the following purposes:

1. Commodity aid of Rs. 23.78 crores (DM 76 million) to be utilised for financing India's current civilian import requirements.
2. Project assistance of Rs. 12.52 crores (DM 40 million) for financing the foreign exchange costs of mutually selected projects.
3. Loan of Rs. 12.52 crores (DM 40 million) for financing rural development programme.
4. A grant of Rs. 3.30 crores (DM 10 million) for rural development programme.
5. Loans to Indian development banks to the extent of Rs. 7.825 crores (DM 25 million). These will be extended to the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (DM 7 million), the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (DM 11 million) and the National Small Industries Corporation (DM 7 million) to enable them to finance the imported capital goods requirements of the small and medium enterprises assisted by these institutes.
6. Capital goods assistance of Rs. 4.695

crores (DM 15 million).

7. Liquidity assistance of Rs. 7.512 crores (DM 24 million) towards debt relief.
8. A prolongation loan of Rs. 40.69 crores; (DM 130 million) towards debt relief.

Excluding the grant at Sl. No. (4) above, the assistance at Sl. No. (1) to (7) will be extended as a soft-term credit repayable over a period of 30 years, including a grace period of 10 years and carrying an interest rate of 2 percent per annum. The prolongation loan at Sl. No. (8) has also the same maturity and grace period but carries a rate of interest of 2.5 percent per annum.

The notable features of the agreement are:

- A) It represents a 16 percent increase over the previous year's assistance of Rs. 97.03 crores (DM 310 million).
- B) Both the quantum and the terms of the debt relief have been improved-
- C) The provision for financing rural development programme is a new step in the development co-operation between the two countries.
- D) It has been agreed to finance the projects and rural development programme on a partial funding basis with a view to improving the pace of utilisation of assistance.

The delegations reviewed the present position regarding the various proposals which are being considered for financing from project assistance, amongst which are the Telco expansion project for commercial vehicles and the forge project of the Mysore Iron and Steel, Limited. An agreement in principle has also been reached that the project assistance for the current year shall be applied to finance foreign exchange costs of the Neyveli Lignite expansion project and

the new fertiliser plant of the Gujarat State Fertiliser Company.

The discussions also dealt with the planning of future technical assistance projects.

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GERMANY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Shri H. R. Gokhale at Law of the Sea Conference

The following is the text of the statement made by Shri H. R. Gokhale, Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs and leader of the Indian delegation, at the plenary session of the Law of the Sea Conference in Caracas on July 3, 1974:

This is my first visit to Latin America and to the Law of the Sea Conference and I must say at the outset that I have been deeply impressed with the cordiality I have received from the people of Venezuela and the efficiency with which the Government of Venezuela and its people have prepared themselves for the holding of this Conference which is undoubtedly one of the most important Conferences of this century. I do bring to Venezuela the fraternal greetings from the Government and the people of India, and to the Conference our best wishes for a fruitful outcome. To you, Mr. President, Ambassador Amerasinghe, and to your colleagues on the Main Committees, we express our deep appreciation of your historic role.

The issues which will be considered at the present Session are known to be difficult. Preparations for the Conference have been

long and laborious. Although one might say that the preparations have not resulted in the adoption of one or more basic proposals for the consideration of this Conference, we can nevertheless not minimise the importance of the contributions made by these preparations. The world as a whole has been aroused to the need for evolving a fair and durable legal framework for the use of the sea and the seabed, as well as for their resources. In most parts, the present system which regulates them, where there is one, is neither adequate nor just. It is thus incumbent on this Conference to evolve a new law of the sea which reconciles the essential national interests of the States with the interests of the international community of States as a whole.

My Government has realised, as I am sure every other Government has also done, that if we over-emphasise the national interest alone, such reconciliation which I have referred to will not be possible. That result will not augur well for the future. Unless there is an establishment legal order, States will be forced to fend for themselves by taking unilateral steps to protect their interests. This course might lead to conflicts. Wisdom will lie in avoiding conflicts and in establishing a fair amount of security to the legitimate interests of the States and of the world community as a whole. An unregulated system, or systemlessness, will lead to a race for grabbing what one can. This will be useful only to the stronger States. It may re-establish new forms of colonialism and imperialism and start a new era of conflict. Having-just come out of one, after centuries of domination and exploitation, the developing countries cannot afford to allow a repetition thereof. Nor will it be good to the world community as a whole. The solution lies, therefore, in ensuring that the Conference resolves the crucial issues, which will come up for its consideration, expeditiously and in a fair manner.

The U.N. Seabed Committee has wrestled with the issues, which will come up for consideration at this Conference, for over three years by now. The Conference will now have to initiate meaningful negotiations on these

issues. The national positions on several of these issues sometime appear to be on different extremes.

Thus States claim from three miles to 200 miles as the outer-limit of their territorial sea.

There is of course a growing recognition and sympathy for the concept of an exclusive economic and fishery zone, which is supported by a large majority of the developing States, and which may receive the support of a number of other States. However, the interests of the land-locked States and other geographically disadvantaged States will have to be reasonably accommodated within such zones.

There is additionally the question of the scope of coastal jurisdiction in this zone,

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namely, whether in addition to resources, the coastal States should have environment protection Jurisdiction in this zone as well as the competence to regulate scientific research by foreign vessels.

There is then the question of the outer limits of the continental shelf.

The question of transit through straits used for international navigation and the question of an acceptable legal status for archipelago have some importance issues which will need to be resolved.

And, finally, in so far as the seabed and its resources are concerned, there are diverse views as to the composition and powers of the international machinery to be established and the manner in which such powers should be exercised. There will be the further question of regulating production of seabed resources with a view to protecting the interests of the producers of land minerals as well as the consumers of such products.

The Government of India has considered all these issues both from the viewpoint of its national interest as well as from the viewpoint of the emerging trends in the thinking of the rest of the international community.

We have also borne in mind the need for reconciling the legitimate interests of the other States concerned.

I might indicate now, in outline, the national interests of India in the subject. As is well-known, India has a large coastline, over 4,000 miles in length. The southern half of the country is a peninsula: on its east and west are located the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea respectively, and on its south is the Indian Ocean. I have been the Minister of Petroleum of the Government of India and I must confess that although we have long realised the potential of the continental shelf and margins for production of petroleum and natural gas, we are indeed a late-comer in its actual exploitation. The first successful drilling, which has promised good quality crude, was done only in February 1974. The oil was struck at approximately 110 miles from the coast, west of Bombay, the depth of water at that point being some 64 metres. As a developing country, India is engaged in bringing about rapid economic development of its people. However, at present, the production of oil is only one-third of its consumption needs. Accordingly, the exploration and exploitation of the resources of the continental margin is a matter of national importance to a developing country like India. Its continental shelf, slope and the rise extend to large areas of the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. All this does not of course belong to India alone. The legitimate interests of other coastal States, such as Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Maldives, will also have to be taken into account.

India has about a million fishermen living along its coast whose traditional whole-time occupation has been coastal fishing. During the recent past, the Government of India has given increasing attention to the exploitation of the fishery resources of the sea around its coast to supply protein to its inhabitants, to increase employment opportunities for its people, and to earn foreign exchange by exporting some good quality fish, including shrimp and lobster. We would therefore, be interested in coastal State ex-

clusive jurisdiction in an economic and fishery zone.

Although the present tonnage of Indian shipping is not substantial - we have a shipping tonnage of some 4 1/2 million tons dead-weight and our objective for the current five year plan is 10 million tons - India has interests in world-wide trade and its ships will, with the passage of time and the development of mutually advantageous trade relations with other countries, visit the various regions of the world. Accordingly, our shipping and trade interest would require assurances of freedom of navigation, to ensure our economic development.

At the same time, because of its large coast-line and because of the channels of navigation passing close to our coast, we will have to protect our shores and the marine resources against the risks of pollution.

India has over 1280 islands and islets, about half of which constitute the archipelago of Andaman and Nicobar islands on the one hand and of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi islands, now named as Lakshadweep, on the other. The Andaman and Nicobar islands which follow a geographical configuration, constitute over 580 islands and islets. The Lakshadweep are composed of some 27 islands. The other islands of India are either located within its territorial waters

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or are scattered in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. India, will, therefore, be interested in evolving a suitable regime for archipelagos and the islands.

Mr. President, I have indicated in outline our national interests in the subject. The Government of India is eager to avoid hurting the legitimate interests of any other State. It will be willing to accommodate the reasonable interests of all States. It will also promote the interests of the international community of States as a whole and shall contribute to the establishment of a fair and durable legal order.

Bearing the above in mind, the Indian Delegation is of the view that the broad

elements of such a legal order of the oceans may be the following, and we commend them to the Conference for its considerations:

(1) The outer-limits of territorial sea should be narrow and uniform - we would be agreeable to a limit of 12 nautical mile measured from the appropriate baseline along the coast.

(2) To protect customs, fiscal and health interests of a coastal State, a small contiguous zone adjacent to the territorial sea may also be established - we would suggest an 18-mile belt of the contiguous zone outside the 12-mile territorial sea.

(3) The coastal State should be entitled to establish an economic zone of upto 200 miles from the coast. In this zone, the coastal State shall enjoy sovereign rights and exclusive jurisdiction over the resources of the water, such as fisheries, as well as of the seabed and sub-soil thereof. As regards fisheries, the Indian Delegation has already co-sponsored a comprehensive proposal with Sri Lanka, Kenya, Canada, Madagascar and Senegal. I might add that in that proposal the outer limits of the fishery zone were left blank. In consultation with the co-sponsors, we will propose that these blanks may be filled by the figure 200 nautical miles, bearing in mind the general support received to that limit not only from the developing States of Asia, Africa and Latin America but also from some of the important developed States.

(4) The jurisdiction of the coastal State in the economic zone should also apply to preserving and enhancing the quality of the marine environment and to preventing and controlling marine pollution. Again, the coastal State should have the exclusive right to regu-

late the conduct of scientific research within this zone by foreign vessels.

(5) As to the outer-limits of the national seabed or the continental shelf, although the Indian Delegation had earlier proposed that a uniform limit of 200 miles should be considered by the UN Seabed Committee, my Government has observed that no other country having their shelf and margin going beyond 200 miles has come out in support of that proposal. Since the existing international law does recognise coastal State jurisdiction over its entire continental shelf, without limit to distances from the coast, it will not be proper for India to unilaterally renounce its interests, unless a uniform limit were also accepted by the rest of the international community as a whole as a rule of general international law. My Government has, accordingly, reviewed its position in the light of the discussions which have taken place in the UN Seabed Committee during the past three years as well as the fact that some countries have already granted exploration licences much beyond 200 miles from their coast. Accordingly, we have decided to support the view that the national seabed of a State should extend to the entire area which constitutes a natural prolongation of its land territory, without reference to distances from the coast, that is, upto the outer edge of the continental margin. Thus, wherever the economic zone will give jurisdiction upto 200 nautical miles in respect of the national seabed,

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it shall not prejudice the position of the coastal State having a shelf going beyond 200 miles. Having said this, I might mention that my

Government will be ready and willing to evolve concrete proposals by which the benefits derived from the exploitation of the resources of the national seabed beyond 200 nautical miles from the coast could be shared with the International Seabed Authority which may be established. A formula for such sharing may be devised by the Conference, if possible, at its Caracas session itself.

(6) On the question of international seabed area and its resources, the Indian Delegation has already expressed their views on a number of occasions in the UN Seabed Committee. We do not consider that the definition of basic principles governing the international seabed area and its resources would cause much difficulty. A framework for this purpose has already been approved unanimously by the General Assembly in Resolution 2749 adopted in December 1970. On the question of international machinery, we share the view of the large majority of the developing and other countries that the International Seabed Authority should, in the initial period, be a simple organisation, that it should consist of an Assembly which is representative of all member States, a Council which is smaller in composition and supervises the work of the Authority under the overall control of the Assembly, a corporation or "enterprise" conducting the exploitation of the seabed resources, and a Secretariat which is manned by competent officials recruited on a geographical representative basis. No single State or a group of States should have an entrenched position in any decision-making organ of the International Seabed Authority. The basis of representation in these organs should be geographical and not functional or political.

As to the functions and powers of the Seabed Authority, these should be comprehensive. It should be left to the Authority to decide whether to exploit the resources of the international seabed area directly by its own machinery, or by entering into contracts with competent international or other corporations, or by any other means, without in any case sacrificing its effective supervision and control over the entire operations. The resources, which are the common heritage of mankind, must remain vested in the International Seabed Authority and the rights of any operators should arise generally from a contract rather than from any other source, such as from a simple licence to explore the area.

The Authority should also have the requisite competence to regulate the production of seabed minerals and to protect the interests of producers and consumers of these minerals.

It should also determine the manner in which the benefits derived from the exploitation of the seabed resources will be distributed among the States of the world and the seabed technology will be transferred to the developing countries.

(7) As a nation interested in the freedom of navigation both for itself as well as for the rest of the international community, we would support proposals which ensure smooth and unimpeded passage of ships and other vessels whether it is on the high seas or through straits traditionally used for international navigation or through other traditional channels of navigation. Being a developing country ourselves, and sensitive to

the interests of other developing States in safeguarding their essential national interest, particularly in areas which are close to their coasts or which form part of their internal waters, we would be pre-

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pared to accommodate their essential interests in safeguarding the quality of their marine environment, preservation of their resources, as well as their national security. These may have special reference to the question of passage through straits, or through the waters enclosed within archipelago.

(8) On the question of archipelago, my Government has observed that the concept is receiving wider recognition and support from the developing countries. A proposal has been made on the subject at the initiative of Indonesia, Philippines, Fiji and Mauritius, with all of whom we have extremely friendly relations. My Government will be able to consider the implications of the concept of archipelago and archipelagic States sympathetically, if the following considerations are borne in mind:

(a) the body of water which is enclosed by drawing straight baselines joining the outermost points on the outermost islands constituting an archipelago is reasonable;

(b) the channels of navigation traditionally used by international shipping are respected; and

(c) the principle is applicable to Andaman and Nicobar islands on the one hand and the Lakshadweep islands on the other.

I might add at this point that no

distinction can be made between an archipelago which constitutes a single State or an archipelago which forms an integral part of a coastal State. It cannot be argued on good ground that if an archipelago constitutes an independent State, it will be recognised by international law but if it constitutes a part of a coastal State, it will not be so recognised, even though it otherwise fulfils all the elements of the definition of archipelago. Nor should an archipelago which is at some distance from the coastal State be denied that status if it would have had that status, had it been located near the coast of that coastal State. In other words, the archipelago of Andaman and Nicobar islands and the archipelago of Lakshadweep should be entitled to the same status as any other archipelago.

(9) On the question of landlocked States, my Government has always tried to accommodate in a fair and even liberal measure the legitimate interests of the landlocked States in our bilateral relations, such as Nepal, Bhutan and even Afghanistan, with all of whom we have very close and friendly relations. They can rely on our continued support to their legitimate cause. In fact, in the joint proposal on fisheries referred to by me earlier, a specific provision was made to accommodate the interests of the landlocked States within the exclusive fishery zone. A similar provision has also been made in the proposals on the exclusive economic zone.

We would also support a fair accommodation of the legitimate interests of other geographically disadvantaged States.

(10) As to the preservation of the marine environment, we would

look forward to the evolution of concrete solutions for coordinating the activities of Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO) in the field of ship-based pollution, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the field of land-based and other sources of pollution, and the International Seabed Authority. The rules and standards evolved for preventing pollution should be such which, while promoting uniformity, to take into account the economic conditions of developing States and are not burdensome. The enforcement of these standards, in the economic zone, should

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however remain with the coastal State.

Mr. President, I need not go into the details of all the subjects and issues which will be considered by the Conference during the course of the next several weeks. My delegation will, in the appropriate Committee and at the proper time, make its submission thereon.

Before closing, I should once more like to emphasize the fact that, although we would review the various proposals on the and issues which will come up for consideration from our national viewpoint in the first place, we will always be prepared to take a broader view of the matter in order to accommodate the legitimate interests of other States and to promote the interests of the international community of States as a whole. While protecting our interests, we do not wish or intend to hurt the sensitivity of any other State. My Government is fully convinced that, if this approach is generally shared, the foundations of a fair and durable legal order can be established. I am sure that the distinguished delegates present here do realise their responsibility and historic role in the matter and will make every effort to make the Conference a success. On behalf of my Government and my delegation, I have the honour to pledge our support in that en-

deavour.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA BANGLADESH BURMA PAKISTAN SRI  
LANKA MALDIVES CANADA KENYA MADAGASCAR SENEGAL INDONESIA FIJI MAURITIUS  
BHUTAN NEPAL

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement at ECOSOC Meeting

Following is the text of a statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, at the plenary session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council at Geneva on July 5, 1974:

It gives me great pleasure to participate once again in the deliberations of this Council after an interval of four years. During this period a number of important steps have been taken to revitalise the role assigned to the Council under the U.N. Charter. The Council is now not only more representative in character, but has also taken a series of measures to rationalise its work which, we hope, will also make it more responsive to the aspirations which we all share, to build a better world, free from want and misery.

The Council is fortunate in having you, Mr. President, to guide its deliberations. I would like to offer you the sincere best wishes of my delegation for every success in the task that lies ahead.

The distinguished Secretary-General has laid the groundwork for our annual review of the international economic and social policy in his inspiring and thought-provoking address. He has vividly outlined the most important issues which we shall have to

tackle at this session and has made some valuable suggestions which deserve our urgent and serious attention. We have also had the benefit of listening to a number of distinguished representatives who have made an outstanding contribution to the general debate and have set the tone for what promises to be a very interesting and fruitful session.

The annual general debate in this Council assumes special significance this year coming, as it does, soon after the historic Sixth Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly which culminated in the adoption of a declaration, as well as a programme of action, on the establishment of a new international economic order. One of our most essential tasks at this session would be to agree on a time-bound programme for implementing the decisions taken in New York and to assign specific responsibilities to the various bodies in the U.N. system for their implementation.

The outcome of the Sixth Special Session, which was the first special session of the General Assembly, devoted exclusively to economic problems, has served to enhance our faith in the value of international co-operation. As has been emphasised in the Declaration adopted at New York, and I quote, "current events have brought into sharp focus the realization that the interests of the developed countries and the interests of developing countries can no longer be isolated from each other, that there is close

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inter-relationship between the prosperity of the developed countries and the growth and development of the developing countries, and that the prosperity of the international community as a whole depends upon the prosperity of its constituent parts. International cooperation for development is the shared goal and the common duty of all countries."

If recent economic trends have highlighted the imperative need for a change in the world economic order, which would bring it into line with the needs and realities of the contemporary world as a whole, the

intensity of the economic shock waves generated by these trends have also pointed to the need for drastic action. The international monetary system devised over a quarter of a century ago largely to suit the interests of the affluent nations, is crumbling and the world economy finds itself in disarray. International trade, too, has by and large continued to suit the interests of the affluent few with inadequate participation of the developing world. Fortunately our deliberations in New York have clearly demonstrated that the economic difficulties which beset the world can be surmounted only by concerted action in a framework of international co-operation based on equality and equity and on the rights and obligations of both the poor and the rich. The realization is being forced on the developed world that it cannot continue to base its edifice of opulence on the exploitation of the natural resources of the developing world and on the morass of poverty and misery of the poor nations.

The financial and economic spasms which the world economy has experienced in recent times have had serious consequences on the economies of the poor countries. And yet their interests have hitherto played only a marginal role in the search for solutions to these problems. However, the recent developments which followed the just demands of the producers of some raw materials to secure a more equitable return for their products has brought into sharp focus the interdependence of nations. The decisions of a few must no longer determine the destiny of many. What is required now is a new political will to grapple with the problems of development and to seek effective solutions for the problems of all nations, rich or poor, developed or developing.

In a situation such as this, should we just sit here and continue to deliberate the development of esoteric concepts which enshrine - or rather entomb - our plight? Should we bond our efforts towards further refinement of pure theoretical concepts and go away contented that we have done our job?

Even as we sit and talk today the econo-

mic situation in the world continues to worsen. Rampant inflation is a global phenomenon, its repercussions have been particularly serious for those developing countries whose rawmaterial exports have not undergone significant increases in value in the course of the recent economic upheaval. The discussion and development of theoretical models or concepts must be related to real problems and must be geared to provide urgent solutions for them. Not mere words but urgent and forthright action is required to prevent economic collapse and disaster in developing countries whose economies have been severely affected by the present economic crisis.

In the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly, we now have a blueprint for action which, if implemented urgently and effectively, can help to rectify the inequities and the weaknesses of the international economic system. As the Declaration itself states, it shall be "one of the most important bases of economic relations between all peoples and all nations." It lays stress on the interdependence and common interests of all states and the need for correcting inequalities and redressing existing injustices, and for ensuring steadily accelerating economic and social development in peace and justice for the present and future generations. The programme of Action embodies concrete measures in various fields. The Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the Sixth Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly are the result of intense negotiations and represent a compromise which does not fully reflect the needs and interests of developing countries. It is, therefore, all the more regrettable that they do not have the full support of all developed countries.

I would appeal to all countries and organizations represented here to join in a common and united endeavour to implement these measures. We hope that the developed countries, in particular, will display the necessary political will in order to move to-

and vigour. They must realize that their own long-term interests coincide with the rest of humanity, for opulence in isolation and islands of wealth in an ocean of poverty cannot continue to exist for ever.

Of all the measures adopted by the General Assembly, those which were incorporated in the special programme of emergency measures deserve the most serious and urgent attention of the international community. The very concept of emergency relief and timely assistance to the most seriously affected countries would be defeated unless these measures are implemented with the speed and urgency they deserve.

My delegation commends the timely action taken by the distinguished Secretary General in issuing an appeal for emergency assistance and in appointing a person of the eminence of Dr. Raul Prebisch to be in-charge of the implementation of the emergency operation. The initial response to the appeal of the distinguished Secretary-General and of Dr. Prebisch had appeared to be encouraging, and we are indeed appreciative of the sincere efforts that they have made to get the emergency operation off the ground.

It is indeed appropriate that the matter of emergency assistance to the developing countries most seriously affected by the recent economic crisis is receiving the attention of the international community. It is essential that the physical volume of imports of such countries at their 1972-73 levels be maintained so as to ensure that their development programmes are not jeopardised. Because of the vast increase in the prices of certain imports, this can be done only through an effective transfer of funds to them. The minimum requirement in this direction would be for the maintenance of their import levels of 1972-73 for a period of 12 months at least and the programme itself must be put into operation not later than the month of August 1974. This alone can assist these countries to come back to an even keel. A well-coordinated emergency operation is crucial to the adjustment process for these countries.

We are deeply appreciative of the response of certain countries which have announced generous contributions to the Emergency Programme. We hope that other countries which are in a position to do so will take positive action very soon commensurate with the magnitude of the problem as well as the urgency of the situation.

In regard to the modalities of the operation of the Emergency Programme, my delegation would urge all efforts to strengthen the hands of the distinguished Secretary-General, so that the administrative problems in the disbursement of funds under the emergency operation to the countries most seriously affected are reduced to a minimum. This alone can ensure the smooth and efficient functioning of such a programme.

The recent economic crisis has made it necessary for the entire world community to adjust itself to the changed circumstances. The difficulties of adjustment will obviously be the greatest for the developing countries most seriously affected, and this process for them may well take several years. The special fund set up by the action programme would play an extremely important role in this process of adjustment for such developing countries. It needs to be emphasised that this special fund is not a development fund, but rather an adjustment mechanism which would assist the developing countries concerned to rejoin the mainstream of the development process.

It was hoped that the present session of the Economic and Social Council would have before it for consideration concrete modalities in regard to the operation of the special fund. Regrettably, this has not been so. The Ad-Hoc Committee appointed by the General Assembly has submitted only an interim report containing in broad outline the major Proposals made and the views expressed. However, the appointment of a governing council for the special fund would be an important step. We hope that the scope, size and modalities of the special fund will be established as a matter of urgency.

The resolutions adopted in New York also provide for a comprehensive range of measures of a more long-term nature, in various fields of international economic co-operation. The emphasis is understandably on the problems of raw materials and development. The General Assembly has called for the evolution of a just and equitable relationship between the prices of the exports of developing and the prices of their imports.

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This matter will have to be thoroughly studied by UNCTAD with a view to preparing an Integrated plan for securing a steadily progressive improvement in commodity prices, taking into account the pace of inflation in developed countries and the unfulfilled development needs of developing countries. It would be essential to ensure that such improvement takes place across the board and is broad-based and orderly.

The series of intensive inter-governmental consultations currently under way in the UNCTAD have regrettably failed to achieve the results that were expected of them. The developed countries have been reluctant to make concrete commitments on the pretext that these can only be made within the framework of the multilateral trade negotiations under GATT. But these negotiations have not yet got off the ground although the decision to launch them was taken last September at the ministerial meeting in Tokyo. If the promises made to developing countries are not to remain pious hopes, the measures contemplated in the Tokyo Declaration, as well as those embodied in the international development strategy for the second development decade and more recently in the programme of action adopted in New York must be implemented as a matter of urgency.

Thanks to the initiative taken at UNCTAD II in New Delhi, the generalised system of preferences has now been in operation for about three years and has brought some benefits for the trade of developing countries. However, the recent enlargement of the preferential arrangements among developed countries as well as the reduction of

industrial tariffs following the multilateral trade negotiations would seriously erode the benefits secured by the developing countries under the generalised system of preferences. While we welcome the trend towards the liberalisation of world trade, we are naturally anxious to ensure that the developing countries do not emerge from this exercise as net losers. As a first step it is necessary to make the GSP fully operational through its implementation by those who have not yet done so and through substantial improvements in the schemes already in operation.

The General Assembly has also made important recommendations regarding monetary reform and the financing of the development of developing countries. The developing countries have a vital stake in the smooth functioning of the international monetary system. No reform can have much significance if it does not improve the international environment for their development. The developing countries have repeatedly asserted the legitimate right to full participation both in the process of decision-making as well as in the benefits resulting therefrom. They are happy that their right to participation in the process of decision-making has at long last been conceded with the establishment of the Committee of 20. Our faith in international economic cooperation can be sustained only if a historic occasion like the reform of the world monetary system is also used to redress some of the inequities of history which have condemned developing countries to a low level of development.

The programme of action adopted in New York has rightly laid considerable emphasis on the promotion of collective self-reliance and growing cooperation among developing countries with a view to strengthening their role in the new international economic order. There are enormous potentialities for increasing cooperation among developing countries, not only in the field of trade but also other fields of economic activity such as industry, science and technology, transport, shipping and mass communication media. These potentialities must be effectively explored to the mutual benefit of all.

My delegation was among those which supported the General Assembly Resolution 3172 (XXVIII) calling for a special session of the General Assembly to be held at a high political level just before the 30th regular session to examine the political and other implications of the state of world development and international economic cooperation. It will be recalled that the Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries at the Fourth Summit Conference has called for such a special session to be devoted exclusively to the problems of development, including initiation of appropriate structural changes in the U.N. system, to make it an effective instrument of international economic cooperation. While we are fully aware that it is imperative for structural changes to be carried out, we feel that the main thrust of the special session should be on actual problems of development and should include consideration of the results of certain important

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conferences which will be held between now and that time, such as the World Food Conference and the World Population Conference. In our view, the problems of development cannot be tackled without in-depth consideration of significant questions affecting international economic stability such as increasing population pressures and worldwide shortages of food, fertilizers and raw materials.

When the decade of the sixties was first designated as the U.N. Development Decade, high expectations were aroused that the urgent problems of the developing countries would at last receive effective attention. These expectations, however, remained unfulfilled and none of the targets accepted by the world community were attained during the decade. Year after year, as we went through the frustrating experience of reviewing the progress towards the attainment of the targets, the only positive diagnosis for the lack of progress at which we finally arrived was that it had been a "development decade - without a development policy." We proceeded to rectify this omission by drawing up, after thorough preparatory work, an elaborate development strategy for the second

development decade to which the entire international community was fully committed.

We, therefore, now have the necessary means in the form of agreed goals and objectives, as well as an agreed programme of action to attain them - all that is required is the political will to act.

Mr. President, much of what I have said has a bearing on the question of collective economic security, on which the Secretary-General has presented a report for consideration at the present session of the ECOSOC. It is clear that there can be no collective economic security in the world unless a just and equitable relationship is established in international economic conduct. Such a relationship, needless to say, does not exist today. While we have come a long way from the days when vast overseas territories were held captive for the economic benefit of the colonial powers, new forms of exploitation of the poor by the rich on the international economic scene are the order of the day.

The Secretary-General's report on collective economic security wisely analyses the role of international organizations in the furtherance of this concept. The review and appraisal of the international development strategy - and now in particular the forthcoming mid-term review and appraisal - is closely connected with the assessment function which the Secretary-General has mentioned in his report. From the regulatory function would also stem the development of codes of conduct and documents of far-reaching significance such as the international development strategy adopted at the 25th UN General Assembly and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties now being discussed. In regard to the equity function, one is tempted to repeat the truism that equal treatment is equitable only among equals. The corollary follows that, if collective economic security is to be fostered and furthered, there must be deliberate, preferential treatment where necessary in order to redress economic injustice and to promote a better world economic order. Particularly in the context of the current economic situation in the world, the emergency task referred to in the Secretary-General's note is a

most important one, and perhaps the one which has the greatest immediacy in terms of translating theory into practice. Naturally, in the long run, the emergency assistance function is but an indicator of the economic ill-health of the world. The collective economic security must render this function unnecessary.

The U.N. family of organizations has a crucial role in the monitoring and implementation of the far-reaching decisions of the General Assembly. The Economic and Social Council, which is in a sense at the hub of the global economic development effort, has a special responsibility for coordinating the actions of the various organs of the U.N. system. It must be our constant effort to perfect the international instruments and tools which we possess so as to equip them better to play their essential role in the new world economic order which we all seek to establish. However, the effective functioning of the U.N. system as a whole, while requiring interdependence and adequate coordination, also requires a proper degree of autonomy for each organ to enable it to function unhampered in its own sphere. Therefore, while strengthening the coordinating role of this Council, we must guard against any excessive centralization in decision-making or direction in the sphere of international economic cooperation.

Mr. President, of particular significance for the present session of the ECOSOC is the

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study presented by the group of eminent persons on the Impact of multinational corporations on the development process and on international relations. The group has made a pioneering effort which we acknowledge with appreciation. The report contains many suggestions for action which governments could consider taking at the national level. However, as the group itself has acknowledged and rightly stressed in its report, the need of the hour is for coordinated action at the international level. We should, therefore, seriously apply our minds to the formulation of a generally acceptable and applicable international code of conduct for the regulation

of the activities of the multi-national corporations. In this context, we welcome the unanimous recommendations made by the Group and endorsed by the Secretary-General with regard to the establishment of a commission of multi-national corporations. The terms of reference proposed by the Group for the commission are well conceived. I should like to emphasise, in particular, the importance of the commission taking up as a matter of priority the evolution of a regulatory framework. We also support the setting up of an information and research centre on multi-national corporations. The setting up of appropriate institutional machinery at the international level would facilitate the continuing and effective employment of the Economic and Social Council and the U.N. system in considering the activities and role of multi-national corporations. We look forward to positive Council action at this session which will enable the General Assembly later this year to bring into existence, with the minimum delay, the proposed institutional arrangements.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I should like to emphasise briefly the points which, in our view, should receive special attention in the Economic and Social Council:

I) There is need for a bold new initiative with regard to the prices of raw materials and primary commodities. Steps must be taken to reverse the continued trends of stagnation or decline in the real prices of several commodities exported by developing countries.

II) Specific problems of developing countries, particularly in times of food shortages, must be taken fully into account in international efforts connected with the food problem. Developed countries must make adjustments in their economies to facilitate the expansion and diversification of imports from developing countries.

III) The generalised system of preferences must be improved and enlarged. The principles of non-reciprocity and preferential treatment must be introduced in favour of

developing countries in trade relations with developed countries.

IV) A reform of the international monetary system must be undertaken with the equal participation of the developing countries. In particular, a link must be established between Special Drawing Rights and the development finance and attention must be paid to the staggering burden of debt servicing.

V) Steps must be taken for the rapid industrialization of the developing countries. All possible international efforts must be geared to this end.

VI) The transfer of technology to developing countries must be improved both qualitatively and quantitatively. It must be ensured that such technology corresponds to the needs and conditions-prevalent in developing countries.

VII) The activities of trans-national enterprises need to be regulated and controlled. It should be ensured that the "package" provided by such enterprises to the host country is in keeping with its needs and requirements.

VIII) The need for the promotion of cooperation among developing countries has never been greater. In the ultimate analysis, it is through their own efforts that their development must be achieved.

IX) The emergency needs of developing countries, who have been most seriously affected by the recent economic crisis, must be urgently and effectively met by timely international assistance including additional liquidity on an appropriate scale.

X) The role of the United Nations system in the field of international economic cooperation and development needs to be further strengthened. We have full faith in the United Nations family of organizations and we look forward to an increasingly effective role of these organisations in the international economic and social fields.

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

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### INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Leader of Indian Delegation St Disarmament Committee

Replying to Mr. David Ennals, Head of the U.K. delegation to the CCD, India's Ambassador, Shri B. C. Mishra, made the following Statement in the conference of the Committee on Disarmament on July 9, 1974 at Geneva:

As I listened to the very important statement of Right. Hon. David Ennals, the thought struck me that it was predicated on United Kingdom's adherence to the NPT as a nuclear weapons state and India's non-adherence to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state. Now, our reasons for not adhering to the NPT are fundamental reasons. They go to the very philosophy of international relations which we have tried to follow since we became independent and one of the basic points of this philosophy is equality in international life. We have considered and we continue to consider that the NPT is not an equal legal instrument. It is a discriminatory instrument and I must categorically state here that we will not become a party to that instrument as long as the discriminatory character of that instrument remains as it is today. When the review conference takes place - but naturally we have no right to propagate this view since we are not a party to that treaty - perhaps it will take a look at this character of the NPT and try to change it so as to make it possible for it to be accepted universally.

Mr. Chairman, the second point - and I

must thank the Minister for taking note of the assurances given by the Government of India in regard to its peaceful intentions - which is perhaps forgotten sometimes is that these assurances, although they have been reiterated after the explosion on May 18, had been given for the last 20 years. I can go back to 1954 or I can go back to even earlier years and quote from the statements of my Government on this question. Now, these are solemn statements, solemn declarations which have not been violated so far and they must be treated as solemn declarations. After all, even if we were to join the NPT, there is a clause for withdrawal. In this sense is the treaty more solemn than the declarations which we have made? Mr. Chairman, this is a point which I believe should be taken note of and should be welcomed as far as the Government of India is concerned, that it continues to abide by solemn declarations which are not new but which have been given over the years and which have been reiterated very recently and which I reiterate on behalf of my Government here today. We intend to use nuclear energy solely for peaceful purposes.

Mr. Chairman, there was also a reference and this has also been made from time to time not only here but in other forums that nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes are something which are not immediately of benefit to the international community. That, in any case, the NPT provides for giving the benefit of this technology to non-nuclear weapon states, parties to the NPT. Well, Mr. Chairman, since we are not a party to the NPT, we do consider that it is our right to develop this technology for peaceful purposes. And, moreover, it will not be contended by any side that a technology which is limited or which is being developed by five nuclear states alone, if all of them are developing it, I do not know - should be the end of the story - that it is not possible that another state with some knowledge, with some experience will be able to contribute towards the development of this technology and thus give the benefit to the international community as a whole, as the nuclear state parties to the NPT, have undertaken to do it. Again, we feel that there should be no discrimination in this regard.

If we are able to contribute, we should be allowed to contribute keeping in mind the very solemn declarations that we have made in regard to peaceful uses of this technology.

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

India's Reply to Pakistan at Disarmament Committee

Following is the text of Ambassador B. C. Mishra's reply to a statement made by Ambassador Naik of Pakistan in the Conference of Committee of Disarmament in Geneva on July 16, 1974:

My delegation notices that the distinguished Ambassador of Pakistan has answered in his own way only part of my question. In the meeting of the CCD on July 11, I had asked the following question and I quote: The question I have to ask and again I ask it for my understanding is that if the Government of Pakistan is concerned about nuclear testing in general and not merely India's nuclear explosion which, as I said, is for peaceful purposes, why has the Government of Pakistan not adhered to the Partial Test Ban Treaty? And why even after nuclear explosion conducted by India for peaceful purposes on May 18, when some nuclear weapon tests in atmosphere by other countries took place, nothing was said?'

From the answer given by the delegation of Pakistan we take note that Pakistan has declared that it cannot be expected legally to foreclose its nuclear option.

Clearly what we have been discussing here are matters of bilateral concern. We have been asked as to why India, if it is sincere about its renunciation of nuclear armaments, why it does not follow Pakistan's example and place all its nuclear facilities under international safeguards? It is not a question of universality of acceptance of safeguards but why India does not?

In appropriate forum for this particular question, i.e. question of safeguards, Government of India has made its position amply clear. We are for safeguards which are applicable universally and on a non-discriminatory basis. That has been our position and it remains same.

For the last few meetings we have been noticing that the question of security of one country is being raised. A question which is of bilateral concern, not of universal application. To that my delegation has following to say: We intend to utilise nuclear energy solely for peaceful purposes. If Pakistan is genuinely concerned about its security, we are prepared to make as we have in the past, a sincere effort to allay fears and suspicions. But the way to security does not lie in propaganda, in frantic efforts to persuade the international community to put pressure on India. The Prime Minister of India wrote to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on May 22 this year and with your permission, Mr. Chairman, I should like to quote from her letter. She said: 'We remain committed to settle all our differences with Pakistan peacefully through bilateral negotiations in accordance with Simla Agreement. Moreover both countries have resolved to break away from the past history of confrontation and conflict and to work to develop normal relations and establish durable peace. I am sure you will acknowledge that the agreements which have been worked out between our two countries in the last two years have been reached on the basis of absolute equality. There is no reason whatsoever to give up this healthy trend or have a change of policy on the part of either country merely because we have conducted a test for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.'

CCD is a multi-national negotiating body for disarmament. There is a tradition here to avoid discussion of problems of bilateral nature, in whatever garb they might be brought. We should like to respect that tradition. If Pakistan is opposed to all nuclear weapon tests, this is the proper forum for negotiations on that subject. We cannot agree, however, that India's nuclear explosion for peaceful purposes should become the object of discussion on the basis of unfounded bilateral concern. We are prepared to discuss principles of universal applicability and to negotiate disarmament agreements based on such principles. We will not discriminate against others nor shall we agree to become the object of discriminations. This is India's fundamental approach to problems of disarmament as it is to all aspects of international relations.

Today the distinguished Ambassador of Pakistan has mentioned something about radio-activity having leaked out from the Indian explosion for peaceful purposes. The Atomic Energy Commission of India has denied this report when it was put out from Pakistan some weeks ago. There was no venting from this explosion. If there had

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been venting the wind currents would have brought in such debris further into the state of Rajasthan itself and not the other way. We are committed to respect the provisions of Partial Test Ban Treaty, but we do not understand as to how a country which is not a party to the PTB, tries to take advantage of that treaty. The claim that there was venting, that there was radioactive debris leaked into Pakistan from this explosion is a figment of imagination. We can guess as to why this claim is made. We have stated that we have not violated any international agreement, any international treaty, in conducting this explosion. The effort of Pakistan is to charge that India has violated the PTB. With all the emphasis at my command I deny this allegation.

I should like to revert, Mr. Chairman, to my earlier remarks and to emphasize that this is a multi-national negotiating body,

this is not a body which deals with bilateral problems. There are so many bilateral or regional problems in the world. If we were to begin to deal with them here, I am quite sure that we would not make any, progress in our real task which is disarmament.

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INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

India-UNFPA Agreement

The following press release on the grant of \$ 40 million by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to India was released in New Delhi on July 18, 1974:

A five-year agreement involving a grant of \$ 40 million by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to assist India's efforts to regulate population growth was signed here today. Shri C. S. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning, signed on behalf of India and Mr. Rafael M. Salas, Executive Director, on behalf of the UNFPA.

After signing the agreement, Mr. Salas said that the grant was the biggest contribution which the UNFPA had ever given to any single country. Shri Ramachandran said that the grant would be utilised in a very effective and judicious manner.

The UNFPA grant in the form of equipment, technical and expert services and programme support is designed to assist the Government achieve its desired goal of reducing birth rate to 30 per thousand population and raising the number of couples pro-

tected against conception from 16 million at present to 40 million by the end of the Fifth Plan.

The UNFPA assistance will be utilised by the Government for an integrated programme of family planning and health services including equipment for expansion of sterilisation services, medical termination of pregnancy, family welfare counselling services in selected hospitals, training of multi-purpose workers and procurement of condoms and expansion of capacity for manufacturing condoms and establishment of facilities for production of oral contraceptives if and when the demand should warrant it.

The grant will also be utilised for operational research, innovative schemes and services through the organised sector, voluntary organisations and Government agencies, strengthening of nursing and midwifery education including teaching of human reproduction, population dynamics and family planning, and introduction of health education, especially family life education in schools.

The UNFPA has indicated its willingness to consider further assistance under the agreement, should the programme of the Government warrant, such assistance being additional to the grant already agreed upon.

In order to implement the joint programme, \$5 million will be made available to India in the first year. The Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, at its June 1976 session, will determine the balance of assistance on the basis of a joint review by the Government and the UNFPA regarding the progress of implementation of the programme covered by the project.

The agreement envisages the establishment of a Programme Implementation Committee under the chairmanship of the Union

periodically review the Progress of project implementation. The committee includes representatives of the Ministries of Health and Family Planning, Finance and other Ministries concerned, Planning Commission, UNDP Resident Representative and the UNFPA Co-ordinator. Representatives of other agencies actively involved in the implementation of the projects such as the World Health Organisation, United Nations Children's Emergency Fund and the International Labour Organisation may be coopted.

India was the first country in the world to adopt population control as an integral part of its developmental activities. From a mere Rs. 1.5 million in the First Five Year Plan, expenditure on family planning rose to Rs. 2,804 million by the end of the Fourth Plan. The outlay for the Fifth Plan is Rs. 5,160 million.

UNFPA has in the past given assistance to India to the tune of a little over \$ 3.5 million on the basis of specific projects. This is the first long-term grant to India based on an integrated programme of action during the Fifth Plan.

The international community has pledged voluntary contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities which now stands at \$ 170 million. As a result of such international assistance, UNFPA has been able to support nearly a thousand regional, inter-regional and national projects benefitting some 90 developing countries.

The first ever inter-governmental conference on population is to be held at Bucharest from August 19 to 30, 1974. It will prepare a global programme of action to tackle the problem in all its aspects. India is actively participating in the conference.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement in Rajya Sabha Initiating Debate

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Initiating the debate on 'the present international situation and the policy of the Government of India in relation thereto' in the Rajya Sabha on July 30, 1974, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Swaran Singh, said:

Sir, in view of the general desire, I would try, very briefly, to make some comments on the international situation and I will also touch upon some salient features of the international situation, our relations with our neighbours and general climate in the international community. The House will remember that the last debate on Foreign Affairs was held in December, 1973. It is indeed time that we survey the international situation and the Government have the benefit of the views of the House on international developments which have taken place during these months.

For all countries, these months have been a period of adjusting to the world-wide problem of steep rise in raw-material and energy prices and consequential strains and dislocations of trade pattern and planned economic development, more particularly for the developing countries. Notwithstanding

these international economic and financial crisis in general, the world situation continues to move towards a political detente. But the process is slow and halting and bedevilled with difficulties. Consistent with our foreign policy, we are concerned at the new international economic problems, but, at the same time, we welcome the easing of international tensions whether it is in Europe, Africa or West Asia and, of course, even more so, nearer home.

BANGLADESH

In step with this general search for improving relations, we have during these last few months reached agreements and found better understanding with almost all our

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neighbouring countries. Following the visit of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, the representatives of the two Governments embodied in the joint declarations and in various specific agreements the pledge to co-operate further for mutual benefit in a number of fields, including the establishment of joint ventures in industry, survey of a rail link to facilitate cross traffic between Calcutta and Agartala and in intensifying our trade and economic exchanges. These agreements and indeed the tenor of our discussions are an eloquent testimony to the growing bond of friendship and trust which characterised our relations with Bangladesh. I would like to make a special mention of the agreement that settled all the outstanding problems relating to border matters between India and Bangladesh. I have already placed a copy of that agreement on the table of the House. All the outstanding matters relating to the border have now been finally settled - such matters which had defied solution for quarter of a century ever since our independence.

#### SRI LANKA

Our close and friendly relations with Sri Lanka were further strengthened by the visit of our Prime Minister and the return visit of Prime Minister, Mrs. Bandaranaike, in January this year. The House will share in the satisfaction of the Government that the question of persons of Indian origin left over for future decision in the Shastri-Bandaranaike Agreement of 1964 was finally resolved in a spirit of friendship by which half of them would be accepted for settlement in India and the other half would be offered citizenship of Sri Lanka. I have already made a statement the other day - in fact, in this House my colleague made the statement - regarding the agreement on the maritime boundary in Palk Strait, a problem which was a legacy from the colonial era.

## BURMA

The same kind of spirit of abiding trust and co-operation characterised our relations with Burma and was reinforced by the visit of President Ne Win in April this year. We have reached detailed understanding on future economic and technical co-operation between the two countries which is in the process of implementation. In this connection I would like to make a special mention of the quiet and co-operative manner in which we have agreed to demarcate our boundary with Burma, portions of which were undemarcated, and we have established a joint machinery which year after year meets for some months and actually settles and demarcates on the border the boundary between India and Burma because we came to the conclusion that it is better to demarcate on the ground also the boundary as it might exist between the two countries and this being a boundary of peace and friendship, the two sides are co-operating well and the boundary will be finalised, I hope, in a matter of a year or two more. We have already demarcated a major portion of that boundary.

## NEPAL & BHUTAN

Sir, with Nepal our economic and political relations have continued to develop in the spirit of traditional friendship and co-operation. The House may wish to join me on this occasion in offering our congratulations to His Majesty King Jigme Singhye Wangchuk of Bhutan on the occasion of his coronation during which India was represented by our President. Our relations and our co-operation are gathering further strength. Since our last debate we have signed agreements for the construction of a cement project and the massive Chuka Hydro-Electric project which together will cost more than Rs. 90 crores. These important projects of mutual benefit to the two countries symbolise Bhutan's determined march towards modernisation and our commitment to assist in the process.

## AFGHANISTAN

Our relations with Afghanistan continue to develop in the framework of our traditional friendship. As a result of the work of the Indo-Afghan Joint Commission and other bilateral agreements our economic and technical exchanges have reached new dimensions. We cannot but admire the great strides and the new dynamism of the Afghan Republic which like us cherishes the principles of non-alignment, peaceful co-existence and friendly co-operation with all countries regardless of ideology or even alliances. We therefore share the anxieties of the great peace-loving Afghan people who face unwarranted pressures and even belligerent

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threats on issues which they have always wanted to settle by peaceful means.

#### IRAQ

Our relations with Iraq have continued to grow and following the visit of Vice-Chairman Saddam Hussein in March this year we have identified bigger and more diverse areas for mutual benefit and co-operation. In our relations with the Gulf States we are now actively engaged in exploring the scope for mutually advantageous economic links.

#### IRAN

It is our sincere belief that we have achieved a breakthrough in laying the foundations of long-term economic co-operation and exchanges with Iran.

The visit of our Prime Minister in April and the discussions which she held with the Shahanshah identified the potentials of far-reaching economic inter-dependence which can benefit not only our two countries, but provide the basis for peaceful co-operation in the entire region to which our two countries belong.

#### PAKISTAN

The House will agree that the above survey is an impressive proof of our improving

relations with our neighbours. I regret, however, that there is one exception, Pakistan, with whom the earlier promise of reconciliation received a serious setback. Following the Bangladesh-India-Pakistan agreement of April, 1974, we had agreed to the exchange of delegations with Pakistan to work out fresh agreements towards normalisation of our relations, particularly covering communications like posts and telegraphs, telecommunication links, restoration of travel facilities and also certain facilities for pilgrims. If these hopes have been belied the responsibility lies squarely on the shoulders of Pakistan's leadership. The scheduled talks fixed for the 10th June were summarily called off by Pakistan on the spurious plea that India's nuclear experiment had vitiated the atmosphere. Frankly, Mr. Deputy Chairman, though we were sincerely desirous to set in train initial steps towards normalisation, we were aware even earlier of the hesitancy on the side of Pakistan. The totality of evidence suggests that it is not due to any justifiable, new and unforeseen developments or reasons, but domestic needs which are impeding the process of normalisation on the part of Pakistan. A whole panoply of wild and incredible charges are being levelled against India. Pakistani leaders have told their people that Pakistan's security was being threatened by India oil the one side and Afghanistan on the other. Troop movements, including those by armoured units, have been carried out in Pakistan as part of the exercise to build up tension, Prime Minister Bhutto went so far as to link our peaceful nuclear explosion with the wholly domestic anti-Ahamediya agitation in Pakistan. This was a fantastic way of assessing the situation. This is all the more surprising since Mr. Bhutto, on his own admission, has elsewhere acknowledged that the Ahamediya issue is older than Pakistan itself, but still he thought it fit to bring in India's name quite unnecessarily. Finally, in order to obstruct the process of normalisation, Pakistani leaders have now focussed on the talks which have been going on for some time between us and the Kashmiri leaders. I would like to say very categorically that our talks with the Kashmiri leaders are in keeping with our demo-

cratic, secular traditions and these are entirely in the realm of our internal affairs. Pakistan or any other country has no business to comment upon these talks. We stand by the Simla Agreement and the line of control as acknowledged in it and which has now been delineated must be respected by both sides. As far as our peaceful nuclear explosion is concerned, our Prime Minister has already written to the Pakistan Prime Minister that our commitment remains to use nuclear science for peaceful purposes. Now, to assert that the resumption of bilateral talks is conditional on assurances and guarantees from us against the use of nuclear weapons looks like an excuse to go back on the dialogue when we have said categorically that our underground nuclear explosion is for peaceful purposes and we have no intention to manufacture any nuclear weapon. Then, to ask us to give an assurance that our nuclear capability will not be used against Pakistan is something which, on the face of it, is ridiculous and untenable.

We seek to pose no threat to Pakistan. Our assurances are unambiguous enough. Our experiment in scientific technology is geared to our own economic needs, for peaceful purposes. We have often repeated that we do not want an unending confron-

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tation with Pakistan, and I would like to take this opportunity of reiterating our stand that we would like to end the past era of confrontation and to live as good neighbours. We would even at this stage like to appeal to Pakistan and her leaders that they should respond to this approach of ours and cooperate with us in establishing durable peace in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

#### NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

Mr. Deputy Chairman, beyond the confines of our immediate neighbourhood, our relations with all countries continue to develop in a spirit of friendship which follows from our faith in the need for and the scope of expanding cooperative relations, based on dignity and equality, all over the world. This is inherent in our foreign policy of non-

alignment and peaceful co-existence. Our commitment : to this policy remains unshaken. It was reinforced by the visits of President Tito of Yugoslavia, President Sadat of the Arab Republic of Egypt and of President Senghor of Senegal in recent months.

U.S.S.R.

I would like also, Sir, to refer very briefly to our growing friendship with the USSR and the other socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The last visit of the Secretary-General, Mr. Brezhnev, to India provided an opportunity of having wide-ranging discussions over a variety of subjects, international, economic and bilateral, and documents of far-reaching significance and mutual benefit were signed as a result of the visit. This is in continuation of the existing friendly and cooperative relations between us and the Soviet Union. It is a happy thought for me that at difficult moments, the Soviet Union has stood firmly with us. And therefore our continued friendship with the Soviet Union is a key factor in our foreign policy.

#### EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

I would like to say, Sir, that our relations with the other East European countries are also very close and friendly. In this connection, I would like to make a reference to the visit some months ago of the Bulgarian Prime Minister to India, when he not only had a very useful exchange of views here in Delhi with us but also he had the opportunity of visiting several other places outside Delhi, where he also saw several industrial projects in India. During my visit which took place about two months back to Bulgaria, I was greatly satisfied with the very friendly, and close and cooperative relations that are developing between us and Bulgaria. I would like to say that we are expecting later this year the visits of the Prime Ministers of the GDR, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. And I am sure that with these countries also we will take the opportunity of these visits not only to exchange views on the international situation but in further developing our relations in the

industrial and economic fields for the mutual benefit and advantage to us and the countries concerned.

U.S.A.

Sir, I would like to say that there has been a slow but steady improvement in our relations with the United States. We are seeking to explore the possibilities of mutually beneficial economic and technological co-operation through a joint commission of the two countries.

#### OTHER COUNTRIES

With China, our offer to bold unconditional, bilateral dialogue stands but alas, we have not so far seen a positive and dependable response.

Sir, I would not at this stage like to take much of the time of the House in giving details about developments in other parts of the world. But I must say that our relations with the other continents and countries in South and South-East Asia and Western Europe, Africa and the Americas, and our diplomatic and economic contacts generally indicate a purposeful and reciprocal desire on both sides for widening and deepening our economic, political, cultural as well as technological relations. I would like to say, Sir, that in pursuit of that policy I myself am intending to undertake a visit to some of the countries in the South-East Asian region. During this trip of mine I will have an opportunity to visit Singapore, Jakarta and also Seoul because we have got wide-ranging economic relations and other relations with these countries and other countries in the region.

#### PEACEFUL OBJECTIVES OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

Sir, we have been keeping the House informed about the reactions of the inter-

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national community to our underground nuclear explosion and a very detailed statement has already been made in this House

by the Prime Minister. I would like very briefly to say that almost all over the developing world - in Africa, in Latin America, in Asia - generally our scientific experiment has been hailed as a great achievement attained through our own resources, through our own scientific personnel, and there is a great measure of appreciation and understanding about the peaceful objectives of our nuclear technology for the advancement of our industry and economy.

Again, even amongst the developing world, but for very few exceptions, there has generally been an appreciation of what we have done. Sometimes individually and sometimes bilaterally these countries have conveyed to us telling us that they are not unhappy. There are reasons why they are not making statements openly. However, I am fully aware of the adverse reactions that have been caused in some countries - Canada and Sweden. Their reaction initially was rather sharp. But as time passes even the sharpness of their original reaction has been blunted to a great extent and they too understand our objectives and are also conscious of the great scientific achievement that we have made in this field. Of course, there is the problem of Pakistan about which I have already made a reference. While talking of the reaction of the international community I need not say anything more about Pakistan. In this connection all that I would like to say is that their objections are completely unjustified and their fears are imaginary.

#### DECOLONIZATION

Sir, I would like to mention some major international developments that have taken place in this interval, and the one which I must mention is the development in Portugal and the consequences of this on the Portuguese colonies in Africa. We welcome the revolutionary changes in Portugal. We are following with interest the negotiations which have been started with the leaders of the liberation movements of Mozambique, Angola and Guinea-Bissau, and the pledge given by the new Portuguese Government for early independence of the colonies. We hope

soon to see the end of the last remnants of colonialism and the emergence of the three new fully independent African nations. I would also like to add that the House is no doubt aware that we have already recognised the sovereignty and independence of Guinea-Bissau, and we hope that Guinea-Bissau would be seated in the United Nations at the time of the next General Assembly session. We fully support their admission to the United Nations. There are some problems which have still to be sorted out between Portugal and Guinea-Bissau. The House would no doubt be aware that some talks had taken place, first in London and later in Algiers, but there was a setback to these talks. I would like categorically to reiterate the Indian position that there cannot be any compromise on complete and immediate independence of all these Portuguese colonies whether it is Mozambique, Angola or Guinea-Bissau. Therefore, whatever talks may take place, should be on that basis, and we stand firmly committed to our firm support for the independence of these Portuguese colonies.

While on this subject, I would like to reiterate our firm and consistent stand with regard to the problems that the African people are facing in Rhodesia, in South Africa and also in Namibia. We are totally opposed to the continuance of the illegal racist regimes like the one in Rhodesia, and we are totally opposed to the policy of Apartheid being pursued by the South African White racist regime. Therefore, our support to the cause of the freedom fighters is firm and we will continue to lend every support to their freedom struggle.

#### CYPRUS

Now I come to Cyprus about which the Hon. Member asked me to give the latest assessment. We are deeply concerned at the recent developments in Cyprus where a constitutionally elected government of a non-aligned country under a respected leader is sought to have been overthrown by violent, illegal means. This attempted coup d'etat has understandably threatened peace and stability in that region. We have expressed our

sympathy and support for Archbishop Makarios. We hope that the active interest of the U.N. Secretary-General and the Security Council, and the Tripartite talks currently taking place in Geneva, and also the restoration of a civilian government in Greece will ensure not only the preservation of peace in the island but the restoration of

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the independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus.

#### WEST ASIA

In West Asia we have noted that some progress has been made towards disengagement in the last few months. But many difficult and fundamental problems still remain which will confront the Geneva Peace Conference in its task of finding a just and lasting peace. Our consistent stand is well known that there can be no permanent peace unless aggression is vacated and there is legitimate fulfilment of the rights of the Palestinian people. I cannot omit to mention our deep sympathy for Lebanon in the face of the savage attacks it has suffered in these months.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, during this brief review, I have confined myself to the mention of those problems which have particular relevance in the context of our debate. I have touched upon those developments which have taken place in this interval between our last debate and this debate. And of course, at the end of the debate I will have an opportunity of summing up the position and I will also take the opportunity of clarifying further any points that might be raised. I am looking forward to this debate with great interest because I have always found the debate here stimulating and the views that the honourable Members will give will be of great benefit to us, to me personally, and to the Ministry, in formulating our policies. Thank you very much.

INDIA PERU USA BANGLADESH SRI LANKA BURMA BHUTAN NEPAL UNITED KINGDOM  
AFGHANISTAN IRAQ IRAN PAKISTAN MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA YUGOSLAVIA  
EGYPT SENEGAL BULGARIA HUNGARY NORWAY SLOVAKIA CHINA INDONESIA REPUBLIC OF

SINGAPORE KOREA CANADA SWEDEN PORTUGAL MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA GUINEA  
GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU ALGERIA NAMIBIA CYPRUS SWITZERLAND GREECE LEBANON

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Foreign Minister's Statement on Indo-Sri Lanka Boundary Agreement

The, Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on July 23, 1974 on the Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the boundary in the historic waters between the two countries and the related matters (a similar statement was made in the Rajya Sabha by the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh):

Over the years, since our independence, there have been a number of questions and discussions in the House regarding the Island of Kachchativu. Government have of course fully shared this interest and concern for arriving at an early and amicable solution of this long-outstanding matter; and I am happy to say that an agreement was signed between the two Prime Ministers on 28th June, a copy of which I am laying on the table of the House. A copy of the map which forms an Annexure to the original Agreement has also been placed in the Library.

The Island of Kachchativu, about 3/4 of a square mile in extent, is situated in the Palk Bay; it is about 10 1/2 miles from the nearest Indian shore. The Palk Bay, which constitutes historic waters of India and Sri Lanka, is some 18 miles wide at its entrance through the Palk Straits, and has an average width of some 28 miles.

The issue of deciding Indian and Sri

Lanka claims to Kachchativu was closely connected with determining the boundary line between India and Sri Lanka in the waters of the Palk Bay. The entire question of the maritime boundary in the historic waters of the Palk Bay required urgently to be settled, keeping in view the claims of the two sides, historical evidence, legal practice and precedent and in the broader context of our growing friendly relations with Sri Lanka.

Kachchativu has always been an uninhabited island. Neither Sri Lanka nor India has had any permanent presence there. During the long colonial period the question whether Kachchativu was part of India or part of Ceylon was frequently discussed, with the Governments of the day putting forward claims and counter claims. In recent years, both countries had agreed that there should be no unilateral action which would seek to change the undetermined status of Kachcha-

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tivu, pending a final solution to be reached through amicable bilateral efforts.

I would particularly like to draw the attention of Honourable Members to the fact that when two sides have a good arguable case on a particular issue, and the problem cannot be resolved expeditiously through bilateral negotiations, there is inevitably an attempt to seek outside intervention by appeal either to the International Court of Justice or to third party arbitration. For our part, we have always been firmly of the view that in any differences with our neighbouring countries, we should seek to resolve them through bilateral discussions without outside interference, on the basis of equality and goodwill. It is a matter of satisfaction to us that our Prime Minister's resolve to settle this issue through direct bilateral talks met with an equally warm response from the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, and the agreement could be reached in an atmosphere, of friendship and mutual understanding.

Exhaustive research of historical and other records was made by our experts on Kachchativu and every available piece of

evidence collected from various record offices in India, such as in Tamil Nadu, Goa and Bombay, as well as abroad in British and Dutch archives. An intensive examination of evidence and exchange of views took place, specially during the past year, between senior officials of the two Governments. This question of Kachchativu, for the reasons I have just explained, had necessarily to be dealt with as part of the broader question of the boundary in the Palk Bay so as to eliminate the possibility of any further disputes on similar matters in these historic waters.

On the basis of a dispassionate examination of the historical records and other evidence, and keeping in mind the legal principles and also keeping in mind our policy and principle of peaceful settlement of disputes, I feel confident that the Agreement demarcating the maritime boundary in the Palk Bay, will be considered as fair, just and equitable to both countries. At the same time, I wish to remind the Hon'ble Members that in concluding this Agreement the rights of fishing, pilgrimage and navigation, which both sides have enjoyed in the past, have been fully safeguarded for the future.

It would be wrong to see this Agreement as a victory for one side or the other. Both countries have gained as a result of the agreement, which is a victory of mature statesmanship, a victory in the cause of friendship and cooperation in the area. A potential major irritant in relations between the two countries, which had remained unresolved over the years, has now been removed, and both countries can now concentrate on the exploitation of economic and other resources in these, now well-defined, waters and generally on intensifying co-operation between themselves in various fields. The Agreement marks an important step in further strengthening the close ties that bind India and Sri Lanka.

SRI LANKA INDIA USA

**Date :** Jul 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

India-Sri Lanka Agreement Concerning Boundary

The following is the text of the Agreement signed by the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in New Delhi on July 26, 1974 and by the Sri Lanka Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo R. D. Bandaranaike in Colombo on June 28, 1974 (the Agreement was released in New Delhi on July 23, 1974, after ratification by both the countries) :

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Sri Lanka, desiring to determine the boundary line in the historic waters between India and Sri Lanka and to settle the related matters in a manner which is fair and equitable to both sides, having examined the entire question from all angles and taken into account the historical and other evidence and legal aspects thereof, have agreed as follows:

## ARTICLE 1

The boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the waters from Adam's Bridge to Palk Strait shall be arcs of Great Circles between the following positions, in the sequence given below, defined by latitude and longitude:

Position 1: 10 degrees 05' North,  
80 degrees 03' East

Position 2: 09 degrees 57' North,  
79 degrees 35' East

Position 3: 09 degrees 40.15' North,  
79 degrees 22.60' East

Position 4: 09 degrees 21.80' North,

79 degrees 30.70' East

Position 5: 09 degrees 13' North,  
79 degrees 32' East

Position 6: 09 degrees 06' North  
79 degrees 32' East

#### ARTICLE 2

The coordinates of the positions specified in Article I are geographical coordinates and the straight lines connecting them are indicated in the chart annexed hereto which has been signed by the surveyors authorized by the two Governments, respectively.

#### ARTICLE 3

The actual location of the aforementioned positions at sea and on the seabed shall be determined by a method to be mutually agreed upon by the surveyors authorized for the purpose by the two Governments, respectively.

#### ARTICLE 4

Each country shall have sovereignty and exclusive jurisdiction and control over the waters, the islands, the continental shelf and the subsoil thereof, falling on its own side of the aforesaid boundary.

#### ARTICLE 5

Subject to the foregoing, Indian fishermen and pilgrims will enjoy access to visit Kachchativu as hitherto, and will not be required by Sri Lanka to obtain travel documents or visas for these purposes.

#### ARTICLE 6

The vessels of India and Sri Lanka will enjoy in each other's waters such rights as they have traditionally enjoyed therein.

#### ARTICLE 7

If any single geological petroleum or natural gas structure or field, or any single geological structure or field of any other

mineral deposit, including sand or gravel, extends across the boundary referred to in Article 1 and the part of such structure or field which is situated on one side of the boundary is exploited, in whole or in part, from the other side of the boundary, the two countries shall seek to reach agreement as to the manner in which the structure or field shall be most effectively exploited and the manner in which the proceeds deriving therefrom shall be apportioned.

#### ARTICLE 8

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification. It shall enter into force on the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification which will take place as soon as possible.

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**Date :** Aug 01, 1974

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CANADA

Joint Press Release on Indo-Canadian Talks

The following joint press release On the  
Indo-Canadian talks held in Ottawa from  
July 29-31, 1974, was issued in New Delhi  
on August 2, 1974:

The India-Canada talks held in Ottawa  
from July 29-31 were both a continuation of  
the bilateral consultations that were held

in New Delhi in November, 1973, and an outcome of the invitation of the Prime Minister of Canada to the Prime Minister of India.

The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and assisted by Mr. U. S. Bajpai, High Commissioner for India in Ottawa. In addition to having discussions with Mr. A. E. Ritchie, Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Paul Geria-Lajoie, President of CIDA, Mr. Kewal Singh had meetings with Prime Minister Trudeau, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp and Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Alastair Gillespie.

While there was useful discussion of India's economic development priorities and their response to the formidable problems created by the world-wide rise in prices of energy, fertiliser and food, the discussions centered mainly on nuclear cooperation arrangements and the different attitude of the two Governments towards the use of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

The problem during the meetings was to explore the differences in an effort to reach agreement on which future cooperation could be based. Some of the points which had to be considered were of a nature which would not lend themselves to ready resolution and the first series of meetings should, therefore, be regarded as exploratory and as a first step in efforts to reach understanding. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the frank exchange of views on these difficult issues in a friendly atmosphere.

It was clear from the discussions that Canada and India are both deeply concerned with the dangerous consequences- of proliferation of nuclear weapons both the increase of nuclear arsenals by the present nuclear-weapons states and the acquisition of nuclear weapons by other states. Both countries intend to contribute actively to international discussions concerning nuclear non-proliferation.

In the light of these discussions, it is

expected that a further meeting will be held.

CANADA INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Indo-Indonesia Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Joint Communique issued in Jakarta on August 8, 1974 On the conclusion of the visit of the Minister of External Affairs Sardar Swaran Singh to Indonesia:

At the invitation of Dr. Adam Malik, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India visited Indonesia from 6th to 8th August, 1974 for the fifth annual meeting between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

The Foreign Minister of India was received by His Excellency the President of

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the Republic of Indonesia. He also met Vice President Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono, Dr. Idham Chalid, Speaker of Parliament and General Maraden Panggabean, Minister for Defence and National Security.

The talks between the two foreign Ministers were held in an atmosphere of traditional friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding. They reviewed the important international developments that had taken place since their last meeting in New Delhi in April, 1973 as well as the progress of their mutual relations and exchanged views and proposals for the further strengthening and

development of these relations. Their discussions revealed closeness of views of both governments on important international issues.

The Minister, of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia was assisted by Mr. R. B. I. N. Djajadiningrat, Director General of Political Affairs, Mrs. H. Wirjosapoetro-Laurens, Secretary of the Director General of Political Affairs, Mr. A. Adenan, Director, Asia Pacific Affairs and Mr. S. Martonagoro, Director, International Trade Relations.

The Minister of External Affairs of India was assisted by Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Mahboob Ahmad, Ambassador of India to Indonesia, Shri J. C. Ajmani, Joint Secretary, Shri K. Srinivasan, Director and Shri V. K. Grover, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Jakarta.

The two sides appraised the continuing process towards relaxation of tension and strengthening of peace in central Europe and expressed the hope that an enduring peace and abiding spirit of cooperation will spread to other parts of the world.

The two leaders reviewed the current situation in Indo-China. They welcomed the formation of the Provisional Government of National Union in Laos and hoped that this development would usher in an era of peace, stability and prosperity in that country. The two leaders regretfully noted the continuing hostilities in Cambodia and the suffering of the people there and would welcome any efforts towards an early and peaceful settlement in Cambodia. While welcoming the Paris agreement of January, 1973 on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam, they noted with concern that it had not yet led to an effective ceasefire or a political settlement in South Vietnam. The two leaders believed that this agreement provided a good basis for settlement and expressed the hope that its provisions would be faithfully implemented by all concerned.

The Foreign Minister of Indonesia informed the Minister of External Affairs of

the Republic of India of the development and progress achieved so far by the Association of South East Asian Nations in joint efforts to promote the welfare of the people in the region.

The Minister of External Affairs of India expressed support for the objectives of ASEAN to promote cooperation in the region.

As to the efforts made by Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand towards the creation of South East Asia as a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, the Minister of External Affairs of India agreed with the Indonesian side that the establishment of such a zone would contribute greatly to achieving conditions of peace and stability in the region. The Minister of External Affairs of India apprised the Foreign Minister of Indonesia of the repeated initiatives and constructive steps taken by India towards normalisation of relations and the establishment of durable peace in the subcontinent and reiterated India's firm belief that the promotion of a friendly and harmonious relationship in the subcontinent on the basis of sovereign equality is in the best interest of the peoples of the three countries. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia expressed the hope that the three countries of the subcontinent will continue their efforts towards settling all their differences peacefully through direct negotiation in accordance with the Simla and Delhi agreements so that they may devote their energies to the pressing task of advancing the welfare of their peoples. They expressed the hope that discussions between the representatives of the Governments concerned would be held shortly.

The Foreign Ministers expressed concern at the lack of progress towards realisation of the objective of establishing the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace in accord-

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ance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations. They expressed the hope that steps contrary to the achievement of that objective and detrimental to the in-

terest, stability and peace of the countries in the area, would be avoided. They called upon the great powers to act with due restraint and cooperate in preserving the Indian ocean as a zone of peace.

Both sides voiced deep concern at the recent developments in Cyprus where the constitutionally elected government of a nonaligned country was sought to be overthrown by illegal means: The coup d'etat posed a threat to peace and stability in the region. They expressed the hope that as a result of the efforts of the United Nations and the tripartite talks in Geneva, not only will the preservation of peace in the island be ensured but also the restoration of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus.

Both leaders reiterated their support for the liberation movements in Africa against colonial and racial domination and welcomed recent developments which hold early prospect for the hastening of the inevitable end of colonial rule in various parts of Africa.

Noting that military disengagement in the Sinai and Golan Heights constitutes only an initial step in the search for a settlement of the West Asia crisis, the two sides expressed the hope that the momentum towards peace would be maintained and that further progress for a just and lasting settlement on the basis of UN resolutions would be achieved. Both sides reaffirmed the view that a just and lasting settlement could be achieved only by Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed that the policy of non-alignment, to which both India and Indonesia are deeply committed, has a vital contribution to make in the search for enduring peace and promotion of a just, stable and equitable international order. They expressed their determination to work together with other nonaligned countries in various international forums to promote the objectives of nonalignment. They stressed the need for closer cooperation between non

aligned countries in the economic field for giving greater viability to their economies and to enable them to exercise fuller control over their natural resources for the benefit of development of their economies and the improvement in the living standards of their peoples.

They welcomed the conclusions of the recent special session of the UN General Assembly, and the special programme adopted to give immediate and longterm relief to the most seriously affected developing countries. They expressed the hope that these measures as well as others included in the programme of action for achieving the objective of the new international economic order set out in the declaration would be implemented expeditiously.

The two Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction the steady progress in the development of trade, economic, scientific and industrial cooperation between their two countries, and emphasised the importance of further intensifying and expanding such cooperation.

The two sides agreed to maintain and promote close cooperation in regional and international forums dealing with restructuring the world economic order on a more equitable basis, ensuring a fair share for the developing countries.

Both sides agreed that there was considerable scope for intensifying bilateral exchanges in various economic and technical fields. They also agreed to consider the conclusion of agreements to foster trade, economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

The Foreign Ministers expressed satisfaction at the result of their discussions which had contributed towards a better understanding and appreciation of problems facing their respective countries and towards further strengthening of the ties of cooperation and friendship between them.

The Indian Minister of External Affairs expressed his deep appreciation of the warm

welcome and hospitality accorded to him and his party during his visit to Indonesia. He extended an invitation to the Foreign Minister of Indonesia to visit India. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

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INDONESIA USA MALI INDIA CHINA LAOS CAMBODIA FRANCE VIETNAM MALAYSIA  
PHILIPPINES REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE THAILAND CYPRUS SWITZERLAND ISRAEL

**Date :** Aug 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Joint Press Release on India-Indonesia Agreement Concerning Continental Shelf Boundary

The following joint press release was issued on the occasion of signing of the agreement on the continental shelf boundary by the Foreign Minister of India and Indonesia in Jakarta on August 8, 1974:

The Minister of External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Adam Malik on the 8th August, 1974 signed at Jakarta an agreement on the continental shelf boundary between the two countries. It will come into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification which will take place in Delhi shortly.

The agreement constitutes an important landmark in the relations between India and Indonesia, two Indian ocean neighbours, who have an unbroken history of peace and friendship between them from time immemorial.

The agreement will greatly contribute towards bringing the two countries still closer together and towards the maintenance and promotion of traditional ties of amity,

friendship and cooperation to the mutual benefit of their peoples as well as peace, stability and progress in the region as a whole.

INDONESIA INDIA USA MALI

**Date :** Aug 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Sardar Swaran Singh's Statement on Agreement on Continental Shelf Boundary

The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on August 14, 1974 regarding the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia relating to the Delimitation of the continental shelf boundary between the two countries:

An Agreement on the delimitation of the continental shelf boundary between India and Indonesia was signed at Jakarta on August 8, 1974, in course of my visit there in connection with the fifth annual meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

A draft of the Agreement had been initialled in Delhi on February 7, 1974, at the end of the talks between the Delegations of experts and officials of the two countries.

The Agreement will come into force upon the exchange of Instruments of Ratification which will take place in Delhi shortly.

The Agreement constitutes an important landmark in relations between India and Indonesia who have an unbroken history of

peace and friendship from time immemorial. It characterises furthermore the earnest desire and resolve of the two countries not merely to avoid any possible disputes in the future at sea but to extend the area of co-operation between them.

The boundary so far delineated extends for 48 nautical miles, joining four points which are equidistant from the outermost island belonging to either country, and constitutes the true median line. The distance between Great Nicobar (India) and Sumatra (Indonesia) is approximately 90 nautical miles.

With the signing of the Agreement with Indonesia each side can now proceed with its plans for developing the seabed resources on its side of the boundary line. It has also been agreed that where any geological structure or field of natural gas, petroleum or other mineral stretches across the boundary line, the two sides shall exchange information and reach agreement on exploitation and equitable sharing of benefits accruing from it.

This Agreement will contribute towards bringing India and Indonesia still closer together and towards the maintenance and promotion of the traditional ties of amity, friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

With your permission, Sir, I lay a copy of the Agreement on the Table of the House. A copy of the map, which forms an annexure to the Agreement, has also been placed in the Library.

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INDONESIA USA INDIA

**Date :** Aug 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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1995

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India-Indonesia Agreement on Delimitation of Continental Shelf Boundary

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The following is the text of the Agreement signed in Jakarta on August 8, 1974 and placed before the Parliament on August 14, 1974:

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
INDONESIA,

DESIRING to strengthen the existing historical bonds of friendship between the two countries,

AND DESIRING to establish the continental shelf boundary between the two countries,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

(1) The boundary of the Indian and the Indonesian continental shelf in the area between Great Nicobar (India) and Sumatra (Indonesia) is the straight line connecting Points 1 and 2, 2 and 3, and 3 and 4. The coordinates of these Points are specified below:

Point 1: 06 degrees 38.5 North,  
94 degrees 38.0 East

Point 2: 06 degrees 30.0 North,  
94 degrees 32.4 East

Point 3: 06 degrees 16.2 North,  
94 degrees 24.2 East

Point 4: 06 degrees 00.0 North,  
94 degrees 10.3 East

(2) The coordinates of the Points specified in clause (1) are geographical coordinates and the straight lines connecting them are indicated on the chart attached as Annexure 'A' to this Agreement.

(3) The actual location of the above-mentioned Points at sea shall be determined by a method to be mutually agreed upon by the competent authorities of the two Governments.

(4) For the purpose of clause (3), "competent authorities" in relation to Republic of India means the Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India and includes any person authorised by him, and in relation to the Republic of Indonesia means the Direk-ture Badan Koordinasi Survey dan Pernetaan Nasional (Director of Coordinating Body for National Survey and Mapping) and includes any person authorised by him.

## ARTICLE II

Each Government hereby undertakes to ensure that all the necessary steps shall be taken at the domestic level to comply with the terms of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE III

If any single geological petroleum or natural gas structure or field, or other mineral deposit of whatever character, extends across the boundary line referred to in Article I, the two Governments shall communicate to each other all information in this regard and shall seek to reach agreement as to the manner in which the structure, field or deposit will be most effectively exploited and the benefits arising from such exploitation will be equitably shared.

## ARTICLE IV

Any dispute between the two Governments relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled peacefully by consultation or negotiation.

## ARTICLE V

This Agreement shall be ratified in accordance with the constitutional requirements of each country. It shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the Instruments of Ratification which will take place at Delhi as soon as possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the under-  
signed, being duly authorised thereto by  
their respective Governments, have signed  
this Agreement.

DONE IN DUPLICATE at Jakarta on  
the eighth day of August, 1974, in the Hindi,  
Indonesia and English languages. In the  
event of any conflict between the texts, the  
English text shall prevail.

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INDONESIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Aug 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Sardar Swaran Singh's Reply to Rajya Sabha Debate

Replying to the debate on 'the present international situation and the policy of the Government of India in relation thereto' in the Rajya Sabha on August 1, 1974, the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, said:

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we have discussed the international situation for about eight hours now and I am very happy to put forward my overall assessment of the debate as something very worth while.

I am also happy to say that other democratic countries, generally the sophisticated countries have been able to evolve, what is called, bipartisan foreign policy. For a variety of reasons internally, about which I need not say anything in great detail, we cannot undertake that bipartisan consultation because of the large number of groups sitting

in Opposition. But it is a matter of satisfaction to us in the Government that slowly a national consensus is developing about the basic tenets of our foreign policy. When I say that I am conscious of the fact that there can be differences of opinion on our handling any specific problem, and I do not grudge that. But Mr. Deputy Chairman, it is satisfying that on the basic principles and basic policies there is widespread agreement amongst the political parties. It is of great importance for our country to take note of this developing and evolving pattern of national reactions to our policy. Strengthened by this approach it becomes easier for us in the Government and my colleagues in the Ministry to implement these broad principles in a purposeful manner in specific fields. And for this reason I am grateful to the hon'ble Members who have participated in the debate. A vast majority of them have lent support not only to the broad and basic principles but also on the specific problems that we had to handle of late in the field of our external relations.

Sir, with your permission, before I say something about the specific points raised by the hon'ble Members, I would like to touch upon some points which perhaps were not touched upon by me in my opening speech. In that process I will also try to go through some points which have been raised by hon'ble Members.

#### PAKISTAN

First of all, I would like to say that with regard to Pakistan that on this occasion it is interesting that there has not been any sharpness of approach, if I may use that expression. This is a sure sign of the maturity of our nation and also about the confidence that we enjoy in a variety of ways. Our policy in this respect is a sound policy. We are pursuing a policy of establishing durable peace in the Indian sub-continent and we are trying to progressively resolve the various problems that have been left by a war which we believe should never have taken place. It was not of our seeking. But when it was forced on us, and an aggression was committed, then certainly the country

reacted, its armed forces, Parliament, the people generally reacted which was very heart-warming. After the war we have consistently pursued a policy of establishing durable peace.

I would like once again, Mr. Deputy Chairman, to say that there has been a suggestion that India should continue its initiative for the implementation of the Simla Agreement notwithstanding the unfortunate position the Prime Minister of Pakistan has taken. Several hon. Members from the Opposition benches and also from this side made that suggestion. My response to this is that even though we have taken strong exception to some of the recent statements of Pakistani leaders, which are directed against India, we have made it clear repeatedly that we remain committed to all the provisions of the Simla Agreement, particularly those provisions which enjoin on both India and Pakistan that they should respect each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. We also remain committed to the idea that there

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should be no threat on the use of force against each other and all differences should be settled through peaceful means bilaterally. In view of this fact and in view of the assurances contained in our Prime Minister's letter of May 22 to Prime Minister Bhutto, Pakistan should rest assured that the best guarantee for durable peace in the sub-continent is the Simla agreement which should be observed by both signatories in the letter and spirit. The consequential proposition and line of action is clear; the parties should pick up the threads at the point at which unilaterally Pakistan called off the talks and we should start seriously implementing the other provisions of the Simla Agreement and should take steps for establishing durable peace in the Indian sub-continent.

#### AMBASSADORS To NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Several hon. Members have rightly mentioned about our growing relationship of understanding and friendship with our neighbours. Two hon. Members have particularly

mentioned the name of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, our leader and Prime Minister, who led the country at a difficult period at the time of the 1965 war. I am very happy that several steps that had been taken at that time to improve our relations with our neighbouring countries have borne fruit, and over the years, generally our relations with our neighbouring countries have been greatly strengthened. A suggestion was made by Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri that while sending our Ambassadors to these neighbouring countries, we should make sure that we send really outstanding persons. That is precisely the policy that we have been pursuing. I would like to recall to the memory of the hon. Members how important we have always considered the postings of Ambassadors in our neighbourhood. Just to mention offhand some of the names - Shri Sriman Narayan, our Ambassador in Nepal. Before he went there, he was an important member of our Planning Commission and on his return, he became Governor of one of our States. Again take my colleague, Shri Raj Bahadur. He was a Minister in our Government when he went there as Ambassador and on return, he is again a Cabinet Minister. Then, Mr. C. P. N. Singh, a distinguished public man, who has been Governor in Punjab. These are the types of people whom we have been sending.

Then, take, for instance, Sri Lanka. Such a distinguished person as Mr. Giri, who had been a Cabinet Minister, who is a very distinguished leader of the country, now our President, was our High Commissioner there. There are other very prominent names. Shri Bhimsen Sachar, who had been a Chief Minister in one of our States and then a Governor, went there as our High Commissioner. These are the types of distinguished persons that we send to our neighbouring countries. Take, for instance, Bangladesh. Our first High Commissioner in Bangladesh was Mr. Dutt who had been our Foreign Secretary for a long time, who had been our Ambassador in very important countries like the Soviet Union. And now when he expressed a desire to retire we have sent another very distinguished person, Mr. Samar Sen, who was the main spokesman for India

when the Bangladesh problem was taking shape. We have always attached very high importance to our representation with regard to the countries in this region, and this is rightly so because our relations with them are a matter of vital importance to us, and we have, therefore, consistently followed a policy of that nature.

#### SIKKIM

Now I would like to speak very briefly about the situation in Sikkim because several honourable Members made a reference to this and I thought that I should say a few words about the present situation in Sikkim.

Momentous developments have taken place in Sikkim during these months. The general elections based on one-man-one-vote have given to Sikkim for the first time a truly democratic set-up and a representative Legislature which in its Resolutions has spelt out its aspirations for quicker economic and political transformation and also its desire for even closer cooperation with India. Here again the House will no doubt wish to felicitate the Chogyal and the new Government now formed in Sikkim. We recognise Sikkim's desire to move ahead towards rapid political and economic progress and it can depend upon our sympathetic response and full support. India has already clearly defined responsibilities for Defence and External Affairs and we pledge our cooperation for development. Our officers are there in fulfilment of these obligations and I would like to add that they are welcomed by all sections of the people in Sikkim. We should be happy that in Sikkim now there is a democratic

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set-up. We have certain obligations and I hope that the House will support us in the performance of our duty and the discharge of our obligations in the best interests of peace and development.

#### WEST ASIA

I would also like to make a brief reference to the situation in West Asia.

Several hon. Members have referred,

quite rightly, to this situation. In my opening remarks I did sum up the position also. I made a statement defining our attitude to the problems that are faced by the countries in West Asia which is called, in Europe, the Middle East. I would like to say that unfortunately remarks have been made both about Egypt and Iran which I wish had not been made because there should be some object in our debate and the object should be to improve and strengthen relations, rather than make comments about the internal situation in other countries, which does not serve any purpose. It is just not done and I would have been happy if these remarks were not made.

Now I would like once again to reiterate our attitude with regard to this subject. Our stand on the West Asian situation leaves no room for doubt. The vacation of all territories occupied by Israeli aggression is a prerequisite for a just and lasting settlement in this area. Ceasefire Agreements on withdrawal are, in our view, only the first steps towards total withdrawal. Unless this is achieved, there can be no hope of real peace, and eruption of renewed conflict will continue to threaten the countries in this area. We believe that the Arab solidarity and unity shown during the recent conflict have deep roots in their history and will be found superior to any divisive forces to which some hon. Members have drawn attention. This is in the ultimate analysis the best guarantee that their objective of a just and permanent settlement will be realised.

#### IRAQ

Hon. Member Shri Ahmad referred to our friendship and close relations with Iraq. I endorse all that he has said regarding the closeness of this relationship, as well as the benefits that have accrued to both countries as a result of this co-operative relationship. We shall not forget that Iraq came to our help at a difficult period. The House would no doubt recall that Iraq was one of the first Arab countries that came forward with a decision to recognise Bangladesh.

My colleague Shri Surendra Pal Singh

who has recently visited that country has returned full of respect and admiration for the manner in which the Iraqi leadership are conducting their affairs and harnessing their natural resources over which they have now full control for the benefit of their people, for the Arab cause and, if I may add, for their friends amongst whom we are privileged to be included.

While on this subject, I would say that there has been the usual pastime, particularly in certain Western countries, among commentators and press people to highlight the differences amongst the Arab countries. There can be differences. Everyone knows that there are different political systems prevailing in Arab countries. There are some Kings and Monarchs, there are some middle-of-the-road Governments and there are some very progressive Governments.

It is not unnatural, therefore, that there should be differences in approach to problems and it is only a sign of vitality. But, at the same time, we must not forget that so far as the Israeli question is concerned, the Arabs have succeeded in demonstrating their solidarity which has enabled their cause to be projected to the international community in a very forceful manner and a strong support for the Arab cause has been mobilised because the international community believes that justice is on their side.

#### IRAN

Sir, with regard to Iran, I have referred in my opening statement to the foundations of long-term economic co-operation with that country. We welcome this new relationship which we have entered into and which, we are sure, will bring substantial benefit to the people of both the countries. This is in no small measure due to the wisdom and foresight of the Shahanshah of Iran who has, on more than one occasion, made public proposals of a generous and far-reaching character based on the happy position of natural and other resources which Iran abundantly

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possesses. These proposals could well be developed in terms of peaceful co-operation

to the benefit of the countries in the region as a whole. Iran, with us, is a member of the 15-nation UN ad hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and has frequently expressed its views on the objectives of creating a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean including the Gulf without any outside interference. We support and co-operate in these objectives. From our frank and friendly exchanges at the highest level, we both fully recognise that our relationship is not directed against anyone else and cannot in any way interfere with or constrict our respective relations with other countries.

#### IMPORT OF OIL

At this stage, Sir, I would like to share some information with regard to oil, a subject which was touched upon by some Members. Shri T. N. Singh is not present here now. But he raised this matter and I would like to touch upon this subject very briefly.

Sir, the House is no doubt aware that of our total requirement of oil, we import roughly about 15 to 16 million tonnes of oil, a year. About half of this quantity, that is, between seven and eight million tonnes, is our indigenous production. So, two-thirds of oil has to be imported and we have an idea of the countries from whom we import our crude. Out of this, about ten million tonnes of oil is imported from Iran alone and the remaining five or six million tonnes of oil, we import in the form of crude from two Arab countries, that is, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. I have already mentioned about our friendly relations with both Iran and Iraq. I would like to say that in the matter of supply of oil, we never had any difficulty with regard to our supplies from Saudi Arabia and, if I may say so, they have adopted a very businesslike approach to our purchases of oil from them and I would also like to add that even in the moments of stress and strain, even when odd conflicts were going on, our oil supplies were never interrupted, were never slowed down, from any of our sources. If I may say, this is the justification of the policy that we are pursuing towards the countries in the Gulf and this is the result of our general approach to the prob-

lems in the Middle-East and also amongst the Arab generally. I would like, at the same time, to clarify that unlike many other countries, highly affluent countries, highly developed countries, which suddenly compromised their earlier anti-Arab stand when the oil pressure was mounted against them, we have consistently adopted a policy of supporting the Arab cause because it was easy for us to adopt that policy when we came to the firm conclusion that justice is on the side of the Arabs.

It is the Arab land which is under illegal occupation of Israel. Therefore, it was quite natural for us to extend our support to the Arab cause. It will not be wise for us to treat this matter either casually or, if I may say, in a spirit of bargaining; that has never paid dividends to any country, and surely it is not likely to pay any dividends to us in the long range.

#### INDIAN OCEAN

Now, Sir, with your permission, I would like to reiterate our policy on the Indian Ocean. In this respect, our position has been stated in the House so many times that it was hardly necessary for me to reiterate the position in my opening remarks. I did make a brief reference to this. But I would like to take this opportunity to re-state our views in clear and precise terms.

Many Members have made references to the Indian Ocean and developments therein which can threaten its peace and tranquillity. The House is, no doubt, aware of our clear stand in this connection. The United Nations is seized of the matter and the Secretary-General has just released the experts' report which will be discussed in detail next month by the 15-member ad hoc Committee. This is a matter which we must deal in concert with all like-minded littoral States. In fact, we have been so treating, this subject, because it was discussed in great detail in the conference of non-aligned countries in Lusaka and later on in Algiers. And if anybody examines the list of the non-aligned countries, he will be convinced, without any further argument, that the vast majority, an overwhelming majority, of the littoral

countries on the African coast, on the Asian coast, were represented there in the non-aligned conference. So the point that some hon. Members made that we should convene a special conference, in a sense has already

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been met, and we have succeeded in obtaining support for this objective not only from the vast majority of the littoral States but from all the non-aligned group of countries which, in a sense, stress our position.

I would also like to add in this connection that two countries, of late, over the last two or three years, have started lending strong support to this. And these are Australia and New Zealand. So this has been a very significant accrual to the strength that this proposition was already receiving from the entire group of non-aligned countries.

I would like to say that further resolutions in themselves will not help. Rather, the implementation of the existing resolutions and their logical corollaries which can bring us near the realisation of our objectives will help. Of the two parties concerned with the base facilities at Diego Garcia, the United Kingdom still has the matter under review and they have said so after the induction of the new Government, and the appropriation for the projected expansion of the base has not been passed by the United States Congress. On this specific question also, our views have been expressed in this House and communicated unequivocally to the Governments and the parties concerned including the United States and the United Kingdom. Practically, all the littoral States of the Indian Ocean as well the non-aligned world are in agreement with the need for maintaining the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and we shall continue to work closely with them in furthering the cause of peace and cooperation in our area. We are committed to the Indian Ocean being free from all foreign bases and we are totally opposed to the establishment of any foreign base.

EGYPT

Sir, I was sorry to hear the remarks made by an hon. Member in relation to

Egypt, our long-established and close friend, which has stood in the forefront of the battle against Israeli aggression and has made such great sacrifices for the Arab cause. We have no doubt whatsoever that the Egyptian leadership headed by President Sadat is following a wise and far-sighted policy and we wish them all success in the difficult negotiations that lie ahead. I myself had the privilege of a long discussion with President Sadat in March this year on my way to Algiers to attend the meeting of the Non-aligned Bureau. I was profoundly impressed by his sincerity, statesmanship and constructive approach particularly for bringing about unity in the Arab world. The Egyptian Government and people shoulder grave responsibilities on behalf of their own people and also on behalf of the Arab world and it is not for us to sit in judgment over them and much less to question their freedom of action whether in the field of foreign or domestic policy. We stand beside them as always in the conclave of non-aligned nations and we continue to, support them.

#### UNITED NATIONS

Sir, a mention was made about our role in the U.N., and several suggestions had been made that we should take up this matter and that matter in the U.N. I would like to make a very brief remark about the U.N., particularly in relation to the Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly. Hon. Members are aware of the efforts being made in the United Nations and elsewhere to deal with the grave economic and monetary problems currently facing the world. We have always taken an active interest in these discussions because of our conviction that such problems can be resolved only through international co-operation. I led our Delegation to the Sixth Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly earlier this year, to consider questions relating to raw materials and development. My colleague, Shri D. K. Barroah also went to the Session to lead our Delegation in the later part. We have given our full support to the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the Special Session on the establishment of a new international economic order as well as a special pro-

gramme approved for alleviating the difficulties faced by the most seriously affected developing countries. At the ECOSOC Session held in Geneva in July for considering follow up action, I emphasised the need for speedy and effective implementation of the multi-lateral decisions. We continue to lend our support to the United Nations. And they are for the first time seriously engaged in grappling with the very difficult and complex economic and monetary problems of the world. And we hope that the concerted efforts made by the developing countries, both non-aligned and even those who are not members of the non-aligned group but are still developing countries, will yield useful results.

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U.S.A.

Now, Sir, I would like to say a few words about our relations with the United States. I did make a mention of this in my opening remarks and I was sorry to note that certain remarks were made by some hon. Members sitting on the front benches, who at the moment not present here to listen to the reply. On Indo-U.S. relations, I would like to reiterate that we are exploring the possibilities of improving relations, based on mutual benefit and equality, with the United States of America, in keeping with our tradition. We are not concerned with the internal political problems of the United States' Government. Our policy, as I said earlier, is to have friendly relations with all powers as long as they are based on mutual respect and understanding on both sides. This matter had been effectively mentioned by some colleagues of mine, who intervened in the debate. The United States is undoubtedly a very important country and notwithstanding the difficulties which have come in the way of our relations in the past, we certainly hope that the trend towards better understanding and friendly relations will continue and bear fruit.

I was sorry to note also that some critical comments were made about the visit of Dr. Kissinger. I would like, first of all, to clarify that no date has yet been fixed and if and when a date is fixed, certainly we will

make a proper announcement. But, I was unable - with all the goodwill and objectivity which I have for the hon. Members - to appreciate their criticism as to why they should object to the visit of the distinguished Secretary of State of the United States of America. There is no doubt and it is an accepted fact that Dr. Kissinger has been playing a notable role, a very prominent role in international affairs of late. He made a great contribution by his visits to Peking, by his visits to Moscow, to prepare the two summits, and also by shutting between various capitals in the Middle East. In West Asia he was able to bring about a cease-fire and there are prospects of establishing durable peace after a long period of conflict and strife in that region. One may not agree with the policies of the U.S. Government as undoubtedly the leaders of the Communist Parties apparently are not agreeing, but we as Government have to pursue this policy of seizing every opportunity of discussing with important countries the problems that confront the international community and also making every effort to improve our bilateral relations with all countries. I hope that I have the support of the House in the pursuit of this policy which, I believe, is in the best interests of not only international peace but also to ensure progress in the world.

#### DECISION ON KACHCHATIVU

Sir, I would now like to deal with some specific matters that were raised and I will try to be brief. I do not see the only Member of the D.M.K. Party, W. V. John, who participated in the debate and raised objections and criticised Government of India's decision on Kachchativu. I was hoping that the hon. Member could give some cogent reasons why we should not have come to the agreement which we have arrived at. But he was full of anger and I am sure that when he sees in cold type what he said, he might revise his opinion. I was really amazed that he should have talked of a Bangladesh type of war or matters of that nature. I can understand his anger but to go to the limits to which he went without giving any reason whatsoever on merits why this agreement should not have been arrived at, was something amazing.

Sir, what are the facts? It is a complicated matter and I would not like to oversimplify it. We have basically to distinguish between a claim and a firm position with regard to any territory. The hard reality is that on Kachchativu even Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, when he was the Prime Minister, did make a statement in Parliament where he said that the sovereignty of Kachchativu is in dispute between India and Sri Lanka; at that time it was Ceylon. He made that statement on the floor of the House.

Then again, Shri Dinesh Singh and several other Government spokesmen have always taken the Parliament in confidence and have been keeping the House informed about the claims and counter-claims on Kachchativu. Now, I am at a certain disadvantage while discussing Kachchativu because I can also argue and put across fully the case of Sri Lanka. But, I do not intend to do that. But what I want the hon. Members to keep in mind is that there were both strong arguments in favour of India and counter-argu-

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ments against India's claim. Faced with that problem what were the options that were open to us? One of the suggestions made was that this matter could be referred to the International Court of Justice; and we thought that consistent with our general policy to resolve these matters peacefully and bilaterally the method of finding a satisfactory solution by dispassionately weighing claims and counter-claims is a better proposition. Now, what is the broad picture in the Palk Bay? I would like the hon. Members to ponder over the maps after I have finished my statement. The total width of the Palk Bay in that area is less than twice the length of the territorial waters, i.e. normally, according to the existing practice, 12 plus 12, 24 miles. With 24 miles there can be a line in between but it is not 24, just under 23 miles. Then if each party says that they want to go up to 12 miles, and if there is an overlapping and both sides make the claim, how do we then come to an agreement? Obviously, we have to weigh the claims and counterclaims. We thought, let us arrive

at a firm boundary which divides these waters so that on the eastern side of that line it will be the exclusive jurisdiction of Sri Lanka and on the western side of that line it will be the exclusive jurisdiction of India. This is important because the continental shelves and the areas below which may have minerals, oil or other minerals, have to be exploited and we wanted a settlement so that each country could go ahead with the exploitation of the shelf to the benefit of the country concerned. At this stage, I would like to say that in 1921, most probably, there was some dispute about the fishing rights between Tamil Nadu, which was Madras at that time, and Ceylon and it is important that a fisheries line had been agreed upon which is about two or three miles west of the line, which we have ultimately settled. According to that fishing line, west of it, that is towards the coast of Tamil Nadu, it was the exclusive fishing rights reserved for the citizens of India and to the east of that exclusively...

What is the present line that we have decided on? I have brought this fisheries line particularly before you because to the east of this the entire fishing rights had been exclusively given to Ceylon. Now the present line that we have settled has been moved eastwards in favour of India.

Sir, the present line which divides not only the exclusive fishing rights, but also divides the waters completely including the shelf is some miles east of the fisheries line which had been in operation since 1921. When we did that, we found that this line roughly divides, practically half and half, the waters of Palk Straits. We found that this line went about a mile or so west of Kachchativu. So, in a sense, while deciding this bigger issue, the Kachchativu problem fell in its proper perspective and it had, therefore, to be given to the other side. There are several documents which are in support of Kachchativu being within the sovereignty of Sri Lanka. I would like to make a mention of only one instance. In 1924, the Government of India had made a recommendation to the Secretary of State recommending that in the balance, after weighing every evidence, the

sovereignty of Kachchativu should be with Ceylon and not with India. We have gone through all those records. This was not accepted by the British Government, that is the British Government at home in London, not because they did not agree on merits, but because they said that the acceptance of this might create problems for the British Government in relation to their dispute with Norway over the division of waters there. So, these were some very clear pieces of evidence which were also in their favour. There were some pieces of evidence in our favour also.

The evidence on our side was that the Raja of Ramnad had been exercising zamindari rights over this area. It is quite obvious that zamindari right is not equivalent to sovereignty or suzerainty. A person in one State may have zamindari rights within another country. (Interruptions) We are not arguing. You can think over these things and we can again discuss this matter. For instance, if we did not have any strong points in our favour and their rights of sovereignty were so clear and we had no case at all, then what would be the result? The line that divides the waters would be midway between Kachchativu and our coast. Since we had an arguable case and they also had a case, a compromise was arrived at.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: From whom did Raja of Ramnad get zamindari rights and from whom was he collecting revenue?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I am sure that Mr. Rajnarain, in his anxiety to criticise

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everything that we do, is not fully conscious of what he is saying. Does he want me to give all the facts that are against us? I can do that and that might satisfy him mentally, but that is not very proper. If you want a straight answer, then I would say that in the 'sanad' which was with the Raja of Ramnad, Kachchativu was not mentioned. There were other 2000 villages which were mentioned. It was a significant omission.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: Where are those

2000 villages? On which side of Kachchativu are they located How was he taking 'lagan' from Kachchativu?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, you don't argue. You are only trying to make your case weaker.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am facing a problem. The hon. Member has not yet carefully studied all the aspects. Let him study. I am prepared to discuss with him and I can satisfy him if he wants to understand. When the talks of 'lagan' or that the Raja was taking 'lagan', he does not know that the area was never under any cultivation. There was no tenant who was cultivating the land there. There was no question of any 'lagan'. There is no population there. All that he used to do was that he used to charge some fee from the fishermen if they wanted to spread their nets there for drying.

Sir, one of the approaches could be that like the tenacious manner in which our friend continues to quarrel with us we could also continue quarrelling with Sri Lanka over this and the matter could continue for 20 years or 30 years as it has already continued for the past 40 years. The other approach was that we come to a settlement and we believe that taking everything into consideration this was a fair settlement, this was a good settlement in the interest of peace and it has settled one of the irritants that came in the way of our relations with Sri Lanka.

#### TAMIL POPULATION IN SRI LANKA

Now, Sir, for Mr. John to talk of massacres in Sri Lanka and his raising his voice for the Tamilian population there is not the proper thing. By doing that he is not serving the cause of the Tamil population in Sri Lanka. The Tamil population of Sri Lanka are Sri Lanka citizens and they have to live there as Sri Lanka citizens and any outside agency, any talk of a chauvinistic character could create wrong ideas in their mind which will not be in their long-term interest. So let them try to work out mutually acceptable and fair arrangements. We are in

favour of the prevalence of an atmosphere there where persons of Tamil extraction there are treated as equal citizens and we would continue to support that concept because that is the normal way in which citizens, whatever may be their origin, should be treated in another country. Any outside instigation or any outside highlighting whatever may be the temporary difficulties, I would repeat, is certainly not in their interest. Sri Lanka is their home and I am sure they will live there happily.

#### REPLY TO OTHER POINTS

Sir, I have touched upon most of the points but I have still to make my comments on some of the points that have been raised. I will come to Shri Rabi Ray towards the end because I know that when I reply he and his leader will be more excited and we can end in that excitement.

Sir, Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri in the course of his remarks mentioned one or two points which I think require mention. He said that Pakistan received preferential treatment as compared to India in the matter of oil supply. This is not based on facts. There was no preference shown to Pakistan by any Arab country as against us. There is no concession on price given to any country. It might be of interest to the hon. House to know that all oil exporting countries are one in this matter. They have totally rejected any differential price chargeable to any country. This is their general policy and they are adopting that. They get the maximum that they can get from any country. It is a purely commercial approach.

Sir, there is one small point which I might dispose of because Shri Loknath Misra is here. A member of his party, Shri K. P. Singh Deo, mentioned the name of my colleague, Shri K. D. Malaviya, as being on the editorial board of some pamphlet or some magazine....

The Indo-Korean friendship Society. I wish this matter had been checked up before making a statement here because I gave a

ring, when this was mentioned, to my colleague, Shri K. D. Malaviya, and he told me categorically that he was on the editorial board before he became a Minister, but as soon as he became a Minister he resigned from that. He has written to them that they should not use his name and if they are using his name it is an unauthorised use. I am glad that this has been mentioned and it has enabled me to clarify it.

The hon. leader of the Swatantra Party has repeated what I said. What I said was that Shri K. D. Malaviya has assured me and he has told me that as soon as he became Minister he sent a letter of resignation that he is no longer on that board. And, Sir, if his name is being used even now, I say categorically that it is unauthorised and now that I have stated this, this should be accepted and there should not be any further argument.

Now to sum up the debate, I would like to take this opportunity of paying tributes for the very effective manner in which my colleagues from this side, Shri D. P. Singh, Shri Gunanand Thakur, Shri Bipinpal Das, Shri Sardar Amjad Ali, Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya, Shri Brahmananda Panda, Shri Nawal Kishore, Shrimati Margaret Alva, Shri Jagdish Joshi, Shri Mulka Govinda. Reddy and Shri M. R. Vyas have met many of the points that were raised by my friends opposite and their contribution was of a very outstanding character. Then, Sir, we have the galaxy of our academic and learned Members and three of them participated in the debate - Dr. Vidya Prakash Dutt, who as usual was effective and cogent, Prof. Rasheeduddin Khan, who himself said that apart from commenting on the operational aspects, he was also sharing his deep knowledge and analysis of the international situation and then, Sir, the inimitable Shri Abu Abraham, who is devastating in his cartoons, and who was so incisive in his analysis of the complex international situation. I am sure that these are all the real occasions when these learned Members participate in the debate and I would like to assure them that I have been greatly benefited by their observations.

Then, Sir, with regard to the points raised by the Opposition Members, I have briefly touched upon some of the points made by the CPI leader, Dr. Z. A. Ahmad, who made a speech with the major portion of which I agree.

And, Sir, I have touched upon some other matters which he mentioned. Of course, Sir, Mr. Niren Ghosh is not present here now and he has his own viewpoint which has not been made for the first time and I would only appeal to him that if he approaches the problems that we face with Pakistan and also with China, in a more realistic manner, he will gravitate to the view that we have been projecting.

I would like to take the opportunity of clarifying another point. Shri Prakash Vir Shastri said that I as the Foreign Minister should not have talked with Sheikh Abdullah. I fully agree with him. But he should not regard me only the Foreign Minister of the country. I am also a member of the Government of India and as such, I have joint responsibility with all my colleagues in all the governmental matters, in all economic matters and all political matters. I also happen, to be a member of the Working Committee of the Congress party and a member of the Political Affairs Committee. Therefore, there is hardly any matter, either economic or political, with which I have not to deal. And if that were the criterion, then my visits to Jaipur, when I settled the matters there relating to the affairs of that state for setting up a new government there, or my visit to Gujarat or my frequent visits to several other States should have been objected to. I did not go there as the Foreign Minister and Kashmir is as much a part of India as Gujarat is or as Rajasthan is. He never objected to my going to Gujarat or Rajasthan. Perhaps he has in his own mind a sort of different status for Kashmir. Otherwise I do not see any reason why he should have objected to my going there and talking to Sheikh Abdullah.

I talked there on behalf of the Congress party and as a member of the Government. As such I do that today not only with

Sheikh Abdullah. Maybe tomorrow I may do that with Shri Prakash Vir Shastri, not relating to External Affairs but to other problems and also with Mr. Rajnarain. He should take it in that spirit.

Coming to the matter whether there is any suspicion, any adverse comment in the world, it is not a matter of theory. It is matter of what has actually happened. And Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri, who I presume is a learned man and keeps himself informed, if

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he glances through the comments that have appeared in the international press he will be fully convinced that the reaction, if any, has been very favourable, and I am very glad that this type of reaction has come about not because I went there as Foreign Minister but because the type of statements that Sheikh Abdullah has been making have created, if I may say so, a flutter in Pakistan. If you are generally impressed by what they say, if you carefully analyse what Pakistan today is saying about Sheikh Abdullah you will find an answer to the suspicion that has arisen in your mind.

Before I come to the questions put by Shri Rabi Ray I should finish the present part of it. For instance, I would like to say that Shri N. G. Goray made a highly constructive speech. I am grateful to him for his very dispassionate analysis even though on certain issues he did not fully agree with us.

Coming to Shri Rabi Ray, he is an old friend of mine. We have been in Parliament in the other House. We know each other well and if I may say so, if he applies his mind carefully to all that he has said he will agree that it is very difficult for me to imagine a more negative speech than what Mr. Rabi Ray has delivered. Has he carefully thought over the implications of what he has said? Take, for instance, his comments upon our attitude on Tibet. Whereas he has consistently built a position in which we accept Tibet as part of China and that is a position...

SHRI RAJNARAIN: This is anti-national.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The hard reality is that this is a matter in which Mr. Rabi Ray and Mr. Rajnarain, I think, are the only solitary exceptions.

I would like to say very categorically that on our border with China it is mostly Tibet and for Tibet we have to deal with China and whether we like it or not it is the Government of China and the Chinese soldiers whom our soldiers face all along the border. So one should not live in a dream-land, and there is no use raking up matters on which we have taken a very clear stand.

We have given asylum to Dalai Lama. We have never recognised his political position vis-a-vis Tibet, and I would not like this to be a matter on which China can protest to us. So I want to make it clear that there is no doubt about our attitude on Tibet.

Then the other negative thing to which I should make a mention is another very fantastic suggestion that he has made, that there should be a confederation between Bangladesh, India and Pakistan where, he has said, there may be a President of one of these units for the whole of that confederation, and the army can be a joint army and external affairs could be a joint thing. I think this is the best way of creating suspicion about our attitude both in Bangladesh and in Pakistan and I would appeal to the hon. Member that the great effort that we are making patiently to build relations of sovereign equality between India and Bangladesh and between India and Pakistan should not be lightly swept away by such remarks which can never cut any ice but which creates suspicion amongst our neighbours and is totally impractical. We recognise the sovereignty and independence of Bangladesh. We recognise the sovereignty and independence of Pakistan. And any talk as a big country - India is a big country....

SHRI RAW RAY: There is distinction between federation and confederation.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not know whether sovereignty remains intact if there is a joint army, or when one party is looking

after....

SHRI RAJNARAIN: How is Bangladesh losing her sovereignty? How will then World Government be formed? How will then World Parliament be formed?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The important thing is that even with all their intransigence, neither of them has got the right to judge the reactions in Pakistan or in Bangladesh. They are asking me, how can I do that? I know that this is the way in which you create suspicion in the minds of our neighbours. Therefore, I would reject that with the greatest emphasis at my command because we want to develop a feeling of confidence and trust in our neighbours and not this type of suspicion. I would appeal to them not to indulge in this pastime.

Then he also had a comment to make that because Dr. Kissinger is coming, therefore, we want to be soft in our policy on

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Indian Ocean. I hope after my categorical statement about our policy on Indian Ocean, this fear is not there in his mind any longer. I would like to say that we want to be soft to everyone, to every country; we want to be soft even to Mr. Rabi Ray and W. Rajnarain. That is our way of life.

While conducting our international relations we want to strengthen our friendship with those who are our friends and we want to get closer to them and to remove their misunderstandings. I would, therefore, like to say that the only redeeming feature is that no one is likely to take seriously what has been said in the form of a discordant note and in view of the overwhelming support which this policy is receiving I would like to end by expressing my gratitude to the Members of the House for lending such strong support....

Sir, I am glad that my dear colleague and good friend, Mr. Harsh Deo Malaviya, has reminded me about the PRG. We value that friendship.

As the House is aware, we have had

great sympathy and admiration for the brave people of Vietnam in their struggle for liberation against the unwarranted military postures which they faced over the years. We were happy at the conclusion of the Paris Agreements. But we regret that these agreements have not been observed and indeed they continue to be violated both in letter and in spirit. We stand for the full implementation of these agreements. Every effort must be made by the international community and notably by the powers concerned not only to observe but secure through their own actions as well as their influence peace and stability envisaged in the spirit of these agreements established and consolidated in this hapless peninsula. The House will recall that in these agreements the PRG was a party and a signatory to the Paris Agreements. From our side we supported and indeed sponsored the admission of the PRG as Observers in Lusaka as well as full members in the Algiers Non-Aligned Conference. We sat with them on the basis of equality and we cherish their contribution in the non-alignment movement and its activities. Although we have maintained friendly contacts with the PRG, we feel that the stage has been reached where we must develop more direct relations with the PRG. We are in touch with them to find a mutually acceptable arrangement so that on important matters not merely concerning the Indo-China peninsula but on other international issues we may have direct access to their representatives. We hope very much that satisfactory arrangements for such formal contacts will soon be reached. Thank you very much.

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INDIA USA PAKISTAN NEPAL SRI LANKA BANGLADESH EGYPT IRAN ISRAEL IRAQ SAUDI ARABIA ZAMBIA ALGERIA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND SWITZERLAND RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM NORWAY CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC KOREA CHINA VIETNAM FRANCE

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BANGLADESH

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Trade Protocol

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The following joint press communique was issued after the signing of the Protocol of the Balanced Trade and Payments Agreement in Dacca On September 30, 1974, between the Government of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh:

Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, India's Minister of Commerce, visited Bangladesh from September 27 to September 30, 1974, for talks with the Bangladesh Minister of Commerce and Foreign Trade, Mr. Khandakar Moshtaque Ahmed. The two Ministers were assisted by the Commerce Secretaries of India and Bangladesh, Mr. Y. T. Shah and Mr. Mohammad Nurul Islam.

Official level discussion commenced in Dacca from September 25, in preparation for the ministerial level review of Indo-Bangladesh trade. These talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and co-operation, reflecting the close and growing economic ties between the two countries.

The two Ministers noted that on account of the economic difficulties being experienced by the two countries, problems in respect of transport and other constraints, the trade exchanges between the two countries under the Bangladesh Trade and Payments Agreement have been below the levels envisaged in the annual trade plan. With a view to attaining a greater fulfilment of the trade plan, it was agreed to extend the current arrangement upto 31st December, 1974. This would also provide an opportunity for larger exports from Bangladesh, and at the same time enable exports from India of essential commodities required by Bangladesh. Among the important commodities to be supplied by the two sides during the extended period of the

trade plan would be coal and tobacco from India, and jute, fish and newsprint from Bangladesh. Cement and certain other essential commodities will also be moving to Bangladesh from India under special credit arrangements.

The two sides agreed to avail themselves of the opportunity provided by this extension to study the requirements for the further development of trade between the two countries. It would be the endeavour of both the Governments to formulate, during this period, a realistic trade plan for the year 1975, commensurate with the needs and capacity of the two sides. The two sides agreed to examine various feasible modes of payment, in order to evolve the most suitable system for the furtherance of mutual trade.

BANGLADESH INDIA SENEGAL USA

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol

Following is the text of a press release on Indo-Bulgarian trade protocol issued in New Delhi on September 26, 1974:

An Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol for 1975 was signed in Sofia on September 25 by Mr. A. S. Gill, Joint Secretary, Commerce Ministry on behalf of Government of India and by Mr. Vladimir Gruncharov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of the Bulgarian Government.

The Protocol envisages a total trade turnover of Rs. 850 million. Principal items

of Indian exports will be industrial and consumer goods, pharmaceuticals and chemical goods, machinery and equipment, metal products and spare parts, machine tools, radios, electronic components, cables, bicycles, castings, surgical equipment, etc. These are in addition to traditional commodities such as cotton textiles, handloom goods, leather goods, iron ore, coffee, jute manufactures, tanned hides and skins, finished leather, de-oiled groundnut and other cakes, Bengal deshi cotton, etc. Bulgarian exports will be mainly fertilizers, steel products, chemical products, non-ferrous metals, essential oils, dye intermediates, etc.

The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and reflected the developing understanding among the two Governments. Views on expansion and diversification of trade exchanges and prospects of future cooperation in mutually beneficial fields of economic and industrial activities were exchanged.

BULGARIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

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COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

Shri Y. B. Chavan's Speech at the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference

Following is the text of the Finance Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan's speech at the Commonwealth Finance ministers' meeting in Ottawa on September 25, 1974:

Let me join others in expressing, at the outset, our very sincere thanks to the Government of Canada for their warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for this meeting. Given the pleasant surroundings

and the prospects of an exciting visit to the historic city of Quebec, I have not the slightest doubt that we would have done justice to the extensive agenda before us - and in time.

We have an extensive agenda but our task has been greatly facilitated by the untiring efforts of our dynamic Secretary-General, who has provided us with excellent documentation, not to speak of the succinct questionnaire which focuses attention on the main issues. The questions raised in the note of the Secretary General are very relevant: Is the world facing recession? If so, what is it that the international community must do to prevent its adverse effects on the trade of developing countries?

We are meeting at a time when the world economy is confronted with the most formidable challenge it has had to face since the end of the second world war. The combination of galloping inflation, acute imbalances in international payments and the now visible stagnation of real output in several major countries has given rise to a situation which is fraught with grave dangers to the health of the world economy. It goes without saying that effective ways and means must be found to curb inflationary pressures and to restore viability of international payments. However, great care is necessary in order to ensure that the legitimate concern with stability and viability of external payments in developed countries does not degenerate into policies harmful to the maintenance of high levels of employment and an expanding volume of international trade. The highly explosive economic situation calls for international cooperation of the highest quality.

The stake of developing countries in a smooth functioning of the international economic system is in no way less than that of developed countries. It is, therefore, necessary to emphasize that what is needed is a truly global approach to the solution of the problems that have arisen. For example, it is obvious that in dealing with the impact of oil prices on the balance of payments, the traditional ideas on the adjustment process will need to be revised. We are also con-

vinced that orderly re-cycling of surplus oil revenues has a very important role to play in facilitating adjustment to new realities, but this is a task which cannot be left solely to the care of market forces. Nor is it sufficient for developed countries to concentrate attention merely on the problem of recycling of funds to them or among them. In working out effective international solutions to this problem, due attention must be paid to the needs of those developing countries which have been hit very hard by the cumulative impact of the recent rise in prices of oil, food and fertilisers. Attempts by developed countries to solve the twin problems of inflation and balance of payments disequilibrium at the cost of transfer of adequate amounts of real resources to developing countries will serve to further increase the yawning gap in living standards between developed and developing countries, if international economic cooperation is to have any real meaning. This is an outcome which we must all strive to avoid. This is an area where there is clearly no dearth of technically viable solutions. What has been lacking is the will to act. The United Nations has called for the establishment of a new international economic order and laid down a specific programme of action to which we ask for a serious commitment on the part of the developed countries.

It is in this context that we shall all have to focus attention in the forthcoming meetings of the Fund and the Bank on the problems of monetary reforms, the link between SDR's creation and development assistance and establishment of a framework for the transfer of resources and know-how to developing countries. At a time when conditions of drought prevail in several developing countries, the international prices of foodgrains and fertilisers have risen to levels far beyond the paying capacity of many of these countries. In addition, there is great uncertainty about the availability of supplies. Recent events have clearly established that economic security of the world requires coordinated international action not only to increase food production but also to ensure an equitable

distribution of available supplies at prices developing countries can afford to pay. The World Food Conference will also have to devote attention to some of these problems and it is necessary for the Commonwealth to evolve a view-point which can be pressed home in the forthcoming meetings.

The world trading environment is now characterised by great uncertainty. Although countries like my own have not derived any significant benefit from the recent commodity boom, general slackening of activity in industrial countries is bound to affect the outlook for our exports. The danger is that these difficulties might be superimposed on the obstacles faced by our exports in the wake of the enlargement of the EEC. It is all the more important, therefore, that developed countries take early action to implement measures of trade liberalisation in favour of developing countries. Adequate arrangements have yet to be made to neutralise the adverse effects on our exports of loss of Commonwealth preferences and the erosion of the benefits of the GSP. We sincerely hope that in working out its, GSP scheme for 1975 the enlarged community will seek to widen and deepen its scope so as to remove some of the barriers to exports of developing countries. The commercial cooperation agreement that we signed with the community last year represents a hopeful beginning in so far as it provides a framework for identification of problems and remedial action. We sincerely hope that this agreement will be followed by concrete action on the part of the community to safeguard our essential trading interests. We note with happiness that the Canadian Government have taken action to implement their GSP offers. We feel that recent events have reinforced the need to move forward with speed and efficiency to complete the multilateral trade negotiations launched under the auspices of GATT, paying urgent attention as promised in the Tokyo declaration to problems of developing countries.

On the question of foreign private investment, we have the report of the group of eminent persons which was appointed by the Secretary General and which was chaired

by a distinguished Indian. We are in favour of the recommendation of this group that the United Nations should establish a commission on multi-national corporations with a view eventually to evolving a code of conduct to be adopted by the multi-national corporations as well as the home and host Governments. We are conscious of the role of foreign private investment in the development of developing countries and we have, therefore, a policy of welcoming such investment in those areas of industrial activity which require highly sophisticated technology which is not avail-

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able with, us in India. In line with the recommendations of the group of eminent persons, I would like to point out, however, that the foreign private investment arouses many social and political attitudes which the investing corporations cannot ignore with impunity. Foreign companies must take root in the host countries and should imbibe the prevailing social and political modes. We have had considerable success in India, for instance, in promoting Indianisation in the employment of foreign companies: we are now seeking to ensure that in the relatively non-priority areas there should be Indianisation of capital as well. I would particularly commend the recommendation of the group that the home countries should refrain from involving themselves in differences and disputes between multi-national corporations and the host countries.

Next week in Washington we shall have to turn our attention to the question of international monetary reform. We welcome the proposed establishment of the interim committee and we hope that the committee will take decisive action on the question of the link. I am very conscious of the fact that there is still not an agreed Commonwealth position on this question. There is now an overwhelming degree of consensus among experts that the establishment of link between SDR's and development assistance is both feasible and highly desirable. What is now required is the necessary political will. It would be my hope that in the course of this meeting we would be able to persuade those of our colleagues who still have reservations on the subject. At any rate, I think the

developing members of the Commonwealth will agree among themselves that no amendment of the articles of agreement of the should proceed unless the package includes the establishment of the link. We welcome the proposed establishment of the development committee which will focus attention on the transfer of real resources to developing countries and give concrete direction to international efforts in this crucial area.

The World Bank will have an important role to play, as it has already been playing, in the changed circumstances of the world, in which the developing countries, other than the oil producers, face a serious balance of payments problems in the medium term. I wonder whether we as a group of Commonwealth Ministers cannot express the view that the traditional lending policies of the World Bank group would no longer be adequate to meet the challenge. There is need for more programme lending, larger local currency financing, a greater preference for domestic suppliers and more flexible attitudes in regard to the sectors which the World Bank takes up for financing. It may be that a proper evolution of the World Bank's lending policies would require considerable changes in the organisation and staffing of the Bank. Both on the policies and organisation, an eminent Canadian, Sir Escott Reid has made a number of suggestions which are worth commending.

Finally, I think it would be proper for this conference to reflect the view that the representation of the developing countries in the Fund and the Bank needs to be strengthened and that the entire question should be carefully viewed even before the next quota revision, which is due early next year.

CANADA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN INDIA

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

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New Danish Loan to India

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The following press release on the agreement for a new Danish loan to India was issued in New Delhi on September 2, 1974:

An agreement for a new Danish loan to India of Danish Kroners 50 million (approximately Rs. 6.7 crores at the current rate of exchange) was concluded here today. The agreement followed talks held last May between an Indian delegation and Danish International Development Agency at Copenhagen.

The agreement was signed for India by Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of

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Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and for Denmark by the Danish Ambassador to India H.E. Mr. Henning Halck.

This loan will be utilised for import of a large number of items such as machinery for fertilizers, petro-chemicals and rubber industries, electronics and electrical equipment, machinery and equipment for food processing, drying and storage, and machine tools for small-scale, medium and large scale industries.

The terms of the Danish assistance have become softer over the years and since 1968 the Danish loans have been completely interest free with a repayment period of 25 years including a grace period of seven years. The terms of this loan have been further liberalised. The repayment period of the loan has been extended from 25 to 35 years; and the grace period has been extended from 7 to 10 years.

#### BACKGROUNDER

Denmark has been extending assistance since 1963. Six loans have been extended during this period. Of these, four totalling

nearly Rs. 15.5 crores were general purpose loans while two were food loans amounting to Rs. 8 crores granted in 1966 and 1968. The total Danish financial assistance to India has so far been Rs. 23.5 crores.

Denmark has also been providing technical assistance to India right from 1963 and several projects in areas of agriculture, dairy development, family planning, small scale industries, etc., have been taken up under this programme. The projects are placed in several States such as Mysore, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Kerala, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

Denmark has already agreed to extend Grant Assistance to the extent of D. Kr. 250 million (Rs. 33.65 crores) during the Fifth Plan. This amount includes a provision of D. Kr. 16.8 million (Rs. 2.26 crores) for debt relief to India during 1974/79. The balance amount will be used to meet the requirements of both the on going projects as also the new projects such as animal husbandry, tool room facilities for the small scale sector, family planning and equipment needed for the development of science and technology in India. A part of the assistance has also been earmarked for non-governmental projects.

DENMARK INDIA USA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

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EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE

External Assistance in the First Quarter of 1974-75

Following is the text of a press release issued on September 1, 1974 on the value of agreements signed by India during the first quarter of 1974-75:

Foreign aid agreements signed during the quarter, 1974-75 (April 1 - June 30, 1974) amounted to about U.S. \$ 323.68 million (Rs. 254.41 crores). Of this, project aid was U.S. \$ 132.00 million (Rs. 103.75 crores), non-project assistance U.S. \$ 176.09 million (Rs. 138.41 crores) and grant sanctioned was U.S. \$ 15.59 million (Rs. 12.25 crores). In addition, Sweden has given Technical Assistance of U.S. \$ 8.32 million (Rs. 6.54 crores) for 1974-75.

The countrywise details of the aid agreements signed during this period are:

Name of the country/Institution	Project	Non-Project	Debt Relief	Grant-in-aid
1. Sweden	-	26.69	-	15.59
2. IDA	80.00	150.00	-	-
3. IBRD	52.00	-	-	-
	132.00	176.69	-	15.59
Total:	U.S. \$ 323.68			
Rs. in crores:	103.75	138.41	-	12.25
Total:	Rs. in crores: 254.41			

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INDIA USA SWEDEN

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Memorandum

The following press release was issued in New Delhi on September 27, 1974:

The Planning Minister, Mr. D. P.

Dhar and Mr. Gyorgy Lazar, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary and President of Hungarian National Planning Office, signed a memorandum in Budapest on September 25 listing several new areas of economic co-operation, including engineering products in which India has exportable surpluses. The two sides agreed to study production cooperation on bilateral as well as multilateral basis in association with selected friendly countries. It was also agreed that efforts should be made towards the joint promotion of products for third country markets. In regard to trade relations both agreed to supply each other commodities of primary importance to each other.

The memorandum refers to the exchange of experts and knowledge in planning technologies and methodology and provides for the establishment of a joint Indo-Hungarian group of experts on planning. The members representing the two sides on this group will be primarily members of the planning organisations of the two countries, though there is a provision for calling on others as advisers or experts.

HUNGARY INDIA USA

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Sardar Swaran Singh's Speech at U.N. General Assembly

Following is the text of the Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh's address to the U.N. General Assembly on September 26, 1974:

Mr. President, I have already had occasion to congratulate you on your unanimous election, and also to welcome the three new

members to our organisation. On the present occasion I am happy to convey to our distinguished Secretary General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, our appreciation of his ceaseless endeavours in the cause of peace and in the fulfilment of the principles and purposes of our Charter. We are fortunate indeed in having him as our Secretary General today, when his views are needed on collective and co-operative action to tackle the diverse and urgent problems facing mankind at present.

Mr. President, in the 29 years of its existence the United Nations has come to represent the overwhelming majority of the peoples and nations of the world. While this is indeed a matter for satisfaction, it is the few remaining areas of darkness that command our attention. I refer to the flagrant violation of the human rights of the majority of its people by the Government of South Africa, to the blatant refusal by South Africa to vacate Namibia, and to the continuance of the illegal racist regime in Zimbabwe. These continued affronts to the conscience of mankind are nagging reminders that as long as some members of the human race are in bondage, the others are not wholly free. In our view, this Assembly should therefore consider more effective means of compelling these regimes practising racism to respond positive-

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ly to the collective will of the world represented by the United Nations.

It is a matter of particular satisfaction to us to welcome the new wind of change in Portugal. Guinea Bissau has attained independence and world recognition by admission to our organisation. We welcome installation of a government in Mozambique representing the will and aspirations of its people, and we look forward to welcoming Mozambique soon in our organisation as an independent and sovereign member. This is an irreversible trend and we are confident that the people of Angola will also win their freedom soon in conditions of peace and honour. India is appreciative of the decision of the present Government of Portugal to liquidate its colonial empire. It will enable Portugal to assume its proper place in the world of today, benefit-

ting her distinct history and rich culture. I am glad to say that Portugal and India have decided to re-establish diplomatic relations and to develop cultural relations between the two countries.

Now, Mr. President, I should like to turn my attention to the areas of conflict. Recent events in Cyprus remind us of the fatal danger of neglecting until too late the potential causes of conflict. In 1960 we saw the freeing of Cyprus from colonial rule and its birth as a sovereign, independent and non-aligned state, whose bi-national character was guaranteed by some external powers. In retrospect, this curious system of external guarantees has proved to be unwise in principle and self-defeating in practice. Recently, one external intervention led to another and a threat to world peace and security was thus created. It is the people of Cyprus who suffered greatly as a consequence and all our sympathies are with them in this moment of crisis and uncertainty in their lives. But the fact that all states without exception have declared their respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of non-aligned Cyprus is a good augury, for it provides the essential elements for a durable structure of peace and return to Constitutionality. We welcome the negotiations taking place directly between the leaders of the two communities in Cyprus, which have been arranged with the assistance of our Secretary General. We hope that their talks will also encompass future internal constitutional arrangements, and that agreement can be reached at an early date so that the withdrawal of foreign forces in Cyprus becomes possible. The non-aligned countries have already declared their willingness to be available for any assistance that they can render.

The situation in the Middle East may freeze into another period of neglect, if the momentum towards a solution of the basic problems slows down. Only the rapid and full implementation of Security Council resolution 242 of 1967 can lead to a just and enduring peace. The restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people is another cornerstone in the structure of a lasting peace. Israel's refusal to vacate Arab

territories captured as a result of aggression is a continuing provocation to the Arab states and negates the principles enshrined in the U.N. Charter. If the catastrophe of another war in the Middle East is to be avoided, Israel should end her aggression and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people should be restored to them.

War in Cambodia shows no signs of ending, which is a matter of deep concern and anguish for us. In South Vietnam, violations of the Paris peace agreement of January, 1973 continue to take place, with the legacies of external interference persisting and jeopardising the prospects of early implementation of the provisions of the agreement. How much longer are the peoples of Indo-China destined to suffer the ravages of war with all its frightful weapons? In South Vietnam international efforts should be directed to the fulfilment of the constitutional provisions of the Paris agreement. The people of Cambodia should be allowed to determine their future free from external interference and in conditions of peace and security. In Laos we welcome the formation of the Government of national concord, which is a testimony to the wisdom and statesmanship of the Laotian leaders. We hope that this development, which has terminated several years of hostilities, will create conditions of peace and progress for the Laotian people.

In our part of the world, I am happy to report that tangible progress has been made in creating an atmosphere of good neighbourliness. The Simla Agreement of 2 July, 1972 provides a good and common basis for India and Pakistan to turn away from a period of confrontation and conflict to one of peace and cooperation. We have made special efforts to implement the Simla Agreement and in spite of unfortunate delays, the two

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countries have concluded some agreements designed to normalise relations. The latest agreement signed in Islamabad on 14 September, 1974 provides for the restoration of communications and travel facilities, and we hope that the progress achieved so far will lead to more agreements in other fields and to an era

of peace and prosperity for the peoples of India and Pakistan.

We are actively engaged with our other neighbours to develop and extend bilateral and mutually beneficial cooperation in power fields. The maritime boundary agreement with Sri Lanka is a significant example. Similarly, mutually satisfactory agreements on borders and other long pending matters have been concluded with Indonesia, Burma and Bangladesh. Our relations with our other neighbours, Afghanistan, Bhutan and Nepal are characterised by the spirit of mutual understanding and the desire to cooperate for mutual benefit.

Our underground peaceful nuclear explosive experiment of 18th May, 1974 must be seen in the context of our endeavour, at the national level, to develop our natural resources and capacities to the fullest extent for the benefit of our people. The international community has long recognised that nuclear explosive technology can be of great value in the development process. The non-aligned countries had also stressed this in their declaration at the Lusaka conference in 1970. We have no intention of making nuclear weapons. I wish to reiterate once again in this forum our firm and consistent policy to use nuclear energy and technology solely for peaceful purposes.

Mr. President, I would now like to say a few words about the areas of challenge that face the world community. Since the end of the last world war, the principal challenge to mankind has been the discovery of the basis for lasting world peace and security. In recent years, we have seen the evolution of a period of detente and a general relaxation of tension among the great powers. We welcome this development as a positive contribution to removing dangers of global conflict. However, the process of detente between the great Powers will have more meaning for the rest of the world, if it takes into account the interests of all countries, and if the benefits of detente are used to meet the challenges that face mankind, especially disarmament and development.

Disarmament has been the subject of continuous discussion in multilateral forums since the days of League of Nations. But progress was slow and the arms race entered a qualitatively new phase with the stockpiling of nuclear weapons to such an alarming extent that they are capable, if used, of destroying their targets five times over and obliterating all signs of modern civilisation.

India feels that nuclear disarmament should receive the highest priority in our deliberations for it provides the key not only to be prevention of wars of mass destruction, but also the release of resources for tackling what the Secretary General has called, the other "ancient enemies of mankind - poverty, disease and natural disasters". Progress towards disarmament is possible, only if nuclear weapons states abjure all nuclear weapons and accept equal obligations with the rest of the world community. We support the early convening of a world disarmament conference after adequate preparation and with the participation of all states.

The holding of the Caracas session of the Law of the Sea Conference was an event of outstanding importance. Significant progress was made as nearly 150 countries worked to reconcile their interests which were sometimes widely divergent. As a developing country with a long coast line India attaches special importance to this conference. With several years of preparatory work behind us, it is our hope that further progress will be made towards an equitable and universally acceptable treaty on the law of the sea during the session of the conference in Geneva next year.

During this year there have been major changes in the international economic scene. This world body dealt with the problems of development not only in the sixth special session held earlier this year, but also in the world population conference which has just concluded in Bucharest, and it will deal with them further in the World Food Conference which is to be held in November. We are particularly appreciative of the fact that for the first time population questions have been accepted as an integral part of the develop-

mental process. We hope that the Food Conference will be a first step in tackling, at the international level, an important problem which so far has been neglected by the international community.

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The problems of development will acquire ever greater urgency and importance with the rapid depletion of natural resources and the increasing population of the world. They are already assuming global proportions and their effects will be felt everywhere. They cannot be solved nationally or regionally, because there is already a growing and irreversible trend of inter-dependence among nations. Only global solutions can cope with global problems. Every problem today is virtually a world problem, and calls for a world response.

The earth's resources are finite and so is its capacity to absorb. The world is in the grip of economic forces that appear to be uncontrollable. There is rampant inflation as well as stagnation in production. These phenomena have aggravated an already iniquitous situation with extremes of poverty and wealth in the world. In some parts of the world there seem to be no limits to the appetites for consumption, while in other countries millions of people are short of even the essentials of simple and plain living such as food, clothing, housing and medicine. The future growth of the developing countries is at the mercy of the high world prices of fertilisers, fuel and industrial goods. What are the global options available in this grave economic situation? It is not enough for the affluent countries to confine their concern to monetary fluctuations. There is an imperative need to help the countries most seriously affected by the current economic crisis. Any long-term global balance between demand and supply and natural resources must take into account first and foremost the requirements of such countries.

We welcome the statement of the Secretary General in his thought-provoking introduction that "it is an underlying assumption of the U.N. that no problem of human relations is insoluble". It is in that spirit that

we view the decisions of the sixth special session, which are designed to pave the way to a new international economic order. While we appreciate the efforts made by the Secretary General in trying to maintain the momentum generated by the special session, he has himself pointed out that "failure to sustain international action and collective responsibility may easily put in question the actual survival of millions of people".

An emergency operation has been entrusted to the Secretary General to provide immediate practical assistance to the most seriously affected countries, which have been rendered unable to meet the mounting costs of their essential imports. The responsibility for their present predicament is clearly not their own; they have been reduced to this precarious situation by economic events outside their control. In recognition of this fact, the sixth special session decided that emergency measures were necessary for assisting these countries, and it also envisaged the necessity for medium term assistance to them. However, we are disappointed at the responses received so far for helping these countries. If tragic consequences to many countries and general disillusionment in the effectiveness of international cooperation are to be averted, assistance must be forthcoming quickly and in adequate measures.

Perhaps at no time before in human history has mankind been confronted with the present scope and scale of problems. And at no time before has man been so conscious of the unity and the common destiny of his own kind. Nor has he been in a better position as now to regulate his resources, his consumption and his environment in such a manner as to meet his material and spiritual needs. There is no forum more appropriate than the U.N. for meeting to the full extent the challenges facing us. And there is no better time than the present, and the lead can only come from those who are blessed with the means to do so.

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INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU PORTUGAL  
MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA CYPRUS ISRAEL CAMBODIA VIETNAM FRANCE CHINA LAOS PAKISTAN

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Dr. Sethna's Address at General Conference of International Atomic Energy Agency

Following is the text of address delivered by Dr. H. N. Sethna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Leader of the Indian Delegation to the 18th Session of General Conference of International Atomic Energy Agency at Vienna on September 18, 1974:

At the outset I would like, on behalf of my delegation, to join the delegates who have preceded me in offering my warm felicitations to you, Sir, on your election as President of the 18th Session of the General Conference of the Agency. With your varied experience in the field of atomic energy and general scientific research, you have provided able and inspiring leadership to the deliberations of this Session of the Conference.

My delegation is happy to welcome the admission of two new member-states to the Agency, Mauritius and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea. We have excellent relations with both these countries and we look forward to cooperating with them in the Agency. Universality is an important principle of the Agency and we are particularly gratified that with the admission of these two members the Agency is moving closer to the realisation of this principle.

My delegation would like to express its appreciation to the excellent documentation produced by the Agency. We would also like to record our deep appreciation of the work of the Secretariat under the dynamic leader-

ship of the Director-General Dr. Eklund. It is a matter of satisfaction to us that the Agency has responded with its customary speed and efficiency to the demands placed on it by the anticipated expansion of nuclear power programmes in the wake of the energy crisis.

Recent events have in a large measure underscored the need and importance of nuclear energy in the production of electric power especially in the developing countries whose economies are more vulnerable to sweeping fuel cost escalations. As a result there is a firm prospect that both in the developed and developing countries nuclear power will have an increasing share in meeting the total energy demand as it is fast becoming an attractive proposition as a complementary or alternate source of energy. The Agency can among other things play a meaningful role by providing exchange of information and expertise for the reduction of lead time in the construction of nuclear power plants so that nuclear power could have a more direct and immediate impact upon the world energy situation in the near future. In the longer term also nuclear energy hold immense promise in bringing the energy gap with reference to the feasibility of advanced technologies especially in the field of fast breeder reactors. In this context the Agency's enlarged plans in the field of nuclear power reactors and nuclear safety and environmental protection have our full support. The Agency has indeed shown wisdom in choosing these two as priority areas in which a high rate of growth is indispensable.

While defining nuclear power production and related sectors as priority areas however attention should not be diverted from certain other areas which are of equal importance particularly to the developing countries. Refer specially to the Agency's work in the field of food and agriculture and the life sciences.

It is commendable that in the technical assistance programme of the Agency for the immediate future provision has been made for the training of personnel for operation of nuclear power reactors and for work rela-

ting to the establishment and expansion of nuclear power projects in the developing countries. My country is willing to play its part in this important area.

At the time of the last session of the General Conference one of our pressing concerns was the state of the Agency's finances particularly the anticipated increases in the budget following wide-spread inflation and the realignment of currency exchange rates. While the Agency through good house-keeping and timely provision of funds for antici-

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ated changes in the exchange rates, has kept the expansion of the budget within reasonable limits, there is still need for long-term planning in association with other U.N. agencies on how the IAEA could respond effectively to the external pressures put on its finances. The inflation rate has hit particularly some of the area of special importance to the developing countries such as the technical assistance programme.

We have before us in this session a paper on different modes of financing the technical assistance programme of the Agency which has followed from the deliberations we had last year. While we have noted the conclusions in the paper which represent a reasonable compromise within the present day limitations we feel that a continuing review of all aspects of the technical assistance programme is an essential pre-requisite to its satisfactory implementation.

The technical assistance programme of the Agency has all along been administered on the admirable basic principle of non-discrimination between States on political or other considerations. In this session of the General Conference my delegation has heard some suggestions to the effect that States party to the NPT should in some may be preferred in the matter of provision of technical assistance. My delegation can only express its deepest concern that such a suggestion has been voiced. We cannot accept any move by which in the provision of technical assistance or in the implementation of any other statutory function of the Agency an

element of discrimination is introduced as between States who are and who are not party to a particular treaty.

With the growing importance of nuclear power for the developing countries it is becoming increasingly imperative to ensure that technically sound requests for assistance received by the Agency should be met and that funds should be made available for this purpose. The target for the general fund set from year to year should, therefore, not only have an element to compensate for inflation but also have a real element of growth taking into account the increasing needs of the developing countries.

My Government is happy to announce a contribution of dollars 60,000 in Indian rupees to the general funds for the year 1975 which is 7.5 per cent more than its assessed share.

My country has been making available its resources to facilitate the provision of technical assistance by the Agency to other developing countries. In addition to cash contributions to the general fund of the Agency we have been providing a number of fellowships as also the services of our experts. We have also made available facilities in India for visits by scientists from other developing countries and training courses seminars and symposia. I might add that it has been our view - a view which we had occasion to express in earlier sessions of this Conference - that the Agency's programme of seminars symposia and allied activities should be dispersed geographically with particular emphasis on holding them in the developing countries so that a larger number of the scientific personnel from these countries are enabled to participate and benefit from such activities.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that in the area of technical assistance there is a significant shift in emphasis from basic radiation and isotopic applications to nuclear engineering and studies directly related to the introduction and expansion of nuclear power and nuclear applications in the field of agriculture. The work of the Agency will, there-

fore, in the coming years be in consonance with the major world trends which focus increasing attention on the problems of food and power. It is also gratifying to note that in recent years the Agency has devoted considerable attention to the development of co-ordinated programmes of research in which a number of institutions in various countries have cooperated in well-defined area. The Agency could profitably think in terms of a few regional projects so that the various geographical regions of the Agency could collaborate on an intra-regional basis. I earnestly hope that the Agency will enlarge such programmes and place greater accent on joint projects of a regional character as this will, among other things, offer young scientists and engineers challenging opportunities in their home countries and help in avoiding the brain-drain which is likely to affect the availability of human skills in areas where they are most needed.

The formula for financing a safeguards which this Conference approved in 1971 was

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conceived before the implications of the present rate of growth in the safeguards activities of the Agency were fully felt. Practically all the developing countries are already paying more towards the safeguards budget than the minimum envisages in the formula. As delegates are well aware the question of safeguards financing is to be reviewed at an appropriate time after 1975. It is the view of my delegation that some advance thinking should be done for reviewing the present concept of safeguards financing. In view of recent developments in the field of nuclear power production and their consequent implication for the Agency's safeguards activities there is every reason that such a review should be carried out soon.

I am glad to be able to state that the atomic energy programme has maintained its momentum in India.

The Isomed project in Trombay for the radiation sterilisation of medical production which was aided by the UNDP was executed in collaboration with the IAEA. The cobalt-60 source totalling 125,000 curies fabricated in

the Trombay Isotope Laboratory was loaded into the plant last December. The plant now provided irradiation services to manufacturers of medical products on a regular basis for the past several months. In view of the comprehensive expertise that has been gained with the commissioning of this plant it will serve as a centre for training scientists, engineers and technicians from developing countries in all aspects of radiation sterilisation. Already a beginning has been made with the training of scientists and technicians from some South-East Asian and East Asian countries. Further assistance to developing countries in Asia in this technology will be provided through training or by the provision of experts on radiation equipment and sources.

The nuclear fuel complex in Hyderabad was set up some years ago for production of fuel for the country's nuclear power programme. Its plants are now fully commissioned for fuels based on both natural uranium oxide for the reactors at Rajasthan and those being built in Madras and Narora as well as the Tarapur reactors based on slightly enriched uranium oxide.

Plants have also been set up for processing zircon sands to produce finished zirconium products to nuclear standards. These facilities for fuel production have made the country self-sufficient in meeting the needs of fuel for initial cores and replacements in various reactors.

We note with regret some of the statements made at this Conference regarding our policy of peaceful nuclear experiments. Whilst deploring these statements we do not think that any useful purpose is served by entering into arguments over these unfounded allegations.

However, to set the record straight, as the world community is aware, on May 18 of this year, the Indian Atomic Energy Commission successfully conducted a peaceful underground nuclear experiment. It was a completely contained experiment at low cost. Investigations are in progress to determine the depth at which the activity is contained. This experiment forms a part of India's pro-

gramme for peaceful uses of atomic energy. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that in conducting this peaceful nuclear experiment India has not violated any agreement bilateral or multilateral nor any agreement involving the IAEA or the partial test ban treaty. India was one of the earliest signatories to the partial test ban treaty which it ratified in 1964 and she is fully aware of the obligations she has undertaken under this treaty.

I need hardly underline the potential economic benefits of peaceful nuclear explosions which are already well-known to the international scientific community. The conclusions of the IAEA's technical panels of 1970, 1971 and 1972 have further underscored this aspect.

India has always reserved its right to pursue its own independent policy of using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and of carrying out research and development into all meaningful applications of nuclear energy for economic development. The use of nuclear explosion technology underground is an integral part of this policy. In a competitive market for fuels and natural resources this technology is vitally important for India. India has a right to develop its own natural resources in accordance with well-established principle of international law. India sees no reason why she should allow herself to lag behind other countries in the acquisition of the latest techniques in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

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It is a curious argument to say that India's nuclear experiment for peaceful purposes has damaged the NPT and the cause of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. It becomes even more curious when this allegation is made by a country whose leaders have openly welcomed the large number of nuclear weapon tests conducted in the atmosphere by China. India has not become a party to the NPT for certain reasons of principles which have already been made sufficiently clear in different forums of U.N. We have considered and continue to consider that the NPT is an unequal legal instrument: We

would object to it so long as it remains discriminatory in character. However, India has never campaigned against the treaty. India is opposed to nuclear weapons and naturally also to their proliferation. We have categorically repeated that we do not intend to manufacture any nuclear weapons. This was India's policy before the NPT was conceived of. One cannot, therefore, understand the argument that India's nuclear explosion for peaceful purposes has had an adverse effect on the future of the NPT. The NPT stands or falls by its own merits or demerits.

My Government has repeatedly declared categorically that we intend to use nuclear energy solely for peaceful purposes and that we are totally opposed to the development of nuclear weapons. This remains the policy of the Government of India and I would like to reaffirm this policy in this august assembly.

INDIA AUSTRIA MAURITIUS USA KOREA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA CHINA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

MEXICO

Indo-Mexican Agreement for Import of Fishing Trawlers

The following press release on the Indo-Mexican agreement signed in New Delhi on September 4, 1974, was issued on the same day:

An agreement between the Government of India and M/s Astilleros Imesa, S.A., Mexican Shipyard, was signed here today for the supply of designs and detailed shop drawings of fishing vessels to facilitate the construction of similar vessels in Indian shipyards. Mr. Manzolillo, Technical Director signed the agreement on behalf of the Ship-

yard and Shri S. P. Balasubramanian, Joint Secretary (Fisheries), Ministry of Agriculture, on behalf of the Government of India.

Contracts were also signed for the supply of four fishing trawlers of 23 meters length at Rs. 24 lakhs each between the Mexican shipyard and Indian buyers, as part of the purchase of 20 trawlers from Mexico.

Similar agreements are proposed to be signed with Poland and Italy shortly for supply of designs for the purchase of vessels from them.

The programme for the import of trawlers is 100 per cent export-oriented. The trawlers are expected to earn their value in foreign exchange in three years by export of marine products. Already our marine exports amount to nearly Rs. 90 crores.

The Fifth Plan envisages the introduction of 200 deep sea fishing trawlers. During the first two years of the Fifth Plan it is proposed to import 60 trawlers. Another 60 trawlers of the same designs are to be constructed indigenously.

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MEXICO INDIA ITALY POLAND USA

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in New Delhi on September 14, 1974 at the conclusion of talks between the delegations of India and Pakistan held in Islamabad from September 12 to September

14, 1974:

In accordance with the provision of the Simla Agreement enjoining upon the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan to take steps progressively to restore and normalise relations, the delegations of the two countries met at Islamabad from September 12 to September 14, 1974, to work out agreements on the resumption of postal and tele-communication links and restoration of travel facilities.

His Excellency Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary, led the Indian delegation. He was assisted by representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Department of Communications. The Pakistan delegation was led by Mr. Agha Shahi, Foreign Secretary. He was assisted by representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior and Communications.

The two sides concluded agreements on exchange of Letter Post Items and Postal Parcels, resumption of Telecommunications services and on issuance of Visas and Travel between the two countries. In regard to the Telecommunication Services it was agreed that the telecommunications system between the multi-exchange area of Bombay and the multi-exchange area of Karachi shall be linked by satellite circuits within a period of six months. In addition to the Agreement on Issuance of Visas and Travel they concluded a Protocol on group visits to religions shrines in either country.

The leaders of the two delegations also availed themselves of the opportunity to discuss the implementation of the other measures mentioned in paragraph 3 of the Simla Agreement. It was agreed that the civil aviation delegations of the two countries should meet to discuss the 1971 case regarding overflights and the question of resumption of overflights and air links between the two countries. It was further agreed that the representatives of India and Pakistan would exchange visits to explore possibilities of trade between the two countries on a mutually profitable basis. The two sides also agreed to examine steps to promote exchanges in

the field of science and culture.

Shri Kewal Singh was received by His Excellency Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto the Prime Minister of Pakistan and by His Excellency Mr. Aziz Ahmed, the Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs. During these talks, views were exchanged on matters of bilateral interest. It was appreciated that obstacles and setbacks encountered in the course of implementation of the Simla Agreement would be overcome through patience and perseverance and the continued firm commitment of the two countries to the principles of peaceful co-existence, respect for each others territorial integrity and sovereignty and non-interference in each others internal affairs.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

Joint Communique

Following is the text of the Joint Communique issued on September 24, 1974, in New York after the meeting between the Foreign Ministers of India and Portugal:

His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, and His Excellency Mr. Mario Soares, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Portugal met in New York during the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, and had a fruitful exchange of views on the relations between the two countries.

The two Foreign Ministers agreed on the need for cooperation among all members of the International community in the removal of tensions in the world and in establishing international peace on a durable basis.

In regard to bilateral relations, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal stated that his Government was ready to recognise the full sovereignty of India over the former Portuguese territories of Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, which had become integral parts of the territory of India. The Minister of External Affairs of India expressed the appreciation of the Government of India.

The two, Foreign Ministers agreed that steps should be taken to re-establish diplomatic and consular relations, and to promote contacts in the cultural field, between the two countries. They further agreed that India and Portugal would co-operate with each other for the promotion of the Portuguese language and culture and for the preservation of historical-religious monuments in Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

The two ministers agreed to hold, in the immediate future, meetings between the representatives of both countries in order to implement the agreement relating to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations and for concluding a cultural agreement.

PORTUGAL USA INDIA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

RUMANIA

Indo-Rumanian Protocol for Economic Cooperation

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on September 24, 1974:

The protocol signed on Monday at Bucharest after the first meeting of the Indo-Rumanian Joint Commission aims to double the volume of annual trade between India and Rumania. It would increase from the current Rs. 60 crores to Rs. 120 crores by 1980.

The increased trade would cover export of iron-ore to Rumania and it is expected that 13 million tonnes of the mineral may be despatched during the five year period beginning 1976.

During the same period, India would be able to get 1.5 million tonnes of chemical fertilizers from Rumania.

In addition to the above, the trade exchanges between the two countries would include supply to India of oil field equipment and equipment for refineries on a long term basis.

The Indian delegation to the Bucharest session of the Joint Commission was led by the Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals, Shri P. K. Barooah, who is also the co-Chairman of the Commission.

Apart from development of trade, agreement was also reached between the two countries for economic cooperation in the field of petroleum and chemicals, power and energy, agriculture, and water and land management.

#### REFINERY UNITS AND JOINT OIL EXPLORATION

Under the protocol, Rumania would cooperate in setting up some units of refineries through grant of technical assistance and supply of designs, technology and equipment. This assistance would be available for the coking unit and the kerosene treating unit of the Bongaigoan refinery. The feasibility of similar cooperation in respect of setting up a catalytic cracking unit at the Mathura Refinery would also be examined,

Apart from refinery equipment, Rumania would offer 14 rings and oil-field equipment and tubings over a period of five years. The possibility of cooperation in oil-field equipment production would also be examined.

The two countries have also decided to examine the feasibility of collaboration in oil exploration in third countries.

#### EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY FOR POWER STATIONS

The two countries are to explore possibilities of cooperation in the field of research, design and delivery of power systems and meeting each others requirements for equipment, installations and materials for power generation.

Supply of equipment and machinery for power stations and hydro and thermal transformer stations, supply of electro-technical equipment as well as designs execution of electrical works Including those in dams would also be considered.

#### COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE

India and Rumania are also to cooperate in the field of sunflower and sugarbeet cultivation and production of hybrid seeds.

India would also receive technical assistance in geo-hydrological research for identification, development and exploitation of underground water resources for irrigation purposes.

In the field of science and technology, the two countries reviewed the progress of the two-year agreement signed in 1972 and decided to finalise new proposals of collaboration at the time of renewal of the Executive Programme.

INDIA ROMANIA LATVIA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

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SWEDEN

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Swedish Assistance to India

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The following press release was issued in New Delhi On September 27, 1974:

The Swedish International Development Authority has made available to the Government of India a grant of S. Kroner 0.9 million (nearly Rs. 13 lakhs) for assisting a promotion project of Indian exports. This project is aimed at improving the export capability of Indian industry by effecting changes and modifications in the design and quality of products so that they could conform to the technical and commercial requirements of the Swedish market.

Letters to this effect were signed here today by His Excellency Count A. Lowenhaupt, Ambassador on behalf of the Swedish Government and Miss Roma Mazumdar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce on behalf of the Government of India.

The products which are proposed to be covered in this project are: electronics, hand and cutting tools, Builders' Hardware, locks and padlocks, sanitary fittings, industrial fasteners, sports goods, leather goods, ferrous castings and forgings and sub-contracting in precision light engineering products.

This project will include several integrated activities viz., market survey, getting Swedish expertise for suggesting adaptations/modifications wherever required, training of Indian manufacturers, quality control assistance, buyer-sellers meet and provision of necessary equipments. The project will be coordinated by the Trade Development Authority in India and by a Consultancy firm in Sweden, to be nominated.

SWEDEN INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Press Release on Foreign Minister's Visit to USSR

The following is the text of a press release issued at the conclusion of the Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh's visit to the USSR (released in New Delhi on September 11, 1974):

At the invitation of the Soviet Government, the Minister for External Affairs of India, Sardar Swaran Singh, paid an official visit to Moscow from 8 to 10 September, 1974.

Swaran Singh was received by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU L. I. Brezhnev.

Talks were held between the Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, A. A. Gromyko, and the Minister for External Affairs of India.

During the talks, which were conducted in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding, questions of Soviet-Indian bilateral relations were discussed. There was also a broad exchange of views on topical international problems of mutual interest.

The two sides expressed their deep satisfaction that friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India in political, economic, scientific, technological and other fields are expanding and being strengthened on the solid basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation of August 9, 1971. Both sides reaffirmed their adherence to the Treaty

and its underlying principles.

It was emphasized that the visit of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, L. I. Brezhnev, to India in November 1973 and of his talks with the Prime Minister of India Shrimati Indira Gandhi were of the utmost importance for the further development and deepening of friendly Soviet-Indian relations. This visit raised the relations between the two friendly countries to a higher level.

In reviewing the situation in the Indian subcontinent India's consistent endeavours to promote normalisation of relations were noted with appreciation by the Soviet side. It was recognised that the conclusion of the Tripartite Agreement between India, Bangladesh and Pakistan on April 9, 1974 was a major step on the road towards reconciliation. Both sides welcomed the progress already made in this regard and reaffirmed that remaining unresolved issues should be settled, peacefully through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the provisions of the Simla Agreement.

The identity or proximity of the positions of the USSR and India on topical international problems were reaffirmed during the talks.

The two sides agreed that the Soviet Union and India, acting in the spirit of mutual understanding, will continue to strengthen and develop their cooperation in the interests of deepening the process of detente and ensuring universal peace,

They specially stressed the need for active efforts by all peace-loving countries aimed at the elimination of the hotbeds of war. In this context they expressed serious concern over the situation prevailing in the Mediterranean area as a result of foreign military interventions in the affairs of Cyprus. The sides state that a just solution of the Cyprus question must be based on respect for independence and sovereignty of Cyprus and for the inalienable rights of its population.

Both sides also expressed themselves in favour of a political settlement of the conflict in the Middle East and reaffirmed their support for the demand for vacation by Israel of all occupied Arab territories in conformity with the well-known resolutions of the UN Security Council and with regard for restoration of the legitimate interests of the people of Palestine. They declared themselves in

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favour of the establishment of a lasting and durable peace in Indochina, and the implementation of the agreements on the cessation of hostilities in Vietnam.

The Soviet and Indian sides expressed their determination to continue efforts in the international arena, in particular in the United Nations, to facilitate progress in limiting the arms race, achieving general and complete disarmament, ensuring free and independent development of nations, particularly developing countries through fuller utilization of their natural resources, peaceful cooperation of states on the basis of equality and the final elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

The sides noted with profound satisfaction that the meetings and discussions which took place during the visit of Swaran Singh to Moscow were extremely useful, and expressed their conviction that they will contribute to the further development of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and India.

USA INDIA RUSSIA MALI PAKISTAN CYPRUS ISRAEL CHINA VIETNAM

**Date :** Sep 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

British Loan to India

The following Press release on the agreement for a British loan of Rs. 56.9 crore was issued in New Delhi on September 12, 1974:

An agreement for a loan allocating Rs. 56.9 crores (æ 30 million) of British aid to India was signed in New Delhi today.

The British High Commissioner, Sir Michael Walker, signed the agreement for the British Government, and Shri M. G. Kaul, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, for the Government of India.

The loan, the UK/India Maintenance Loan 1974 No. 2 provides for the import from Britain of non-project goods. Among these are raw materials, spare parts and components required to service India's agricultural and industrial production.

The loan, like all British loans to India since 1965, is on the usual soft terms of British lending to India. It is free of all interest and service charges and repayable over 25 years, with no repayment due during the first seven years. This represents a grant element of 75 per cent.

This is the first instalment of the æ 75 million pledged by Britain for the year 1974/75 at the Aid India Consortium in June this year.

(Note: The Rupee equivalent has been worked out at the central rate of exchange, viz., æ 1 = Rs. 18.968).

INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

**Date** : Sep 01, 1974

**Volume No**

1995

MONETARY SITUATION

Following is the text of the speech delivered by the Finance Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, at a joint meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Washington on September 30, 1974:

Mr. Chairman, let me join others who have spoken before me in congratulating you for your thoughtful statement at the beginning of our meeting. The past twelve months have been a traumatic experience for the world as a whole and, in particular, for the the developing countries like mine which are most seriously affected by a massive adverse movement in their terms of trade. The hopes

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and aspirations of these countries for accelerated growth of their economies and improvement in living standards of their people have suffered a set-back in the absence of determined and decisive international action to enable them quickly to adjust to the new realities. Our business in this meeting will remain incomplete if we do not address ourselves to the problems facing these countries and make a determined advance towards their solution.

For many developing countries, the rise in the world prices of oil, fertilizers, food-grains, and raw materials in the last year or so has imposed an unprecedented structural change in their balance of payments. India, for instance, faces a situation in which nearly 80 per cent of her export earnings will be spent this year on imports of three commodities - oil, fertilizers and food. The very large increase in our import bill compared to last year is a consequence of the rise in world prices. On the other hand, many of India's exports have not participated in the world commodity boom. Several developing countries are placed in a similar position.

The current balance of payments problems of these countries are compounded by the uncertainty in regard to the future. The developed countries, themselves plagued by

large deficits in their current accounts, are still not agreed on the kind of measures which they need to take to avert economic disaster for the world as a whole. There is a danger of adjustment policies being pursued by these countries in response to their own national interests to the detriment of the economic well-being of the rest of the world. I would like to flag this as one of the most serious problems facing the world today.

We are disappointed at the outcome of various international efforts which have been mounted over the past several months to meet the crisis facing the international community. The special session of the U.N. General Assembly has called for the establishment of a new international economic order and the U.N. has spelt out a number of measures both for the short run and over the medium term. The progress in implementing these measures has been tardy. We do not know when the proposed special fund will be established. The emergency operation which was to have been implemented by the beginning of July last is still seriously short of the target set for it, but we hope that meaningful support will be forthcoming for it in course of the year.

The events of the last two years have vividly demonstrated the need to step up food production and to secure a more equitable distribution of available world supplies in a period of scarcity. The World Food Conference in Rome will have to go into these questions in depth. It is clear that a rational management of the world food economy cannot be secured by a blind reluctance on market forces. We think that the present trading arrangements will be totally inadequate to meet the situation and new trade and transfer systems will have to be devised to ensure an equitable distribution of world's food supply among the nations of the world. This is a tremendous challenge facing the international community and we hope and trust that the major food exporting and the developed countries will not shirk their responsibility in this area which affects the very lives of millions of people inhabiting the globe.

It is, I think, generally recognised that the present and prospective imbalance in the food situation facing the developing countries requires vigorous efforts to augment domestic production in the developing countries. The modernization of agriculture in these countries requires a multi-dimensional approach embracing institutional changes as well as greater reliance on modern science and technology. It has been our belief in India that no solution to this problem can be effective without attention being given to the needs of the small and marginal farmers. Unfortunately, our present efforts to increase production are very seriously affected not only by the constraints on the availability of fertilizer but also due to a steep increase in their prices. The developing countries' share of world consumption of fertilizers being a modest six per cent, it should not be beyond the ingenuity of the international community to insulate supplies to developing countries from uncertainties attaching to world production and prices of fertilizers. There is clearly a need for a mechanism to ensure that minimum essential requirements of developing countries in respect of food, fertilizers and fuel are met at prices they can afford to pay.

The Fund and the Bank face major challenges during the coming year in the areas of their direct concern - the inter-

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national monetary system and development finance. We are conscious of the useful contribution made by the Committee of Twenty to the task of monetary reform, but I have no hesitation in saying that even the committee would share the disappointment which is rightly felt among the developing countries at the fact that aspects of reform of special concern to developing countries have received inadequate attention. We welcome the proposal to establish the interim committee of Governors of the Fund and hope that it will speedily complete the remaining tasks.

As it is, the immediate task facing this interim committee will be to secure acceptance of some of the proposals of most direct interest to developing countries. It would not

suffice, however, for the committee to propose a limited number of amendments to the articles of agreements without addressing itself to the vital questions of the future of SDR's, the need for global liquidity and, more important than all, the need for establishing effective link between SDR creation and developing finance. I believe I am right in saying that developing countries are united in their insistence that they find it impossible to endorse a package of amendments of the articles of agreement unless it includes meaningful decisions on the question of the link.

In the meantime, we are happy that the Fund management and the board have taken the initiative to deal with some of the problems facing the developing countries. The establishment of the oil facility was made possible by the untiring efforts of the managing director and the cooperation extended by the oil exporting countries. We continue to be concerned, however, about the high cost of this facility which makes it difficult for many countries to have recourse to it except as a matter of last resort. The extended fund facility also does not fully meet the needs of the situation. It does not provide adequate additionally in terms of resources, nor is it for a substantially longer period than normal drawings. Above all, it is a matter of concern that the case of facility has been made highly conditional.

On the role of gold and its price, it is clear that a policy should be evolved that will serve harmoniously the interests of members of the Fund, those holding gold as well as others. We recognise that member-countries have their national interests, but organizations like the Fund are established to concile the national interests of members the common good. In that spirit, it needs be stressed that gold price policies ought to be formulated cooperatively within the world community taking fully into account the liquidity requirements of countries which hold hardly any gold.

I am happy that there has been general agreement on the proposal for the establishment of the joint ministerial committee of the

Fund and the Bank to deal with the question of transfer of resources to the developing world and fulfilling the broad obligations of the international community to the task of economic development. In my view, the committee should deal with all aspects of the question of development finance, the amount and quality of aid, the problem of mounting external debt of developing countries and the need for suitable arrangements for funding institutions such as the International Development Association. I believe there is now an international consensus that the primary task before the committee is to address itself to the urgent problems faced by developing countries most affected by the recent events.

The general studies prepared by international institutions in the course of the last year have helped a great deal in focussing attention on the nature and magnitude of the requirements of external capital during the next few years. The resources gap facing these countries has, however, widened and till such time as a more equitable environment for the growth of their trade can be created, a substantial increase in the transfer of capital from the developed to the developing world will be needed. In this context, I must express serious concern at the continuing high rates of interest in the world capital markets which increase the cost of borrowing and which also tempts even development agencies like the World Bank to reflect the high cost of funds in their own lending rates. The needed transfer of resources and technology will have to be primarily on terms which do not compound the already burdensome problem of debt service.

There is greater need today than in the past for development capital to be provided in a flexible manner so as to suit the needs of the receiving countries. Multilateral institutions naturally seek generalized criteria for their lending operations. But the need

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of developing countries differ as between themselves. And an intelligent lending policy for multilateral institutions must take account of the point which I have had occasion to make earlier at these gatherings.

Let me say that instance on project financing or financing only of selected sectors may satisfy the perceptions of the few but might run counter to the priorities which a developing country concerned has rightly set for itself. It is the development programme evolved by the country which needs support in the most flexible possible manner. Our experience is that bilateral lenders perceive this quite clearly but multilateral institutions have even to this date made only halting progress in the matter of provision of non-project finance.

There is need to recognize that the world can move to an era of meaningful international economic cooperation only if the developing countries are given adequate status and share in the working of international institutions including the Fund and the Bank. A review of the Fund quotas is due very soon and some preliminary consideration of the question has already occurred in the Board of Directors. While there may be merit in giving due weight to the economic strength of countries in the determination of Fund quotas, we cannot accept that this criterion should predominate. The fact that developing countries will have to have recourse to the Fund's facilities, and on an increasing scale in an uncertain world, points to the inclusion of the criterion of need in the determination of the quotas. For several developing countries, debt service obligation constitutes a severe strain on their balance of payments. The present formula for quota determination takes no account of this, nor does it give adequate weightage to the poor or the least developed countries. The need for equity in the distribution of quotas is all the greater since the allocation of SDRs is related to the distribution of quota. It is significant that the number of developing countries in the membership of the Fund has grown many times since Bretton Woods, and yet the share of developing countries in Fund quotas has by and large remained constant. There is need to redress this imbalance by a conscious political decision.

Closely connected with this subject is the question of the size of the Fund itself. There has been a phenomenal growth in the

world trade from the days of the Bretton Woods Agreement. It has been our belief, and we have expressed it clearly in the early stage of the debate on the subject, that the present volume of world trade and correspondingly larger need for global liquidity justify a substantial increase in the size of the Fund.

Mr. Chairman, let me conclude, by saying that the problems facing the international community in the coming years are going to be immense. The world is at crossroads. One way is for the developed countries to remain preoccupied with problems of trade and adjustment among themselves with little or no concern for what is happening in the rest of the world, for the world, therefore, to continue to endure the present inequalities between the rich and the poor and for resources of the world to be enjoyed only for the benefit of the few. We can only hope that this is not the way which will be taken, for that way lies political and economic disaster. The other way is that of meaningful international cooperation which can be strengthened only on the basis of statesmanship on the part of all countries concerned. Today, more than even before, the world needs such enlightened statesmanship. Indeed we have come to a stage where there is really no alternative.

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BULGARIA GABON INDIA SOUTH AFRICA IRAN USA

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Science Agreement

The following press release on Indo-Bulgarian Science and Technology Agreement was released in New Delhi on October 11, 1974:

India and Bulgaria have agreed to promote development of cooperation in the fields of science and technology on the basis of equality and mutual advantage. An agreement between the two countries was signed here today by Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister of Finance and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission and His Excellency Mr. Toncho Chakarov, Minister of Machine Building and Metallurgy, Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission on the Bulgarian side.

The Agreement provides for exchange of scientists, research workers, specialists and scholars. The two countries will also exchange scientific and technical information, documentation, films and movies in the fields of science and technology. They will organise bilateral scientific and technical seminars and courses on problems of mutual interest.

India and Bulgaria have also agreed to undertake joint identification of scientific and technical problems, formulation and implementation of joint research programme, which might lead to application of the results of such researches in industry, agriculture and other fields, including exchange of achieved experience and know-how.

The two countries will grant fellowships

for training of young scientific workers and organise exhibitions demonstrating the achievements of both the countries in the field of science and technology.

They will also promote cooperation between organisations, enterprises and scientific institutions in both the countries.

India and Bulgaria have also agreed to promote cooperation among scientific libraries, centres of scientific and technical information and scientific institutions for exchange of books, periodicals and bibliographies.

The Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be automatically extended for a further period of five years in case none of the two countries gives notice of its intention to terminate the Agreement twelve months before the expiry of the period.

BULGARIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

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GABON

Indo-Gabon Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint communique issued in New Delhi on October 15, 1974 at the end of President Albert-Bernard Bongo's State visit to India:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of the Republic of Gabon, His Excellency Mr. Albert-Bernard Bongo, Head of Government, Founder and Secretary-General of the Gabon Democratic Party, paid

a State visit to India from October 12 to 15, 1974.

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His Excellency President Bongo was accompanied by his wife and a high-powered delegation including H.E. Mr. Leon Mebiame, Vice-President of the Government, H.E. Mr. Paul Gondjout, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, H. E. Mr. Okumba D'Okwatseghe, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, H.E. Mr. Marcel Sandoungout, Ambassador of the Republic of Gabon to India, H.E. Mr. Georges Rawiri, Minister of State in charge of Economic Coordination in the Presidency and personal representative of the Head of State, H.E. Mr. Paul Moukambi, Minister of Economy and Finance, H.E. Mr. Bonjeam-Francois Ondo, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Rural Development and H.E. Mr. Richard Nguema, Secretary of State in charge of Information and National Orientation.

During their visit to India, the President of the Republic of Gabon, Madame Bongo and the distinguished members of the Gabonese delegation were given a warm and cordial welcome by the Government and people of India, reflecting the excellent relations existing between India and Gabon.

During his stay in Delhi His Excellency the President of the Republic of Gabon held talks with President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The President of the Republic of Gabon and party paid visits to industrial projects and historical centres in Delhi and Agra. Madame Bongo visited social and cultural centres and exchanged views with social and welfare workers.

The President of the Republic of Gabon and the Indian Prime Minister reviewed the international situation and bilateral issues of mutual interest. These discussions were held in an atmosphere of amity and understanding reflecting the friendly ties existing between the two countries and revealed a close identity of views on all matters discussed. His Excellency the President of the Republic of Gabon and the Prime Minister of India re-

affirmed their adherence to the policy of non-alignment and to the principles of peaceful co-existence which had made positive contributions to peace and co-operation in the world.

The Prime Minister of India congratulated His Excellency the President of the Republic of Gabon for the significant economic and social progress made by Gabon under the President's wise guidance and dynamic leadership.

His Excellency President Albert-Bernard Bongo paid tribute to the progress achieved in India in different sectors of national development. He conveyed his admiration of India's positive role in international affairs and in the contributions made to promote durable peace and cooperation in the Sub-continent. His Excellency the President of the Republic of Gabon and the Prime Minister of India welcomed the admission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh into the United Nations.

The two sides welcomed the process of decolonisation in Portuguese territories in Africa. They noted with satisfaction that Guinea-Bissau, which achieved independence in October 1973, had now been admitted to the United Nations. They welcomed the victory of the freedom struggle of the people of Mozambique and the decision of the Portuguese Government granting total independence to Mozambique by June 1975. Both sides expressed the earnest hope for the earliest independence in conditions of peace and honour for the peoples of Angola and Sao Tome and Principe. The two sides reiterated their resolve to continue to work for ending racialism, apartheid and oppression in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia by white minority regimes.

The two sides reviewed the international situation especially as it affected the developing countries. They called on the developed countries to place their economic relationships with developing countries on a just and equitable basis. They reaffirmed their desire to develop closer economic and commercial cooperation with all developing countries.

They welcomed the resolutions of the 6th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and urged their early implementation leading to a just world economic order.

The President of the Republic of Gabon and the Prime Minister of India reviewing the situation in the Middle East considered that the continuing crisis posed a serious threat to world peace. They urged the need for a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict which could only be based on the vacation of territories occupied by Israeli aggression and the restoration of the legiti-

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mate rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with the United Nations Resolution No. 242 of November 22, 1967 and all other resolutions in this regard.

While considering the question of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the President of the Republic of Gabon and the Prime Minister of India stressed the importance of harnessing nuclear energy for economic development and human welfare and of ensuring that access to the benefits of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes does not remain confined to a few countries.

The two sides stressed the desirability of extending trade, economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. They agreed that studies would be undertaken by experts to determine practical measures for developing mutually beneficial cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, mining, petroleum, fisheries, education, etc. For this purpose it was decided that delegations of Indian experts would visit Gabon later this year. A Protocol detailing decisions on economic and technical cooperation was signed between the two Governments.

His Excellency President Albert-Bernard Bongo expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him, to Madame Bongo and the delegation accompanying him. The President of the Republic of Gabon conveyed invitations to President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to visit Gabon. The invitations were

gratefully accepted. The dates of these visits would be determined to mutual convenience through diplomatic channels.

GABON INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM BANGLADESH GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU  
MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE ISRAEL

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Permanent Representative of India on World Economic Crisis

Following is the text of a statement made by India's Permanent Representative to the U.N., Ambassador Jaipal during the general debate in the Second Committee on October 3, 1974:

Mr. President: It is truly extraordinary and indeed highly significant that whenever developed countries are in difficulties, an economic crisis visits the world as a whole. The developed countries of course are never in difficulties, except when the abundance of their affluence is threatened-even to the littlest extent. And then the rest of the world, the under-developed, the under-privileged and deprived countries, which maintain the largest populations, get the worst of it.

We are now again in the throes of another world economic crisis characterised by galloping inflation and acute imbalances in payment. There is talk everywhere in the developed countries of "austerity" measures. Of course, austerity is a relative term measured in the West by the size of the steak, or the room temperature in the winter. It is also a fashion nowadays to blame the oil producing countries for the present situation, as if there was no inflation before the price of oil was increased. The increase

in the price of oil is the direct result of inflation and not its principal cause.

The causes of the current crisis are rooted in the colonial past of many developed countries. Colonies may disappear in the political sense, but old habits of economic exploitation die hard. The affluence of the developed countries can be traced to their uninhibited exploitation of other countries and their natural resources until the end of the Second World War and even later. But exploitation continues today in a different form and manner in order to maintain the relatively high levels of affluence in the developed countries.

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It is interesting and somewhat ominous that during the present era of unlimited growth, lip service is always paid to the concept of "inter-dependence", as if the poor are necessary so that the rich may practise their charity upon them. Very little has been done so far to translate the concept of inter-dependence into reality, for the world economy continues to be divided between the affluent and the under-privileged. More than two-thirds of the world's trade takes place among the developed countries themselves, and more than three-fourths of the world's income is generated in the developed countries.

In the past the developing countries only marginally and incidentally shared the prosperity of the developed countries. But today, the developing countries are obliged to share a disproportionate burden of the crisis now facing all countries. On the contrary, the populations in the developed countries may be called upon to change their patterns of consumption and to modify their ways of life.

Surely, this is not a heavy price to pay in comparison to the bleak prospects facing the developing countries.

It is no longer realistic to expect the developing countries to accept the present economic structure on the ground that what is good for the developed countries is also

good for the developing countries. Nor is it just for the developed countries to maintain the present structure of world economy, as if it is immutable, simply because it is good for their political stability.

As I said earlier, the concept of interdependence has yet to be translated into reality. However, we do acknowledge that certain changes in attitudes and policies are already taking place in some developed countries, which are introducing elements of moderation in the patterns of their consumption. Not long ago we were told that industrialization of the developing countries should start with light and consumer goods industries. Now we see cut-throat competition among the developed countries in order to assist the industrialization of the oil producing developing countries even with heavy and sophisticated industries. Of course, we welcome this change in attitude. We also welcome the increasing awareness that developing countries should have their due share in the decision making processes of international financial and monetary institutions.

While we welcome these changes, it is remarkable that they had to wait until a group of oil-producing developing countries were compelled to assert their legitimate rights. I wonder what other dramatic developments of a traumatic nature are necessary before the developed countries accept a new design for a world economic order and a planned, concerted and determined effort to put it into execution.

The United Nations has devoted more than twenty years to work out a world design and the elements that constitute the new international economic order. They are incorporated in various resolutions and decisions. It may be said without exaggeration that the corridors of the United Nations are paved with the dead letters of good intentions. To name only a few of these good intentions, agreement was reached some time ago for preferential access to the markets of the developed countries for exports from developing countries, for the transfer of resources to them under appropriate terms and conditions, for access to technology on an equitable

basis, and for establishing a new international division of labour.

Although these measures have been agreed upon, progress in implementing them has been disappointingly slow. One gets the impression that implementation is almost deliberately slow. How else can one describe the long and dismal history of controversy over the meaning of words such as "negotiations", "implementation", "commitments", "political will", etc? How else is one to explain the tactics of relegating the critical components of the new world economic order to the category of hard core issues, and of diverting attention to the so-called new priorities?

We have had an impressive number of world conferences on all manner of subjects and they have invariably given rise to high hopes among the developing countries. However, the net results of these conferences has fallen short of the expectations of the developing countries. We are often faced with procrastination in the translation of promises into concrete actions. Perhaps the developed countries are deterred by their own

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domestic difficulties. Surely, these difficulties are of their own creation, caused sometimes by extravagant election promises and by unwarranted appeals to the electorate for support of political platforms that are clearly unrealisable.

The present crisis is largely due to attempts to build islands of affluence at the expense of the developing countries. There is an increasing tendency on the part of developed countries to implement international developmental measures in an ad hoc manner, as if they constitute sporadic gestures of generosity unrelated to the framework of the development strategy. Assistance of this ad hoc character comes to be dominated by a donor-recipient relationship, instead of being based on international commitments freely undertaken.

There are vast potentialities in the developing world for productive and profitable

investment of the surplus resources of the oil-producing countries, which now seem to be concerned mainly with their utilisation in the developed countries. Also from the point of view of a rational utilisation of the world's resources, it is more important to increase production in areas where the demands for basic necessities of life remain unfulfilled. Surely, this is more important than to add to the process of revolting by wasteful consumption, which would be the result of diverting all surplus resources to the developed countries.

The first Development Decade, which began with great expectations, ended somewhat ingloriously. We are now almost half way through the Second Development Decade, and it seems that we have somehow moved backwards. Why are we continually faced with the spectre of failure, when the will of the international community is bent on making progress? The answer clearly lies in the will of some to perpetuate existing systems in their own interests and which do not promote implementation of decisions adopted here in the fields of trade, aid and monetary matters.

I would like to refer briefly to the special programme which was adopted during the 6th special session. The Emergency Assistance Programme inaugurated five months ago has not yet got off the ground. A new group of countries has now come into being and they have been burdened with the curious epithet "most seriously affected countries" for which we may have been partly responsible. This epithet is a euphemism for those countries which have become the unfortunate victims of circumstances not of their creation and of circumstances quite beyond their control. The responsibility for helping them clearly rests on those countries which are responsible for creating the current economic crisis.

It is extremely unfair to the so-called "most seriously affected countries" to cope with the present crisis without any external assistance. We find the current attitude towards these countries to be somewhat patronising, as if poverty, hunger, famine and disease are endemic in them. Let me point out that these countries have not had the op-

portunities that their exploiters have enjoyed for many decades. Let me also say that these countries have managed their affairs themselves and tried to be as self-reliant as they can in a world in which they have been led to expect certain standards of international behaviour in regard to trade and aid. They planned and budgeted their modest resources accordingly for the future in the expectation that there would be no dramatic changes in the world situation. Yet today they find themselves completely at the mercy of market forces triggered in the developed countries and which can have disastrous consequences for them. The main centres of economic power continue to remain in the industrialised world and the chief responsibility for rectifying the present situation must therefore rest on the industrialised countries.

The hopes of the developing countries for accelerated growth of their economies have been shattered. In my own country nearly 80 per cent of its export earnings will be spent this year on imports of just three commodities: oil, fertilizers and food. Unfortunately, our exports have not fetched even a small proportion of the high prices that we have to pay for our imports. Several other developing countries are placed in the same situation, and clearly decisive and quick international action is necessary to enable such countries to cope with the new situation. Emergency assistance is of the first priority.

The setting up of the proposed Special Fund is equally urgent, but we do not know now whether it will be established at all. Even the emergency operation which was to

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have been implemented by the beginning of July is still seriously short of the target set for it, and the programme of action has run into heavy weather. The developed countries are not giving the support it deserves although we remain prepared to negotiate our differences further. What is disturbing is that the developed countries appear to be more concerned about their own problems of adjustment. They have a tendency to close their ranks and to help each other as if they are Freemasons bound by their oath to

preserve their collective interests first and then to practise their charity on others.

The rational management of the problems facing us cannot be secured by reliance on market forces alone. The present trading arrangements are totally inadequate to meet the situation and new systems will have to be devised to ensure equitable distribution of the world's resources of food, fertilizers, oil and other goods that are essential for the balanced growth of the developing countries, whose plans and aims, I may say, are refreshingly modest.

Looking ahead to the mid-term review of the international development strategy, it seems necessary that we should ensure that the basic concepts underlying the strategy are maintained intact. Concepts such as quantitative and time targets serve as a frame of accountability. Firm commitments for implementing agreed measures are the outcome of years of effort and they represent a great advance in international cooperation. It will be a serious setback if there is a dilution of these basic concepts and if international cooperation were to be placed on an ad hoc basis. In my opinion, it is necessary to strengthen the basic concepts by building into the strategy more effective devices for ensuring inter-national accountability and by bringing about changes in the institutional machinery of the U.N. which would ensure implementation of commitments undertaken.

There should also be changes in the strategy itself in the light of recent developments, and we have in mind the following steps:

- 1) Provisions should be made for international action for ensuring adequate supplies of commodities such as food, fertilizers, raw materials, etc., to the developing countries at prices within their capacities.

- 2) There should be a change in priorities both in relation to areas and countries for which special measures need to be adopted.

- 3) There should be additional areas of

international cooperation to deal with transnational corporations.

4) There should be a consolidation of the present trend of moderation in the policies of some developed countries, which should advance to the next stage of making arrangements for a sharing of the markets.

5) Some of the targets in the strategy should be refined in order to give them greater operational significance. And lastly,

6) The strategy should include measures designed to meet short-term emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

INDIA USA FRANCE

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Permanent Representative of India on Aggression

Following is the text of statement made by Ambassador R. Jaipal in the U.N. Sixth Committee on October 16, 1974:

My delegation would like to offer its warm congratulations to the special committee, its Chairman and rapporteur, for the formulation of a draft definition of aggression and its submission to the General Assembly, a task which was once regarded as almost impossible or undesirable, unacceptable and unnecessary. We have now before us the result of the work of the special committee in the form of 8 articles which seek to define aggression in a manner that is fairly simple and well-balanced and could serve at the same time as a broad guideline for the Security Council and the Members of the

U.N.

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There have been several definitions of aggression in the past handed down by the law-givers and the law-makers of different civilizations, but they were clearly one-sided and were certainly not universally acceptable. The need for an internationally agreed definition acceptable to all states has been felt particularly acutely in this century. The question of defining aggression has been engaging the attention of the world community for over 40 years, in the course of which many aggressions were committed and several wars were waged. After the establishment of the U.N. there have been many cases of aggression and unfortunately even today in two or three or more areas, aggression continues, and the aggressors are either beyond the scope of U.N. action for the U.N. itself has proved to be impotent in the matter of getting the aggression vacated. An agreed definition of aggression may help to identify the sin and highlight it even though it may not immediately improve the present unsatisfactory situation. Nevertheless it is a matter of some satisfaction that we are now on the verge of international agreement on a common definition of aggression. It must be a source of special satisfaction to the Soviet Union which took the initiative in 1933, to know that this question is about to be solved.

The non-aligned countries at their summit meetings have consistently stressed the need for an agreed comprehensive and objective definition of aggression. It was at their prodding that the General Assembly repeatedly called upon all states to support the efforts of the special committee. Non-aligned countries must therefore feel a large measure of satisfaction that we are nearing the end of our task of defining aggression. For it is essentially unsatisfactory to continue in a situation in which the U.N. Charter has no definition of aggression other than that in articles 2 (4) and the Security Council has unlimited and unfettered discretion to decide whether or not there has been aggression. It was inevitable therefore that the General Assembly should have taken the initiative to formulate a definition of aggression.

The possible advantages of enumerating basic principles as guidance for determining aggression far outweigh the difficulties involved in drawing up an exhaustive list of prohibited acts.

We are aware of course that the proposed definition does not offer a magic formula for the maintenance of world peace. The 9th pre-ambular paragraph of the draft definition places the question in its proper perspective, when it states that the adoption of the definition should have the effect of deterring a potential aggressor, while at the same time simplifying the determination of acts of aggression.

My country was not a member of the special committee, but we have always taken a keen interest in its work and have expressed our views on this question in the various appropriate forums of the U.N. The draft definition before us favours the classical notion of aggression. It is concerned primarily with the use of armed force, though Article 3 (G) refers to what has come to be known as "indirect aggression". We have always been of the view that the definition of aggression should be as comprehensive as possible in the present circumstances. The realities of the contemporary world and modern techniques of coercion underline the need for a comprehensive definition. What is important in our opinion is not what kind of force is used but rather how it affects the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another state. We would therefore have preferred a somewhat wider definition of aggression encompassing not only direct military operations but also interventionary and subversive operations, including economic pressures against another state.

Article 1 of the draft definition is general in character but places undue emphasis on the use of armed force to the exclusion of the other aspects of coercion that I have just referred to.

As regards Article 2, we have always felt that aggression should be defined as objectively as possible. Such a definition should be free from all subjective elements

like the intentions of a potential aggressor-state. However the present formulation of Article 2 contains a form of language which could be taken advantage of by a would-be aggressor-state. We do not quite see why the first use of armed force should be given only the status of "prima facie evidence of an act of aggression" rather than an actual act of aggression. However, we do recognise that this article is the result of a compromise and is delicately balanced in order to take into account different points of view.

Article 2 contains a list of acts of aggression which is not regarded as exhaustive and

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this point has been made clear in Article 4. Furthermore, Article 4 refers to the power of the Security Council under the Charter to determine other acts that may constitute aggression. This is particularly welcome, since it points to the competence of the Security Council in terms of Article 39 of the Charter to take into account all forms of coercive action which may be brought under the general purview of aggression.

While on the subject of Article 3, my delegation would refer to the important discussions concerning the scope and interpretation of Article 3(D). A number of speakers have drawn attention to the ambiguous nature of this provision. It is our considered view that Article 3(D) would not prejudice in any way the right of a coastal state to take measures of self-protection or enforcement within the limits of its national jurisdiction. We share the view that this Article has been somewhat loosely drafted and it is therefore necessary to reiterate that there must be no room for its interpretation in a manner which would prejudice the exercise by a coastal state of its rights in the area of its national jurisdiction. We hope that this committee can reach an understanding along these lines with regard to the interpretation of Article 3(D).

Article 5 draws an artificial distinction between a war of aggression and aggression itself. Such a distinction is untenable and has no basis in international law. The principles

of international law clearly establish that aggression in a crime against international peace, giving rise to responsibility under international law. In our view Article 5 cannot be interpreted in such a way as to detract anything from what is already a part of universally recognised principles of international law.

My delegation attaches special importance to the principle contained in Article 5 that no territorial acquisition or special advantage resulting from aggression shall be recognised as lawful. We observe that the special committee has adopted a note which states that Article 5 para 3, should not be construed so as to prejudice the established principles of international law relating to the inadmissibility of territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force. We welcome this and also the reaffirmation in the preambular paragraphs that the territory of a state shall not be violated by being the object, even temporarily, of military occupation, etc.

The subjection of peoples to colonial, racist or other forms of alien domination constitutes a major obstacle to the promotion of international peace and security. We welcome the inclusion of this idea in Article 7 which reaffirms the struggle of these peoples, for their independence and freedom.

We have outlined in brief our reactions to the draft definition of aggression proposed by the special committee. We have pointed out what we consider to be inadequacies in the proposed draft definition and the dangers of loose interpretation. Nevertheless we do appreciate the fact that the draft definition represents a delicate compromise reached after many years of work. My delegation would therefore lend its support to the adoption of the draft definition by consensus. We do so in the hope that the proposed definition would strengthen the role of the U.N. in maintaining international peace and security and in promoting the progressive development of international law in related fields.

INDIA USA

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

### INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

#### Statement by Permanent Representative of India on South African Question

Following is the text of the statement made by Ambassador Rikhi Jaipal at the U.N. Security Council meeting on October 25, 1974 on the question of United Nations relations with South Africa:

I wish to thank you, Mr. President, for the opportunity given to my delegation to participate in these historic discussions, which are of considerable interest to my country.

The question of racial discrimination in South Africa was brought before the General Assembly at its first session in 1946 by my country even before it regained its independence. India's involvement in this matter goes back even further in history to 1913, when the late Mr. Gandhi organized the movement for passive resistance against the discriminatory laws of the white rulers of South Africa. The issue has always been

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whether western civilization in South Africa is to be based on the theory of racial supremacy; whether the barriers between man and man on grounds of race and colour should be broken down, and justice and equality be considered the legitimate entitlement of all. India broke off relations with South Africa in 1946 when it became clear that the ghetto law had come to stay and that South Africa would remain impervious to protestation and persuasion.

Twenty-eight years have gone by since then and the question now before us remains

essentially the same: how long should the United Nations tolerate the doctrine of a master race practised by one of its Member States? The last world war was fought to reject that doctrine. It is to the everlasting credit of Great Britain that, having fought that war, its people at their first post-war elections returned to power the party which, in deference to public opinion, decided to terminate its colonial rule over India. There has been no similar reaction in South Africa. On the contrary, the white regime in South Africa has progressively withdrawn into its own racial shell and pursued its policy of racial discrimination and apartheid - a policy which has been roundly condemned by the enlightened world community. But that regime has remained frozen in its self-righteous conceit and has treated with cynicism and contempt all the attempts of the United Nations to reason with it or to persuade it to abandon its racist policies. South Africa, which was once a member of the Commonwealth, is no longer a member of that curious community of equal nations. Is there any valid reason why South Africa, which has been excluded from the Commonwealth, should not now be excluded also from the United Nations?

Several speakers before me have already enumerated the long and dismal catalogue of South Africa's violations of the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is therefore sufficient for me to say that the United Nations should no longer tolerate a situation in which 86 per cent of the territory in South Africa is a white zone reserved for the white minority of 18 per cent, and in which the African majority of 8 million, constituting 82 per cent of the population, is condemned to live in only 13 per cent of the territory and is, furthermore, subjected to discriminatory laws, denying them fundamental human rights. This monstrous injustice surely deserves some form of punitive action, because it seems that the perpetrator of this injustice does not know right from wrong.

Since 1946 the General Assembly has adopted countless resolutions in the hope that

the white regime in South Africa might abandon its policy of apartheid. What has been the reaction of the South African Government to those resolutions? The only virtue, if it can be called that, is that the South African Government has displayed a certain stubborn consistency in maintaining that the policy of apartheid is essentially a matter within its domestic jurisdiction in terms of Article 2(7) of the Charter and therefore outside the competence of the United Nations. Yesterday the representative of the white regime of South Africa not only reiterated this basic position but went further and claimed that South Africa was a country flowing, as it were, with milk and honey, where the whites are really terribly kind to the blacks; that South Africa does not pose a threat to international peace; that South Africa is more sinned against than sinning; that it is the United Nations that is out of step with South Africa and not the other way around; that apartheid is an inevitable historical necessity; that contact between the different races would bring disaster, and hence the races have to be separated from each other in their own interests.

This South African response is a piece of egotistical whitewash reminiscent of paternalistic colonialism. Evidently, the white regime in South Africa does not know yet that the Coloured man cannot live by bread alone.

Does not the presence of South Africa in the United Nations detract from the dignity of this Organization? How long will the United Nations shelter a Member which continues to flout with impunity all its resolutions, which does not believe in the dignity and equality of the human person and which violates the very moral basis on which the United Nations was founded? The credentials of the South African regime have been rejected by the General Assembly for four consecutive years. South Africa has been expelled from UNESCO, FAO, WHO and ILO, but here South Africa has continued to

confusion as to the implication of the rejection of its credentials by the General Assembly.

The opinion of the Legal Counsel submitted in 1970 was, in our judgment, essentially a legalistic interpretation based on the inadequacies of the present rules of procedure. Clearly, when the rules were formulated, no one anticipated a situation where a Member State would occupy its seat even after its credentials had been rejected for good and proper reason. Surely the United Nations may take a decision in accordance with its conscience. The argument that the representatives of the white regime in South Africa may continue to sit among us simply because there is no rival claimant is too superficial to merit serious consideration. It is a specious argument based on inadequate law.

We are not dealing only with the question of representation or its adequacy here. The Issues are far more Profound. We are concerned with the continued Presence among us of a Member State which justifies its violation of human rights in the name of the sanctity of domestic jurisdiction. if the Charter has not foreseen such a contingency, surely it is because the framers of the Charter did not anticipate that any Member would wilfully violate human rights and the principles of the Charter and continue to take refuge in this Organization.

It is because of the unsatisfactory legal opinion that the General Assembly has found itself unable to evict the representatives of South Africa. That is why the General Assembly has called upon the Security Council to review the relationship between the United Nation,; and South Africa and thereby placed upon the Security Council a truly tremendous responsibility.

What should be the relations between the United Nations and a Member State which is in constant violation of the principles of the Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights? I suggest to the Council that the answer to this question is quite clear, and that is that the United Nations should have no relations with such a Member.

I should like to pose this question a little differently. Would the United Nations admit a State which as a matter of policy violates fundamental human rights in order to keep under subjection the vast majority of its Coloured population? We cannot imagine that the United Nations would admit such a Member. Why, then, should the United Nations not expel such a Member, which has remained immune to all good and healthy influences and which indulges in the folly of regarding persons of a different race and colour as belonging to a lesser breed?

There are some among us who may believe that the expulsion of the white South African regime would create a bad precedent because it would place South Africa outside the influence of the United Nations. My delegation would regard the expulsion of South Africa as a good precedent. It is a good precedent and it should prove to be a warning to potential transgressors. Furthermore, my delegation believes that since South Africa has chosen to ignore for years the appeals of this Organization it is clearly beyond our capacity to influence it and, therefore, there is no sense in allowing it to continue to enjoy the respectability of this Organization's membership.

There are some who think, or who may think, that the principle of universality of this Organization would be violated if the South African regime were to be expelled. On the contrary, my delegation would say that the principle of universality would be safeguarded, would be respected, if the South African regime were to be expelled. Surely the presence of South Africa among us signifies the presence of a Member which has no respect for this Organization or for the principles on which it was found.

Universality of respect for human rights is the very basis of the universality of this Organization and is a necessary precondition for its membership.

At the San Francisco Conference on the United Nations Charter, those Members which were in favour of Article 6 of the Charter were of the opinion that the primary

purposes of the United Nations were peace and security and not universality. They were in favour of expelling States that were admittedly incorrigible and that violated the principles of the Charter in a persistent manner.

I put it to the Council that no Member State has violated the principles of the

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Charter with greater persistence or with greater conviction than South Africa. It is our view that South Africa has earned its expulsion by its own incorrigible conduct. We believe that the time has now come for this Organization to invoke the power given to it under Article 6 of the Charter in order to expel the white South African regime from this Organization - unless, of course, it has the good sense to withdraw from it voluntarily.

I suggest to the Council that the loss of this Member will be a gain to the dignity of this Organization and, furthermore, it will also be a reaffirmation of its faith in the principles on which it was founded. Of course South Africa's expulsion would not be an obstacle to its readmittance later on if justified by circumstances.

My delegation would hope that no member of the Security Council would seriously consider voting against a recommendation for the expulsion of the South African regime. I would suggest that this is not a fit case for the use of the veto. Members of the Security Council are not being called upon to vote against war, nor indeed on their own relations with South Africa, which are not under review.

What is under review is the nature of the relationship between the United Nations and a Member State that is in continual default. The Security Council is being called upon to vote virtually on the Integrity and dignity of this Organization. In the present situation it seems to us that it would be better indeed for South Africa to remain unrepresented in this Organization than to be represented by the white regime. The expul-

sion of that regime may not improve the situation in South Africa but I think it will certainly improve the situation in this Organization.

My delegation would therefore suggest that in these unusual circumstances members of the Security Council might consider showing greater deference to the views of the overwhelming majority of the Members of this Organization than to the views of the regime that has been proved guilty of continued violation of the principles of the United Nations.

It is unfortunate, but it seems unavoidable, that it should be necessary to expel the Member State in order to terminate the relations of the United Nations with the objectionable regime claiming to represent that State. There will be time enough to admit Azania when its people have won their freedom and dignity.

INDIA SOUTH AFRICA USA

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

Speech by Indian President at Dinner in Honour of Shahanshah of Iran

Following is the text of the speech by the President of the Republic of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad at the Banquet in honour of Their Majesties, the Shahanshah and the Shahbanou of Iran in New Delhi on October 2, 1974 ;

It is a great privilege to have with us today His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr and the Shahbanou of Iran. Their Majesties are well-known and respected

throughout India. This is not their first visit, but each time the Shahanshah has been with us, we have derived significant benefit from our exchange of views on international and bilateral affairs, which has invigorated the close, neighbourly and traditional relationship between Iran and India.

The Shahanshah is one of the outstanding statesmen of our times, who for over a generation has unerringly guided the destinies of the Iranian people. His Majesty combines the traditional virtues of a great civi-

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lisation with a modern, progressive and scientific dynamism; and the great progress achieved by Iran during recent years stands as an imperishable tribute to his wisdom, foresight and leadership.

It is an honour and pleasure to welcome Their Majesties to India, and we hope that their stay, which is all too brief, will be a pleasant one. We are sure that the discussions that will be held will lead to lasting and fruitful results in our, close and cooperative relations, to which His Imperial Majesty has always given the inspiration of fresh ideas and new dimensions.

Your Imperial Majesty, if I may be permitted to be personal may I say that since I was elected to be the President of this country, you are the first Head of State I have the honour to receive. I am immensely pleased at this, and consider it a special privilege and a happy augury. I would also like to recall on this occasion the privilege of a friendly and fruitful exchange of views with Your Imperial Majesty at Tehran in November 1968 when I visited your country as Minister for Industrial Development.

Like the rest of the world, India too is in the process of rapid change. Since our independence, we have made significant strides in the social, economic and political fields. And yet, all of us - the Government and the people - feel that the pace of Progress could be still quicker. The revolution of rising expectations often seems to march ahead of our economic and social achieve-

ments. We shall continue to bend our energies and intensify our endeavours for national reconstruction and development, a task in which modern science and technology have still to pay their full debt to humanity. In these efforts, the example of Iran and the cooperation between your two countries in the economic field have been of inestimable encouragement and assistance.

Your Majesty's Pronouncements and the Imperial Governments exertions for mitigating the present economic crisis is a measure of your generosity as well as of a profound comprehension of the indivisibility of world economic forces. Your Majesty has equally been a leading proponent for the removal of barriers restricting the flow of trade, commerce and communications in our region and for intensified cooperation in the developing world. We fully share these doctrines and are ready to cooperate in promoting their fulfilment. Between our two countries the possibilities of cooperation are practically limitless, and we are happy to see that many of the concepts proposed by the Governments of Iran or India are now taking concrete shape; their full realisation will generate an increasing momentum in the industrial, economic and technological fields in the years to come. Our Government will be holding discussions on these important matters with Your Majesty's delegation and we shall share our experience and expertise so as to move forward with mutual confidence on our long road of friendship and cooperation.

Our culture and traditions, Your Majesty, go back many thousand years of recorded history into the myths and legends from the dawn of civilisation. They have been closely examined by scientists and amply described by our learned scholars; but perhaps they reside more securely and speak more eloquently in the way of life of our two peoples, in their customs and manners, their arts and crafts, in their language and expression, and in the common values which they have carefully preserved through innumerable generations and the massive convulsions of history.

It is not surprising therefore if in the

modern context also we continue to share these common values in our international and bilateral attitudes. Both our countries believe in the peaceful settlement of disputes by direct and friendly discussions; we believe in the sovereignty and in the right of independent decision of all nations; we believe in regional cooperation for the benefit of all the peoples concerned. As Asian countries, we have bitter experience of the discord and dissension which have so often and so disastrously been sown in our midst by foreign interest or design. We recognise the strength and necessity of relying on our own resources and skills, and we are confident that together, with friendly nations of our region we shall not fail in our obligations to posterity.

Today, the 2nd of October, is the anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Indian Nation. Mahatma Gandhi measured the achievements of Independence and the growth of prosperity by the condition of the poor and unprivileged - those whose myriad labours and loyalties ensure the power and continuity of the State. He considered national frontiers as bonds linking the world brotherhood of nations.

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The arrival of Their Majesties on Indian soil on this auspicious and historic day is a matter of special satisfaction to us.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses and drink to His Imperial Majesty Mohamed Raza Shah Pahlavi; to Her Imperial Majesty Farah Pahlavi; and to the ancient past and the longer future of friendship between Iran and India.

IRAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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Shahanshah of Iran's Reply

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Following is the text of the speech  
Shahanshah of Iran at the Banquet given by  
President Ahmed in New Delhi on October 2,  
1974:

I wish to thank you for the kind words  
you expressed towards the Shahbanou, my-  
self and my country. I know that these words  
are really those of a friend, since they reflect  
a close historical and spiritual bond of many  
thousands of years, the like of which cannot  
be easily found in the relations of other world  
nations. The best evidence of this are, per-  
haps, the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, the  
late great leader of India and the beloved  
father of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, in his book  
"The Discovery of India" which I quote here:

"Among the many peoples and races who  
have come in contact with India's life and  
culture, the oldest and most persistent have  
been the Iranians."

It would take me many hours to delve  
into our historical, cultural, intellectual and  
artistic relationship of a few thousand years.  
But there is really no need to do so, for your  
people like ours are aware of the value of  
these ancient ties, the ties that have been  
very clearly recorded in the history of the  
world.

I personally have several times visited  
your country, and had the pleasure of  
receiving distinguished Indian personalities,  
among whom have been Jawaharlal Nehru  
in the year 1959, President Radha Krishnan  
in the year 1963, President V. V. Giri in the  
year 1971 and the recent visit this year of  
Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

It is only appropriate to mention that  
in 1968, you as the Minister of Industry of  
India, visited my country and on that  
occasion I had the pleasure of meeting you.

During this period of time numerous treaties, agreements and accords of friendship, commerce, navigation, economic and cultural co-operation have been concluded between our two countries. A joint commission for economic, commercial and technical co-operation had also been set up.

In regard to economic co-operation the important protocol which has been signed between our two countries concerns oil, chemical fertilisers, iron ore, steel, cement, textile, fishing, tea, navigation, etc. But the possibilities of the strengthening of this economic co-operation between the two countries is so vast that all these are only the primary stages.

Still, our two nations not only have these possibilities, but they also have other vital grounds at their disposal of which the most important is regional co-operation for the strengthening of peace throughout this region of the world.

Another important factor is the formation of an economic inter-relationship in the northern part of the Indian-Ocean region. In our opinion it could be an organisation with membership of all countries of the Indian Ocean, namely Iran, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, eventually Indo-chinese countries, as well as Australia.

We are of the opinion that on the basis of co-operation and goodwill we could assist in the progress of all developing countries, even though they are not located in this region of the world. It was on this concept and belief that my country proposed an International Development Fund in the form of a neutral international bank, in which the oil producing, the developing and the developed industrial countries could jointly participate. Your country welcomed the project and recommended it to ECAFE. Some other countries have already expressed their support, but we expect that this project, which is

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solely for the benefit of humanity without any prejudice, should receive much more confirmation.

In addition to these economic co-operations, I personally believe that there is a moral mission for nations like India and Iran, who are inheritors of a great spiritual heritage, to defend these values and to spread it among the human society of today. We feel this society in spite of all its extraordinary progress in science and technology and enjoying the highest possible material gifts that until now could be possible for mankind, is a sick society, because material advances are not coordinated with spiritual values and principles. Incidentally, the most modern societies are more susceptible to these crises. Violence, terror, transgression, hopelessness, bewilderment are everywhere aggravating these societies. I believe that the values, spiritual and moral, factors which could give the present society more human morality, must be furnished from our ancient Asia, this continent that throughout history had the highest degree of philosophy, spirituality, and thoughtfulness and had elevated these into its culture and civilisation of today.

The highest manifestations of these principles and values undoubtedly are peace, understanding and mutual trust between nations, and the firm belief that war is a worthless remedy for solving problems and disputes. Surely this spirit of goodwill and understanding among the nations can save the world from the futility of wars, which are becoming more and more destructive. I would like to co-ordinate this main principle, upon which we have firm belief, with the special conditions of this sub-continent and to state that it is in the interests of the countries of this region, namely India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, with all three of which we have friendly ties and sincerely wish for their welfare and progress, to maintain complete peace, friendship, and co-operation among themselves. In this way all their manpower, vast material potentialities and rich natural resources could only be used to serve their national progress and raise the standard of living, and thereby assist the high interest of, all mankind. It is obvious that my country will spare no effort to cooperate with them as a friend and brother country.

Mr. President, now after a lengthy visit to a few friendly countries I have come to India on the last lap of my trip. I am now in the historical capital of your country which is so closely linked with Iranian history. I am glad to state that I have everywhere seen that an overall effort is being made in raising the level of economic and social life and activities and endeavours in the way of constructing and raising the standard of living of society. I have noticed that they all desire peace and international understanding for the maintenance of the success of their efforts.

I sincerely wish this peace for your country in which the problems and difficulties, parallel with its potentialities, natural resources and manpower, are tremendous and trust that this great nation, by enjoying the wise leadership of yourself, moves towards the progress and greatness and it really deserves.

I wish health and happiness for you. Mr. President, who have assumed the presidency of your country during one of the most critical periods of the world, for Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the able and far-sighted Prime Minister of India, for the increasing welfare of the great nation of India, the expansion and strengthening of friendship and co-operation between our two countries and further peace and international understanding.

IRAN INDIA USA PAKISTAN BANGLADESH BURMA MALAYSIA THAILAND REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE AUSTRALIA

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

IRAN

Indo-Iran Joint Communique

Following is the text of joint communique issued in New Delhi on October 4, 1974 at the conclusion of the State visit of His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr and Her Imperial Majesty the Shahbanou of Iran to India:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and Begum Abida Ahmed, His Imperial Majesty Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Aryamehr, the Shahanshah of Iran and Her Imperial Majesty Farah Pahlavi, the Shahbanou of Iran, paid a State visit to India from the October 2 to 4, 1974.

The visit of His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr and Her Imperial

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Majesty the Shahbanou of Iran is a manifestation of the very close and friendly relations existing between the two countries and the common will of the two peoples to expand and deepen their co-operation in all fields.

His Imperial Majesty the Shahbanou Aryamehr held detailed discussions with Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, on matters of international significance, mutual interest and bilateral co-operation. In these talks, the Foreign Minister of Iran H.E. Dr. Abbas Ali Khalatbari, the Ambassador of Iran in India, H.E. Mr. Mohammad Goodarzi, H.E. Hormoz Gharib and other senior officials of the Imperial Government of Iran also participated; and from the Indian side the Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh, the Foreign Secretary, the Ambassador of India in Iran and other senior officials of the Government of India.

These talks confirmed the close similarity of views of the two countries on international matters, on regional questions and on bilateral relations between Iran and India.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister reviewed the international situation and noted with satisfaction the global trend towards detente and negotiations. However, they observed with regret, that there still existed explosive situations of conflict and

tension in other areas of the world, such as in the Middle East and Indo-China.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister expressed the hope that the same process of detente would also be extended to all areas of the world.

They reaffirmed their conviction that a peaceful and secure world order can only be achieved by strict adherence by all countries to the principles of the U.N. Charter, non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations, respect for their sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and the inadmissibility of the use of force in international relations for settling outstanding disputes or obtaining territorial gain.

The Prime Minister of India explained recent developments and initiatives taken towards the normalisation of relations among the countries of the sub-continent. His Imperial Majesty welcomed these developments. Both sides expressed their conviction that the success of such measures would contribute not only to friendship and co-operation in the sub-continent but also to the stability of the region and to world peace.

Iran and India welcomed the admission of Bangladesh to the United Nations and looked forward to Bangladesh playing its rightful role in the world community. The two sides expressed their sympathy at the loss of life and property caused by the devastating floods in Bangladesh.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister discussed developments in the Indian Ocean area. India and Iran were both members of the UN ad hoc committee on the Indian Ocean; they noted with satisfaction that the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace free from Great Power rivalry, tension and military escalation was gaining wider acceptance and support and that there was a growing realisation among States that the implementation of the UN Resolutions in this regard would contribute towards strengthening international peace and security and promoting the true interests of the littoral States of the Indian Ocean. They called upon

the Great Powers to extend their co-operation in establishing the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. They agreed that the peace and security of these areas should be the concern and responsibility of the littoral states, and that there should be full co-operation among them to achieve this objective.

During the discussions, His Imperial Majesty outlined the increasing importance of the security and stability of the Persian gulf and the Straits of Hormoz. His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister were in full agreement that peace and tranquility of this region should be maintained and safeguarded by cooperation among the littoral states and that any issues which may exist should be settled in accordance with the U.N. Charter and without interference from outside.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister considered the situation in the Middle East and believed that the continuing crisis posed a serious threat to world peace. They urged the need for a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution No. 242 of November 22, 1967 and the ensuing resolutions in this regard, as well as for the realisation of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

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His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister considered the situation in Cyprus. Reiterating their support to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus, they called for the fulfilment of the Resolutions of the Security Council on Cyprus, and expressed the view that the future political arrangements in Cyprus should be worked out through consultations between the two communities in a peaceful climate free from external pressures or interference.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister considered the situation in Indo-China and expressed their sincere hope that a peaceful solution will be found to the problems of the area through negotiations without interference from outside.

Reviewing the situation in Vietnam, they agreed on the urgent need for the full implementation of the Paris Agreement by the parties concerned in order to restore peace and tranquility in that region and enable the people to live free from suffering and war.

The two sides welcomed the recognition of the independence of Guinea-Bissau by Portugal, the decision to grant independence to Mozambique and the steps towards decolonisation being taken in respect of Angola. They hoped that the last vestiges of colonialism in any form as well as all types of racial discrimination would disappear in the shortest possible time.

While reviewing the question of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister stressed the importance of harnessing nuclear power for economic development and human welfare and of ensuring that access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes does not remain confined to a few countries.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister also agreed on the necessity of achieving complete and universal disarmament including nuclear disarmament under effective international control. In this connection, the Prime Minister welcomed the proposal of His Imperial Majesty to the 29th Session of the United Nations General Assembly for the establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone in the Middle East and expressed Indian Government's support for this proposal.

His Imperial Majesty explained the situation on the Western borders of Iran and the apprehension that the present situation and the repetition of these border incidents would lead to instability and endanger the peace of this region.

The Indian side expressed full understanding of the dimensions of the problem. His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister recalling the Security Council Resolution 348 emphasized the need to resolve the problem as early as possible in accordance with the rules and norms of International Law and

practice and the principles of the UN Charter.

The two leaders discussed in detail the problems created by the world economic crisis, particularly world inflation, which had more severely affected the economies of the developing countries. The Prime Minister of India conveyed India's appreciation and support for the initiatives taken by His Imperial Majesty to render organised international assistance, such as the proposal for establishing a Special Fund, to countries whose balance of payments had been seriously affected by these developments.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister agreed that there was scope for greater economic and cultural cooperation within the region as a whole covering the littoral countries of the Indian Ocean. They agreed that such cooperation would promote increased trade, greater regional self-reliance and the fuller utilisation of the mineral, natural and manpower resources of the region for the benefit of the people of all the countries concerned.

His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the progress of economic, technical and commercial cooperation between their two countries and noted with satisfaction that considerable progress has been made in these fields, notably in respect of the Kudremukh iron ore project and the Alumina and Joint Shipping Line projects. They have directed their respective agencies in the two countries to expedite the implementation of these projects and others which are under consideration, such as the maximisation of production in selected industries in India for supply to Iran, the manufacture of printing paper in India, the supply of railway equipment and the production of other commodities such as cement, etc. They

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were of the firm view that efforts should continue and be intensified to expand the areas of cooperation for the benefit of the two countries.

His Imperial Majesty The Shahanshah and The Shahbanou expressed their deep ap-

reciation for the warm and friendly welcome extended to them and to the members of their party by the Government and people of India. Their Imperial Majesties extended an invitation to the President of India and Begum, Abida Ahmed to visit Iran. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

IRAN INDIA USA CHINA MALI BANGLADESH ISRAEL CYPRUS PERU VIETNAM FRANCE GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU PORTUGAL MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Statement of Shri Y. B. Chavan on Indo-US Joint Commission

Following is the text of the statement made by Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs, on the occasion of setting up of Indo-US Joint Commission in New Delhi on October 28, 1974:

The signing of this Agreement to set up an Indo-U.S. Joint Commission is indeed an important landmark in Indo-American relations and it is a concrete expression of the desire of our two governments to build up an institutional framework for meaningful co-operation. The Commission and its various sub-commissions will facilitate contacts and exchanges in such diverse fields as trade and commerce, economic cooperation, science, technology, education and culture. The Commission would enable the two countries to identify new areas of cooperation, and accelerate the growth of trade. It would also provide institutional channels for an exchange of ideas and knowledge. The establishment of the Commission fits in with the larger pattern of emerging inter-dependence of the world in which no country can be entirely self-sufficient and where there is no real alter-

native to peaceful international cooperation.

Much still remains to be done in promoting a better economic relationship between India and the United States. A significant potential exists for India to increase her exports to the United States and for America to share her technological expertise and capital resources with India. In terms of global trade, America is one of our biggest partners but Indian exports form only 0.7 per cent of America's world imports and India has at present an adverse balance of trade. We hope American trade policies will be liberalised to facilitate imports from developing countries. If we export more to the United States, we will be in a better position to import more from the United States. There are also good prospects for economic cooperation in other areas such as the development of energy resources, communications, agriculture, research, fertilizers and other fields. Much can also be done in promoting joint ventures. Scientific and technological exchange is another area where we can build bridges of knowledge and understanding.. Scientists of the two countries can meet and exchange information on scientific and technological problems. Cultural and educational cooperation provided under the Joint Commission could add another dimension to an area where there has already been substantial cooperation between the two countries. All in all, the Joint Commission provides a good opportunity for both countries to take the process of their developing relations a stage further and build up a new edifice of positive, constructive, mature and realistic friendship in all spheres.

Mr. Secretary, in signing this agreement today, we have already registered substantial progress in giving a purposeful direction to our relations. Let me express the hope that in coming months and years these relations will be further strengthened, secure in the belief that we share the common objectives of promoting peace, stability and cooperation bilaterally, regionally and globally.

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Agreement to set up Joint Commission

Following is the text of the Agreement signed by Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan and Secretary of State, Dr. Henry A. Kissinger in New Delhi on October 28, 1974 to establish a joint commission on economic, commercial, scientific, technological, educational and cultural cooperation:

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the United States of America,

Guided by a common desire to strengthen further the friendly relations between their two countries,

Determined to explore the possibilities of fostering mutually advantageous cooperation between them in the economic, commercial, scientific, technological, educational and cultural fields,

Have agreed as follows:

### ARTICLE 1

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the United States of America hereby constitute a Joint Commission on Economic, Commercial, Scientific, Technological, Educational and Cultural Cooperation.

### ARTICLE 2

The tasks of the Commission may include the following:

1. in the field of economic and commercial cooperation:

(a) to review matters concerning economic and commercial relations between the two countries;

(b) to identify and investigate areas for closer cooperation, to make joint studies in areas of common interest and to recommend Programs concerning economic growth and development through mutual cooperation;

(c) to recommend measures and activities to stimulate two-way trade between the two countries consistent with their international obligations, which may include inter alia the sending of trade promotion missions and trade delegations;

(d) to promote possibilities of increased investment consistent with the investment policies of the two countries; and

(e) to explore possibilities to enhanced cooperation between financial, industrial and commercial institutions and organisations.

2. In the field of scientific and technological cooperation:

(a) to review and recommend plans for cooperation between the two countries and measures for their implementation and coordination, which may include inter alia the exchange of specialists and information and the organisation of bilateral seminars on problems of common interest;

(b) to identify common scientific and technological problems and to formulate and recommend joint research programs which might lead to application of results in industry, agriculture, health and other fields; and

(c) to explore possibilities of enhanced scientific and technical cooperation between the two Governments, their agencies and other institutions in the two countries.

3. In the field of education and cultural cooperation:

(a) to review and recommend programs, plans and priorities for cooperative efforts to facilitate the interchange of people, materials and ideas in the broad fields of education, scholarship, and such areas of cultural endeavour as performing arts, fine arts, libraries and museums, sports and mass communications; and

(b) to review periodically the progress and functioning of existing programmes and arrangements, making recommendations as may be appropriate.

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4. The Commission may also consider matters arising in the course of the implementation of the agreements between the two countries in force from time to time in the fields of economic, commercial, scientific, technological, educational and cultural cooperation including those which may be signed hereafter and make recommendations for the successful fulfilment of those agreements.

5. The Commission shall also be competent to review other problems that might arise in the implementation of this Agreement and other related matters that might be brought up by either party.

### ARTICLE 3

The Commission shall consist of representatives of the two Governments with the representation of each government headed by an official of ministerial or cabinet rank.

The Commission may appoint subcom-

missions and other bodies as may be necessary to deal with specific issues of fields of cooperation and to make appropriate progress reports.

#### ARTICLE 4

The Commission shall hold its meetings not less than once a year. Meetings of the Commission shall be held in each country alternately. The Commission may invite to such meetings, as may be mutually agreed, the required number of experts and advisers. Special meetings of the Commission may be convened by mutual agreement.

#### ARTICLE 5

Within its areas of competence, the Commission may submit mutually agreed findings or proposals to the respective Governments.

#### ARTICLE 6

Administrative expenses incidental to the meetings of the Commission and its Subcommissions shall be borne by the country in which the meeting is held. Each Government shall bear the expenses of its own representation at the meetings of the Commission and its Subcommissions including the expenses of travel to such meetings as well as board and lodging and other personal expenses of its representatives. All procedural and administrative matters not provided for herein shall be determined by the Commission or its Subcommissions upon the mutual consent of the two sides.

#### ARTICLE 7

This Agreement shall remain in force, subject to the right of either Government to terminate it upon notification to the other Government in writing of its intention to do so, such notification being made not later than six months prior to the proposed date of termination of the Agreement. Unless otherwise agreed, the termination of this Agreement or of the activities of the Commission shall not affect the validity or duration of any other agreements entered into by the two Governments in the fields of econo-

mic, commercial, scientific, technological, educational or cultural cooperation.

#### ARTICLE 8

This Agreement shall come into force from the date of signature hereof.

Done in New Delhi on October 28, 1974 in two original copies each in Hindi and English, both texts being equally authentic.

USA INDIA

**Date :** Oct 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-U.S. Joint Communique

Following is the text of the joint communique issued in New Delhi on October 29, 1974 at the end of Dr. Henry A. Kissinger's official visit to India:

At the invitation of the Government of India, the U.S. Secretary of State, Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, paid an official visit to India from October 27 to 30, 1974. The Secretary called on the President of India and held discussions with the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and other senior Ministers and officials of the Government of India. He conveyed to the President and the Prime

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Minister, President Ford's personal greetings and his satisfaction over the improvement in U.S.-Indian relations. The cordial and frank nature of the discussions during the Secretary's visit reflected the desire and interest of both countries in broadening the basis for their relationship and in strengthening the

many contacts and ties between the Indian and American people.

During the discussions there was an exchange of views on various aspects of bilateral relations, the situation in South Asia and neighbouring regions and a review of the global situation including the world economic situation.

The Indian side explained the initiative and steps it had taken under the Simla Agreement towards normalization, and for the establishment of durable peace and cooperative relations between the countries of the sub-continent. The American side expressed its satisfaction at the initiative taken by the Prime Minister of India and the effort of other leaders of South Asia and at the progress that had been made in bringing about regional peace and cooperation and expressed their support for the Simla process. Both sides agreed that it was in the interest of all the countries of the region to live in peace and harmony on the basis of sovereign equality and without intervention by outside powers or attempts by such powers to gain positions of special privilege in the region.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction at the improvement that has taken place in their bilateral relations and agreed that based on their democratic traditions, structure of Government and past relationship, there was Considerable scope for further strengthening of bilateral relations. Both sides affirmed that there is no conflict of national interests and that Indo-American relations are based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and mutual understanding.

The two sides agreed that it was desirable to promote cooperation between the two countries and that the Agreement to set up an Indo-U.S. Joint Commission which Secretary Kissinger and Foreign Minister Chavan signed on October 28 marked a significant step forward in building a framework for more mature and meaningful relations and active cooperation. They expressed confidence that the Joint Commission would facilitate contacts and exchanges in the field of

trade and commerce, economic cooperation, science and technology, education and culture and other fields. The first meeting of the Joint Commission was held in New Delhi on October 28, 1974 and the next meeting will be held in Washington early next year. It was also agreed that sub-commissions would soon be established and begin their regular meetings in New Delhi and Washington.

The Secretary reviewed recent developments toward a lasting peace in the Middle East. The Indian side welcomed the progress so far achieved. Both sides expressed the hope that a just and lasting peace will be achieved on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The Secretary reviewed progress to date in implementing the Paris accords on Indo-China. Both sides expressed the hope that just and lasting peace would be established in Indo-China on the basis of respect for the independence and sovereignty of the States of the region without any outside interference.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the series of agreements which have helped to reduce tension in Europe. They expressed satisfaction at the process of decolonization in Africa and expressed the hope that this process will be accelerated.

In reviewing the inter-national situation, both sides expressed satisfaction that relaxation of tensions and development of co-operation are becoming the main characteristics of international life. They expressed their strong support for further efforts to reduce international tensions and build a global detente. On disarmament matters the Secretary described current U.S.-Soviet efforts to accelerate progress in reaching agreements on strategic arms limitation. Both sides expressed their support for the realization of concrete measures in the field of arms limitation and disarmament. The Secretary also discussed U.S. concern over the implications for regional and global stability of nuclear proliferation. The Indian side reiterated its consistent position that the highest priority in international efforts

should be accorded to nuclear disarmament and that in order to achieve international peace and stability, all proliferation of nuc-

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lear weapons should be stopped. The Indian side also affirmed India's policy not to develop nuclear weapons and to use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes only. The U.S. side welcomes the Government of India's affirmation in this regard. There was mutual recognition of the need of putting nuclear technology to constructive use, particularly for developing countries, and of ensuring that nuclear energy does not contribute to any proliferation of nuclear weapons.

In reviewing the current international economic situation and the rising prices of food, fertiliser, fuel, industrial materials and technology both sides agreed that cooperative efforts by governments were called for to prevent further deterioration of the world economic structure to the detriment of both the developed and the developing nations. The two sides noted the serious situation developing in the most seriously affected Countries as a result of rising prices and the paucity of resources now available to them. They expressed the hope that the forthcoming World Food Conference in Rome will find a way of conserving world food stocks and making them available to the most seriously affected developing nations on more favourable terms. They also agreed to exchange views and technology on a bilateral and multilateral basis in order to achieve increase in national food production and ensuring the necessary inputs of energy, fertilisers, technology, etc.

The U.S. Secretary of State thanked the Government of India for their cordiality and warm hospitality and invited the Minister of External Affairs of India to pay an official visit to U.S.A. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The Prime Minister conveyed an invitation for President Ford to visit India in 1975, and Secretary Kissinger accepted the invitation on behalf of the President.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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Indo-Czechoslovak Protocol

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Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on November 28, 1974 on the signing of Indo-Czechoslovak Protocol:

The Indo-Czechoslovak Protocol on economic, trade and technical cooperation was initialled here today by the two Co-Chairmen of Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee, H.E. Ing. Andrej Barcak, Czech Minister for Foreign Trade and Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Union Minister of Commerce. The Protocol will be signed on December 4, 1974 in the presence of the Prime Minister of India and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for economic, trade and technical cooperation, which met in Delhi from November 20 to 28 1974, conducted its meeting in four Working Groups on trade exchanges, science and technology, electronics and industrial co-operation.

The growth of Indo-Czechoslovak trade was reviewed and measures to increase it, taking into account the need of crucial commodities by both sides, was discussed. It was agreed that efforts should be made for the increase in export of non-traditional items from India to Czechoslovakia such as processed food products, Products of manufacturing units set UP with Czechoslovak assistance or collaboration, engineering products and a wide range of consumer goods. It was hoped that the credit extended under the Third Economic Agreement would be utilised expeditiously.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In the field of science and technology both sides drew up a concrete programme of

cooperation for the period January 1975 to December 1976, in accordance with the Agreement in this field signed in May, 1973. The Programme envisages cooperation in beneficiation of low grade ferrous and non-ferrous ores, building sciences, industrial microbiology and industrial fermentation, welding and high pressure vessel technology, medical fields, natural and artificial fibre and fabric, leather research, macromolecular chemistry, application of cybernetics in planning and cooperation in the field of farm machinery. It was agreed that the programme of cooperation should be development oriented through undertaking projects of applied nature of relevance to both countries.

In the new field of electronics both sides held detailed discussions on the various possible areas of collaboration and trade in electronic items. It was decided to expand the scope of the existing agreement for the production of radar equipment, expand mutual trade in electronic components, pay special attention to collaboration in computer peripherals and consider utilisation by the Czechoslovak side of the facilities offered by the Santa Cruz Electronic Export Processing Zone.

#### JOINT VENTURES

In the field of industrial cooperation both sides recognised the need for diversifying scope of collaboration into new areas of sophisticated technology. Examination of possibilities of undertaking joint ventures in third countries was particularly discussed by both sides. Constructive and time bound recommendations were also made relating to fuller utilisation of capacity of Czechoslovak aided projects.

The Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee was set up in 1966. Its fourth meeting was held in Prague in June last year. Its present meeting is the fifth one in the series.

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**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission

Following is the text of the Press Note issued in New Delhi on November 1, 1974 On the conclusion of the first meeting of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation:

The first meeting of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation was held in New Delhi from October 29 to November 1, 1974. The meeting provided an occasion for a review of the entire field of economic relations between the two countries at a ministerial level and set out the guidelines for an intensification and expansion of economic co-operation between the two countries.

The Indian delegation was led by Shri T. A. Pai, Minister for Industries and Civil Supplies and the leader of the Hungarian delegation was Dr. Gyula Horgos, Hungarian Minister for Machine Building and Metallurgy.

The Joint Commission conducted discussions in Working Groups and arrived at working programmes for cooperation in the fields of telecommunications and electronics, industry, science and technology, agriculture, chemicals and pharmaceuticals and trade exchange.

In the field of telecommunication equipment both sides were agreed that the large orders placed by India on Hungary, worth over Rs. 100 million, for microwave communication equipment, should be expeditiously implemented. Other areas where cooperation was envisaged are knowhow on microwave

antennae, multiplex and channelling equipment and telephone instruments to Hungary, high speed data transmission equipment and measuring instruments. The Hungarian side agreed to consider requests for the supply of special alloys used in telecommunication equipment. The Hungarian side was willing to supply etched aluminium foils and to consider Indian requests for the supply of pure aluminium foils. The Hungarian side expressed interest in obtaining from India a number of electronic components and telecommunication cables.

In the field of Science and Technology, the following items were identified as offering possibilities of close cooperation between the two countries: low cost large scale urban housing, utilisation of industrial by-products, joint research in the development of panel structures, utilisation of solar energy and geothermal energy, design of underground projects including the construction in underground railways, pollution control measures with special reference to corrosion in refinery and petrochemical plants, tropical treatment of Instruments and electronic equipment, sunflower oil production and plant physiology and latest trends in metallurgy of aluminium in place of other non-ferrous metals. On the basis of the items identified a concrete working programme was devised under the Agreement on Science and Technology concluded between the two countries on 14th February 1974.

In the field of agriculture, cooperation was particularly envisaged in the field of modern slaughter houses and carcass utilisation centres, commercial trout fishing, rearing of ducklings, protein rich maize production and supply of cereal, vegetable and fruit seeds to Hungary.

In the field of chemicals and pharmaceuticals it was agreed that in the private sector Hungarian proposals for the manufacture of such drugs as are approved by the Indian Government should be taken up by concerned units expeditiously. Drugs were identified for manufacturing collaboration in both private and public sectors. Other areas in which cooperation is envisaged are pro-

duction of Sera and Vaccines for veterinary and human purposes and technology for the formulation of plant protection chemicals.

In the field of trade, the Indian side emphasized the need for exporting more of non-traditional engineering and manufactured

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products and for ensuring supplies of crucial items within the trade plan of commodities such as steel and fertilizer. In respect of sharing of sea-cargo between the two countries on an equitable basis, both sides agreed to nominate experts for a meeting early in 1975 with a view to arriving at an Agreement.

In the field of industry proposals for cooperation and collaboration included production of seamless steel tubes, circulating water pumps, gas producer plants, production of tungsten metal through beneficiation and substitution by aluminium of other non-ferrous metals and the application of aluminium in different fields. As for non-traditional items of export from India the Hungarian side expressed its willingness to offtake automobile and bicycle components, sophisticated machine tools, and items relating to the vacuum technique machine industry.

HUNGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Accord on Industrial Cooperation

Following is the text of the press release issued in New Delhi on November 18, 1974 on Indo-Hungarian Accord on Industrial Co-

operation:

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed here today between India and Hungary for the supply of a complete coke oven plant by India. Shri Mantosh Sondhi, Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies, signed on behalf of India and Dr. Jozsef Kocsis, Hungarian Deputy Minister for Metallurgy and Machine Building Industry, signed on behalf of the People's Republic of Hungary. This was in pursuance of the decision taken at the meeting of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission held in New Delhi between October 28 and November 1, 1974.

There were detailed discussions between India and Hungary on India supplying the coke oven plant on a key-turn-key basis. The Hungarian delegation had earlier visited the various Indian steel plants and the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi. They were highly impressed by the technical competence achieved by India in the setting up and operation of steel plants.

Subject to mutual agreement being reached on technical and economic details, the project would be executed by the Engineering Projects (India) Limited, a public sector undertaking under the Department of Heavy Industry.

The possibilities of executing ventures in third countries jointly by the Engineering Projects (India) Limited and the corresponding Hungarian organisation were also discussed. It was felt that India could supply arc furnaces and continuous casting machines for mini steel plants, besides machine tools and other equipment for general engineering workshops and foundries.

An Indian technical team would leave within the next two weeks for Hungary for techno-commercial discussions on the project.

HUNGARY USA INDIA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

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HUNGARY

Prime Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Mr. Fock

Following is the text of speech of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the dinner held in honour of His Excellency Mr. Jenő Fock, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian Peoples Republic and Madame Fock on November 21, 1974 in New Delhi:

It is indeed a privilege to have in our midst the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Jenő Fock. He is an eminent leader of a people renowned for their creative talents and a statesman who has laboured with devotion to promote peace and international understanding. On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf I welcome him and Madame Fock and the distinguished members of his delegation.

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I remember with pleasure the spontaneous warmth and hospitality I received from the leaders and people of Hungary when I was there in 1972. My visit enabled me to glimpse the remarkable spirit of the Hungarian people, who have made such notable contribution to the world's wealth of music, art and science. I was impressed by the dynamism which has enabled them to build a new economic and social order, after shaking off Nazi domination. In particular, I was interested in the innovations made in industrial management and economic administration (of which you, Mr. Prime Minister, gave such a lucid account).

Ours is an ancient land but the Indian Republic is less than 25 years of age. In this

period, we have been able to break through the vicious circle of stagnation in which our country was caught during colonial rule. We have made major strides in agricultural and industrial production, although much more needs to be done to give meaning to the lives of large sections of our People. Our present day problems, most of which have been caused by external factors, have interfered with the many-sided efforts we intended to make in our Fifth Plan. However, I am confident that the inherent strength and resilience of our economy and the correctness of planned economic development will enable us to overcome the current difficulties and to move faster. There has not been, nor will there ever be perhaps a time without problems. That is part of life. There should be unremitting endeavour to build up capability to meet them. Our poet Rabindranath Tagore prayed - "Let me not be sheltered from dangers but give me strength to face them fearlessly".

During our struggle for freedom and in the last quarter of a century, we have seen that each new challenge has increased our determination to build a new India - a democratic and socialist India.

The most important precondition for building a better India is peace. That is why we seek friendship and goodwill with all our immediate neighbours, and with other countries - near and far. In the last two or three years, in particular, we have resolved many old disputes with our neighbours. We have worked consistently for a relationship of friendship and cooperation with Pakistan. Harmony on the sub-continent is an integral part of our effort for peace throughout the world.

Hungary and India have common devotion to world-wide peace. We are both heartened that the seedlings of detente are taking root in Europe. We hope that the time for flowering will not be far.

The deteriorating international economic situation has had serious repercussions on our own economy. It has affected our agricultural production, no less than our industrial programme. This challenge has rein-

forced our search for self-reliance. We have expedited the exploration and the development of available resources of oil, and the utilisation of our vast resources of coal. These efforts will take time to produce results. In the meantime a concerted attempt must be made by all nations to find solutions for the problem of scarcities of food and fertiliser and the trade imbalances which have attended the steep changes in prices of oil.

All nations seek economic progress. Many of them have also realised that economic prosperity has to be accompanied by the widest possible diffusion of social justice. But even social justice is not the end. Progress would be illusory if it led to the breaking of our vital links with Nature or to the loss of our capacity for spontaneous joy. Traditionally well-being has been judged by the number and variety of possessions.

But as nations accumulate more goods many of them are becoming conscious that real power comes not from the things you have, but from the number of things that you can do without. The strengthening of the inner defences of mankind should be a matter of foremost concern to all Statesmen and thinkers.

I hope that our discussions will help us to enlarge and diversify our bilateral co-operation and to work more purposefully for international understanding and the welfare of mankind. Your tour of India, brief as it is, should enable you to see our work of social regeneration.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of our distinguished guests, His Excellency Mr. Jenő Fock, and Madame Fock, to the continued progress and prosperity of the friendly Hungarian people and to ever-growing friendship and co-operation between Hungary and India.

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HUNGARY INDIA USA PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Hungarian Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, H.E. Mr. Jeno Fock delivered the following speech:

First of all I would like to express my gratitude for the hearty reception we were accorded in your capital.

I am really happy to reciprocate your memorable visit to Hungary in 1972.

The short time we have spent on the soil of the ancient India has convinced us that your people has sincere friendly sentiments towards us.

We have come to you with similar feelings. As the symbol of our respect to India we paid our tributes to the memories of Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, outstanding leaders of the Indian independence movement and also laid wreath to the memorial of Madame Prime Minister's predecessor, Lal Bahadur Shastri, the highly esteemed statesman.

Honourable Madame Prime Minister, I am convinced that in the days ahead of us we shall have successful and useful talks with you and with the members of your Government.

I do hope, our talks will strengthen the political, economic and cultural ties between our countries. This is what we would like to achieve and I know, this is your desire as well. We would like to further widen our relations in the different fields of economic activities, to increase and diversify our trade turnover as well as our technical-scientific co-operation. I deem it extremely important

to take further steps to get a better knowledge of the culture, scientific development and the whole life of the peoples of our countries.

I think I am justified to state that during the last years our co-operation has been harmoniously progressing according to our expectations and decisions and to our mutual satisfaction.

Mutual visits to our respective countries by delegations and by experts at different level have become regular. The fruitfulness of their work is proved among others by the fact, that as a result of our co-operation an increasing number of factories important for the national economy are being set up.

The first session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation was held a few weeks ago. The Joint Commission has fixed the main tendency of the further development in our economic relations and selected the industrial branches where we can co-operate most effectively. We have to do our best that the targets set by the Commission should be brought about to the greatest possible extent.

We have ahead of us to take part in a varied, interesting and rich programme in your beautiful and hospitable capital. Nevertheless I would like to state that I am looking forward to the visit to Agra, Hyderabad and Bombay as well. Since I have read a lot about the wonderful masterpieces of architecture and fine arts of your thousand years old culture, I am pleased to see some of them. I am looking forward to meet leaders and workers of industrial and agricultural objects including those working in the factories built by our co-operation. I would like to get the largest possible knowledge of the consistent, peaceful constructive work of the people of India. I am grateful for being given the chance for all these.

The Hungarian People's Republic as a member of the Community of the Socialist countries and India, one of the most important representative of the non-aligned coun-

tries have basically identical views or views close to each other on the main issues of the international policy. our two Governments have effectively contributed to making detente the main trend of the international situation.

We welcome the improvement brought about in the relations of the USSR and the USA. We deem a happy development the convocation of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation and consider the results achieved so far encouraging, though not completely satisfactory.

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We can put among the favourable events of the international policy among others, end of the Vietnam War and the continuing normalization of relations among the countries of the South-Asian sub-continent, in which the Government of India has played a very positive role as well as the agreements on Egyptian-Israeli and Syrian-Israeli troops separation and the democratic changes in Portugal and Greece.

However, further combined efforts are needed to consolidate the favourable results achieved in these fields, to ensure the strict implementation of the agreements signed and to bring about the complete and just settlement of unsolved issues against the forces opposing them.

This is the way we can make the trend of detente, that is equally favourable to all the nations, irreversible, extending it to all the areas of the world.

We agree with you in condemning interference with the internal affairs of other countries, toppling progressive minded governments by reactionary forces from outside - as it happened in Chile - and attempts to maintain and create hotbeds of wars.

The Hungarian Government highly appreciates the consistent anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist foreign policy of the Indian Government and considers it an important, positive factor of the present international

situation.

The Hungarian people has a great respect towards Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi for her untiring activities in safeguarding world peace and promoting social progress. From our part we would like to see that the Government of India would fully utilize her international prestige in future also for stabilizing peace and security and for strengthening the favourable trends existing in the international politics.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I propose a toast for further strengthening the friendly relations between our peoples and Governments, for the prosperity of the people of India and to the health of the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

HUNGARY INDIA USA VIETNAM MALI EGYPT ISRAEL SYRIA GREECE PORTUGAL CHILE

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Joint Communique

The following joint Communique was issued in New Delhi on November 26, 1974 at the end of the official visit of H.E. Mr. Jenő Fock to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, His Excellency Mr. Jenő Fock, paid an official visit to India from November 21 to 26, 1974.

The Chairman of the Council of Minister of the Hungarian People's Republic, Madame Fock, and his party received a warm and

cordial reception in India, reflecting the close and friendly ties existing between the two Governments and peoples.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic called on the President of the Republic of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. Jeno Fock paid homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri and laid wreaths at their Memorials in Rajghat, Shanti Vana and Vijay Ghat.

The Hungarian Prime Minister attended a Civic Reception at the historic Red Fort given in his honour by the citizens of Delhi.

Prime Minister Jeno Fock and members of his party visited Hyderabad and Bombay, met the leaders and representatives of the social, economic and cultural life of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and visited some industrial and scientific establishments.

In their discussions, the Prime Minister of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Prime Minister of India reviewed with satis-

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faction the existing ties of friendship and growing cooperation between the two countries and held talks on giving further momentum and direction for the accelerated growth of their bilateral relations. They also exchanged views on questions of mutual interest concerning the international situation. The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual confidence and understanding.

Taking part in the talks were:

ON THE HUNGARIAN SIDE: Dr. Gyula Horgos, Minister of Metallurgy & Machine Industry; Dr. Istvan Hetenyi, Under Secretary of State to the National Planning Office; Mr. Pal Racz, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Bela Szalai, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade; Dr. Ferenc Turi, Ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to India; Mr. Erno Lakatos, Deputy Chairman of the

Office of Information of the Council of Ministers; Dr. Peter Kos, Head of Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Lagos Nagy, Chief of Protocol; and Mr. Sando Kovacs, Head of the Secretariat of the Prime Minister's Office.

ON THE INDIAN SIDE: Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister for External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Shri T. A. Pai, Minister of Industry and Civil Supplies; Shri Bipin Pal Dass, Deputy Minister for External Affairs; Professor P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Miss C. P. Muthamma, Ambassador of India to Hungary; Shri K. P. S. Menon and Shri N. P. Jain, Joint Secretaries in the Ministry of External Affairs.

The Hungarian Prime Minister highly appreciated the all-round progress made in economic, social and cultural fields by India since her independence. He paid tribute to the peaceful foreign policy consistently pursued by India, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and her leading role in promoting world peace and waging a determined struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism. In this context, he recognised that the policy of non-alignment followed by India and by a large number of developing countries was playing an increasingly effective and important role in strengthening peace and developing International cooperation based on equity and justice.

The Prime Minister of India paid tribute to the progress accomplished by Hungary since her liberation from the Nazi domination in the transformation of her society and in the steady improvement of the standards of living of her people. She highly appreciated the foreign policy of Hungary which is dedicated to the cause of promoting world peace, supporting the people's struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism and racism, and strengthening peaceful and mutually beneficial cooperation among States with different social and political systems.

Both sides agreed that exchange of visits, particularly at higher level, between the two countries and periodic consultations between the two Governments on matters of mutual interest concerning both international situation as well as bilateral relations had contributed significantly to the warmth, understanding and growing cooperation between them.

Both sides stressed the need of introducing new dimensions to the existing traditional pattern of cooperation in the field of industrial collaboration and trade exchanges taking into account increasing industrial sophistication and diversification in the Indian economy and possibilities of organising collaboration in new fields based on their respective natural resources and technological and industrial capabilities.

The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction at the results of the first session of the Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation held in October-November 1974 indicating promising avenues of mutually advantageous cooperation in science and technology, telecommunications, agriculture and public health, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals, aluminium industry, medical instruments, shipping and increased two-way trade on a more diversified basis with greater intake of non-traditional items.

Both sides agreed to work actively for promoting joint cooperation for delivering equipment, materials, services and commodities to third countries. They also welcomed the agreement reached between the Planning bodies of the two countries for cooperation in the field of planning.

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Both sides agreed to develop further cooperation in the fields of culture, education, medical sciences, press, radio, television, tourism and sports.

The two Prime Ministers agreed to examine the possibilities of concluding new agreements in order to further strengthen, their bilateral relations.

The exchange of views on the international situation confirmed once more the closeness or identity of the positions of the two sides.

Both the Prime Ministers welcomed the general trend towards detente and progressive relaxation of international tensions as an important factor, consolidating peaceful co-existence and promoting stability and co-operation in international relations. They deemed it important and necessary to make detente an irreversible process through the united efforts of all the countries of the world and emphasised that detente can and should bring real practical benefits to all regions of the world.

Both sides welcomed with satisfaction the positive developments in Europe aimed at establishing lasting peace and cooperation. They agreed on the desirability of successfully completing the Second Stage of the European Conference on Peace and Security as soon as possible through the joint efforts of all the parties concerned in order to commence the Final Stage of negotiations.

Both sides expressed the hope that this favourable development in Europe would help in the relaxation of tensions and solution of conflicts in other parts of the world as well.

The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed that they attached special importance to the broad development of mutually advantageous co-operation and the consolidation of peace and stability in Asia through common efforts by all the states of this largest and most populated area of the world.

Both sides reiterated their conviction that the Simla Agreement of July 2, 1972, provided a firm basis for establishing good neighbourly relations and the building of durable peace in the Indian Sub-Continent. They welcomed the progress made so far towards normalisation of relations between the concerned States.

Both sides noted with satisfaction that Bangladesh had at long last been admitted to the membership of the United Nations. The Hungarian Prime Minister expressed

particular appreciation of his Government of the initiatives which the Government of India had consistently taken for expediting the process of normalisation of relations in the Sub-Continent.

With the aim of creating a lasting foundation for peace in South-East Asia, both sides emphasised the need for full and strict implementation of the Paris Agreements on Vietnam by all the parties concerned. They noted with satisfaction the progress made on the settlement of the situation in Laos. They expressed the hope that an early and peaceful settlement will be achieved in Cambodia in conformity with the interest and wishes of the Cambodian people without outside interference.

Both sides expressed the support for the desire of the Korean people to achieve peaceful reunification of their country.

The two Prime Ministers reviewed the developments in West Asia and reiterated their support for the need for an early implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 224 and 338 in order to promote just and peaceful settlement in West Asia. They called for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces and the restoration of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. In this connection they regarded the resumption of Geneva talks as essential.

The two Prime Ministers reiterated their support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus and for safeguarding its nonaligned foreign policy and called for the implementation of the Resolutions of the United Nations on Cyprus.

Both sides welcomed the process of decolonisation in Portuguese territories in Africa. They noted with satisfaction that Guinea Bissau, which achieved independence in October 1973, had now been admitted to the membership of the United Nations. They welcomed the victory of the freedom struggle of the people of Mozambique and the understanding reached between Portugal and

Mozambique leading to its eventual indepen-

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dence by June 1975. Both sides also expressed the earnest hope for the earliest independence in conditions of peace and honour for the peoples of Angola and other remaining colonies. They reiterated their resolve to continue to work for ending racialism, apartheid and oppression in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia by the white minority regimes.

Both sides declared their support to the United Nations recognising its significant role in safeguarding peace and in promoting, international cooperation.

Both supported the proposal for the convening of a World Disarmament Conference and the need for taking early concrete steps towards that end. They emphasised the importance of taking effective steps to bring about general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament under effective international control.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his party during their stay in India. He extended a cordial invitation to Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, to visit Hungary. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

HUNGARY INDIA USA MALI BANGLADESH FRANCE VIETNAM LAOS CAMBODIA KOREA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND CYPRUS GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE PORTUGAL ANGOLA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Trade Protocol with GDR

Following is the text of the press release issued in New Delhi On November 22, 1974 On the signing of a trade protocol between India and GDR:

A Trade Protocol between India and the German Democratic Republic for the year 1975 was signed here today on the conclusion of annual trade talks between the Trade Delegations of the two countries. The Protocol envisages a trade turn-over of Rs. 1,000 million.

The Protocol was signed by Shri A. S. Gill, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, on behalf of the Government of India and by Dr. W. Haenold, Director General, Department of Foreign Trade, on behalf of the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

The Trade Protocol for 1975 has included, for exports from India to the GDR, a number of engineering and non-traditional items such as ready-made garments, leather goods, machine tools, hand tools and knitting machines and sanitary fittings, besides the various traditional commodities like deoiled cakes, cashew kernels, tea, coffee, cotton textiles, jute manufactures, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins.

Principal items of import into India from the GDR during 1975 will be fertilisers, rolled steel and steel products, capital goods, machine tools, printing machinery, photo goods, organic and inorganic chemicals and optical and scientific instruments.

The trade talks were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere. Views on matters of mutual interest for the purpose of expanding and diversifying trade relations between the two countries were also exchanged.

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INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

# Volume No

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Prime Minister's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Mr. Sindermann

Following is the text of the, Prime minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's speech at the banquet hosted by her in honour of GDR Prime Minister in New Delhi on November 29, 1974:

On behalf of the Government and people of India, I am glad to welcome the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic, his wife and the distinguished members of his delegation. It is gracious of them to have accepted our invitation.

To the people of India, the very name Germany signifies creative power of a high order in art and philosophy as well as in science and technology. Our mutual attraction goes back to the days when German poets and scholars discovered Indian thought and helped India to regain her self-esteem.

We have special admiration for the manner in which the people of the German Democratic Republic have rebuilt their economy after the ravages to which it was subjected during the second world war. Your country has risen from the ashes to a position of being able to help many other nations which are still struggling towards modernisation.

There has been and is similarity in the outlooks of the GDR and India on a large number of international issues especially those involving peace and the reduction of tensions. Over the past two decades we have also developed mutually beneficial political and economic ties. We appreciated the support which our good friends of the GDR have

consistently extended to us in times of difficulty, particularly in 1971. We are equally grateful for the GDR's economic co-operation, which has been specially helpful in our machine-building and, chemical industry.

It has taken us years of battling against tremendous odds to break the centuries-old spell of stagnancy. Now we find that the more we progress and, however determined our efforts, the distance between us and the affluent nations is growing in many respects. This gap between the rich and the poor adds to world tension.

In international forums and elsewhere there seems to be an awareness that the affluent should curb their own acquisitive propensities, so that this gap can be bridged. But no effective action has been taken towards this end. It is the duty of statesmen and thinkers to make greater numbers of people conscious of the fact that nations owe responsibility not to themselves alone, but to all mankind.

This new internationalism does not mean the abolition of nations. Rather, it should rest on the recognition of the individual personality of each people, the equality of all nations and of the equal right of all to their just portion of opportunities. Progress, to endure, must be universal.

These ideas are implicit in the concept of peaceful co-existence, to which India has steadfastly subscribed, and which is finding increasing acceptance in Europe and elsewhere. Co-existence provides the only means of survival in a world in which the stock-piling of weapons, nuclear and conventional, is continuing apace.

The leaders of the German Democratic Republic have shown statesmanship in helping to bring about a spirit of detente in Europe. A reduction of tension is just as necessary in other parts of the world, notably West Asia. In our own region of Asia, we have persevered with faith in our attempts to establish a climate of trust and co-operation.

All countries are neighbours in the world of today. Greater goodwill can be generated and peace ensured by establishing closer bilateral relations with as many countries as possible, not by pursuing policies of exclusiveness. I hope that Indo-GDR bilateral relations will grow and will contribute to the strengthening of the framework of peace. The visit of our distinguished guests helps this process.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: I request you to raise your glasses to the health and success of His Excellency Mr. Sindermann and Madame Sindermann, to the continued progress and prosperity of the people of GDR and to evergrowing Indo-GDR friendship and cooperation.

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INDIA USA GERMANY PERU

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

GDR Prime Minister's Reply

Replying, H.E. Mr. Horst Sindermann delivered the following speech:

It is with sincere pleasure and great interest that we have followed your kind invitation to pay an official visit to your beautiful and great country.

From all my heart I thank you for the friendly reception accorded to us and for the sentiments of sincere friendship for and high appreciation of the German Democratic Republic and its policy, you have expressed.

Our visit to India is a manifestation of

the friendly relations which have developed between our peoples and states. The friendly relationship between the GDR and India, which has been existing for years, the successful balance of cooperation between our states, in particular after the establishment of diplomatic relations, are a good foundation for further expanding the bilateral relations and securing their long-term and stable development. I am certain that our present exchange of views on how to deepen cooperation in the various fields will bring our peoples even closer together, increase their respect of and appreciation for each other, to benefit our two peoples in this way and to serve peace.

The talks we began today reaffirmed my profound conviction that the governments of our two countries concur in the view to do everything to advance international detente.

The international climate has improved considerably. What matters now is to fulfil the aspirations and hopes of the peoples and to continue the positive process of detente despite all resistance and to find lasting settlement for those problems which are still threatening peace and security.

In our world the policy of peace and peaceful coexistence is the only alternative to war and mass destruction. With good reasons the policy of a state is, therefore, measured against how it fulfils the noble aspiration of safeguarding international peace and security, which lies in the interest of the peoples. Thanks to its anti-imperialist peace policy, which is in full harmony with this aspiration, India enjoys great prestige among the peoples of the world.

The significant share of India, being a peace-loving, non-aligned state, in the implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence in the international arena, in improving and stabilizing the situation on the sub-continent, in international detente and in the struggle for national liberation is highly appreciated by the Government and the people of the German Democratic Republic.

Your name, dear Madam Prime Minister,

is closely linked with the policy of your country aimed at peace and security.

A few weeks ago the German Democratic Republic celebrated the 25th anniversary of its foundation. We celebrated this anniversary conscious of the fact that we have created on German soil a state which - in spite of the great difficulties during the first years of its existence has come to be an internationally recognized and respected, a solid and prospering socialist state of workers and peasants. Closely allied with the Soviet Union and as a firm and inseparable part of the community of socialist states, the German Democratic Republic will continue to pursue consistently its policy aimed at safeguarding international peace and security.

The German Democratic Republic will also in future advocate that the principles of peaceful coexistence be implemented in practice as the basic norms for International relations between states having different social systems. Together with the Soviet Union and implementing the coordinated foreign policy objectives of the states of the socialist community it will in the same way continue to render its constructive contribution towards ensuring the early termination of the Conference on security and cooperation in Europe at the highest level and the adoption of the final documents. Together with its allies the German Democratic Republic believes that it is an important as well as topical task of their foreign policies to make the results achieved in the endeavour for international detente irreversible and to extend the process of detente to all regions of our globe.

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We are, therefore, glad to be able to state that also among the peoples of Asia the idea is gaining ground to create stable conditions for the maintenance of peace and for equal and good neighbourly cooperation by joint efforts.

The point is now to mobilize all forces of the states and peoples for the elimination of international conflicts and for the pre-

vention of new hotbeds of conflict. The Government of the German Democratic Republic takes the view that effective measures for a military detente are required to promote and strengthen the process of political detente. What matters here, is in the first line, to stop the arms race.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic is prepared to make its contribution to facilitate further progress in the field of disarmament and arms limitations. We support all constructive efforts aimed at achieving this objective. Thus, we attach great importance to the proposal to start as soon as possible with the practical preparations of a world disarmament conference.

To know that we agree with the Indian government in this and in other major international questions strengthen our belief that the existing foundation of friendly co-operation between the GDR and India can be enlarged and fortified in the interest of peace and for the mutual benefit of our peoples.

Dear Madam Prime Minister, the talks we have started today have been a good beginning of my stay in your country. They have demonstrated again that the friendly relations between the GDR and India have developed well, and that more possibilities can be opened up for their all-round expansion.

Permit me to raise my glass and drink to the health and well-being of your highly esteemed President, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, to the steadily growing and constantly strengthening friendship between the German Democratic Republic and India, to your personal well-being, dear Madam Prime Minister, the health of all present here.

USA INDIA PERU

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

**Volume No**

INDIA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

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Foreign Secretary's Statement on Palestine

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The following statement was made by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Kewal Singh in the U.N. General Assembly on November 19, 1974 On the question of Palestine:

The roots of independent India's attitude to the question of Palestine are to be found in the position taken in the early years of the century by the leaders of the nationalist movement of India, particularly of the Indian National Congress, the organization which formed the spearhead of all nationalist forces in India against the alien rule. Besides the considerable emotional sympathy for Arab nationalism, the Indian leaders also foresaw the seeds of future conflict in the policies pursued by outside powers in West Asia, an area in whose peace, stability and progress free India was bound to have a great stake, linked as India was with Palestine by ties of history, geography, faith and culture, which were further strengthened by the similarity of contemporary experience.

Our own struggle for national independence re-affirmed the principle that sovereignty belongs to the people of the country. It can neither be encroached upon nor limited by external forces. West Asia lies astride three continents and on the cross-roads of the global communication system. A conflict in this area can endanger world peace, as indeed

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it has over the last nearly three decades. This Assembly has pondered over the question of Palestine almost continuously over the last 25 years, whether directly, or through its related consequences. But the time has come when neither refinements of diplomacy nor a patchwork of so-called solutions can camouflage the key issue in West Asia, i.e. the inalienable rights, the hopes and aspi-

rations of the Palestinian people.

India was a member of the Special Committee of the eleven, set up by the special session of the General Assembly in 1947, "to investigate all questions and views relevant to the problems of Palestine." India took the position even at that stage that the question of the outrageous treatment of the Jews in Europe should not be linked to that of the independence of Palestine which belonged to the people - whatsoever their religious persuasion or preferences - who lived and worked there and who must shape the destiny of the country of their birth. We have seen the consequences of the decisions of 1947 since then - four wars, sustained tension and conflicts, massive movement of population out of their hearths and homes, loss of life and property, and constant danger to world peace and security.

Today the question of Palestine has been inscribed on the agenda of this Assembly, because what had been wrongly assumed in yester years as the constants of the situation have become the explosive variables of today. The agonising appeals of those whose legitimate rights have been ignored or denied over a quarter of a century have begun to be heard not necessarily because the fairness of their demands has dawned on the world community but because the logical thrust of history has added great potency to them. A large part of the world has become free from colonial domination and the subject people of yesterday have begun to assert their independence and their rights in a way which had not happened before. By a strange coincidence, some of the most needed raw materials of the world come from the region of West Asia and therefore it is no longer possible to ignore its political and economic weight.

The fundamental cause of the "situation in the Middle East" which this Assembly has debated practically since its very inception is undoubtedly the question of Palestine. But this is what precisely has not been tackled even though a series of resolutions have been passed, some as late as last year, recognising that the people of Palestine are entitled to self-determination in accordance with the

Charter of the United Nations. My delegation is gratified that at long last the sovereign representatives assembled here are now pondering over the question of Palestine. We are glad that the President of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Mr. Yasser Arafat was invited to address this Assembly and what we heard was a voice of reason, a passionate appeal for justice. In Mr. Arafat's speech we found echoes of the same values to which we are also dedicated, i.e. democracy, secularism, human dignity and common nationhood for multi-racial, multi-religious groups. Over a million people had to leave their hearths and homes for no reason other than that they professed a certain faith. They have been living in camps in conditions which should be a burden on the conscience of the international community. Israel has, since 1967, extended her occupation to areas far beyond the territory that was given her by the United Nations. And this occupation has continued. Why should we be surprised if a people who have been deprived of their homes and normal existence, were reduced to such frustration that they did not look upon the international community to restore to them their legitimate rights of return and resettlement. Today once again we have an opportunity of redressing an injustice which has been perpetrated for a generation and the United Nations, in conformity with its own Charter and resolutions, ought to promote the restoration of these rights.

India has expressed its solidarity with the Arab cause and with the people of Palestine. Our Prime Minister, in a message to Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, expressed India's profound sympathy for the cause which his organization represents. Mr. Arafat, in his reply of 22 October 1974, reciprocated as follows:

"The historic and cultural ties which have always linked the friendly Indian Republic with the Arab peoples, especially with the Palestinians, have always been an example of its strength and spontaneity. This enabled us to confront all difficulties faced by our two peoples all through the years of struggle against imperialism

and colonialism in all their forms.

The teachings of the great leader,  
Mahatma Gandhi and those of your great

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father, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had: an Impact, which cannot be erased, on the struggle for, freedom and dignity of nations and solidarity of the Asian and African people against the forces of occupation and tyranny."

What the people of Palestine are demanding is no more and no less than what every peoples are entitled for the natural and normal unfolding of the genius - an independent existence in dignity and honour. As Mr. Yasser Arafat said before this Assembly, for only then can the people of Palestine pour all their "resources into the mainstream of human civilization" and concentrate "Palestine creativity" on the services of humanity, India adheres to the resolution adopted by the fourth summit conference of Heads of State and Government of non-aligned countries and accepts the decision of the Arab summit of October, 1974 held in Rabat that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the representative of the Palestine people. Since 1967, India has consistently condemned the continued Israeli occupation of the Arab territories. The consequences of this aggression must be fully and finally, liquidated. An enduring solution in the Middle East based on justice and peace cannot be found without the participation of the Palestinian people. Together with all non-aligned countries and other peace-loving forces India has been demanding the restoration of justice and legitimate rights to the displaced people of Palestine. Then alone can a structure of durable peace in West Asia be built and then alone would the United Nations itself have lived up to the hopes and aspirations of the international community so nobly enshrined in its Charter.

INDIA USA ISRAEL MOROCCO

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

## INDIAN OCEAN

Statement by Minister of External Affairs

The following statement was made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan in New Delhi on November 14, 1974 at the Inauguration of the International Conference on the Indian Ocean:

I am thankful to the organizers of this International Conference on the Indian Ocean for asking me to address it. The World Peace Council and the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation are to be congratulated on responding to the invitation of the AU India Peace and Solidarity Organisation to convene an international conference in Delhi on a subject of great importance. I am glad that the response to this Conference has been encouraging, judging by the large number of distinguished delegates from abroad and from within the country who are present here.

The fact that the Conference is of a non-official nature does not diminish, but rather increases, its significance; for, there is need for full public awareness in all countries of what is happening in the Indian Ocean and for more active support of the people in the common task of preserving peace and tranquility in the Indian Ocean.

The Government and people of India whole heartedly endorse the objectives of this Conference, namely, the elimination of foreign military bases from, and preservation of peace in, the Indian Ocean. This is so, not for any reasons of expediency but of principle and deep conviction.

India's policy on the Indian Ocean is a logical and natural outcome of its policy of peaceful co-existence and non-alignment - fundamental tenets of foreign policy set by

the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru when India became independent. Only twenty seven years ago the decolonisation process

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was initiated in the Indian Ocean region with the transfer of power to this country. Our historical memories go back to the closing years of 18th and early years of 19th century when the naval rivalry among the then great powers resulted in their occupation of the entire Indian Ocean area. The interaction of the rivalries of the external powers and the disputes and quarrels among the littoral states and principalities resulted in the establishment of British, French, Dutch and Portuguese colonialism over the peoples of Asia and Africa. It is therefore no wonder that there is extreme sensitivity among the littoral nations regarding great power rivalries and rival naval deployments.

India has, therefore, for long worked consistently and steadfastly towards the goal of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, free from great power rivalry-and military involvement, We have repeatedly expressed our position that large scale presence of the navy of one Great Power is bound to attract the navies of other Great Powers, thus heightening tensions and creating problems for the littoral countries.

Most of the littoral countries of the Indian Ocean are developing countries, who wish to devote all their energies and resources to the immense task of economic development and who cannot but be adversely affected by the consequence of tension and rivalry in the Indian Ocean area. What happens in the Indian Ocean is of concern to all the littoral countries. India is particularly concerned as it is a maritime nation with a 4,000-mile long coastline and its major trade and communication routes traverse the Ocean. It is significant that the concept of Indian Ocean as a zone of peace has gained greater support over the last two or three years, and countries like Australia and New Zealand have also begun lending support to the proposal of a zone of peace.

However, taking into account the political and military realities, the onus for taking

concrete action towards establishment of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace lies clearly with the Great Powers; for it is they who have to curb their military presence and activity in the Indian Ocean and to eliminate existing bases and to refrain from setting up new bases.

It is in this context that India has voiced deep concern and anxiety over the projected expansion of the Diego Garcia military base, which will only aggravate the Great Power rivalry and tension. In our view not only such great power rivalry and tension affect adversely the interests of the littoral states, but they are also counter-productive from the point of view of the great powers themselves. Very often balance of power considerations are urged to justify the build-up of bases and naval deployments of external powers. We have seen elsewhere in the world that there is a mad momentum in the armaments race again in the name of the balance of power.

While peace is being strengthened by promoting detente and cooperation between the Great Powers in other areas of the world, the Indian Ocean should not become a scene of Great Power rivalry. This is not in consonance with the idea of relaxation of tensions throughout the world nor in keeping with the resolutions of the United Nations. It is also contrary to the aspirations of the overwhelming majority of the littoral countries of the Indian Ocean. In our day and age there is no strategy more effective and no concern more vital than that which serves the interests of peace and the welfare and progress of mankind. Unfortunately one still hears of justifications for external naval presences in the Indian Ocean or bases therein in terms of use of naval presence as an instrument of diplomatic leverage, a thesis reminiscent of the era of the gunboat diplomacy. In the present atomic age with its strategic compulsions, those who propose to wield such diplomatic leverage should not overlook that their very actions may end as self-fulfilling prophecies. The manipulators may be drawn into local disputes and be manipulated. This was one of the lessons of the tragedy of Vietnam.

In our view those who flout the consensus of the Indian Ocean littoral states and the majority of non-aligned nations are not adding to their credibility in regard to their interest in arms control measures. We in India feel that the question of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace is intimately and inextricably linked up with other proposals to promulgate various categories of peace and neutrality zones in different parts of Asia.

As far as the Indian Ocean is concerned, not only the people of the region but also the world community as a whole have already

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expressed their views and concerns. The UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution in December 1971 designating the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace for all time and called upon the Great Powers to halt further escalation and expansion of their military presence, and to eliminate their bases, military installations, nuclear weapons, etc., from the Indian Ocean. The Non-Aligned Nations Conferences at Lusaka in 1970 and Algiers in 1973 declared themselves unequivocally for the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The Ad-Hoc Committee of which India is a Member, which was established by the General Assembly, is also playing a valuable role in promoting the cause of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

It is not sufficient to pass resolutions or make protestations. It is time for action - before it is too late. The General Assembly's call to the Great Powers to refrain from expanding their military presence in the Indian Ocean as an essential first step has to be heeded. The UN Conference on the Indian Ocean proposed by the UN in its resolution this year should also take place at the possible date.

As far as India is concerned, I would once again appeal for sincere cooperation all concerned in making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace and tranquillity which will not only contribute to the security, stability and progress of the region but also serve the wider cause of world peace. It is hardly necessary to emphasise that the Indian Ocean and what

goes on in it is not the concern of India alone but is also the concern of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean and, if I may say so, is the concern of the international community as a whole. Indeed, the movement for making the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace gained momentum only after the adoption of the December 1971 Resolution by the UN General Assembly at the initiative of Sri Lanka.

I hope that the deliberations and conclusions of this Conference will make a positive contribution to the furtherance of our common aim.

INDIA USA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND VIETNAM ZAMBIA ALGERIA SRI LANKA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Indo-Japanese Prom Note on Talks on Economic Development

Following is the text of the Press Note issued in New Delhi on November 23, 1974 on the conclusion of talks between two Committees for Studies on Economic Development:

The India and Japan Committees for Studies on Economic Development have felt that as the International changes in the last couple of years have seriously effected the economies of the two countries, grounds for active cooperation, particularly with countries in West and South Fast Asia, should be considered and areas of interest identified on the fundamental basis of interdependence and mutual benefits especially in the fields of agriculture and labour-intensive and resource-oriented industries. The Committees were also of the opinion that both bilateral

and multilateral exchanges should be encouraged in this context.

The two-day meeting of the Committees concluded in New Delhi yesterday. The Indian Delegation was led by Shri B. R. Bhagat, Chairman of the India Committee while Dr. Saburo Okita, President of the Japan Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund was the leader of the Japanese Delegation.

In view of world-wide concern for food, energy and natural resources, the two delegations emphasised the need to create a co-operative relationship between the developed and developing countries.

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The Prime Ministers of India and Japan in their messages had expressed the hope that the joint meeting would further explore and enlarge the areas of cooperation in all possible fields.

In a joint statement issued at the conclusion of the talks by the two delegations, it was said that they considered the political and economic relations between India and Japan in the light of the changing world situation and possibilities of cooperation in scientific, cultural and educational fields. The fact that both countries were facing several problems, lent importance and urgency to the discussions which were held in a free, frank and friendly spirit.

The Chairman of the India Committee explained the purely peaceful nature of India's nuclear implosion. Japan's sensitivity in regard to nuclear explosion was recognised. Both delegations agreed that efforts should be made to keep the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

It was agreed that the next joint meeting would be held in Japan in 1975.

JAPAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Protocol on the Resumption of Trade between India and Pakistan

Following is the text of the Protocol on the resumption of trade between India and Pakistan signed by Mr. Ejaz Ahmad Naik, Commerce Secretary of Pakistan on behalf of the Government of Pakistan and Shri Y. T. Shah, Commerce Secretary of India on behalf of the Government of India, in New Delhi on November 30, 1974:

RECALLING the provisions of the Simla Agreement of 1972 to progressively restore and normalise relations between the two countries,

REAFFIRMING the desire of their respective Governments for resumption of trade and cooperation in economic and other agreed fields,

RESOLVING to explore possibilities of establishing channels of trade on a mutually beneficial basis,

REALISING the significant opportunities arising out of economic growth in the two countries, and

DESIRING to develop and extend the commercial relations between their two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

The Delegations of India and Pakistan which met in New Delhi from 26 to 30 November, 1974, have agreed as follows:

1. Necessary steps will be taken by both countries to lift the embargo on trade between the two countries with effect from 7th December, 1974.

2. Trade will be conducted on the basis of free convertible currency in accordance with the foreign exchange regulations in force from time to time in each country.
3. Trade between the two countries will be on the basis of the most-favoured-nation treatment in accordance with the provisions and decisions of the GATT.
4. To begin with, and unless otherwise agreed, trade will be conducted on Government-to-Government basis or through Government Controlled Trade Corporations of the two countries, for which purposes representatives of the concerned organisations will meet from time to time.

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In this connection, the immediate possibilities of commencing trade in the following commodities was noted:

Cotton  
Engineering goods  
Jute manufactures  
Iron Ore  
Railway equipment  
Rice and  
Tea.

5. Keeping in view the importance of immediate restoration of direct shipping services between the two countries for facilitating the movement of goods and trade, it was agreed that experts of the two countries should meet in December, 1974 to work out details in this regard.

Likewise, discussions will be arranged at a mutually convenient time for the restoration of the rail links to serve mutual trade.

6. A Trade Agreement will be concluded between India and Pakistan in the near future for which purpose a delegation from India will visit Pakistan in the first week of January, 1975.

This Protocol will come into force in

the date of signing.

PAKISTAN INDIA MALI RUSSIA USA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Indo-Pakistan Joint Communique on Air Links

Following is the text of Joint Communique issued at the end of Indo-Pakistan talks in Rawalpindi on November 22, 1974 On restoration of air links including over-flights between the two countries:

Pursuant to the decision of the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan as announced in the Joint Communique issued on September 14, 1974, the delegations of the two countries met in Rawalpindi from November 18 to November 22, 1974, to discuss the 1971 case regarding overflights and the question of resumption of overflights and airlinks between the two countries.

The delegation of India was led by His Excellency Shri Narottam Sahgal, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Government of India. It included officials from the Ministries of External Affairs, and Tourism and Civil Aviation and representatives of Air India and Indian Airlines.

The delegation of Pakistan was led by Major General (Retd) Fazal Muqem Khan, Secretary, Defence and Aviation. It included officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Civil Aviation Division and Department of Civil Aviation and representatives of Pakistan International Airlines.

The leaders of the two delegations recall-

ed with satisfaction the progress already achieved towards implementation of the provisions of the Simla Agreement for normalisation of relations. They expressed the hope that the negotiations on Civil Aviation matters would meet with the same success.

The two sides held detailed discussions with a view to evolving terms for the settlement of 1971 ICAO Case. Discussions were also held for finding mutually acceptable principles for the re-establishment of airlinks between the two countries and for the resumption of overflights.

The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and the two sides had a frank exchange of views. The two sides agreed that the discussions had helped them achieve a better appreciation of each other's viewpoints. They decided to continue the talks at another meeting to be held in New Delhi on a mutually convenient date.

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PAKISTAN INDIA USA MALI

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol For 1975

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on November 30, 1974 on the signing of Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol for 1975:

The Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol for the year 1975 was signed, here today. The Protocol envisages a trade turn-over of Rs. 113 crores between the two countries.

India's exports to Romania will include various traditional commodities like iron-ore, coffee, jute manufactures, black pepper, oil cakes, tanned and semi-tanned hides and skins and cotton textiles and non-traditional items like drugs and pharmaceuticals, machine tools, small hand tools, diesel engines, railway components such as automatic couplers, bogie castings, forgings, auto ancillaries and wire ropes.

In exchange, India will import from Romania items like chemicals fertilisers, oil prospecting and drilling equipment, rolled steel and steel products, electronic and T.V. components, lubricating oils, organic and inorganic chemicals.

The Indo-Romanian Trade talks were held in New Delhi between November 21 to 30, 1974 in a friendly and cordial atmosphere. Views on matters of mutual interest for the purpose of expanding and diversifying trade relations between the two countries were also exchanged.

OMAN ROMANIA INDIA USA RUSSIA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SUDAN

Speech by Indian President at Dinner in Honour of President Nimeri

Following is the text of the speech by the President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, at the dinner in honour of Mr. G. M. Nimeri in New Delhi on November 26, 1974:

It is a pleasure and a privilege to welcome once again our distinguished guest from the friendly country of the Sudan.

His Excellency is one of the distinguished statesmen of the Afro-Arab world; his wise counsels in the group of non-aligned nations and in all world forums evoke deep admiration and respect. We are greatly honoured, therefore, that we shall have the benefit of his views and ideas, which we are sure will reinforce our close understanding on many problems of mutual concern and also pave the way for intensified cooperation in all fields between our two countries.

The ancient Nubian civilisation is renowned as one of the great focal points of world culture and learning; and the high standards reached in the empires and civilisation of Dongola and other centres in the Sudan are well-known to scholars and historians throughout the world. It is not surprising therefore that there have been continuous contacts between India and the Sudan from the earliest times. These contacts have traversed the Indian Ocean, a high-way not only of culture, learning and religion, but also of trade and commerce down the ages.

Your Excellency, both our countries are striving to ensure that the same Indian

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Ocean which has been a traditional bond in our relations should remain free of tension and strife and preserve a tranquillity which is so essential for the progress of developing countries in this area. The Sudan and India along with our friends in Africa and Asia stand united in our efforts to achieve these objectives on which the peace and prosperity of our peoples so vitally depend.

In West Asia, the crisis continues due to the intransigence of Israel and its refusal to vacate Arab territories occupied by violence and armed aggression or to restore to the people of Palestine their inalienable rights to determine their future in their homeland. We are aware of the notable contributions of the Sudan towards the Arab cause and, more recently, the distinguished and valorous part played by their armed forces in the achievements and victories of the October war. I should like to assure His Excellency President Nimeri that the people and Government of India will always

stand firmly and with all their strength behind the just cause of the Arabs.

There have recently been welcome signs and developments in some parts of Africa and the process of de-colonisation by the new Government of Portugal is a tribute to the courageous liberation movements and their prolonged sacrifices. We have hailed the emergence of the Republic of Guinea Bissau and we now look forward to the time in the very near future when Mozambique and Angola will take their rightful place in the conclave of free nations. We are not unaware of the great contributions made towards these achievements by the Government and people of the Sudan.

At the same time however the forces of racism and apartheid, in defiance of the conscience of the world and the resolutions of the United Nations, continue to operate in Southern Africa. We can have no doubt that these policies also are doomed to defeat; and the day is not far off when we shall see freedom and independence spread to all the peoples of Africa. On these questions the support and assistance of the people and Government of India are well-known and will continue till the emancipation of all suppressed people throughout the Southern part of the African continent.

Mr. President, we have watched with admiration your strenuous efforts and achievements in bringing peace and unity in your great country. This achievement has become possible by your wisdom and vision which has set an example of tolerance, peaceful negotiations and conciliation. We are aware of the great riches of your vast land which you are now in the process of developing for the benefit of your people. We wish you, your Government and your people all success in the great tasks that lie ahead and assure you once more of our fullest co-operation by whatever contributions we can make.

Our country like yours has been affected by the global economic crisis and we are aware of your successful exertions towards its solution for Africa. We have set for

ourselves the same goals of rapid economic development combined with social justice, which only can meet the rising aspirations of our people and of the generations to come. Despite innumerable difficulties we shall not falter in our efforts to achieve these objectives. We hope that you will see something of these efforts in the agricultural, technical and other economic fields when you visit our factories and institutions in Bangalore, Poona and Bombay.

I am happy to see that the framework and foundation of cooperation between our two countries have been firmly established. We have a considerable volume of trade between our two countries and we have a number of plans and programmes for partnership in industrial projects, in training and in cooperation in the international sphere. These are matters which Your Excellency and the distinguished members of your delegation are now discussing in detail with our Prime Minister and our leaders. I am sure that we can confidently anticipate an intensification in our collaboration in the coming years. I am happy to say that during the course of your visit we shall be concluding agreements on economic, scientific and technical cooperation as well as in cultural matters. It will be our endeavour to ensure that the momentum created by your visit in these and other directions will be jointly maintained.

Your Excellency, we hope that you and members of your delegation will have a pleasant and useful stay in our country. When you go back to the Sudan, please assure your people of our great friendship

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and brotherly feelings for the people of the Sudan and of our happiness at your having been able to pay us this visit, which we take as an earnest token of your interest in our country and in strengthening the bonds of friendship between the Sudan and India.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to propose a toast to H.E. President Gaafar Mohammed Nimeri, to the friendly people of Sudan, and to everlasting friendship and growing cooperation between

our two countries.

SUDAN INDIA USA ISRAEL PORTUGAL GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

SUDAN

President Nimeri's Reply

Replying, H.E. Mr. Gaafar Mohammed Nimeri delivered the following speech:

It gives me great pleasure to be in your hospitable country, have a chance to see for myself your great achievements which made you rank among the great powers of the world. If anything, this is an indication of your determination to serve peace. No wonder your country has been a cradle of civilization in the past and, therefore, it is fitting that it does what it can for man today. I pray to God that no constraints stop (India) in her road to revitalise itself.

The foundations for that have been laid by a galaxy of men and women, the entire world can be proud of. The late Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru laid their own very lives in the cause of man's dignity, and their example should inspire us all in the third world.

In the Sudan, we look upon this with admiration; indeed we have modelled our institutions for regaining our liberty on Indian institutions. Hence, the solid foundations of our friendship. The great role played by India in the continent of Africa and the unlimited support offered to the African liberation movements, and the solid stand against the racist regimes in South Africa and Rhodesia, are constantly on

our mind.

Your Honour, we share with you the desire that our region should be free from the presence and interference of all foreign powers, and that the Indian Ocean should remain a zone of peace free from the competition of the great powers whose presence in the area constitute a constant threat to international security and peace.

The prominent part played by your great nation in the formulation of the principles and policies of non-alignment, and India's role in gathering the countries of the world around them to form a neutral block which can stand away from the collision and competition of the super powers is admired by all. This non-alignment has been and is a great help to international peace and rights of the oppressed. Before that, their freedom and resources have been suppressed and exploited with nobody to raise a finger on their behalf. Now, we do.

We welcome 'Detente' which has become a landmark in this epoch, but our peoples should stand close together in solidarity so that they will not be sacrificed at the altar of 'Detente'. We resolved not to be the price of policies that serve egoistic purposes.

We hope 'Detente' will result in universal peace, but we find it imperative to emphasize that democratic ways should prevail in international relations giving equal rights for the participation of all nations of the world in determining their future regardless of their sizes or riches.

Your Honour, we note with satisfaction the progress which was attained in your relations with neighbouring sister country, Pakistan and the agreement reached (with her) which will help to bring things to normal and further the causes of lasting peace in your subcontinent. This will allow people in the subcontinent to live in peace and mutual respect. Our country appreciates your stands in support of the Arab cause and especially in the case of the Palestinian people who suffered expulsion, devastation and annihilation. Nevertheless, they have faced all this with an unsurpassed heroism and were able

to direct severe and crushing blows to the aggressors. They have proved to the world that they are a nation worthy of living and occupying their place among the peoples of

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the world. No wonder If the International Organisation has granted them recognition and enabled their delegates to address the world and to express their visas and willingness to co-operate in all endeavours for the consolidation of world peace and security. In claiming their legitimate rights to get back their usurped lands, they called upon the international community to implement the United Nations re-solutions, which lay dormant since the illegal establishment of the Zionist State of Israel; and called for the emergence of a secular state free from the biases of racism or religion; a state where all the inhabitants of Palestine can live together in peace.

In the Sudan, like in India, we exert strenuous efforts in developing our country, because we believe that the strength of our country is derived from the strength of its nationals.

In spite of the meagre resources at hand, we endeavour to educate our people and take available to them medical services, food and clothes. We exert our utmost to create a healthy home for us who are here now, and for next generations. We are guided by our belief that vigilant and systematic planning is the only means for progress and prosperity.

I am confident, Your Honour, that you are aware of what all that means to a vast country like ours aspiring to develop its numerous resources.

Our aim, after supplying the urgent needs of our nationals, is to build up future development projects together with a network of railways and roads. This undoubtedly consumes much of our resources and efforts.

We work hard to achieve self-sufficiency in the case of commodities which we have the ability to produce, specially in the field of agriculture and possibly to attain a sur-

plus which can be exchanged with our neighbours and friends.

Our country has vast agricultural resources which enables her to offer much to humanity and participate effectively in relieving the world's shortage in food. We are employing all our efforts to fulfil this goal.

Your Honour, May I extend to you my sincere thanks for the good care and hospitality extended to us. We also express our gratitude to the people of India who came out to greet us with hospitality and welcome. May God bless you and all your efforts in building your country and all your efforts for the good of humanity.

May I propose a toast to the health of His Honour the President of India and to the progress and prosperity of the Indian people.

SUDAN INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

Jagjivan Ram's Address at Rome Food Conference

Following is the text of the speech of Shri Jagjivan Ram, Union minister of Agriculture and Irrigation at the World Food Conference delivered at Rome on November 6, 1974:

Mr. President, Secretary General of the Conference, fellow delegates, excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen, my mind goes back to 1970 when also as Minister for Agriculture, I led the Indian delegation to the World Food Congress organised by FAO at the Hague, Netherlands. The 1970 Congress met in an

atmosphere of optimism because of the technological possibilities for improving agricultural productivity opened up by the high-yielding varieties of cereals.

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In my statement, I had warned that the euphoria associated with the term "Green Revolution" would be short lived, unless there was an adequate transfer of resources for increasing the rate of growth of agricultural production in developing countries. Such increase was envisaged through extending the area under assured irrigation and through stepping up the production and distribution of fertilizers, seeds and pesticides. Unfortunately action did not follow the Hague Congress.

It is a pity that the 'World' needed the widespread drought of 1972 and subsequent developments leading to acute food crisis, to come out of its shell of complacency and convene this Conference.

I listened to the report of His Excellency the Secretary General of UN, Secretary General of this Conference, Director General of FAO and speeches of the Secretary of State of USA and several distinguished delegates about the nature and dimensions of world food crisis. There was no divergence of views so far as the analysis of the circumstances leading to the crisis are concerned.

The well documented conference papers bring out clearly the extent of food aid, food reserve and the order of investment in agricultural development that would be necessary to ensure that no human being goes without his daily bread.

The US Secretary of State, Dr. H. A. Kissinger, also in his lucid analysis of the world food and agricultural problems urged that we must keep as our objective the banishing of hunger and malnutrition within a decade. I entirely agree with all those analyses as also with the objectives and goals- I am afraid that while the diagnosis of the problems has been accurate, there has so far been no suggestion or indication of any effective remedy which will cure the ills. I fer-

vently hope that my fears will be proved wrong.

Mr. President, permit me to point out that the predicament and difficulties which the developing countries find themselves today are none of their making. They are the products of history. Centuries of colonial rule have distorted the pattern of their agriculture. Thus they had perforce to concentrate on the production of crops which could provide the necessary raw material for the industries of the colonial powers. Cultivation of food crops was consequently left in the hands of subsistence farmers. Even the industrial raw materials exported by the developing countries were purchased at prices which hardly covered the cost of production.

Restrictive trade and tariff policies were further devised to deprive the poor nations from earning any proper income through exports. May I therefore humbly submit that the conditions in which the developing countries find themselves today has not been brought about by their inaction or lack of adventure. It is obvious that the developed nations can be held responsible for their present plight. Developed nations, therefore, have a duty to help them. Whatever help is rendered to them now should not be regarded as charity but deferred compensation for what has been done by them in the past for the developed countries.

With our increasing inflation, the difficulties of the poor are getting aggravated. This has explosive social portents which the world community can ignore only at its peril.

Sometimes, misgivings are expressed, whether genuine or interested, about the will of developing countries to accord priority to agricultural development. This, in my view, is totally unfounded and unjust. Within the meagre resources available to them, developing countries have to attend to many urgent tasks such as population control programmes, drinking water supply, health care, education and strengthening basic infrastructure like roads and transport facilities. It is the constraint of resources and not the absence of will that is the main cause of inadequacies

in agriculture. Even with such constraints it can be claimed that commensurate progress has been made in the direction of food production.

The other comment often heard is that developing countries may not have the capacity to adopt modern scientific practices, Farmers in many poor countries have exploded this myth. India was praised until two years ago for the rapid progress she made between 1967 and 1971 in increasing food production in general and wheat production in particular. This progress enabled India to build up a grain reserve of 9 million tons in 1972. But for this reserve, it would not have

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been possible to ward off serious scarcity and hardship during 1972-73 when the country was hit by unprecedented drought.

Nearly half of the food production in developing countries is derived from unirrigated areas. Failure of rainfall, therefore, results in a significant drop in food production. When there is failure of rain, the generation of hydroelectric power and water supply systems are also affected. This condition in 1972-73 was further aggravated by the rise in the prices of petroleum products and fertilisers. The 1973-74 winter season in India was very dry and we experienced continuous frost during February 1974. Hence our wheat production was once again affected. I am mentioning this only to indicate why a setback occurred in my country during the last two years. We are confident of resuming the forward march provided we are able to secure assistance in expanding rapidly our irrigation network and in getting the fertilisers we need.

The distinguished Secretary of State of the United States, the Minister of Agriculture of Sri Lanka and several other eminent delegates have emphasised the urgency of arranging an equitable distribution of available fertilisers. Seeds, fertilisers and pesticides are all important. But permit me, Mr. President, to refer to the vital role of water in agriculture. The other inputs become meaningful only if there is water. So long as we do not develop fully the available

water resources for agricultural use, crop production will show considerable instability and productivity will not increase.

Many developing countries have not found it possible to exploit large ground and surface water resources. Several important irrigation projects in developing countries have not been completed and commissioned within the scheduled time for want of resources. They are capable of being completed and commissioned speedily if additional resources become available.

Many arid and semi-arid areas in developing countries have underground water reserves which if exploited could help to transform their agriculture much in the same way as was done in the Imperial Valley of United States. It is my firm conviction that unless irrigation is accorded the first priority in our agricultural development programme, the desired growth rates in agriculture will not be realised.

My delegation will, therefore, be introducing a resolution in committee for seeking immediate attention to irrigation and scientific water management.

I would now like to turn to another vital role that agriculture can play in rural development and in raising the standard of living of the rural population. Modern agriculture opens up a vast possibility of linking the farm and factory at the village level. Industries related to agriculture and processing and agro-industries will obviously receive great fillip. All these activities will provide ample opportunity for utilising educated and uneducated manpower thereby making a significant increase in rural employment.

In addition, attention to post-harvest technology and the promotion of rural agro-industrial complexes can lead to a diversification of labour use and a real increase in the purchasing power of marginal farmers and landless peasantry.

Rural women, who are by-passed by most developmental activities, can be fully involved. Post harvest operations are largely

in the hands of women and they need to be brought fully into the rural development process.

The growth of rural agro-industrial complexes can help to arrest unplanned migration of rural people like the landless labour, marginal farmers and artisans to cities. Also such a process of rural development would generate more demand for consumer goods. This in turn would provide markets for the industrial goods - both consumer and capital - and developed countries will have a major share in satisfying these demands for quite some time to come.

The developed and developing countries can in this way promote the growth of complementary and mutually supporting patterns of economic participation in industrial and commercial development. I would, therefore, draw the attention of the hon. ministers from the affluent countries to view the beneficial international aspect of agricultural

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growth in developing nations in their proper perspective. Such an approach will promote the opening of vast vistas for fruitful co-operation between developing and developed nations and provide opportunities for the effective and fruitful investment of the surplus capital of the affluent countries.

The present problem of Balance of Payments and inflation which is in fact too much money chasing too few goods can only be solved by appropriate and adequate investment and management in the developing countries. Effective cooperation between the affluent and developing countries for increasing food production will help to raise the standard of living and purchasing power of hundreds of millions of people in the developing countries. This will reduce the imbalance between the rich and poor nations, which will help in eliminating a constant factor of friction between them. This will lead to greater stability in their relations and promote durable world peace.

Another important component of agricultural development is accelerated research

and training efforts. Research efforts have to be adapted to each agro-ecological and socioeconomic milieu. Hence they have to be carried out largely by national institutions. Their work can be supplemented, where appropriate, by the regional and inter-regional research centres established by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. For helping developing countries to improve their research and extension capabilities, there has to be a massive training effort. In this area, I wish to offer my country's whole-hearted cooperation.

India has a good agricultural research and educational system. We will be happy to be of assistance to any nation wishing our help by providing training facilities in the 20 agricultural universities and 30 national research laboratories we have today in agriculture and allied fields. We will also welcome visiting scholars and collaborative research projects.

The energy crisis is not without beneficial fallouts. It has shown how we cannot base our production technologies on a large consumption of non-renewable sources of energy. There has to be accelerated development of various sources of energy - hydel, thermal and atomic. The inadequacy of all these sources of energy has come to surface during the past year. We have, therefore, to look to alternative source of energy. The sun is a reservoir of an inexhaustible fund of energy. It is for our scientists to devise methods to harness this energy for industrial and agricultural services.

I would suggest the establishment of an international research institute on solar energy to work on all aspects of using sunlight. We will be happy to provide the necessary facilities in India for such an international research centre since in its kindness the sun smiles over our country throughout the year.

The food security system proposed by the Director General of F.A.O. will undoubtedly enlist full support from all quarters. We hope the World Community will spare no effort or expenditure to improve agricultural

production in developing countries. Food exporting nations, as suggested by the U.S. Secretary of State, should not slacken their efforts to increase food production in their countries. This will be necessary to provide the needed security and reserve till such time as the developing countries attain adequate levels of production.

In the longer term, self-reliance on the part of the developing countries will help to substitute trade for aid. Whatever we may decide in this Hall, the future of our decisions will depend upon the machinery we create for the follow up and implementation of our decisions and recommendations. The Conference should, therefore, give serious consideration to this question and develop a system with the requisite authority and capability to deliver results.

In this regard, the suggestion of the, U.S. Secretary of State for organising three coordination groups for planning food exports, food production and investment and food reserves are welcome. These coordinating groups appear to be similar in scope and function to the consultative groups for specific tasks which India has suggested in its proposal. We would, however, like to emphasise that there should be a political authority which may be known as the Food

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Security Council comparable to the U.N. Security Council invested with the requisite stature and authority to evolve a world food policy and to oversee and guide its implementation. My Government will be happy to offer its full cooperation to the establishment of an appropriate follow-up machinery.

Let us resolve to make this conference remembered by posterity not only for its wise and timely decisions but even more for the speed and effective implementation of its decisions. This alone can provide the insurance against hunger and poverty, which we all seek.

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ITALY LATVIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA

**Date :** Nov 01, 1974

## December

### Volume No

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**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

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BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued on December 10, 1974 at the conclusion of the visit of Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, to Bangladesh:

On the invitation of Dr. Kamal Hossain, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, paid an official visit to Bangladesh from December 7 to 10, 1974. The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, Shri Kewal Singh and several other senior Indian officials were among the delegation accompanying Mr. Chavan from India.

The Foreign Minister of India was received by the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, His Excellency Mr. Muhammadullah and by His Excellency Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of Bangladesh. He called on the Honourable Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament, Mr. Abdul Malek Ukil. During his call on the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, His Excellency Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, a general review of the current international situation with special emphasis on the developments in the sub-continent took place. He had several detailed and fruitful discussions with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Kamal Hossain, the Minister of Industries, Mr. Syed Nazrul Islam, the Minister of Commerce and Foreign Trade, Mr. Khondaker Moshtaque Ahmed, the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Mansoor Ali and the Minister of Flood Control, Water Resources and Power, Mr. Abdur Rob Serniabat. The Foreign Minister of India made a courtesy call on the President of the Bangladesh Awami League, Mr. A. H. M. Kamaruzzamaan.

In his talks with the leaders of Bangladesh the Foreign Minister of India conveyed the sympathy and deep understanding of the Government and the people of India for the difficult problems which Bangladesh had to face in the recent past in consequence of the devastating floods. The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh conveyed the deep gratitude of the Government and the people of Bangladesh to the Government of India for their

timely and valuable help rendered despite difficult conditions in India itself.

The Foreign Minister of India expressed India's deep satisfaction at Bangladesh's admission to the United Nations, which was a vindication of the ideals, aspirations and rights of Bangladesh. Mr. Chavan noted the deep impression Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman made by his address to the General Assembly soon after Bangladesh's admission to the United Nations. The Foreign Minister of India expressed confidence that Bangladesh's presence at the United Nations and its commitment to its Charter would contribute effectively to the cause of peace and international harmony. The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh expressed his gratitude for the invaluable support given by India on the membership question. The two Foreign Ministers expressed deep gratification at the cooperation between India and Bangladesh in all international forums. They were confident that such cooperation would continue for their mutual benefit and to uphold the principle of non-alignment to which both of them are dedicated.

The two Foreign Ministers had a full exchange of views on many aspects of relation between India and Bangladesh. They reviewed the growth in bilateral relations since the meeting between His Excellency Dr. Kamal Hossain and the former Foreign Minister of India, His Excellency Sardar Swaran Singh, earlier this year. They expressed satisfaction at further developments

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in cooperation between the two countries, especially in the context of the decisions taken by the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and India during their meeting in Delhi in May 1974. They were confident of the continued expansion in scope and content of the relations between India and Bangladesh based on the principles of non-interference, respect for national independence, sovereignty and mutual benefit. During the discussions the two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that the political stability, economic well-being and social progress of the peoples of the two countries should be achieved on

the basis of shared ideals and principles.

The Foreign Minister of India, while exchanging views with his colleagues in Bangladesh on economic, trade and industrial matters of interest to the two countries, reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the various decisions and directives of the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh as embodied in the Joint Declaration of May 16, 1974. Both sides agreed that the programmes and projects for the bilateral economic cooperation should be implemented as expeditiously as possible. Both sides noted that developmental and economic activities in the two countries have been adversely affected by high global inflation and by the rise in the prices of essential imports. The two Foreign Ministers affirmed that, in spite of the internal and external economic difficulties which the two countries continue to face, their Governments will increase their efforts at expanding bilateral economic relations for mutual benefit.

While discussing economic relations, both sides gave particular attention to the problem of smuggling, which is prejudicial to the interests of both countries and to bilateral economic relations. The two Foreign Ministers Indicated the most stringent measures both the countries were taking against smugglers and anti-social elements, and reaffirmed their determination to curb to the utmost the activities of these culprits. It was agreed that immediate steps would be taken to ensure closer and more frequent consultations in the Joint Committee for this purpose as envisaged in the decision taken by the two Prime Ministers last May.

Both sides reviewed the progress made in the discussions in the Joint Rivers Commission on the augmentation of the fair weather flow of the Ganga for the benefit of the two countries. They took note of the progress made towards the evolution of a common approach for a solution of this urgent and important issue. The two Foreign Ministers expressed confidence that a mutually satisfactory solution to the question can and will be found in consonance with the decision of the two Prime Ministers in

May, 1974.

The two Foreign Ministers reviewed developments in the sub-continent since the tripartite meeting between Bangladesh, Pakistan and India held in New Delhi in April, 1974. Both sides noted that in spite of the practical and reasonable approach adopted by the Government of Bangladesh and the different initiatives taken by the Governments of India and Bangladesh towards resolving the difficult problems affecting relations in the sub-continent, certain important questions have remained unresolved and that these stand in the way of early normalisation of relations between the three countries of the sub-continent. Both sides expressed their firm conviction that the tripartite agreement signed in Delhi in April, 1974 provides a realistic and practical basis for the restoration of normal relations between Bangladesh, Pakistan and India. In this context, the two Foreign Ministers agreed that, while some welcome progress has been made on specific problems between India and Pakistan so long as the Pakistani nationals remaining in Bangladesh are not repatriated to their country and the question of the division of assets between Bangladesh and Pakistan is not solved in an equitable and mutually satisfactory manner, the objectives of complete normalisation of relations among the countries in the sub-continent as envisaged in the Delhi Agreement will remain unfulfilled. Both sides hoped that Pakistan would appreciate the importance and urgency of giving full effect to the Simla and Delhi Agreements and would cooperate in establishing normalcy and durable peace in the region as a whole.

Both sides reaffirmed their common dedication to the principles of non-alignment and peaceful coexistence and their relevance in meeting the varied and changing circumstances of the contemporary world. Both sides agreed to work closely with each other for the next non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference with a view to making their con-

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tribution to the next Non-aligned Summit. In this connection, the Foreign Ministers re-emphasised the immediate need for closer co-

operation among the non-aligned countries in the economic field: common efforts by them have become essential in solving the vital economic problems which the developing countries, a majority of whom are non-aligned, are facing because of recent economic trends in the world as a whole.

The two Foreign Ministers noted that, in spite of the concern expressed by countries in the Indian Ocean area about the expansion of Great Power rivalry and military activities in the region, increased and highly sophisticated naval exercises are nonetheless being carried out. They expressed particular concern at the proposal to expand the military naval facilities at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. They considered these developments to be contrary to the consensus in the international community and in the UN that the Indian Ocean area should be a zone of peace. They stressed that the continuation of such military activities in the region would aggravate power rivalry and pose a direct threat to peace and stability in the area.

Both sides reaffirmed their support for general and complete disarmament particularly nuclear disarmament. Recalling the relevant resolution of the non-Aligned Summit Conference at Algiers, they emphasised the enormous contribution which nuclear technology used for peaceful purposes can make to the well being and economic development of all peoples.

Reviewing recent developments in West Asia, both sides welcomed the recognition of the PLO as the sole representatives of the Palestinian people. They expressed satisfaction that the United Nations General Assembly had given an opportunity recently to the leaders of the PLO to present their point of view. The two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that a permanent settlement can only be based on the restoration of the illegally occupied Arab territories and the legitimate national rights of the people of Palestine.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their concern at the continuing tension in the Indo-China region and reaffirmed their support

to the peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia to decide their own future without outside interference.

The two Foreign Ministers affirmed that their Governments would continue to support the liberation movements and struggle against colonialism and apartheid. In this context, they welcomed the recent developments in Portugal and the decision of the new leaders of Portugal to grant independence to the African territories. Both sides hoped that these policies would result in the fulfilment of the long-suppressed aspiration for liberty, independence and economic prosperity of the peoples of Portugal's African possessions. They hoped that the process of liberation of these territories would be completed without delay.

The Foreign Minister of India expressed deep admiration for the inspiring leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and for the courage and resolution with which the people of Bangladesh are facing the challenges of national reconstruction. The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh paid tribute to the outstanding leadership given to the great people of India by the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi and expressed the conviction that her leadership would continue to benefit not only the people of India but the cause of peace in the entire sub-continent for the welfare of all the peoples concerned.

Both sides were convinced that this first visit by Shri Y. B. Chavan was particularly useful in his establishing close personal relations with the leadership of Bangladesh. The visit further contributed to the close and friendly relations that exist between the two countries and the determination of the peoples and Governments of the two countries to expand them further.

The Foreign Minister of India renewed the cordial invitation to the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh to visit India at his convenience. The invitation was accepted with great pleasure.

The Foreign Minister of India expressed his most sincere thanks and gratitude for the

warm and friendly hospitality extended to him and to the members of his delegation by the Foreign Minister and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh during their visit,

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BANGLADESH USA INDIA MALDIVES UNITED KINGDOM MALI PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN  
REPUBLIC ALGERIA CHINA CAMBODIA VIETNAM PORTUGAL

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangla Trade Agreement

Following is the text of a press release on Indo-Bangla trade agreement issued in New Delhi on December 17, 1974:

The representatives of the Government of India and of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, in the course of discussions in New Delhi between the 12th and the 17th December, 1974, having reviewed the working of the Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement under the Protocol to the Trade Agreement entered into between the two countries on the 5th July, 1973 and supplemented by the documents exchanged on 30th September, 1974, and determined to improve and increase their two way trade, have agreed as follows:

- (1) With effect from 1st January, 1975, all payments and charges in connection with trade between the two countries shall be effected in freely convertible currencies in accordance with the foreign exchange regulations in force in each country from time to time.

- (2) The existing arrangements as envisaged in the documents exchanged on 30th September, 1974 in respect of coal, jute, tobacco, newsprint and fresh fruit for which commercial contracts have already been concluded, will be extended upto 28th February, 1975 to enable uncompleted deliveries to be completed. For this purpose, where necessary, the existing contracts will be extended upto 28th February, 1975 on existing terms and conditions including prices and payment arrangements. This will be in partial exception to the arrangements envisaged in paragraph (1) above.
- (3) Coal and jute will be supplied by India and Bangladesh respectively during the year 1975 on terms and conditions and for such quantities as may be mutually decided upon.
- (4) India will buy fish valued approximately at Rs. 350 lakhs during 1975 at prices acceptable to the contracting agencies in the two countries.
- (5) The existing institutional arrangements for trade in general and in specific commodities, e.g., Joint Review of the Trade Agreement, Transport Coordination Committee at Policy and Operational levels, Review Committee on Fish. would continue to function as before.
- (6) It was agreed that the technical credit outstanding against Bangladesh as on 28.2.75 will be converted into an inter-Governmental loan to be repaid to the Government of India in such instalments that 50 percent of the amount of loan is repaid by or on 31st March, 1976 and the balance by or on 31st March, 1977. The outstanding amount of the loan will carry interest at 5 percent per annum which will be paid along with the instalments of the loan.

Done in New Delhi on December 17, 1974  
in two original copies in the English language,  
both of which are equally authentic.

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**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

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BELGIUM

Indo-Belgian Air Agreement

Following is the text of the press release  
on Indo-Belgium Air Agreement issued in  
New Delhi on December 5, 1974 :

India and Belgium today, initialled a  
Memorandum of Understanding on the  
operation of air services by the designated  
airlines of the two countries. Under these  
arrangements, Sabena will be permitted to  
operate two services to/through India with  
DC-10 aircraft and Air India will have cor-  
responding rights to operate two weekly ser-  
vices to/through Belgium with Boeing-747  
aircraft.

The Memorandum of Understanding was  
signed at the end of talks between the dele-  
gations of the two countries held in New  
Delhi from December 3 to 5, 1974. The  
Indian delegation was led by Shri B. S. Gid-  
wani, Additional Director General of Tourism  
and Joint Secretary in the Ministry of  
Tourism and Civil Aviation, and the Belgian  
delegation by Mr. Buysschaert, Director  
General of Civil Aviation, Belgium.

The talks were held in a very cordial  
and friendly atmosphere. During the talks  
the two delegation reviewed the operating  
plans and programmes of the airlines of

India and Belgium.

BELGIUM INDIA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

Speech by Indian President at Dinner in Honour of King of Bhutan

Following is the text of speech of President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, at the dinner given in honour of the King of Bhutan in New Delhi on December 18, 1974:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you in our midst this evening. We have been looking forward to Your Majesty's State visit, for the opportunity it will provide us to re-affirm the unique links of friendship and brotherhood which so happily hold our two countries and peoples together, as also for the possibilities it will present for a wide-ranging review of matters in which we share a common interest. I am particularly happy that Your Majesty, Your Royal Highness and our other distinguished Bhutanese guests will also be able to visit some other parts of our country. The people of India, belonging to different regions and varied walks of life, will thus have the privilege of expressing to Your Majesty, and through you to the Bhutanese people, the heartfelt sentiments of warmth, respect and friendship which we in India hold towards our neighbour, Bhutan.

Over the centuries there have been close relations between the people of our two countries. The snow-clad ranges of the Himalayas that stand as sentinels guarding our two countries and the rivers of Bhutan that nourish our vast plains have made us inseparable neighbours. The cultural, reli-

gious and economic links which our people have shared over the centuries, have breathed life into this natural relationship. As a result Indo-Bhutan exchanges have consistently been characterised by a unique degree of open-hearted understanding and trust between the people of the two countries. To a

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Very large measure the credit for this goes to the qualities of heart and mind of the sturdy and dynamic people of your mountain nation.

In modern times the traditional Indo-Bhutan relationship has acquired new dimensions, thanks to the vision and farsightedness of the policies of His late Majesty King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, and our own national leaders. It has been their signal achievement to successfully project forward our historical relationship to suit the circumstances of today's world, and to give it unshakable strength and solidity. We are confident that in the years to come the understanding, trust and mutual respect between our nations and peoples will continue to grow, under the wise guidance and statesmanship of Your Majesty.

The treaty of 1949 signed between Bhutan and India, and the many-sided co-operation which has developed over the years between our two countries, are concrete expressions of the unique links which we share in common. The entry of Bhutan into the United Nations in 1971 marked a watershed in the evolution of modern Bhutan and we are privileged to have assisted in this development. Since then Bhutan has come to play an active role in the international affairs. We welcome this development, which has marked an end to the traditional isolation of Bhutan.

Within Bhutan the past decade has witnessed a remarkable transformation of a traditional society into one which, while retaining the unique Bhutanese traditional heritage, has embarked on a sustained and evolutionary programme of socio-economic transformation, leaving behind the old image of an unchanging society. The dynamism of modern Bhutan is manifested in varied fields

such as agriculture, industry, education, health and social welfare.

To a large measure the results already achieved, as also the vistas which have been opened up for the future, are a tribute to the wise guidance which Your Majesty has given to the Bhutanese people. Carrying forward the Bhutanese tradition you, Your Majesty, have shouldered the heavy burdens of State affairs with singular brilliance, providing an example of far-sighted vision and calm statesmanship for the Bhutanese people. The image of dynamism and youthfulness which modern Bhutan today presents, bears largely your personal imprint and vision. We in India are particularly appreciative of the keen and personal interest which your Majesty has taken in strengthening Indian-Bhutan relations.

Indo-Bhutan relations, with their long history and tradition, have an even greater future. The plans for modernisation and socioeconomic development which we share in common, will at every turn provide fresh opportunities for increasing and strengthening our cooperation to the mutual benefit of the peoples of our two countries. It has been our privilege to be associated with Bhutan's development plans. With the first two Five-Year Plans in Bhutan having laid the foundation for sound economic progress, Bhutan's Third Plan, which is currently in the fourth year of its execution, has intensified and extended the development process to encompass even the remote areas of Bhutan and has speeded up the process of modernisation. The massive Rs. 83 crore Chukha Hydro-electric project and the Rs. 7 crore Pagli Cement Plant further supplement the targets and objectives of the Third Plan. We are fully conscious of the high importance which Bhutan attaches to its development plans in general and the Chukha and Pagli Projects in particular, and are determined to do our utmost to assist in the execution of these Plans and Projects. We are convinced that in the years to come there will be even greater opportunities for collaboration between the two countries on projects of mutual benefit.

Your Royal Highness, as His Majesty's

Representative in the Ministry for Development, you have played a vital role in directing the framing and execution of Bhutan's development programmes and the Indo-Bhutan cooperation projects. May your efforts continue to be crowned with success.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I ask you to raise your glasses and join me in a toast to His Majesty the King of Bhutan, Her Royal Highness Ashi Dechen, to friendship between the people of Bhutan and India.

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**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

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BHUTAN

King of Bhutan's Reply

Following is the text of the speech of the King of Bhutan at the dinner given in his honour by the Indian President in New Delhi on December 18, 1974:

I have been deeply touched by the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to me since my arrival in New Delhi. The great kindness and affection shown to me reflects the abiding love and regard that the Government and people of India have always extended to my people and Bhutan.

My late father and the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru were the principal architects of Indo-Bhutan friendship. With vision and perception, they realized that it was essential, in the mutual interest of India and Bhutan, to forge the closest possible ties of understanding, co-operation and friendship between our two countries. With my father's

premature passing away, the responsibility of guiding the destiny of Bhutan has fallen upon my shoulders. Like my father before me, it shall be my constant endeavour to further strengthen the firm bonds of friendship between India and Bhutan.

In the true spirit of a good neighbour, India has extended unstinted co-operation to us in our modernization programme during the past fifteen years. Early this year, India offered us very generous terms for the installation of a hydroelectric project which is expected to generate adequate power, not only for our internal requirements, but also a surplus for export. The enlightened thinking among the leaders of India, which has made such co-operation possible, is greatly appreciated by my Government and people.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in drinking a toast to His Excellency the President of India and to Indo-Bhutan friendship.

BHUTAN INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

India-Bhutan Joint Press Statement

The following joint press statement was issued in New Delhi on December 22, 1974 at the conclusion of the visit of the King of Bhutan to India:

His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the King of Bhutan, accompanied by his sister, Her Royal Highness Ashi D. W. Wangchuck, visited New Delhi from December 18 to 22, 1974, on a State visit at the

invitation of the President of India. They were accompanied by H.E. Lyonpo Dawa Tsering, Foreign Minister and H.E. Lyonpo Sangey Penjore, Permanent Representative to the U.N., New York, and others. During his stay in New Delhi, which extended upto December 22, His Majesty the King of Bhutan met and held talks with the President of India. H.M. the King of Bhutan also held discussions with the Prime Minister of India as well as with the Foreign Minister and other Ministers of the Government of India.

This State visit, the first by H.M. the King to India since he ascended the throne served to reaffirm the warmth and friendship which has traditionally characterised Indo-Bhutan relations. The discussions between the leaders of Bhutan and India, which took place in a spirit of deep mutual respect and understanding, covered a wide range of bilateral and international issues in which the two sides share a common interest. There was complete identity of views. It was agreed that the mansided cooperation and coordination in various fields that has developed over the years should be further consolidated.

In the spirit of the Indo-Bhutan Treaty of 1949, the two countries will continue to maintain close coordination in their foreign policies. H.M. the King of Bhutan and the Prime Minister of India expressed their satisfaction at the identity of approach which exists between Bhutan and India on major international issues and reiterated their resolve that regular consultation and close coordination was essential in the fulfilment of the mutual interests of the two countries.

Measures were agreed for the further intensification of contacts and exchanges of

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visits at various levels between the two countries which would contribute to deepening the friendship and understanding between the governments and people of Bhutan and India.

H.M. the King of Bhutan and the Prime Minister of India expressed their satisfaction with the existing arrangements between the two countries on matters of defence and secu-

rity. They reaffirmed that the two governments share a joint approach towards all matters affecting the security of India and Bhutan.

In the field of economic cooperation the two sides expressed their mutual interest in the consolidation and further progress of Bhutan's economic development programmes. India agreed that whatever assistance Bhutan needs in terms of development aid and expertise from India for the fulfilment of the objectives of the last year of Bhutan's Third Five Year Plan, as also of Bhutan's Fourth Five Year Plan which is due to begin in April 1976, would be extended in the same spirit as in the past. It was decided to intensify further exploration of the avenues for economic exchanges between the two countries.

Talks were also held on the Chukha Project, an agreement for the construction of which had been signed in March this year, as also the Pagli Cement Plant. It was noted that good progress had been made on these projects. It was agreed that, further steps should be taken to identify other projects on which the two countries could cooperate, which would assist Bhutan's economic development. India undertook to carry out all the necessary preliminary surveys and feasibility studies in this regard, as may be desired by Bhutan, and to provide all possible assistance in the setting up of the projects.

BHUTAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prime Minister's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Dr. Strougal

Following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi at the dinner in honour of Dr. Lubomir Strougal, Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia at New Delhi on December 2, 1974:

It is a privilege to welcome the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Lubomir Strougal, Madame Strougalova and other distinguished members of the delegation. I greet them on behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf.

Our two Peoples have had contacts of commerce and culture stretching back several centuries. But it is in the thirties, when Czechoslovakia had to face the brutal oppression of Nazism, that a close emotional bond grew up between us. I vividly recall my own first visit to Prague in those dark days. Soon after a concert of timid powers offered up Czechoslovakia as a sacrifice to Hitler's tyranny. All mankind shared your anguish.

But out of the devastation of the World War the spirit of Czechoslovakia emerged invincible. Your Excellency, I was able to witness, during my visit to your country two years ago, the new achievements of that spirit - the impressive growth of your industries and of your programmes for the welfare of your people. Your country is today one of the industrial leaders of the world, but you are also solicitous about preserving your great architectural treasures and artistic creativity. Few cities of the world can claim to be so alive to its own special Personality as beautiful Prague.

Our own endeavour in India is to enable our people to reap the benefits of modern science, without being alienated from our cultural moorings. A civilisation which has had a continuity of thousands of years owes a duty to itself and to the world to discover the quality which has helped it to hold together and to foster that quality. In our view,

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that quality is tolerance. From the dawn of our existence and at every one of the great ages of our history we have stressed tole-

rance. This life-enhancing principle is at the centre of the policy of peaceful co-existence to which free India has consistently subscribed.

Tolerance does not mean acceptance of wrong policies or trends. Our policy is based on principles and we have spoken up clearly and consistently for justice and against all that is discriminatory and might promote tension.

In the last few years we have tried with renewed vigour to improve our relations with all our immediate neighbours on the basis of trust and harmony. It is our earnest hope that political stability and positive economic cooperation will increasingly exemplify the relations between the countries on our sub-continent and our region of the world. Economic development is the only remedy for the effects of backwardness and to promote domestic stability. Such strength in turn will be a solid foundation for regional stability and peace. Hence even in foreign affairs and the consolidating of friendship with others, economic cooperation is assuming increasing importance. While we welcome the shedding of old hostilities, we cannot but be anxious about the new power groupings which are forming and also about the extension of military presences into new areas in our proximity.

We are heartened that the recent course of events in Europe is marked by a temper of reconciliation. We hail the contribution made by Czechoslovakia to the fostering of the climate of detente and peaceful cooperation among European States.

It is imperative to have closer cooperation between all continents and countries, irrespective of their internal political systems, in order to achieve progressive disarmament, so that the energies of mankind and the power of science can be devoted to a reduction of economic disparities and the redressal of want and distress from the world.

The enlargement of existing bilateral relations and the sharing of technological skills helps this process. Indo-Czechoslovak

bilateral relations have not only been of mutual help but have served the cause of international peace. Over the years, Czechoslovakia has grown into one of our most significant collaborators in heavy industry. We are grateful for Czechoslovakia's assistance in our efforts to attain self-reliance. My colleagues and I welcome the results of the latest meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation.

Your Excellency, during your visit, you will have the opportunity of seeing for yourself something of our efforts to achieve economic and social progress in the face of tremendous difficulties. Our problems have been greatly magnified by factors beyond our control. Uncertain weather conditions, the international monetary crisis and the oil crisis have hit us hard, but we have succeeded in maintaining the momentum of our drive towards economic advance.

I wish Your Excellency and Madame and the rest of your distinguished delegation an enjoyable and interesting stay in our country. Your visit will undoubtedly consolidate the excellent friendship and goodwill which exists between our two countries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast to the health and success of our distinguished guests, Ms Excellency, Dr. Lubomir Strougal and Madame Strougalova, and to abiding and ever-expanding friendship and cooperation between the peoples of India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA CZECH REPUBLIC PERU

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

**Volume No**

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Following is the text of speech of Prime Minister Strougal at the dinner given in his honour by the Indian Prime Minister in New Delhi on December 2, 1974:

Permit me to thank you most sincerely for your invitation to visit the Republic of India and for the friendly reception that I myself and members of my suite have been accorded since the very first moment of stepping on the territory of India. I thank you most cordially, dear Madam Prime Minister also for your warm and friendly words ad-

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dressed to the people and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Just a year ago, your country played the host to the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Gustav Husak, and Madam Husak. I wish to use this opportunity to convey to you, dear Madam Prime Minister, and to the other leading representatives of the Republic of India, their cordial best wishes.

Theirs was a visit which again strongly documented the development of the traditionally very friendly relations and co-operation between two countries.

We strive together for peaceful coexistence, for establishing conditions for all-round development of nations and for the application of their inalienable right freely to decide their destinies, we strive for international co-operation where principles of full equality are a natural prerequisite for progressive developments in the world.

We hold in high esteem the policy of non-alignment pursued by the Republic of India and its concept the union and natural alliance of the national liberation movement and countries of the socialist community.

It is with understanding and sympathy

that we have been watching also your considerable efforts to secure good relations among the States of the Indian subcontinent and a democratic and peaceful development in this part of the world and we wish the best of success to you in your endeavours to normalize the situation in the spirit of the conclusions of the Indo-Pakistani talks in Simla and of the agreement between India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

This progressive foreign policy constitutes a valuable contribution in the anti-imperialist struggle. This policy has rightly resulted in the rising importance and prestige of the Republic of India not only in Asia, but also in the United Nations and in international relation in general.

We in Czechoslovakia are familiar with the big achievements you have made in the solutions of the problems, so demanding and difficult, as are industrialization, development of the great and purposeful efforts which, under your guidance, dear Madam Prime Minister, the Government of the Republic of India has exerted in attempting to establish conditions for a happier life of the people of India.

These prove that the India of today follows up the rich heritage and works of her great sons, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru whose struggles for the liberation of India from colonial suppression, by their importance, reach far beyond the confines of this country.

We in our country recall with great respect and gratitude Jawaharlal Nehru who in the times of deadly danger threatening our state independence and national freedom from Hitlerite Fascism, stood up with courage and determination to the then Czechoslovak Republic in 1938.

Now, we are making preparations to commemorating the 30th anniversary of liberation from Fascist occupation. This offers our nations an opportunity to recall the historical importance of the victory of the USSR in World War II which, in its consequences, led to far-reaching changes in the balance of

forces in the world. This fact made it possible for us to follow the road of socialist construction, characterized by a rapid growth of production and rise of the standards of living, by unprecedented advance of education, science and culture.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to us that the relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Republic of India have taken a new momentum after the visit that you, Madam Prime Minister, paid to my country in June, 1972, and that the visit in India last year of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak, brought new ideas for cementing the links of friendship between our two countries and promoting our co-operation in all fields of our mutual relations.

It is our sincere interest that our fruitful and mutually advantageous co-operation should continue and expand in the spirit of the agreements already concluded and in the spirit of the new needs of India and Czechoslovakia.

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I would like to express my hope that our talks and discussions of both delegations will lead to this result.

Permit me, dear Madam Prime Minister, to thank you once again for your invitation to visit India and for your friendly reception and allow me to raise my glass:

-- to lasting friendship of our nations and their new achievements, to peace, progress and better life,

-- to your good health and the best of success in your responsible and devoted work for the welfare of the people of India,

-- to the good health of all those present.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA MALI PAKISTAN

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak T V and Radio Agreement

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on December 3, 1974 On the Indo-Czechoslovak T V and Radio Agreement:

India and Czechoslovakia will exchange on a regular basis television and radio programmes under an agreement signed today by the All India Radio and the Czechoslovak Television and the Czechoslovak Radio. An Agreement on Cultural Cooperation has been in existence between the two countries since 1959.

The protocol on cooperation between A.I.R. and Czechoslovak Television was signed by Shri P. C. Chatterji, Director-General of All India Radio and H.E. Mr. Zdenek Trhlik, Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in India on behalf of Czechoslovakia.

The protocol on cooperation between A.I.R. and Czechoslovak Radio was signed by Dr. Kvetoslav Faix, Director of the Czechoslovak Radio (Czechoslovak Broadcasting) and Shri S. C. Parasher, Deputy Director General, All India Radio on behalf of All India Radio.

Under the first agreement, the two Television organisations will exchange, on reciprocal basis, programmes in various fields concerning social, economic, cultural, sports, educational, etc. Each programme will be accompanied by texts written in English. In addition, they will exchange on commercial basis programmes of mutual interest. Payments will be made within the framework

of the agreement now in existence.

All India Radio and its Czechoslovak counterpart will exchange recorded material and texts concerning social, economic, scientific and technical achievements, programmes for children and youth, radio plays and recordings of music programmes, etc. The two organisations will also broadcast special broadcasts on Indian and Czechoslovak National days, January 26th and May 9th.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Communiqué

The following joint communiqué was issued on December 4, 1974 in New Delhi at the conclusion of official visit of Dr. Lubomir Strougal to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, H.E. Dr. Lubomir Strougal, paid an official visit to India from December 2 to 8, 1974.

The Czechoslovak Prime Minister called on the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.

Prime Minister Dr. Lubuomir Strougal paid tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri and laid wreaths at their Memorials in Rajghat, Shanti Vana and Vijay Ghat.

The Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak

Socialist Republic addressed a public rally at the historic Red Fort where he was accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the citizens of the Capital.

During his stay in India, the Czechoslovak Prime Minister visited Hyderabad, Madras, Bangalore and Bombay. He was impressed by the remarkable progress made by India since her independence and was particularly delighted to see many industrial projects which bear eloquent testimony to the

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Mutually beneficial and continually growing collaboration between India and Czechoslovakia. The visiting dignitary was deeply touched by the warmth of reception accorded to him wherever he went.

The two Prime Ministers had wide-ranging talks covering bilateral relations and international issues of major importance. They informed each other of the developments in their respective countries and examined ways and means of intensifying the mutual cooperation at all levels and in all spheres in the coming years.

In their talks the two Prime Ministers were assisted by:

ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE: Mr. Andrej Barcak, Minister of Foreign Trade; Mr. Pavol Bahyl, Minister of General Engineering; Mr. Zdenko Cheben, Deputy Head of the International Department, Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia; Mr. Vaclav Hanus, Deputy Minister of General Engineering; Mr. Jaroslav Janik, Deputy Minister of Metallurgy and Heavy Engineering, Dr. Antonin Mrazek, Deputy Minister of Technical Investment and Technology; Mr. Zdenek Sedivy, Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Commission; and Dr. Zdenek Trhlik, Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in India.

ON THE INDIAN SIDE: Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister for External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce, Shri Bipinpal Das, Deputy Minister of External

Affairs; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Prof. P. N. Dhar, Secretary to the Prime Minister; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri B. K. Sanyal, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri N. P. Jain, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

The talks were held in a spirit of mutual understanding, confidence and cordiality. Both sides noted with satisfaction that steadily growing mutual cooperation in a wide variety of fields had brought significant benefits to peoples of both countries.

They agreed that frequent personal contacts and exchange of visits between the leaders of the two countries strengthened the traditional friendship and opened up fresh avenues of fruitful co-operation between them. In this spirit, they agreed to consult each other from time to time and at various levels on important bilateral and international questions.

Both sides were of the view that the progress achieved in industrial collaboration between the two countries had made a significant contribution to the production capacity in India, particularly of heavy engineering items.

They agreed that follow-up action on the results of the fifth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation as contained in the Protocol concluded in New Delhi on December 4, 1974 should be speedily implemented by both sides.

It was agreed that in order to ensure sustained growth of trade and industrial collaboration between the two countries the perspective in future should take into account the increasing diversification and sophistication in production capabilities in the Indian economy and the need to collaborate at advanced and contemporary technological levels. In this context, special efforts should also be made in executing projects jointly in third countries.

The two sides welcomed the new Trade

and Payments Agreement for the years 1975-79 as well as the Agreement on cooperation between the Planning bodies of the two countries signed on December 4, 1974. They were confident that these Agreements would give the desired momentum to the development of long-term Trade and Economic cooperation.

Both sides regarded that the Consular convention signed during the present visit was an important step in promoting mutual relations.

They believed that the newly-signed Agreements on cooperation in fields of Radio and Television would promote a better knowledge of each other's life and culture.

The exchange of views on important international issues confirmed the identity or similarity of their positions. Both sides reiterate their support for strengthening world peace, for the achievement of general and complete disarmament, for the struggle

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against the last vestiges of colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism and racism in all their forms and manifestations and for promoting the cause of development and social progress, particularly of the developing countries.

The two sides underlined the importance of the relaxation of international tensions and of the positive changes in international relations that had come about as a result of the efforts and initiatives of both the countries of the Socialist community and the non-aligned countries supported by progressive, democratic and peace-loving forces all over the world. They agreed that the process of detente should be made irreversible and should spread to all parts of the world. Political detente needed to be extended universally to the military field. Furthermore, detente also should bring real, equal and practical benefits to all the countries of the world.

In this context, they placed special emphasis on efforts to convene a World Conference on Disarmament at an early date with the participation of all States. They

recognised the need of taking effective steps to bring about general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under effective international control.

The two sides emphasised the special importance of early and successful conclusion of the final phase of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe for safeguarding and promoting peace and cooperation among all European countries. They expressed the hope that detente in Europe would have a favourable impact on other parts of the world as well. The Indian side expressed its support for the constructive role of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the positive changes taking place in Europe.

The two Heads of Government believed that the Simla Agreement of July 2, 1972 provided a firm basis for generating an atmosphere of reconciliation and building a structure of durable peace in the Indian Sub-Continent. They welcomed the progress made so far towards normalisation of relations between the concerned States. Czechoslovak side expressed its full support and appreciation of the various positive and constructive initiatives taken by India to expedite this process.

Both sides highly appreciated the importance of the results of the IV Summit Conference of Non-Aligned countries held in Algiers in 1973 in the struggle to consolidate world peace and to remove all manifestations of colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism and racism. The Czechoslovak side paid tribute to the significant contribution of India in this struggle as founder member and active participant in the non-aligned movement.

The two sides expressed themselves in favour of the settlement of the West Asian conflict on the basis of the speedy and full implementation of the United Nations Resolutions No. 242 of November 22, 1967 and No. 338 of October 22, 1973. Both sides called for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories under their illegal occupation since 1967 and the safeguarding of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine under the leadership of the PLO. The two sides expressed themselves

in favour of the immediate resumption of the Geneva Peace Conference.

The two sides exchanged views on the situation in Vietnam and emphasised the importance of the strict observance and implementation of the Paris Agreement of January 27, 1973, and of the conclusions of the International Conference on Vietnam of 2nd March 1973, in the interest of safeguarding peace and stability in this area.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction over the Agreements on Laos and the formation of the coalition provisional Government of national unity of Laos. They also expressed the hope that an early and peaceful settlement would be achieved in Cambodia in conformity with the interests of the Cambodian people without outside interference.

Both sides expressed the support for the desire of the Korean people to achieve peaceful reunification of their country.

Both sides reiterated their firm support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus and called for the consistent implementation of the relevant UN resolutions in the interest of a peaceful solution of the problem in Cyprus.

The two sides agreed that the creation of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean will be a positive step towards reduction of tensions in this region. In this context they

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called for abolition of all foreign military bases and strongly opposed strengthening of existing bases like the one on Diego Garcia.

The transformation of Asia into a continent of durable peace, stability and mutually beneficial cooperation will, in the opinion of both sides, undoubtedly facilitate further normalisation of relations between countries of this area and strengthen universal peace.

The two sides believed that the relations between all States should be based on such principles as the renunciation of the use of force, respect for sovereignty and inviolabi-

lity of borders, non-interference in internal affairs and broad development of economic and other cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Both sides welcomed the decision of the Government of Portugal to grant independence to the former Portuguese colonies in Africa. This constituted an important step towards the total liquidation of colonialism in accordance with the Declaration of the United Nations Organisation on granting independence to the colonial countries and peoples.

Both sides reaffirmed their determination to strive for the strengthening of the role of the United Nations Organisation in matters relating to the strengthening of peace, relaxation of international tension and development of mutually advantageous international economic cooperation.

While considering the question of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the Czechoslovak side noted with satisfaction the statement of the Government of India that India will use her nuclear technology for peaceful purposes only.

Both Prime Ministers expressed full satisfaction over the results of their talks held in the spirit of traditional friendship and deep mutual understanding. They regarded the visit of the Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to India as a new important milestone in their mutual relations which opened up new prospects for the development of all-round friendly cooperation between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Republic of India.

The Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic highly appreciated the warm reception and hospitality accorded to him and to the members of his party during his stay in India both from the Government and the people of India.

The Prime Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Lubomir Strougal cordially invited Madame Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to

visit the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic at a time convenient to both sides. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA MALI ALGERIA ISRAEL SWITZERLAND VIETNAM FRANCE LAOS  
CAMBODIA KOREA CYPRUS PORTUGAL

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Trade Protocol and Consular Convention

Following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on December 4, 1974, on the Indo-Czechoslovak Trade Protocol and Consular Convention:

Two Agreements, a Protocol and a Consular Convention were signed here this morning between the Government of India and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the presence of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the Czechoslovak Prime Minister, H.E. Dr. Lubomir Strougal.

The Trade and Payments Agreement 1975-79 and the Protocol concluded after the fifth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for economic, trade and technical cooperation were signed by the Minister of Commerce, Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, and the Minister of Foreign Trade, H.E. Ing. Andrej Barcak.

India's trade with Czechoslovakia is regulated in accordance with the provisions of the Trade and Payments Agreement. This envisages balanced and bilateral trading pattern between the two countries, and payments for all commercial and non-commercial transactions are made in non-convertible rupees.

The existing Trade and Payments Agreement came into force in January, 1970, and was

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for a five-year term, expiring on December 31, 1974. This Trade and Payments Agreement has now been renewed for another five-year term, commencing January 1975, and will be in force up to December 31, 1979.

The Protocol, which was concluded on November 28, 1974, and initialled by the respective Co-Chairmen of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for economic, trade and technical cooperation, has set out the course of future cooperation between the two countries in the fields of trade exchanges, science and technology, electronics and industrial cooperation.

The Agreement on Planning, which was signed by Shri V. C. Shukla, Minister of State for Planning and H.E. Dr. Zdenek Sedivy, Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Commission, envisages the setting up of an Indo-Czechoslovak Study Group of experts for co-operation in the field of planning to exchange experience and knowledge in the field of economic forecasting, methodology of short and long-term planning, formulation of projects and programmes, evaluation of programmes and projects, planning of supplies of materials and methods of increasing productivity. The Study Group on Planning will also identify possible areas of cooperation in economic, scientific and technical fields between the two countries.

The Consular Convention, signed by Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, and the Czechoslovak Ambassador in India, H.E. Dr. Zdenek Trhlik, will regulate the establishment of consular posts and appointment of consular officers and consular employees. It defines the consular functions, the privileges and immunities and exemptions of consular officers and consular employees. This is the second of its kind to be concluded by India with a foreign country, the first one was concluded with the USSR last year.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Indo-EEC Press Communique

Following is the text of press communique issued in New Delhi on December 19, 1974 at the conclusion of the Second Session of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission:

On the invitation of the Government of India the Second Session of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission was held in New Delhi on December 17 and 18, 1974, under the Chairmanship of Shri Y. T. Shah, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce. The delegation of the European Economic Community was led by Dr. Manfred Caspari of the Directorate General of External Relations of the Commission of the European Communities. It included officials of the Commission and was assisted by representatives of the Member-States of the Community. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Y. T. Shah, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce, and included senior officers of the Commerce and other Ministries as also from the Indian Mission to EEC. The Session was inaugurated by Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce. He underlined the need for increasing the share of India, one of the most severely affected countries, in the trade of EEC, through better access for her commodities and development of trade in new areas. India has developed capabilities in many fields which can be utilised to mutual advantage. He recalled with appreciation the series of helpful decisions taken by the European Economic Community during 1974 such as bilateral grant of \$ 50 million to India in the framework of United Nations Emergency Operations, offer of supply of

sizeable quantity of foodgrains and improvements in the GSP in the context of Joint Declaration of Intent. He called for a new

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bold approach in the work of the Joint Commission with a view to ensuring that the ensuing results are operationally significant.

Dr. Manfred Caspari, speaking on the occasion, emphasised the importance EEC attached to evolving the development of its trade relationship with India, particularly through cooperation. He observed that in spite of difficulties resulting from the current economic crisis, the Community intends to pursue its liberal foreign trade policy and to continue its aid to the developing world. He said that while aid given in circumstances of necessity has a role to play, a lasting contribution to the progress and development of a country like India is made primarily by mutually advantageous commercial and economic cooperation.

The Joint Commission discussed various measures for increasing access to and encouraging demand for Indian jute and coir products in the Community market. Some of the measures proposed will entail action by the Community authorities to facilitate cooperation and contacts in research and promotion between the manufacturing and trading interests on both sides. Other important conclusions reached were to consider quota increases for certain jute goods, special treatment for "jute-specialities" and eliminating duties on jute and coir products by mid-1977, and to promote exports of handloom and handicraft products to the Community by various measures such as participation in trade fairs, dissemination of publicity material, etc. The Indian side presented its views on cotton textiles, but the matter was not discussed in detail as bilateral negotiations for a new agreement under the Multi-Fibre Arrangement have already commenced.

In its consideration of trade liberalisation the Joint Commission noted the elimination of certain non-tariff barriers and agreed to keep under review problems arising

in this field. It was agreed that it would be useful to exchange information on public curement policies and practices.

The Joint Commission considered further a number of proposals for cooperation aiming at development and diversification of trade between India and the Community, covering tea, cattle feed, leather goods, light and heavy engineering products and computer services. In several of these fields preparatory work was already at an advanced stage, and implementation of the measures planned can be expected to start early in 1975. The Commission of the European Communities will in this context consider offering technical assistance to common facility centres in the leather industry, and will draw up a trade promotion programme for Indian light and heavy engineering goods. Other proposals have been referred to a Sub-Commission for further study, as have some new proposals in chemicals and allied products, in fisheries and in certain scientific and technological fields such as the development of new sources of energy and the recycling of industrial wastes.

With a view to promoting cooperation in third countries, it was agreed to disseminate in the Community details of India's export capacities.

Several improvements have been made by the Community in its Scheme of Generalised Preferences for 1975. During the Session it was agreed to have technical contacts to enable Indian proposals for improving the Scheme to be presented to the competent Community officials. The EEC will take Part in a series of seminars in India in February 1975 and will publish brochures to assist exporters to make better use of the Scheme.

The next meeting of the Joint Commission will take place in Brussels in September 1975. Meanwhile the Sub-Commissions set up will continue the examination of the various matters remitted to them.

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INDIA USA RUSSIA BELGIUM

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

# Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Indo-GDR Joint Communiqué

The following joint communiqué was issued on December 3, 1974 in New Delhi at the conclusion of official visit of Mr. Horst Sindermann to India:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic, His Excellency Mr. Horst Sindermann, paid an official visit to India from November 29 to December 3, 1974.

Mr. Horst Sindermann called on the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. He conveyed to him and to Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi the warm greetings of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Mr. Erich Honecker, and of the Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Willi Stoph. The President and the Prime Minister of India reciprocated the good wishes cordially.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi requested Chairman Sindermann to convey a very cordial invitation to Mr. Erich Honecker, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, to pay a friendly visit to India. Mr. Sindermann said that he would be very glad to convey the same to Mr. Erich Honecker.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. Sindermann paid homage to the memory of the outstanding sons of India, Mahatma Gandhi,

Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri, and laid wreaths at their Memorials in Rajghat, Shanti Vana and Vijay Ghat.

At a Civic Reception given in his honour at the historic Red Fort of Delhi, Mr. Sindermann conveyed the greetings of the people of the German Democratic Republic to the people of India and wished them success in their efforts for social progress and economic advancement.

During the visit of Mr. Sindermann and his party to Agra, Hyderabad and Lucknow, they acquainted themselves with a representative cross section of Indian culture, economic and social life.

During his stay in India, the distinguished guest, wherever he went, received a warm and enthusiastic welcome which reflected the genuine friendship and mutual esteem between the two countries.

Chairman Horst Sindermann and Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi had an extensive exchange of views on the development of the bilateral relations as well as on important international problems of mutual interest. The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual confidence and understanding.

In their talks the two Heads of Government were assisted by:

ON THE GDR SIDE: Prof. Dr. Karl Gruenheit, State Secretary, State Planning Commission; Dr. Klaus Willerding, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Friedmar Clausnitzer, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade; Mr. Guenter Gleissner, Head of the Secretariat of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers; Mr. Martin Bierback, Ambassador, Head of South Asia and South-East Asia Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and W. Wolfgang Schuessler, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the GDR to India.

ON THE INDIAN SIDE: Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs; Shri D. P. Dhar, Minister of Planning; Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Minister of Commerce;

Shri Bipinpal Das, Deputy Minister of External Affairs; Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary; Shri V. C. Trivedi, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri B. K. Sanjal, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; Shri N. P. Jain, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; and Shri

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A. R. Deo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of India to the GDR.

The talks reflected the earnest desire of both countries to expand and widen further the bilateral cooperation in all fields. Both sides expressed their belief that exchange of visits, particularly at high levels and continuation of periodic consultations between the two Governments on matters of mutual interest, would contribute significantly to a still closer understanding and more intensive cooperation between them.

Chairman Horst Sindermann expressed his appreciation of the all-round progress achieved by the people of India in economic, social and cultural fields. Paying tribute to the constructive foreign policy of India, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and non-alignment, he stressed the outstanding role played by India in strengthening world peace and waging a determined struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism and all manifestations of racism.

The Prime Minister of India congratulated the Government and the people of the German Democratic Republic on their solid achievements following the liberation from Hitlerite fascism. She appreciated the dedication of the foreign policy of the German Democratic Republic to the cause of promoting world peace, supporting the people's struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and the unqualified stand taken by the GDR against racial discrimination and apartheid.

The two Heads of Government reviewed with satisfaction the positive growth of their bilateral relations in different fields and reaffirmed their resolve to develop them on a long-term and stable basis.

They believed that the agreement establishing a Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation signed on December 1, 1974 would open up promising new avenues of more comprehensive and accelerated economic, scientific and technical cooperation. The Joint Commission will hold its first Session in 1975.

They declared their willingness to evolve new forms of industrial cooperation in selected fields, keeping in view mutual possibilities and requirements. They noted the great potential for joint collaboration in third countries as well.

Both recognised the valuable contribution made by the growth of commercial exchanges between the two countries in laying a firm foundation for a mutually beneficial relationship. Taking note of the possibilities of further expansion and diversification, both sides will strive to double the two-way trade by 1980. The new long-term trade and payment agreement to be concluded in 1975 will keep this objective in view.

The exchange of views between the two Heads of Government on the international situation confirmed, once again, a remarkable closeness of views held by the two countries.

Shrimati Gandhi and Mr. Sindermann welcomed the general trend towards detente and called on all countries to make this an irreversible process through their united efforts. They stressed that detente can and must bring real and practical benefits to all the countries of the world and among them especially to developing countries. They noted with satisfaction that the growing universal acceptance of the principles of peaceful co-existence between States with different political and social systems had strengthened the prospects of world peace.

The two sides believe that the relations between all States should be based on such principles as the renunciation of the use of force, respect for sovereignty and inviolability of borders, non-interference in inter-

nal affairs and broad development of economic and other cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

The two Heads of Government welcomed the positive developments in Europe and underlined the great importance of concluding the European Conference on Security and Cooperation as soon as possible.

It was further hoped that this favourable development in Europe would help in the relaxation of tensions and resolution of conflicts and other pressing problems in other parts of the world as well.

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In this context, the two Heads of Government attached special importance to the broad development of mutually advantageous cooperation and the consolidation of peace and stability in Asia through common efforts of all the States in this Continent most of whom had till recently suffered a long period of colonial exploitation and were now trying to secure for its own people a more just economic and social order.

The two leaders agreed that the Simla Agreement of July 2, 1972, provided a firm basis for establishing good neighbourly relations and building up of durable peace in the Indian Sub-Continent. They welcomed the progress made so far towards normalisation of relations between the concerned States.

Chairman Sindermann hailed India's various initiatives for expediting the process of normalisation of relations in the Sub-Continent.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi expressed India's appreciation of the consistent and principled support given by the German Democratic Republic to India's efforts and initiatives in this regard.

They welcomed the admission of the friendly People's Republic of Bangladesh to the membership of the United Nations.

The two leaders reaffirmed their support to the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone

of Peace. They called for the liquidation of all foreign military bases in this area and strongly opposed the strengthening of old bases like the one on Diego Garcia.

Both leaders emphasised the need for full and strict implementation of the Paris Agreement on Vietnam.

They noted with satisfaction the progress made on the settlement of the situation in Laos.

They also hoped that an early and peaceful settlement will be achieved in Cambodia in conformity with the interest and wishes of the Cambodian people without outside interference.

The two Prime Ministers reviewed the developments in the Middle East and reiterated their support for the need for an early implementation of the United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 in order to promote a just and peaceful settlement in West Asia. Both sides called for an immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the restoration of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the P.L.O. Both sides regarded the immediate resumption of Geneva Peace Conference as essential.

The two Prime Ministers reiterated their support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus and for safeguarding its non-aligned policy. They called for the implementation of the Resolutions of the United Nations on Cyprus.

Both sides welcomed the progressive changes in Portugal which had accelerated the process of decolonisation in Africa. They noted with satisfaction that Guinea-Bissau which achieved independence in October 1973 has now been admitted to the membership of the United Nations. They welcomed the victory of the freedom struggle of the people of Mozambique and the understanding reached between Portugal and Mozambique leading to its eventual independence by June 1975. Both sides also expressed the earnest hope

for the earliest independence in conditions of peace and honour for the people of Angola and other remaining colonies.

They reiterated their resolve to continue to work for ending racialism, apartheid and oppression in Namibia in Southern Africa.

Both sides declared their support to the significant role of the United Nations in safeguarding peace and promoting international cooperation. They agreed to strengthen their cooperation within the United Nations and its specialised agencies.

The Prime Ministers supported the proposal for an early convening of World Disarmament Conference. They emphasised the importance of taking effective steps to bring about general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under effective international control.

While considering the question of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the GDR side noted with satisfaction the statement of the

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Government of India that India will use her nuclear technology for peaceful purposes only.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his party during their stay in India. He extended a cordial invitation to Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, to visit his country. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

INDIA USA GERMANY MALI BANGLADESH FRANCE VIETNAM LAOS CAMBODIA ISRAEL  
SWITZERLAND CYPRUS PORTUGAL GUINEA GUINEA!!GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE ANGOLA  
NAMIBIA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

**Volume No**

1995

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Indo-Guyana Cultural Agreement

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Following is the text of the press release on Indo-Guyana Cultural Agreement issued in New Delhi on December 31, 1974:

A cultural agreement between the Governments of Guyana and India was signed in Georgetown on December 30. Mr. S. S. Ramphal, the Minister for Foreign Affairs signed on behalf of Guyana and the Indian High Commissioner, Dr. Gopal Singh on behalf of his Government.

The agreement provides for cooperation between universities, technical, scientific and art institutions, and exchange of representatives and scholarships in the fields of culture, education, science and art. Exchanges will also be encouraged in the field of sports. Each party will ensure that text-books and other educational publications do not contain any misrepresentation of the other country. Each party will facilitate the recognition by the universities, etc., in its territory of the degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded by the universities of the other country. Each party will encourage the study of the culture and civilisation of the other country. Steps will also be taken to promote tourism.

GUYANA INDIA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

**Volume No**

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1995

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INTERNATIONAL LAW

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Prime Minister's Address at International Law Conference

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Following is the text of prime Minister's Address at the 56th Conference of International Law held in New Delhi on December 30, 1974:

I welcome all of you, eminent jurists from abroad and from all parts of India.

Our ancient sages posed the question: What holds the world together? And found the answer that it is Rita, the law. The symbol of law and of duty in our tradition is the wheel, and this symbol adorns our flag and our emblem. It is to such a land that it is my privilege to welcome you who have come from various parts of the world as our honoured guests.

Students of human affairs realize that no people's conduct conforms totally to the 334 best ideals and instincts evolved in their country. The wisdom of India enunciates that Truth is what we perceive, while Reality is endless. But for centuries we lived as if we had all knowledge. Our spiritual texts preached that change is the law of life, yet our own codes and institutes of behaviour obstructed change. We described Dharma in its multifarious aspects of justice, duty, faith and charity, yet true justice was denied to vast sections of the population.

Ours is not the only country in which this occurred. Who has not read the radiant words in which Pericles praised the Athenian way of life? He spoke of the law securing equal justice to all Athenians, no matter how poor. He asserted that there was no exclusiveness in the public life of Athens. Yet we know that women and helots were excluded from the privileges of Athenian society. I say this only to emphasise that, in their preoccupation with the status quo, the wisest of men are often oblivious of many elements of social reality.

Through the rise and fall of empires and republics, through the vicissitudes of wars and revolutions, through the collisions and confluences of races and religions, the fact

stands out that laws designed to protect the political or economic power of a few against the rights of the many, must sooner or later yield place to laws which enlarge the area of equality, and that law itself should be an ally and instrument of change.

The attitude of most individuals, groups and nations towards right and wrong remains egocentric. Those who have military or economic strength assume the authority to lay down the law for others. At the height of colonialism, many persons in imperial countries, who although liberal and enlightened in domestic matters, ignored their own abetment of injustice in their dealings with other peoples. The freedom movements of the colonised awakened their conscience. It has been aptly said of Mahatma Gandhi that he liberated not only India but Britain as well.

The truths propounded by prophets and seers may sometimes find immediate following, as did the teachings of the Buddha and Christ and Mohammed, but more often, the time taken for assimilation is long. In each generation, ideas influence sensitive persons until momentum gathers and leads to action. There are varying intervals between the perception of an idea, its acceptance as valid and its becoming a reality in everyday practice. Nearly two hundred years ago, the founding fathers of the United States of America declared all men to be equal but unequal laws were abrogated there barely two decades ago. In my own country the barbarous practice of untouchability became illegal only after we drew up our own laws some twenty-five years ago. People who have been suppressed for centuries need to be helped to catch up with the rest of society. Hence the special reservations and other facilities guaranteed to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in our Constitution. Several have reached the top in many areas of national life, although the removal of poverty is a long term process and much remains to be done. In other parts of the world there are nations which even now stick to concepts of racial superiority. Is it not a new form of arrogance for affluent nations to regard the poorer nations as an improvident species whose numbers are a threat to

their own standard of living?

But the dispossessed will come into possession. Discrimination will be fought. I belong to the largest minority which, all over the world and throughout history, has had to face discrimination. Should we tolerate laws and practices which deny equality to women? Even in my own country, where women have full equality in the Constitution, in many fields of the economy wage rates for women are lower than those for men, and prejudice against women is still prevalent in the professions.

The law is a statement of the terms on which we wish to live as individuals, as societies, as nations and as members of the human family. Laws govern the relationship of each of these units to others. The Law is an expression of the urge towards discipline and self-control that has to be fostered in men and in social institutions. Although its sanction has traditionally been the power of the enforcer, from the earliest times it has been recognised that law is not derived from power but is there to control power. So law is not what is but what ought to be.

Much of law leans on the past, on precedent; but law is constantly called upon to deal with unfolding situations, with the future which soon becomes the present. What was regarded as just yesterday, may not be acceptable today. That is why law needs to

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understand that in order to deal with change, it should itself change.

This august organisation, as its very implies, is concerned with international law in its manifold aspects. Yours is a noble endeavour. The concept of a universal society has only recently been evolving. You are architects of a code and comity which will serve the future generations. Mention of world government is not as popular today as, it used to be in the second quarter of the century. We are all more cautious - even cynical - than when the United Nations was founded.

There is an erroneous belief that national sovereignty is an obstacle to the growth of a viable international community. When scores of nations have just emerged into freedom after long periods of submergence, it would be denying history to say that nationalism is outmoded or, to maintain that the efforts of newly free nations to consolidate their economic strength hamper the building of a new international economic order. The two are complimentary and must be reconciled if the foremost concerns of the world - peace and human welfare - are to be safeguarded. International law has important function in this endeavour.

The world's resources must be developed to make equitable distribution possible. Powerful and affluent countries are sometimes afraid for the security of their investments and seek the support of international law. Is this not a wrong priority? Either international law should reflect the common denominator of the interests of rich nations and poor, strong nations and weak, and be a measure of trust between nations, or it breaks down under the impact of mutual suspicions, division and rivalry. Today's Problem is to define national interest in a manner which is in consonance with international imperatives for peace and security. Not only peace and security, but the orderly and cooperative development of the world in which each country is willing to play a respective and responsible part.

Thus, an obligation rests on the haves to generate confidence among the have-nots. In order to achieve greater mutual confidence, perhaps a new approach to foreign investments is indicated, in which investments abroad are regarded more as a service to the recipient community than as an enterprise where profits and their repatriation must be secured at all cost. In the course of its evolution, international economic law has given increasing attention to problems of trade, shipping and the force of contracts. However, the overall perspective should be one of promoting positive cooperation for the large good. This, is essentially necessary in the evolution of laws and norms regarding the resources of the sea and of new technology

involving outer space.

The year in which the United Nations was founded was also the year when the first nuclear bomb was militarily deployed. Ever since then, the foremost concern of statesmen has been to prevent collision, and to strengthen the defences of peace. As we survey the events of the last few years, we can derive some satisfaction from the fact that the Cold War has yielded place to detente and that peaceful co-existence has acquired fuller acceptance. The hope that has been generated can be sustained if detente and peaceful co-existence move beyond the maintenance of a precarious balance between conflict and cooperation, to become the starting point of an effort to eliminate competition and confrontation. With our tensions and technological capabilities, it would be dangerous to think that detente could be sustained in a spirit of competition. The spirit of competition can perhaps be diverted to a more worthwhile objective - the uplifting of three-quarters of the world which lives in want. We deeply deplore the expenditure of vast resources on building up military pressures in new areas of the globe, including our neighbourhood, which will lead to the aggravation of conflict instead of its abatement.

Non-violence has been described as the moral equivalent of war. In a sense, all law is the moral substitute for violence. Violence is not merely physical. There is violence, open or covert, in exploitation, in inequality, in any attempt to enforce personal or collective greed. On the contrary, the aim of law is to protect the weak, and to distinguish between right and might.

International law must deepen the respect for the rule of law everywhere. It should lend consistent support to institutions and movements which are working for peace and for the eradication of all forms of discrimination based on nationality, religion, race or sex. Its concern should be the enhancement

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of the quality of life - through greater freedom, through the eradication of poverty, through the conservation of the purity and

beauty of the human environment, through imaginative initiatives which will reintroduce the element of spontaneity and pride in work.

The members of the International Law Association have made notable contributions to the development of international law and have been pioneers in dealing effectively with the new problems posed by the development of trade and technology and the closer coming together of peoples and nations.

We are glad that you have chosen Delhi as the venue for your conference. We hope that you will have an interesting and enjoyable stay and get to know more not only about the law of the land and international law but something about what we are trying to do in the face of tremendous odds to build a new life for our people.

I have great pleasure in inaugurating this session and I wish success to your deliberations. Since in a couple of days, it will be 1975, may I wish you all a very happy New Year.

INDIA USA GREECE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Speech by Indian President at Dinner in Honour of King of Malaysia

Following is the text of speech of President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, at the dinner given in honour of Their Majesties The Yang Di Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong of Malaysia in New Delhi on December 6, 1974:

On behalf of the Government and the people of India and on behalf of my wife and

myself, I have the honour to extend a very warm and cordial welcome to Their Majesties the Yang Di Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong of Malaysia.

We greatly appreciate and value the compliments paid by Their Majesties in having chosen to visit our country earlier in another capacity. Their present visit is also of special significance; for, not since 1961 have we had the privilege of welcoming the Yang Di Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong of Malaysia and to convey our feelings of abiding affection and respect for the people of Malaysia through their sovereign and his gracious Consort. We sincerely hope that Their Majesties will find their sojourn pleasant and interesting and that they will carry back happy recollections of it.

It is pleasant to recall that, from the earliest times, contacts and exchanges between our two countries were throughout peaceful and friendly and promoted the advancement of thought, culture and the arts not only in the two countries but in our region. During the visit last year of President Giri to Malaysia, Your Majesty had in vivid and eloquent phrase spoken of the "hidden treasure" to be found in Malaysia of India's earlier civilisation and contacts with the countries of South East Asia. This traditional spirit of peace and friendship continues to guide our relations. It is a matter of gratification that cooperation between our two countries has become broader in scope and richer in content, comprising all fields of national development, trade and industry, science and technology, education and culture, thus contributing to the strengthening of the traditional ties of friendship and to the welfare of the peoples of the two countries.

I had the pleasure of visiting Malaysia to represent my Government at the celebration of the Malaysian Independence Day in August 1965. We in India have followed with interest and admiration the great strides

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made by the people of Malaysia in all spheres of national life, social, economic, cultural and

political. All the signs point to an even brighter future for Malaysia. National cohesion and unity has been attained, thanks to the innate good sense of the people, to the observance of democracy in the true spirit of tolerance and adjustment and to the enlightened and dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak. Modern skills and techniques whether in agriculture or industry or mining or commerce are being rapidly mastered by its talented and industrious people. Nature, too, has been generous with its favours and has endowed the country with vast reserves of mineral wealth, forest resources and fertile soil. We rejoice at Malaysia's good fortune and success and wish its people further progress. We firmly believe that the strength and progress of each country contributes towards the peace and progress of all other countries in our region.

Both Malaysia and India are composed of diverse ethnic, religious and linguistic groups and both have forged a strong sense of national unity and purpose. Both are dedicated to the pursuit of peace, freedom, equality and social justice and have chosen the parliamentary form of democracy. Both our Governments consider their primary task to be the promotion of economic development and social progress so as to provide a better and happier life for their people. Both our countries support the concept of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free from military intrusion and rivalry of Great Powers which, as all Asian and African countries know from bitter experience, can only bring forth tension in the area.

In the field of international relations, India like Malaysia cherishes the ideals of peace, friendship and cooperation with all nations, regardless of differences of social and political systems. Whether as members of the Non-aligned group of States or of the United Nations and its agencies or of the Colombo Plan, our two countries have a record of cooperation and friendship. Both countries adhere to the principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, renunciation of the threat or use of force in settlement of international disputes, non-interference in the internal affairs of

other countries, equality and mutual respect in the conduct of their foreign relations.

The pursuit of peace and harmonious and cooperative relations, specially neighbouring countries, has been a major objective of our policy. We have taken a number of initiatives towards normalisation of the situation in the sub-continent and consolidation, step by step, of relations with Pakistan, in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement, which embodies the hopes and aspirations of the people of the two countries as well as provides the framework for lasting peace and good neighbourly relations.

We welcome and support the efforts of Malaysia and other countries in South East Asia to safeguard their independence and promote peace, stability and progress of the region. That is why we supported and continue to support the objective of South East Asia as a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality as enunciated in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration of 1971.

The glaring disparity between the rich and the poor nations is a factor of instability and tension and potential danger and conflict in the world. This disparity is liable to widen further in a world caught by rampant inflation, stagnation in production, monetary instability, balance of payments difficulties and worsening of the terms of trade for a number of developing countries to a point where not only their modest plans for improvement but even their daily bread is threatened. Unless meaningful and concerted action is taken to move towards justice and balance in the world economic order. a period of great tumult and turmoil many ensue causing untold suffering and hardship to many peoples and nations.

We have no doubt that the visit of Their Majesties, brief though it is, will contribute significantly towards the strengthening of the bonds of understanding and friendship between our two countries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now invite you of join me in wishing long

life and happiness to His Majesty the Yang Di Pertuan Agong and to Her Majesty the Raja Permaisuri Agong and to continued progress and prosperity of the people of Malaysia.

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MALAYSIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA MALI PAKISTAN

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

King of Malaysia's Reply

Following is the text of the speech of King of Malaysia at the dinner given in his honour by President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed in New Delhi on December 6, 1974:

Allow me, Mr. President, to first of all express on behalf of the Raja Permaisuri Agong and the members of my entourage and on my own behalf, our sincere appreciation for the warm and generous traditional Indian hospitality that has been extended to us. The Raja Permaisuri Agong and I are also deeply touched by the praises and kind words you have so lavishly showered on us.

Mr. President, India is not a strange country. Indeed relations between our two countries have successfully withstood the test of time spreading over a period of more than 2,500 years of recorded history. There is sufficient historical evidence both in India and Malaysia which reflects the abiding friendship and deep understanding that existed between our people at all levels since the ancient past.

During the course of this uncommonly long period of uninterrupted friendly relations both our countries have benefitted im-

mensely in all fields - political, economic, social and cultural. There was a free flow of ideas from both sides which undoubtedly set in motion new thinking and fresh approaches to problems and projects in our respective countries.

I am pleased to assure you Mr. President that it is the desire of my people to continue this long and colourful history of contact and fruitful exchanges. Indeed, it is largely in this spirit and conviction that the Raja Permaisuri Agong and I have undertaken this memorable visit to India. In doing so we earnestly hope that we have helped to contribute our share towards the sustenance of the sound tradition of frequent high-level visits and exchanges between our two countries, for the mutual benefit of our peoples.

I have always fervently hoped that the spirit of mutual understanding and fruitful exchanges that has characterised the relations between our two countries from time immemorial will find new vistas in the generations to come. It is more than gratifying therefore for me Mr. President, to observe that today both our countries continue to find an expanding complementarity of interest and co-operation as developing countries and as members of the non-aligned group of nations. Indeed, I am positive that given the will and proper direction, both our countries will have even greater opportunities for meaningful cooperation with each other on the basis of sovereign equality and mutuality of interests. For instance, both our countries have a common stake in our respective efforts aimed at obtaining fair and just terms and more favourable prices for our primary commodities from the industrially advanced nations. Similarly, both our countries should continue to work in close co-ordination in the United Nations and other international forums for a more equitable sharing of scarce world resources. There are also the prospects of expanding bilateral co-operation and assistance in science and technology in view of India's wide experience and known advancements in the scientific and technological fields.

Mr. President, the international econo-

mic situation which is currently undergoing serious stresses and strains has been engaging the increasing attention of my Government. International monetary instability, the acute shortage of essentially raw materials and world-wide inflation, unless checked immediately by the international community, may create utter chaos and put to naught our painstaking efforts, over the years, at planned and purposeful economic development and progress. I am pleased to note, Mr. President, that under your able leadership, India too shares with us these anxieties and is prepared to work in close co-operation and consultation with Malaysia and other like-minded countries to evolve speedy remedial measures to relieve the world at large from the prospects of a monstrous calamity.

Mr. President, it is a cornerstone of Malaysia's foreign policy to develop friendly and good-neighbourly relation with the countries in our region in the interests of peace, stability and progress. Our efforts at regional economic co-operation are already paying handsome dividends. Thanks to the vision and patient efforts of its leaders, ASEAN is

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no longer an infant in an atmosphere of mutual trust and friendly co-operation and understanding ASEAN has matured into a going concern and should in the near future contribute profoundly towards the prosperity and well-being of the countries in Southeast Asia. In like manner, the neutralization of Southeast Asia is distinctly moving from the conceptual stage to the institutional stage. With more and more countries in Southeast Asia appreciating the rationale and soundness of the concept of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, it will not be long before the Kuala Lumpur Declaration becomes the charter for the creation of a new order in the region.

It is also a cardinal principle of our foreign policy to have friendly relations with all countries irrespective of their socio-economic systems or political complexion. We have all along striven hard to maintain our non-aligned image in a world beset by power politics and military alignments and super-

power rivalry. Now that we have established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, we have succeeded, among other things, in rendering greater precision to our non-aligned approach to international relations. I am therefore particularly pleased to observe your own efforts at establishing good-neighbourly relations in the sub-continent. I note with engaging interest that relations among the states of the sub-continent are gradually returning to normal. I am convinced that in an atmosphere of give and take and mutual respect and understanding, durable peace and stability will be achieved in the region thereby allowing each country to concentrate on the urgent task of economic development and progress so as to ensure a better quality of life for all.

In closing, I would like on behalf of the Raja Permaisuri Agong and my own and that of my people, to express to you Mr. President and Begum Abida Ahmed, our sincere best wishes for your continued good health and well-being. It is our hope that you will long continue to devote yourself with such distinction to serving your people and your country; on the march towards orderly development and progress.

I now invite the Raja Permaisuri agong, Honourable Ministers, Your Excellencies and distinguished guests to join me in a toast to His Excellency Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, as President of the Republic of India, for his continued good health and happiness.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC CHINA KOREA VIETNAM

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

**Volume No**

1995

POLAND

Following is the text of the press release an Indo-polish Trade and Payments Agreement issued in New Delhi on December 22, 1974:

A long-term Trade and Payments Agreement between India and Poland was signed here last night. This will replace the old Agreement expiring on December 31, 1974.

The new Agreement envisages bilateral and balanced trading relations between the two countries and payments for all commercial and non-commercial transactions in non-convertible Indian rupees. It will come into force on January 1, 1975, and will be valid for a period of three years ending December 31, 1977.

Shri Y. T. Shah, Union Commerce Secretary, signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Stephan Perkowicz, Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Shipping, signed on behalf of the Government of Poland.

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Poland is the second largest trading partner in East Europe, after U.S.S.R. The trade turnover between India and Poland during 1973 was Rs. 85.57 crores. The trade plan for 1974 envisages a turnover of nearly Rs. 200 crores.

POLAND INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

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**Volume No**

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1995

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PORTUGAL

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Speech by Minister of External Affairs at Dinner in Honour of Dr. Soares

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Following is the text of speech by Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, at the dinner in honour of Dr. Mario Soares, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Portugal, at New Delhi on December 30, 1974:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Dr. and Mrs. Soares, Miss Soares and the distinguished members of the Portuguese delegation to India. It is indeed a happy development that after an estrangement of close to two decades it has become possible for our two countries to resume relations. We have followed with great interest the revolutionary changes in Portuguese policies since April this year. We have welcomed the Portuguese Government's readiness to formally accept the realities in regard to Goa and its commitment and sincerity in pursuing a course of rapid decolonisation in Africa. We believe that this repudiation of colonialism and Portugal's patent desire to make a clean break with some aspects of the past has already earned goodwill and appreciation of the international community. We earnestly hope that wise and realistic policies of the Portuguese Government in respecting the rights and aspirations of the people of Angola and Mozambique will have a salutary effect on the misguided policies of the racist regimes in Southern Africa. We have noted with satisfaction the declarations that new Portugal has made at the United Nations and outside on various issues which indicate the dedication of the Government and people of Portugal to the ideals of democracy, social justice and international cooperation in shaping the future of their country and their determination to see that Portugal, with her rich history and culture, takes her rightful place in our multi-racial and inter-dependent world.

Another logical and welcome consequence of the developments of the past eight months is the beginning of a new era of friendship and cooperation between India and Portugal. His Excellency Dr. Soares was for many years in the forefront of the struggle

for human liberties inside Portugal and an advocate of the futility of long and costly colonial wars abroad. We warmly welcome Dr. Soares not only as the Foreign Minister of Portugal but also as a friend of India. He has many admirers here some of whom were guests along with him in Dr. Salazar's jails. It is indeed appropriate and a matter of much satisfaction to us that it should be given to Dr. Soares to be the first Portuguese dignitary to visit India after the lapse of so many years in order to formally begin a new chapter in the history of Indo-Portuguese relations.

After the crisis of 1971 we have progressed on the Indian sub-continent towards normalisation of relations on the basis of the Simla Agreement of 1972. Our relations with all our neighbours - as indeed with all countries - are motivated by a sincere desire to cooperate with them in the interests of peace and mutual benefit.

I am glad that your Excellency was able to visit Goa, though it was such a brief visit. It was, however, a happy coincidence that your visit to Goa took place during the days of the Exposition of St. Xavier's body. This must evoke the spiritual bond existing between India and Portugal. History forged

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links of religion and culture between Portugal and Goa and they can be seen in varied aspects of Goan life. Yet, Goa's social and political institutions and economy have undergone big changes under our democratic system and economic planning. The freedom and fundamental rights guaranteed by our Constitution are enjoyed in every part of the country without exception. The talented people of Goa are participating fully in the mainstream of Indian life and they are well-represented in business and industry, in sport and education, in the arts and in the sciences.

Considering the constructive and cordial manner in which the process of resumption of Indo-Portuguese relations has taken place in the last few months culminating in your current historic visit, I am hopeful that both our countries are set on the right course for

the growth of friendly relations in many fields on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and shared ideals. On my part I wish to assure Your Excellency that we shall do our best to initiate as well as to warmly reciprocate further steps to develop Indo-Portuguese cooperation both bilaterally as well as in international forums. Let me once again say how happy we are to welcome you, Mrs. Soares and other members of your delegation to India and with you a happy and successful new year. May I request you all to join me in raising a toast to the health and happiness of our distinguished guests and to friendship and cooperation between the Governments and Peoples of Portugal and India?

PORTUGAL INDIA ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE USA MALI

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

Shri Chavan's Statement on Indo-Portugal Treaty

Following is the text of statement made by Shri Y. B. Chavan, Minister of External Affairs, after signing of the Treaty between India and Portugal in New Delhi on December 31, 1974:

We make history with the signature of this Treaty. We put behind us 20 years of absence of relations of contacts of any kind between Portugal and India. Diplomatic relations between our two countries stand re-established with effect from 4.00 PM Indian Standard Time today. The people of Portugal will be at their mid-day meal when they hear the news of this happy development. We greet them and the new leaders of Portugal who have shown much wisdom and courage in pursuing policies inspired by ideals of

liberty, justice and respect for human dignity. We greet Dr. Soares, the distinguished Foreign Minister of Portugal and one of the architects of his country's policy of rapid decolonisation and recognition of the realities of international life. Portugal has taken its rightful place in the councils of the world. We want the people of Portugal to know that the past is past and buried with the conclusion of this Treaty. The future lies before us. Let us turn our efforts to developing a fruitful and beneficial relationship between our two countries worthy of their great historical and cultural heritages and of the Treaty that we have signed today.

PORTUGAL INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

Indo-Portugal Treaty

Following is the text of Indo-Portugal Treaty signed in New Delhi on December 31, 1974:

The President of the Republic of India and the President of the Republic of Portugal,

RECALLING the Joint Communiqué signed in New York on 24 September, 1974 by the Minister of External Affairs, Government of India and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Portugal stating, inter alia, that the Government of Portugal was ready to recognise the full sovereignty of India over the former Portuguese territories of Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, which had become integral parts of the territory of India,

NOTING that the Constitutional Law No. 9/74 of 15th October 1974 published in the State Gazette of Portugal authorises the

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President of the Republic of Portugal to conclude an agreement between Portugal and India by which Portugal recognises the full sovereignty of India over the territories of Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and that this recognition would imply the abrogation of the corresponding part of Article 1 of the Portuguese Constitution of 1933,

BEARING IN MIND the desires of the peoples of India and Portugal to usher in a new era of friendship and cooperation,

HAVE DECIDED to conclude a treaty between their two countries to implement the understanding expressed in the aforementioned Joint Communique and to take steps to re-establish normal relations between their two countries on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual benefit, and have appointed for this purpose as plenipotentiaries,

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA:

His Excellency Shri Y. B. Chavan

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PORTUGAL:

His Excellency Dr. Mario Soares  
who have agreed as follows:

#### ARTICLE I

Portugal acknowledges that the territories of Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli have already become parts of India and hereby recognises the full sovereignty of India over these territories with effect from the dates when they became parts of India under the Constitution of India.

#### ARTICLE II

Diplomatic relations between India and Portugal will be resumed immediately.

### ARTICLE III

The two Contracting Parties agree to settle through bilateral negotiations all questions between them including those concerning the property, assets or claims of citizens of their respective countries, as well as questions concerning the State property and assets of either State in the territories of the other State.

The two parties also agree to settle through bilateral negotiations rights and claims of Indian citizens and other persons who had to return to India from territories under Portuguese administration concerning their property and assets.

### ARTICLE IV

A Cultural Agreement between Portugal and India will be concluded as soon as possible. The Contracting Parties agree to take steps to develop contacts in the cultural field and in particular in the promotion of the Portuguese language and culture and the preservation of historical and religious monuments in Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

### ARTICLE V

Portugal agrees in principle to return to India all archives, records, papers, documents and other materials relating mainly to the territories mentioned in Article I including those which may have been transferred to any place outside these territories. Similarly, India agrees in principle to transfer to Portugal all archives, records, papers, documents and other materials which may be maintained within the territories mentioned in Article I and which do not relate mainly to those territories.

The modalities of their return, mutual access, supply of copies and consultation will be settled through diplomatic channels.

### ARTICLE VI

Any question of interpretation or application of this Treaty shall be resolved between the two countries through bilateral

negotiations.

#### ARTICLE VII

The present Treaty shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of exchange of instruments of ratification which shall take place at Lisbon.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this Treaty and affixed thereto their seals.

Done in duplicate at New Delhi this 31st day of December, 1974 in Hindi, Portuguese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

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PORTUGAL INDIA USA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

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SUDAN

Indo-Sudan Joint Communique

The following joint communique was issued on December 1, 1974 in New Delhi at the conclusion of the State visit of President Nimeri to India:

At the invitation of Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of India, His Excellency Gaafar Mohammed Nimeri, the President of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, paid a State visit to India from November 26 to December 1, 1974.

His Excellency, the President of the Sudan held talks in Delhi with the President of India, the Prime Minister and other Indian leaders. He was accorded a Civic Reception

by the citizens of Delhi at the Red Fort, and visited places of cultural and economic interest, industrial projects and training establishments, in Agra, Bangalore, Poona and Bombay.

His Excellency President Nimeri was accorded a very warm welcome by the people and Government of India reflecting the close and friendly ties between the two countries and the strong desire of the two peoples to consolidate and enlarge cooperation in all fields.

His Excellency President Nimeri held wide ranging discussion with Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India. These discussions covered issues of international importance as well as bilateral cooperation in all fields. The talks revealed a close identity of views on all subjects.

In these discussions His Excellency, Dr. Mansour Khalid, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Sayed Ibrahim Meneim, Mansour, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, His Excellency Major-General (Rtd) Awad Ahmed Khalifa, Commissioner General for Development, and senior officials of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan participated on the Sudanese side. On the Indian side, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Y. B. Chavan, the Minister of Finance, Shri C. Subramaniam, the Minister of Heavy Industry, Shri T. A. Pai, the Minister of Commerce, Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya, the Deputy Minister of External Affairs, Shri Bipinpal Das, and senior officials of the Government of India participated in the talks. The Ambassador of the Sudan in India and the Ambassador of India in the Sudan assisted their respective delegations.

The President and Prime Minister reiterated their faith in the principles of the UN Charter. They stressed the continuing validity of Non-alignment and reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of peaceful co-existence and non-interference as fundamental to international conduct and relations between States on a basis of sovereign equality.

They called for universal disarmament

including a total ban on the use of nuclear weapons and the destruction of existing stockpiles of all such weapons. They stressed the need to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and for promoting rapid economic development in all countries.

The two leaders reviewed the international economic situation especially as it affects developing countries and called on the developed countries to place their economic relationship with developing countries on an equitable and just basis. Both reaffirmed their desire to develop closer technological and economic cooperation with all developing countries. They urged the early implementation of the resolutions of the 6th Special Session of the United Nations so as to bring about a more just world economic order.

The President and the Prime Minister called for the earliest settlement of the West Asia crisis which continues to threaten the peace of the world. They agreed that a solution of this issue must be based on the withdrawal of Israel from territories occupied by armed aggression. They held that a permanent solution was not possible without the restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine. Welcoming the recent resolutions of the UN General Assembly, they ex-

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pressed satisfaction at the widening relationships and recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and their inalienable right to their homeland.

The two leaders stressed the importance to all countries in the area of the Indian Ocean being a Zone of Peace free from foreign military bases and Great Power rivalry and tension; they called on all concerned to renew their efforts for the earliest realization of the objectives of the UN resolutions in this regard. The two leaders agreed to keep in close contact on developments in this matter.

Both leaders hailed the emergence of Guinea Bissau as an independent sovereign

State, and welcomed the policy of de-colonisation being followed by the new Government of Portugal. They looked forward to the earliest independence of all the remaining Portuguese colonies in Africa. Reviewing the situation in Southern Africa, they condemned the racist policies being practised in that region, which were an affront to the conscience of mankind and in defiance of the resolutions of the United Nations, where the overwhelming majority of Member States had demanded the expulsion of South Africa from the world today.

The Prime Minister of India outlined recent developments and initiatives taken for the normalisation of relations among the countries of the sub-continent. The President expressed his appreciation of the positive results which had been achieved in this direction. He was confident that these developments would contribute significantly to stability and cooperation in the region as a whole.

The President explained to the Prime Minister the measures taken to bring about national unity and harmony in the Sudan. The Prime Minister expressed full appreciation of these successful achievements which have made a significant contribution to peace, cooperation and stability in Africa.

The two sides concluded an Agreement on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation as well as a Cultural Agreement. They expressed their conviction that these Agreements would intensify scientific, technical, educational and other cooperation between the two countries. The trade links between the two countries were reviewed and it was decided that detailed discussions would be held between the two countries to study in depth all aspects of the Indo-Sudnese trade and explore possibilities of their further expansion.

The President of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan thanked the President of India and the Prime Minister for the warm hospitality and friendship extended to him and his party by the brotherly people and Government of India. He cordially invited the President of India and the Prime Minister

to visit the Sudan. The invitations were gratefully accepted.

SUDAN INDIA USA ISRAEL GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU PORTUGAL SOUTH AFRICA MALI

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974

## Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol

Following is the text of the press release on Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol issued in New Delhi on December 30, 1974:

The Indo-USSR trade protocol for 1975, which has been signed here today, envisages a total trade turnover of approximately Rs. 750 crores. The 1974 protocol envisages a turnover of Rs. 650 crores.

The trade protocol was signed by H.E. Mr. I. T. Grishin, USSR Deputy Minister of

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Foreign Trade, and Shri Y. T. Shah, Commerce Secretary, on behalf of their respective Governments.

According to the 1975 trade protocol, USSR will supply to India substantial quantities of fertilisers, petroleum products, non-ferrous metals, steel and steel products, newsprint, asbestos, and components and spare parts for Soviet assisted projects in India. The list of Soviet exports also includes items like sunflower seed oil and cotton. In addition, Soviet Union will supply computers, electronics equipment, capital goods and machinery items of various types. Whereas the level of supplies of some of these commodities will be, more or less, the same as in 1974, larger supplies have been provided

for import of diesel oil, zinc, certain types of machinery, etc. Cotton is a new item included in the trade protocol which the Soviet Union will supply in 1975. It is envisaged that quantities of kerosene and diesel oil supplied by USSR to India will be of the order of 10 lakh tonnes and 2 lakh tonnes respectively.

India's export to USSR will include engineering goods, like garage equipment, storage batteries, automobile ancillaries, power cables, computer software, finished textile products, medicines and pharmaceuticals, in addition to traditional commodities like de-oiled cakes, cashew kernels, tea, coffee, spices, tobacco, jute manufactures, handicrafts, etc. Whereas the level of exports of some of these commodities may be the same as in 1974, provisions for larger exports have been made in the case of commodities like cotton textiles, readymade garments, tea, tobacco, and certain types of engineering goods.

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USA INDIA RUSSIA

**Date :** Dec 01, 1974